MONEY 6

E-COMM TO ACCELERATE INDIA'S

AUTO SECTOR GROWTH: REPORT

WORLD 7

IRAN TESTS ADVANCED

NUCLEAR CENTRIFUGES

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*Late City Vol. 16 Issue 98
*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

Violence mars Bengal polls

4 dead as police open fire on mob attacking booth in Cooch Behar; TMC man kills voter

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

Violence peaked in the fourth round of 8-phase Bengal elections claiming five lives in a blood-splattered polling, but a resolute electorate fought off terror in

torate fought off terror in their own way with more than 76 per cent of them casting their votes when reports last came in at 5.30 pm. While polling percentage for Hooghly was 76.02, it was 75.03 for Howrah. In South 24 Parganas 75.49 per cent of vot-ers cast their votes whereas in Alipurduar the rate was 73.65 per cent. In Cooch Behar that-

per cent. In Cooch Behar that-saw maximum violence the polling rate was 79,73 per cent. Five people on Saturday lost their lives to Central Forces firing and violence per-petrated by alleged hooligans of the Trinamool Congress, police said.

of the Trinamool Congress, police said. While violence was recorded too in other parts of the 44 seats in five districts that went to polls on Saturday all the incidents of death took place in Sitalkuchi block of Cooch Behar district of North Bengal bordering Bangladesh, Bhutan and Assam. As the ruling Trinamool Congress struggling hard to retain power in the face of rampant corruption and crimialisation blamed the Central Forces and the BJP for the Satruday's loss of lives, the offi-

Satruday's loss of lives, the offi-cial reports coming from the Election Commission said the Central Forces opened fire in self-defence.

Four persons Hamidul, Manirul and Samilul (three of CAPSULE

INTO GORGE IN ETAWAH
Lucknow/Elawah: Ten people
were killed and 40 injured as a
truck on which they were
travelling fell into a 30-foot-deep
gorge in UP's Etawah district on
Saturday evening. They all were
going to a temple in the district
when the accident took place on
the Udi-Chakar Nagar road.

FARMERS BLOCK KMP E-WAY IN HARYANA

E-WAY IN HARYANA Chandigarh: Intensifying their stir against the Centre's three contentious agriculture laws, farmers on Saturday blocked the Kundli-Manesar-Palwal expressway in Haryana

New Delhi: With the total number of Covid-19 vaccine doses administered in the country crossing 10 crore, the Union Health Ministry on Saturday said that India is the fastest nation to administer 100 million doses in 85 days. The Prime Minister's Office also tweeted a chart showing India as the fastest country to reach this vaccination milestone.



Security personnel keep vigil at a polling station after Election Commission ordered to stop the votting exercise at polling station number 126 in Sitalikuchi, where clashes erupted between locals and Central Forces, at Sitalikuchi in Cooch PTI

Air bubble opens

Lanka for tourists

the same family) died when the Central Forces opened fire to disperse a crowd of 300-400 villagers that had attacked booth number 126, following rumours that a child had been beaten to death by the CISF personnel.

personnel. Five others too were injured in the firing and had been admitted to the local hospital, sources said.

A fifth person, a first-time voter Ananda Barman was shot dead outside a neighbouring booth also at Sitalkuchi by an alleged Trinamool Congress man a panchayat member, sources said.

i. Incidentally this is the ne block where the convov same block where the convoy of Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh was attacked with bombs, brickbats and rods a couple of days ago barely an

Now. India has such pacts with

28 nations, says

Aviation Ministry

PNS NEW DELHI

hour after a meeting addressed by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee where she asked the people, particularly the women to enforce their voting rights by gheraoing the Central Forces.

Politicians' entry in Cooch Behar banned for 72 hr

Daillieu tur / 2 til.

New Delhi: The Election
Commission on Saturday barred
the entry of politicians in Cooch
Behar district for the next 72
bours to prevent any possible law
and order flare-up. The decision
came after four people were
killed in the district as Central
Forces opened fire allegedly
when they were attacked by
locals who "attempted to snatch
their rifles" during voting on
Saturday.

71 companies of Central paramilitary forces to be deployed in West Bengal

After a request from the Idelection Commission of India (ECI), the Union Home Ministry on Saturday decided to deploy additional 71 companies (7,100) personnel) of the Central paramilitary forces for the conduct of the Assembly polls in West Bengal, with immediate effect. As many as 1,000 companies of the Central paramilitary forces are already deployed there for the conduct of the elections in the State. "The ECI has requested to deploy additional 71 companies of CAPFs (Central Armed Police Forces)/SAPs (State Armed Police)/IRs (India Reserve) Bns (Battalions in West Bengal for AE-2021 related duties.

In pursuance of the recommendations of the ECI vide order dated April 10, it has been decided to deploy additional 71 coys (companies) of CAPFs....immediately in the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related duties, the state of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related duties. However, the state of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Bengal for Assembly Bengal for Assembly Election-2021 related for the State of West Be



TMC candidate Rabindra Nath Ghosh, wearing a helmet for safety, interacts with security personnel during 4th phase of West Bengal polls in Cooch Behar on Saturday PT

The composition of the additional deployments of the Central paramilitary forces will include 12 companies of the Central Reserve Police (CRPF), 33 companies of the Border Security Force (BSF), 13 companies of not-Tibetan Border Police (TIBP), four companies of proceed (CISF) and nine companies of the State of the Tile of the Ti

Daily Covid cases cross 1.5L mark, and counting

Maha plans severe curbs: UP. Delhi. TN, Karnataka hit newer peaks

PNS NEW DELHI

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Tor the first time on Saturday, India recorded more than 1.5 lakh Covid-19 cases as the pandemic marched unchecked across the country. While the pandemic marched unchecked across the country. While with the pandemic marched unchecked across the country. While with the pandemic marched unchecked across the country. While with the pandemic pandemic properties of the pandemic properties of the pandemic properties. While the pandemic pandemic properties of the pandemic properties of the pandemic properties. The pandemic properties with the pandemic properties of the pandemic properties and the pandemic properties. The pandemic properties are pandemic properties. The pandemic properties properties are properties. The pandemic properties are properties are properties. The pandemic properties are properties are properties. The pandemic properties are properties are properties are properties. The pandemic properties are properties are propert



Now when everything is open and we are facing practi-cal difficulties, a fact that the Union Government should

Speaking at an all-party meeting called to evolve a strategy to tide over the Covid-19 crisis in the State, the CM said, "Our first priority is to save lives. In a health emergency like the one we are passing through, our priorities are the health and lives of the citizens."

"We may continue our war against Covid-19, but the immediate task is to arrest the immediate task is to arrest the immediate task is to arrest the forms and it was easy for us to trace the patients and their contract the patients and their contract the country crossing 10 crore, the country crossing 10 crore, the Union Health Ministry on Saturday said India is the fastest nation to administer 100 million doses in 85 days.

Stick to Covid behaviour or face campaign ban: EC

PNS NEW DELHI

PNS NEW DELHI

After polls in four of the five
States are over, the
Election Commission has
woken up to the threat of
coronavirus. Taking a serious
view of laxity on part of some
political leaders in maintaining
Covid-19 safety norms, particularly not wearing face masks,
saying candidates and star campaigners can be banned from
holding campaign rallies if
Covid guidelines issued by it
last year are breached.

The Commission has
advised political leaders to set
an example by maintaining
social distancing, wearing
masks, etc., and exhorting all
the local formations who attend
their campaign programmes to
follow Covid-19 protocol.
In a letter to leaders of all
recognised political parties,
the EC said. 'fits widely known

including Afghanistan, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Iraq, Japan, the Maddives, Nigeria, Qatar, the UAE, the UK and the USA. Under an air bubble pact between two countries, special international passenger flights can be operated by their airlines into each other's territories under restrictive conditions. "India has finalised an air bubble agreement with Sri Lanka, making it the 6th such arrangement in SAARC region and the 28th in total," the Civil Aviation Ministry tweeted.

In a letter to leaders of all recognised political parties, the EC said, "It is widely known that in recent weeks, Covid cases are being reported in larger numbers.

However, instances of election meetings/campaigns have come to the notice of the commission, where norms of social distancing, wearing of masks

the Civil Aviation Ministry tweeted.

Scheduled international flights have been suspended in India since March 23, 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. However, special international passenger flights have been operating under the Vande Bharat Mission



Pointing to the recent rise in Covid-19 cases, the EC said instances had come to its notice where norms of social distanc-ing, wearing of masks, etc., have been flouted in disregard to the been flouted in disregard to the Commission's guidelines dated August 21, 2020, on Covid-19 -

August 21, 2020, on Covid-19safe poll campaigning,
"Instances of star campaigners/political leaders/canindidates not observing Covidprotocols including non-wearing of masks themselves at the
stage or while campaigning
so, the political parties and
candidates are exposing themselves as well as the public
attending such election meetings to the grave danger of
infection," noted EC.

The poll panel sought the
political parties and candidates in strictest observance of

the protocols so that all the Covid guidelines are adhered to by all the participants includ-ing organisers in the election-eering. cases of breach, the EC

eering.

In cases of breach, the EC said it will "not hesitate in banning public meetings, rallies of defaulting candidates, star campaigners or political leaders without any further reference." The poll panel said it has taken a "serious view of the laxity" in following norms, particularly not wearing masks and not maintaining social distancing by political leaders on the dais or stage.

It asked parties to follow its guidelines with all seriousness. The two-page letter said it is advisable that political leaders and candidates, who have the incumbent duty to control the

incumbent duty to control the spread of Covid-19, lead by example.

50 allowed at weddings in Delhi; restaurants, metro occupancy halved

STAFF REPORTER INEW DELH

A mid a surge in the fourth
Mawae of the Covid-19 cases
in the national Capital, the
Delhi Government on Saturday
announced stricter curbs,
allowing Delhi Metro and DTC
buses to operate only at 50 per
cent capacity and limiting the
number of guests at weedings
at 50, officials said.
The city Government also
prohibited all social, political,
sports, entertainment, cultural and religious gatherings in
view of the rise in Covid-19
Cases,

and an engious gamerings in view of the rise in Covid-19 cases.

Negative RT-PCR report will be required for travellers arriving in the national Capital from Maharashtra by air, the DDMA said, adding those without a report will have to undergo 14-day quarantine.

The Delhi Disaster Management Authority said to be concupancy and the said of the control of the said of the rise occupancy in view of the rising coronavirus cases, it said.

It said colleges and coach



except for training of sportsper-sons participating in national and international events. Earlier in the day, he said imposing lockdown is not an option but some restrictions will be put in place to contain the spread of the virus. Kejriwal visited the Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan hospital on Saturday to take stock of the situation and the facilities provided to the

Setback for BJP in Tripura tribal council polls

New Delhi: Tripura's ruling BIP and its ally IPFT (Indigenous Peoples Front of Tripura) received a major setback in the Tribal Council Polls at the tribal Council Polls at the Hands of Pradyot Deb Burman led newly-floated TIPRA (The Indigenous Progressive Regional Alliance).

The new political outfit swept the Tripura Autonomous District Council polls by securing 18 out of 28 seats.

The BIP and its ally managed to win only nine seats. An independent candidate won one seat

seat The Left front which won last tribal body election failed to win any seats and so did the Indian National

PNS MEW DELHI India has formed an air bubble with Sri Lanka, opening yet another overseas tourist destination for those itching to travel after a year of being at home. The Ministry of Civil Aviation on Saturday said India has established a bilateral air bubble arrangement with Sri Lanka for operation of special international passenger flights between the two countries. Besides, Thailand is also in allas with India for creating an air bubble so that flights can resume between two countries. With this, India now has such pacts with 28 countries, with this, India now has such pacts with 28 countries, India, China agree to defuse LAC stand-off expeditiously

since May last year and under bilateral air bubble arrange-ments since July.

India and China have agreed to expeditiously defuse tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) by disengagement of troops from the flash points in Eastern Ladakh. The two sides have also agreed to maintain stability on the ground.

maintain stability on the ground.

These were the highlights of the meeting of the Corps Commanders at Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the LAC on Friday. This was the 11th round of talks since the face-offs began in May last year. The meeting lasted for more than 12 hours.

In a statement issued here on Saturday, the Defence on Saturday, the Defence Ministry said the two sides had a detailed exchange of views for



he resolution of the remaining ssues related to disengage-nent along the LAC in Eastern

ment atong the LLL Ladakh.

Both sides agreed to resolve outstanding issues in an expe-ditious manner in accordance with existing agreements and

protocols.

It was highlighted that completion of disengagement in other areas would pave the way for both sides to consider de-escalation of forces and ensure restoration of peace.

Both sides agreed that it

was important to take guidance from their "leaders", continue their communication and work towards a mutually acceptable resolution of remaining issues

resolution of remaining issues at earliest.

The two commanders also agreed to "jointly maintain stability on the ground, avoid any new incidents and jointly maintain peace in the border

maintain peace in the border areas.

The reference to border areas obviously meant Hot Springs, Gogra and Depsang valley which still remain friction points.

The first breakthrough came in February when the troops of both the armies pulled back from the southern and northern banks of the Pangong Tso(lake) in Ladakh in a smooth and planned manner.

Patriotic fervour at Kumbh spl yajna Balak Yogeshwar Das to start rituals today for the martyrs' souls GAJENDRA SINGH NEGI

At Kumbh Mela which is considered as the largest religious gathering in the world, one can witness various saints engaging in different religious activities, rituals and spiritual affairs. However there are some like ascetic Balak Yogeshwar Das, who draw the attention of everyone with his unique approach and Sadhna. In every Kumbh and Ardh Kumbh, Das since 2003 has been organising a massive 100 Shatkundiya Yajna for peace to the souls of those who have ladde their precious lives for the nation. This year the Yajna would commence on April 11 and continue till April 26 at the temporary Shaheed Nagar in the Kumbh Mela area. When this correspondent

When this correspondent

Kargil war.



visited the Shaheed Nagar set up in three acres of land locat-ed at Bairagi camp on the banks of the Ganga in Haridwar, Das was busy giving final touches to the prepara-

final touches to the prepara-tions.

This year the invitations have been sent to families of 450 martyrs which include those who laid down their lives in the 26/11 Mumbai attack, Pulwama attack and Karril west.



It relieves pain: Kargil war widow

Haridwar: Like numerous others like her, Sharda Bhau of Akhnoor in Jammu & Kashmir considers Das responsible for the positive change in her life.
Widow of Havildar Daler Singh Bhau who attained mar-

tyrdom in Tololing hills in 1999 during the Kargil war told *The Pioneer* that Das visited her house after the death of her husband and persuaded her to attend the Yajna which was being organised in the town.

HOMETHEATRE

BEAR HUG OF FICTIONALISING A TRUE STORY

THE BIG BULL Disney-Hotstar *ing: Abhishek Bachchan, Illeana D'Cruz Rated: 6/10

fauthenticity was not an issue with this fictionalised account of a real person with a fictional name, The Big Bull is quite full of moments in a journey that kept the stocks high, the middle class happy with new earnings and the economy in a constant state of perilous bottox.

kept the stocks high, the middle class happy with new earnings and the economy in a constant state of perilous botox.

We all know the Harshad Mehta story, have heard and understood insider tradings as a term and concept and are now even somewhat repentant about accusing him of being the sole conspirator of a ₹5,000-crore securities scam, a first in Indian history.

He died in custody and courted controversy both in life and death with allegations of induced heart attack never really settling down. He raised the bar of corruption all the way to the Prime Minister and his office and yet paid the price of oiling the loopholes in the banking system, alone. The film on hil and bear runs. Some momental both of the price of oiling the loopholes in the banking system, alone momental the way to the prime momental both of the price of oiling the loopholes in the banking system, alone momental both of the price of oiling the loopholes in the banking system, alone momental both of the price of oiling the loopholes in the banking system, alone momental both of the price of oiling the loopholes in the banking system, alone of the price of oiling the loopholes in the banking system, alone of the price of oiling the loopholes in the banking system, alone of the price of the

fictionalisation?

Abhishek Bachchan as Hemant Shah, aka Big Bull aka Harshad Mehta, is authentic and seasoned with his performance just as he was while portraying Dhirubbai Ambani in Guru which was directed to near perfection by Mani Ratnam. Hemant Shah did not look at all like the real Harshad Mehta played by Abhishek, but then authenticity was never the aim of director Kookic Gulati, playing to the gallery was. This one by Gulati is, thus, a green horn in parts and that's where you feel it is as flabby as Abhishek's pillowed paunch which he sports as unapologetically as he does his beliefs and actions.

Gulati can be faulted for raising compassion for his prime character Hemant Shah without lending adequate



evidence of his singular non-guilt. The system, the corruption in high places and the personal betrayal are all placed on the stock market to prop up this man's innocence, or should we say his personal

stock market to 'prop up this man's innocence, or should we say his personal argument.

All other characters are also read people with fake names, including the journalist who unearthed the scam—Sucheta Dalal being called Meera Rao, his lawyer Ram Jethmalani being renamed Ashok Mirchandani and Harshad Mehta himself being called Hemant Shah. The Prime Minister involved in the allegations made by Mehta was P V Narasimha Rao whose visage is shown for a few seconds without any names, perhaps in the spirit of garbing a true story with deliberate its and buts.

All said, what's true is that when this biggest bull of the stock market died in jail in 2001, too much time had passed to make it a lead story. But as he had tipped off the nation in the 1980s, India could never fully recover from the bear hug that was given to the stock market in the face of a crescendo that shifted public money investment from real estate and gold to the stock market. His contribution in that can't be denied, as it can't be contested that he made use of loopholes which the system accorded him and never did break any law, except the law of vertical growth.

Where was the comedy?

HELLU GHAKLIE Amazon Prime Video *ing: Jackie Shroff, Rajpal Yadav, Aadar Jain, Shhloka Pandit, Elnaaz Norouzi Rated: 3/10

Bollywood should stop making comedies. Given that the makers only know how to either make slapstick or double meaning films that translate into comedy, it is time that they give up making anything under the genre. But if our filmmakers really want to continue to maker in-tickling movies, it is time that they sit down and watch some Hollywood films just to get an idea on what comedy really is. And it is definitely not stuffing a man into a gorilla suit and putting him in a cage at the back of a truck to only have another real gorilla let loose that was flying all the way from Uganda. Not only this, director Pankaj

Saraswat then loses a set of incompetent people on the 70 mm screen.

You have Adar Jain aka Charlie who makes blunders in every job. Who in their senses chases a fire truck and insists that they take the delivery of pizzas? It is not enough, you have a billionaire trying to escape the long arm of justice in a motorboat all the way to Dubai. What was Jackie Shroff thinking when he chose to take up this role? One is sure that he is not that hard up that he would want to end up playing a role where a majority of the time he is in a gorilla sult. His Mona baby is no way as good as Ajit's Mona darling. Adar Jain as the bumbling Charlie is too painful to watch as he destroys everything in his path. But he is the hero, so he has to come out looking like one however incredulously brainless the entire 102 minutes of the movie are.

vie are.
Stav away from this one. — Shalini Saksena

The genius is on show

SonyLiv Drama Series Episodeo ° Rated: 7/10

Rated: 7/10

Imagine an artist par excellence who was an expert in Nature, mechanics, anatomy, physics, architecture and weaponry, to name a few, not to mention an even better designer for machines like the bicycle, belicopter, submarine and military tanks much before they were even concepts!

A series on such a clothed genius can be nothing but enervating and Leonardo in that context is a thriller, tugger and a puller all rolled into one, well, canwas — a stuming carwas of an artist slie which was full of colours that his brush stroked with eternal brilliance. Illegitimate, unschooled, rebellious and yet one of the foremost Rennaisance artists, Leornados life and times were interesting and so is his story, art and nefarious activities which put him under scrutiny and persecution back in the 15th century.

The series on him, simply called, Leornado captures those times with finesse and keeps up the viewer's longing to continue watching the eight episodes without a break. Sepia shades and smoky environs despicting an underground band of activists and their lives is no mean achievement but Leonardo is simply tasteful and engaging.

The series takes wou through the life of an impossible artist

Slice of resilient life

MINARI MINAMI Amazon VOD *ing: Steven Yeun, Han Ye-ri, Alan Kim, Noel Kate Cho, Youn Yuh-jung, Will Patton Rated: 7/10

maining but the movie by this name is a large price than life, a slice of life replete with dreams, aspirations, struggles, resilience and sunshine even in its deepest darkest moments.

It is surprising that the film got its Golden Globe nomination (it won the best foreign language film award eventually) in the foreign film category despite being directed by an American and unfolding in America, actually deep into rural America. That it did not meet the Globe guideline of at least 50 per cent of it being in English language explains it, even though it would stand tall in the Best Feature film, Best direction, Best musical score and many more categories.

A family of Korean immigrants moves from California to the rural pocket of Arkansas to "live once again", as the main protagonist puts it. The couple Jacob and Monica and their son and his maternal grandmother move to a makeshift house in a trawler to get used to a new life full of firsts and struggles in rugged terrain far removed from the bright lights of California, only to find leaking roofs, a barren land to till and a farming community that is new and alien to them.

The story is as much about resilience as it is about hope with an underlying sense of gratitude to life itself, life despite all its challenges. The film is engaging though slow but when has life unfolded so beautifully and in such real terms on the big screen?



Pathos is aplenty, but lining it up well is humour, be it around the chubby child who is forced to sleep with his snoring granny or their conversations which depict the absolute contrast in local American and immigrant Korean cultures. For one, as the impudent child puts it, American grandmothers do not use cuss words or wear men's underwear—as his granny does.

The film is a must-watch not because of its reality bytes but because it is laid out so simply that it tugs at your heart from all quarters, it grows on you, it immerses you and it makes you laugh and cry at the same time.

The music is haunting as much as the story this award-winning director Lee Isaac Chung brings to you from the depth of his heart and craft.

■ What does Justice Reloaded have on offer?

their lives is no mean achievement but Leonardo is simply tasteful and engaging.

The series takes you through the life of an impossible artist by showing you the stories behind his paintings, his continuous search for perfection and his turbulent relationship with his art as much as his life. Aidan Turner as Leonardo Da Vinci is a natural copy of the real man and he lives his moments with authenticity and elan all through the drama that is well put together by director for six episodes Daneil Percival and rest by Alexis Cahill.

The 'drama, however, is as close to authenticity as it is to replicating Tuscany, Italy, of those syrupy times when existence was being questioned as were norms. In fact, it looks so real that it could be mistaken for a documentary.

TELLYTALE

MIKA PROPOSES BHOOMI While the competition will heat up during the upcoming episode of Zee TV's Indian Pro Music League with all the



teams putting their best foot forward, it seems like Punjab Lions captain Mika seems like Punjab Lions captain Mika Singh will steat the show. Last time around, young comedian Divyansh Trivedi had suggested that Mika Singh get married to Gujarat Rockers' captain Bhoomi Trivedi. While they both had laughed it off, this time around, Mika actually proposed Bhoomi for marriage!

During the shoot of the upcoming episode, the Punjab Lions trio of Mika Singh, Asees Kaur and Rupali Jagga performed on Sajid-Wajid's composition Mujhse Shaadi Karoge. During the act, Mika surprised one and all when he went Mika surprised one and all when he went up to Bhoomi, brought her on stage and continued his performance, while asking her Mujhse Shaadi Karoge? After the act, host Karan Wahi also made Bhoomi and Mika dance together and that's when Mika went down on his knees and asked her

went ouwn on ins viees and asked the once again. Her the act, Mika expressed: "Bhoomi, ab toh bata do, mujihse shaadi karagi? Sab log Bhoomi se jude hai, maine socha main bhi Bhoomi se jud jaru. What do you guys think about Bhoomi Singh? Bhoomi sejid? Bhoomi Singh? Bhoomi sejid a bride for you, it would be injustice to them." Javed Ali also joked: "This wedding will happen only if Mika Bewes Punjab and comes to Gujarat," to which Asees replied: "No, no, bhabhi will come to Punjab." While Mika, Bhoomi and veryone were obviously playing around, viewers will

were obviously playing around, viewers wil surely like watching the chemistry of these rival captains. You also cannot miss the musical battle between Gujarat Rockers, Bengal Tigers, Delhi Jammers, Mumbai Warriors, UP Dabbangs and Punjab Lions

as they go all out to win the fourth super

74TH BAFTA AWARDS ON SONYLIV Lights! Camera! and a lot of Action is

74TH BAFTA AWARDS ON SONYLIV Lights Cameral and a lot of Action is about to unfold as we gear up to watch one of the biggest award nights of the year. Celebrating excellence in filmmaking across the globe and bringing an enriching experience for movie lovers, SonyLIV will exclusively stream the British Academy of Film and Television Arts Awards, 2021 (BAFTA). The prestigious awards night will live stream today at 11:30 pm directly from the Royal Albert Hall in London. BAFTA 2021 will be hosted by Edith Bowman and Dermot O'Leary.

The much-coveted ceremony will see seventeen BAFTA winners being announced along with screening of norminated films and behind-the-scenes footage, which will highlight the creative process that went behind curating these masterpieces. Drumming up the buzz further, BAFTA will also bnoour Ang Lee with the Fellowship this year. The awards night will witness presenters like Asim Chaudhry, Priyanka Chopra Jonas. Sophie Cookson, Phoebe Dynevor, Chiwetel Ejirofor, Cynthia Erivo, Hugh Grant, Richard E. Grant, Tom Ledon and Los Angeles, respectively.

With praises pouring in from world With praises pouring in from world

With praises pouring in from world With praises pouring in from word word for his incredible performance, young Indian Ialent Adarsh Gourav has been nominated in the Best Actor in a Leading Role category at BAFTA, Gourav will compete against veteran British actor Anthony Hopkins for The Father, French actor Tahar Rahim for The Mauritanian, Riz Ahmed for Sound of Metal, late Chadwick Boseman for Ma Rainey's Black Bottom and Mads Mikelsen for the Danish language film Another Round.

MANASI LEARNS A NEW CRAF MANASI LEARNS A NEW CHAPT
Hindmata recently released on Fros
Now and Actor Manasi Rachh is glad with
the response her character has garnered.
The series is set in a fictitious women's
prison called Hindmata where Manasi plays
the character of Sudha Nath, who is in

the character of Sudon Nath, who is in prison on charges of sedition. Manasi has portrayed various shades of a woman from being a straightforward girl in Mujhse Fraandship Karoge, to a tomboy for student of the year, to a fearless hacker for 24 Season 2 and then a lesbian girl who musters courage to come out of the closet for Its Not That Simple



Season 2. She performs each character with passion and tries to give it her best. She never shies away from honing her talent and learning new things for the

character; be it learning to cycle and swim for SOTY or learning to sew for *Hindmata*. Ask Manasi and she quips: "Yes, I learnt to use the sewing machine for the series as we had a few scenes where we

series as we had a few scenes where we needed to stitch garments or at least act so. As you can see in the video, I am not a rop but at the same time I like to learn and have fun while doing the same't where I stand for elections in the prison, I did a lot of referencing. A few scenes needed me to be very driven and vocal about certain issues. So, I saw videos of a lot of women politicains in the parliament and even social activists. I studied their body language during railies and also how these women expressed themselves in public. This helped me etch out my character with

CEZANNE KHAN TO PLAY HARMAN

COLORS' popular show Shakti...Astitva Ke Ehsaas Kii has been COLORS' popular show Stakil. Ast type Ref Page 18 and 18 a

'The script left me in tears'

SONALI KULKARNI, who is all set to host SET's Crime Patrol Satark: Justice Reloaded, tells MUSBA HASHMI what made her come on board the project and her experience



IT IS TOO EARLY FOR ME TO SAY THAT I WILL BRING SOME CHANGE, BUT FOR NOW, I CAN SAY, I WILL BRING SOME CHANGE VISUALLY AS A WOMAN ANCHOR

but only a few managed to leave a mark. Crime Patrol is one of them. Why?

The show always tries to tell people to be responsible citizens, and they always fight against blind faith. I have been one of the strongest activists of Maharashtra worked for around 16 years with Dr Narendra Dabulkar, who has tried to appeal to people that have faith in God and religion, but do not let anyone exploit you emotionally, mentally, economically, physically and sexually. And let no child get abused because we have blind faith. Crime Patrol is like a torchlight, which is trying to make us aware and that can be one of the reasons behind its success.

Does it, in any way, bother you to host a crime show?

I am overwhelmed while shooting crime patrol. The stories are so intense and while reading the script at times I got tears in my eyes. What we see on news channels or social media platforms is just a glimpse, while in the real world there are a lot more crimes happening which we are not even aware of The stories are so painful that I wish they we are not even aware of The stories are so painful that I wish they we are not even aware of The stories are so painful that I wish they we are not even aware of The stories are so painful that I wish they we are not even aware of The stories are so painful that I wish they we are not even aware of The stories are so painful that I wish they we are not even aware of The stories are so painful that I wish they we for the police and judiciary is only growing day by day.

decare and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and selfers who do not owe any responsibility for any person, a purclaser of this publication or not bre the rest of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputies are subject to the exclusive jurisdation of competent court and forums in Dehilfwer bolls only, Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to advise the writching of any kind of all ministry and person. The products are subject to everify and seek appropriate advice to advise the writching of any kind of all ministry and forums in Dehilfwer boll only, Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to advise the writching of a distinct to be understanding that in the products a service and shall not be made responsible for any kind of claim and to any infort of claim and to any advised the products a service and shall not be made responsible for any kind of claim and to any advised and any advised any advised and any advised any advised and any advised any advised and any advised any advised any advised and any advised any advised any a

PROCUREMENT KICKS OFF IN PUNJAB

PUNIAR GOVT AMENDS SOFTWARE TO ENSURE CONTINUED ARHTIYA INVOLVEMENT

PNS CHANDIGARH

Wheat procurement kicked off in Punjab on Saturday with the Arhtiyas calling off their proposed strike after Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh ordered various steps to ensure their continued involve-ment in the process and impeensure their continued involve-ment in the process and imme-diate release of their pending payments of Rs. 131 crores without waiting for dues to come from FCI.

On the Chief Minister's

On the Chief Ministry
directives, the State Food
Department has amended the
procurement software so that
the Arhtiyas will continue to be the Arhityas will continue to be involved in the process of release of payments to the farmers, albeit in a modified manner, while farmers get their payments in their bank accounts within 48 hours, as mandated by the state government. Declaring his commitment to safeguarding the interests of Punjabs Arhtiyas, the chief minister said that despite the Government of India's direc-

Government of Indias directives to exclude them from MSP payments, "the Arthiyas shall always be associated with procurement", ""Iill am there, you will be part of the system, and your role will always remain," he asserted, adding that he will ensure that the Arthiya Commission and other charges permitted under the APMC Act shall continue.

Commenting on the

Act shall continue.

Commenting on the Government of India's refusal to accept the state's request for deferment of the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system, the Chief Minister said, "We fought hard with the Centre on the hard with the Centre on the issue, but they were adamant, and even went to the extent of threatening not to procure from Punjab if we do not implement the DBT."

The Chief Minister also

The Chief Minister also ordered the Finance Department to immediately release Rs. 131 crore due to the Ahrtiyas without waiting for it from the Food Corporation of India (FCI), which had with-



held payments after some Arhtiyas had failed to upload details. These Arhtiyas were probably misguided at that time by people who wanted to play politics, he said, adding that even though the money was yet to come from FCI, his government would release it immediately, without waiting for the same. He also assured the Arhtiyas that his government will take up with the Centre the issue of 30% deduction in labour payments made

Centre the issue of 30% deduc-tion in labour payments made by the FCI. Capt Amarinder thanked Vijay Kalra, the president of the Federation of Arhtiya Association of Punjab, for

heeding his government's plea to withdraw their proposed strike and lift the grain as the farmers would otherwise have suffered.

He appealed to the Arthiyas to immediately start procurement and also take care of Covid norms. The government had to delay procurement this year till April 10 from the previously scheduled April 1) on account of the second surge of Covid.

The Chief Minister said like last year, farmers will again be issued passes this year to reduce congestion at the Mandis in view of the pandemic situation.

He assured that farmer passes would be issued at the District Level, strictly in con-sultation with the Arhtiyas who are in the best position to know which farmer had

suitation with the Arthiyas who are in the best position to know which farmer has harvested his crop and is ready to come to the Mandi.

Sharing the Arthiyas' pain, which he said he could feel from the bottom of his heart, the Chief Minister said he failed to understand why the central government was treating them and the farmers in such a shoddy manner. He recalled that the system of Arthiyas prevailed even when he was a kid, and visited mandis with his grandfather, and said it was inexplicable why the Government of India wanted to ruin it.

ruin it.

The Arhtiyas are not mid-The Arhtiyas are not mudlemen but service providers, he said, adding that the private sector can function along with the existing system and there was no need to change it.

was no need to change it.

Pointing to the 72% increase in farmers' earning, he attributed it to the combined efforts of the farmers and the Arhtiyas. "Your contribution to the Green Revolution and filling of India's granaries is unfor-

gettable," he told them, adding that he does not agree with any-thing that the Centre is doing on Agriculture. He assured that all their concerns would be

that all their concerns would be addressed, and all the commitments made to them will be fulfilled.

Announcing the withdrawal of the strike in the interest of the strike in the interest of the strate and the farmers, Kalra thanked Capt Amarinder and his government for their support in their fight with the Centre.

The Centre, he said, was penalising Punjab for the farmers' agitation. Food, Cition.

penalising Punjab for the farm-ers' agitation. Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Minister Bharat Bhushan Ashu told the Chief Minister the Arhtiyas simply wanted pro-tection for their business and

livelihood.

Earlier, a few hours after going on a state-wide strike against the Punjab government's decision to follow Centre's direction to transfer the farmers' crop MSP directly to their bank accounts, arhityas withdrew their strike after Capt Amarinder's assurance that they would remain an integral part of the procurement system.

Haryana reports 2,937 fresh Covid-19 cases, second highest single- day rise in 4 months, 11 more deaths

The Covid-19 tally in Haryana surged to 313,441 on Saturday with 2937 fresh cases, the second biggest singleday jump in over four months while the death toll climbed to 3252 as 11 more people suc-cumbed to the disease, a health

sizes as 11 more people suc-cumbed to the disease, a health department bulletin said. State had reported 2994 Covid-19 cases, the highest single-jump since January, this year, a day before.

Two deaths each were reported from Ambala, Panchkula, Yamuanaagar dis-tricts and one each from Jind, Fatehabad, Bhiwani, Kruukshetra and Karnal dis-tricts that people and the size of the size of

V Kaul, 76, who featured in several Hindi films and shows including "Mahabharat", died in Ludhiana on Saturday due to Covid-19 related complica-

Covid-19 related complica-tions.

According to Kaul's sister
Satya Devi, the actor, popular
for playing the role of Lord
Indra in BR Chopra's
"Mahabharat", was admitted
to a city hospital after he developed fever six days ago. She
said he died in the morning
due to COVID-19 at the hospital. He had a fever and wasn't keeping well. He was admitted to the hospital on Thursday.
The actor worked in over
300 Punjabi and Hindi films
including "Pyatar Toh Hona
H' Tha', "Aunty No 1" and the
TV show "Vikram Aur Betaal".

Veteran actor Satish

Kaul dies of Covid-19

related complications

Karnal (271), Panchkula (217), Sonepat (203), Faridabad (200), Kurukshetra (181), Yamunanagar (168) Hisar (124), Ambala (123), Rohtak (124), Ambala (123), Rohtak (121) and Panipat (104) districts.The number of active cases in Haryana stands at 19,453. The state has a recovery rate of 92.76 per cent, the bulletin stated.

HARYANA TO REGULATE AND RESTRICT ACTIVI-TIES, SOPS ISSUED Due to the prevailing con-ditions due to the COVID-19

ditions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Haryana Government has decided to regulate and restrict various activities and has issued guide-lines (SOPs) to contain the spread of the coronavirus. Financial Commissioner,

Secretary, Department of Revenue and Disaster Management, Sanjeev Kaushal has issued an order to all the has issued an order to all the Administrative Secretaries, Director General of Police, Haryana, all the Divisional Commissioners and all the Deputy Commissioners of the State.

State. The State Government has decided to declare vacation in all the Government and Private Schools in the State for the classes from Class 1st to Class 8th upto April 30. However, teachers will attend the schools without any change and will do without any change and will do their administrative works such as preparation of results, admissions and other work processes will continue without any change.

Farmers block KMP Expressway in Haryana as part of protest against farm laws

PNS CHANDIGARH

PNS CHANDIGARH

As part of their stir against the Centre's three agriculture laws, farmers on Saturday blocked the 136 km Kundli-Manesar-Palwal expressway in Haryana. They, however, said emergency vehicles such as ambulances were allowed to pib. Unanameter of the Samyukta Kisam Morcha, an umbrella body of farmer unions spearheading the agitation. The blockade started at 8 am and will last 24 hours till Sunday morning. Farmers, including women, carried flags of their organisat the Government.

They squatted on the expressway while slamming the central government for not Kaul moved to Punjab from Kaul moved to Punjab from Mumbai and started an acting school around 2011, which wasn't a success. He fractured his hip bone in 2015 and remained bedridden for two and a half years. He later checked-in to an old age home, where he stayed till 2019, before moving into a rented house.

Covid vaccine, says Capt Amarinder

PNS CHANDIGAHH

With Punjab left with only
5 days of supply (5.7
lakh Covid vaccine doses) at
the current levels of vaccinating 85000-90000 persons a
day, Punjab Chief Minister
Capt Amarinder Singh on
Saturday urged the Centre to
share the schedule for supply of
vaccines with the States over
the next quarter based on their
confirmed supply orders.
Hoping that the Centre
would send fresh batches of
vaccine supply soon, the Chief
Minister said if the state is able
to meet its target of 2 lakh vac-

vaccine supply soon, the Chief Minister said if the state is able to meet its target of 2 lakh vac-cines a day, then its current supplies will last only 3 days. He said he had written to the Prime Minister & the Union Health Minister to give con-firmed supply schedules. Despite being a slow-starter in vaccination, Punjab has vaccinated more than 16 lakh persons, at an average of around \$5000-90000 per day, he said during a video confer-ence convened by Congress president Sonia Gandhi to dis-custs the Covid situation. The meeting was attended by chief ministers of the Congress-ruled states, as well as senior party leaders, including Rahul Gandhi. Capit Amarinder said peo-

Gandhi.

Capt Amarinder said peo-ple in Punjab were still not coming out in large numbers for the vaccination due to the

regarding Covic tion hesitancy. Ranking 18th in the coun-resent in terms of cases

around 8% positivity, with an average of around 3000 cases per day for the past 15 days, the Chief Minister apprised Sonia. The number of cases is slight-The number of cases is slightly stable, he pointed out, adding that "this shows that the steps taken in the last 3 weeks are in the right direction." Even in the graphs put up by Health Ministry in Prime Minister's review meeting yesterday, the "curve appears to be flattened over the past fortnight," he said, disclosing that the state currently has around 27,200 active cases with recovery rate of 87.1%.

active cases with recovery rate of 87.1%.

Noting that high positivity is being seen in the younger population and as per reports received from NCDC and IGIB, more than 80% samples have been found to be positive for the more contagious and virulent UK variant, the Chief of the more statement of the twarious measures taken by his government to combat the spread. These, he said, included complete ban on political gatherings till 30th April, imposition of night curfew across all districts from 9 pm to 5 am, restrictions on numbers in outdoor and indoor social gatherings and in cinema halls outdoor and indoor social gatherings and in cinema halls and malls, and closure of all educational institutions and Anganwadi Centres, with school exams being postponed. He said his government had to impose a ban on political gatherings as opposition leaders like Arvind Kejriwal and Sukhbir Badal were holding rallies in the state in violation of Covid norms.

The Chief Minister assured the meeting that the state has all arrangements in place to ensure proper and timely treatment of Covid patients, with sufficient availability of beds, drugs, Remdesivir injection etc. Punjab will do its best to contain and manage Covid as we did last year, he said.

Capt Amarinder also apprised Sonia of his communication with the central govms. The Chief Minister assured

He directed all the private hospitals to charge at government fixed rates for the treatment and avoid overcharging. There are 213 private hospitals on board for the COVID-19 treatment in the state at present and the Government has pro-vided 230 ventilators to private hospitals which should be used

Punjab left with only 5 days of

for the vaccination due to the massive anger prevailing against the Government of India on the issue of Farm Laws. Since Punjab has a majority population among the agriculture community, even the common man is affected by the farmers agitation, he said, adding this anger is impacting the vaccination drive. He said his government is undertaking an extensive media campaign to address the mis-information regarding Covid and vaccination hesitancy.

try at present in terms of cases reported, Punjab is showing

two letters he has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan, seeking flexibility for states to devise their local vaccination strategies. He added that he had requested the Centre for inclusion of patients with liver & kidney disease below age of 45 and to focus on immunizing all adults in high-risk areas, besides covering all teachers & staff in all educational institutions, besides occupation-besides in judicial officers, bus drivers & conductors, elected representatives at all levels, etc.

PRIVATE HOSPITALS IN
PUNJAB TO POSTPONE
ELECTIVE SURGERIES
TILL APRIL 30
Principal Secretary Health
and Family Welfare, Punjab
Hussan Lal on Saturday chaired
a virtual meeting with private
hospitals of the state for
COVID-19 management, urging them to defer the elective
surgeries at least till April 30 to
meet the rising number of
demand for Covid beds.
He directed all the private
hospitals to charge at govern-

vided 230 ventilators to private hospitals which should be used optimally.

The Principal Secretary Health stated that more than 20,000 doses of Remdisivir have been provided to Government and Private hospitals and these were available free of cost.

He reiterated that Oxygen demand and supply must be communicated to the Civil Surgeon of the district so that in case of any additional requirement, the same could be made available from the appropriate source well in time.

Chandigarh asks WII, Dehradun to conduct wildlife census from May 1

before moving into a rented house.

Punjab CM Capt Amarinder Singh condoled the demise of Kaul. In a condo-lence message, the CM described him as a versatile actor, who played a pivotal role in the promotion of Punjabi cinema, art and culture. Being a staunch votary of Punjab, Punjabi and Punjabiyat, Satish Kaul would be remembered by one and all for his enormous contribution for making Punjabi cinema popular amongst the people, he said.

Chandigarh will have a wildlife census from May 1 to June 30 this year to determine the animals and birds in the Union Territory.

Chief Conservator of Forest and Chief Wildlife Warden Debendra Dalai on Saturday said that Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun has been asked to carry out a wildlife census in Chandigarh along with Haryana which would carry out wildlife census from May 1 to June.

out wildlife census from nay, to June.

Talking to 'The Pioneer' over the phone, Dalai said that to prepare an inventory of wild animals, the UT Forest and Wildlife Department has planned to carry out a second wildlife census was held in 2010. "We earlier had a verbal communication with

the director of WII, Dehradun, to carry out the wildlife census in Chandigarh along with Haryana. Now, we will soon write a letter to WII, Dehradun, regarding the same. If our proposal is accepted then the wildlife census in Chandigarh would also start along with Haryana from May I," he said.

Dalai further said that the availability of funds is no longer

Dalai further said that the availability of funds is no longer an issue. The department would not need a large fund to carry out wildlife census in Chandigarh. The wildlife census would be carried out in the Sukhna Wildlife sanctuary, spread over an area of 26 square kilometres in the catchment area of the Sukhna Lake. It would take nearly a week to complete the wildlife census exercise in Chandigarh. The master trainers of WII Dehradun will give adequate training to all the staff in Chandigarh and those who would be part of the wildlife

census exercise.

The Chandigarh Chief Wildlife Warden said that the first wildlife census was carried out in the Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary a decade ago. The second census could not be carried out in the last year due to the pandemic and Covidinduced lockdown in the country, he added.

Another senjor officer of

try, he added.

Another senior officer of
UT Forest and Wildlife
Department said that a team of
experts from the WII,
Dehradun, environmentalists,
representatives of NGOs and
biology and zoology students
from Panjab University took
part in the first census held in
2010.

part in the first census held in 2010.

The team took three days to count nine species of mam-mals and 65 species of birds by using direct evidence, including animals and birds specied in the area, and indirect evidence such as footprints and including a first part of the country of the cou

KOTKAPURA CASE

Punjab Govt to challenge HC decision

Terming the probe into the Kotkapura firing case as totally fair, impartial and unbiased, Punjah Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Saturday said his Government will challenge in the Supreme Court any orders of the High Court for quashing the investigation of the Punjab Police STI or removing its chief.

Reacting to reports in this

Punjab Police SIT or removing its chief.

Reacting to reports in this regard, the Chief Minister said he has directed the state government's legal team in the case to examine the orders of the Punjab & Haryana High Court as soon as the copy is received, and prepare to challenge the same in the apex court if either the SIT probe is directed to be scrapped or its leader is asked to be removed.

He said he had full faith in the state's legal team, headed by

Siddharth Luthra, Senior Advocate from Delhi, that has appeared for the state in the case before the High Court. The case will be taken to its logical conclusion and nobody who is guilty will be spared, irrespective of their political articles of their political and the conclusion or position, said the Chief Minister.

Chief Minister.
Declaring his commitment to fulfilling every single
poll promise of his government, including ensuring the
much-awaited justice for the
families of the victims of the

families of the victims of the firing case.

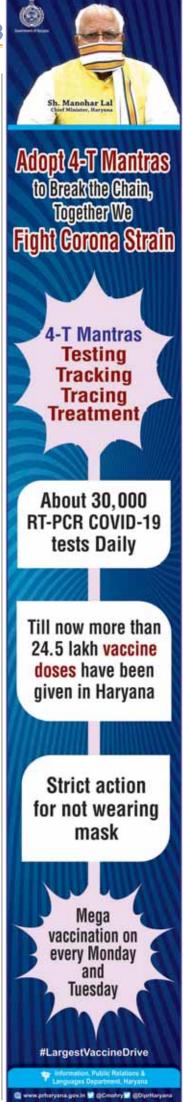
Expressing full confidence in SIT chief Kunwar Vijay Pratap Singh, and the probe conducted so far under his supervision, the Chief Minister said he was an extremely competent and experienced officer who had been working relentlessly on the case since the Special Investigation Team was constituted.

He pointed out that the investigations were in an advanced stage, with four chal-lans already filed against persons in the 2015 case that followed the Bargari sacrilege incident, with final reports submitted to the sessions court for trial.

tor trial.

CM USING CASE TO IMPLICATE BADAL FAMILY, SAYS SUKHBIR BADAL.
Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) President Sukbbir Singh Badal on Saturday said the Punjab and Haryana high court order quashing the SIT formed by the Congress Government in the Kotkapura police firing case had made it clear that the chief minister was not interested in finding the guilty but was using the case to implicate the Badal family.

He said it was now clear that the SIT was formed to indulge in political vendetta.



Indian adults struggling with Obesity on the Rise, says report

The rising population of adult obese in India has exceeded the total population of Australia and rising obesity causes several other health problems amongst adults.

Recently, the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020 report has brought out that more Indian adults became obese during 2012-2016 as the number of adults (18 years and above) who are obese grew from 25.2 million in 2012 to 34.3 million in 2016, thereby growing from 3.1 per cent to 3.9 per cent.

Dr Anupam Goel, Consultant Minimal Access Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery, Max Super Speciality Hospital Mohali, said, 'Obesity is arguably the most pressing public health problem we face and increasing rate of obesity amongst adults is a grave issue as it brings a host of other dis-eases and they constitute the largest chunk of the popula-tion".

On the treatment of obesi-

1. On the treatment of obesi-On the treatment of obesi-ty, Dr Goel said the conven-tional treatment methods like diet, exercise and medications for certain BMI range has shown fruitful results.

However, when it comes to long term weight loss, Bariatric surgery or weight loss surgery has proven to be the most effec-tive. The main purpose of bariatric surgery is making changes in the digestive system which helps in long term and healthy weight loss. On the insurance coverage of Beristric surgery, be said as

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PUBLIC NOTICE

L Jughir Singh S/o Late Jagji th V.P.O. Koi, Tehsil Danuya

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 L. Schnite, Teh. & Distr. Olfate. (Haryana) have changed my une in my lussband defence records om SARITA to SARITA KHARB, y correct DOB is 010.1.1973 (as per final dependence of the control of correct ACPs with 1397 and per feligial documents. According audium rid/pan card my correct name is ARITA KHARB (DOB is 0.01.1973) for all future purposes, oscerned note and please correct it, de Affidavi dated 09 April 2021 fore Evecutive Magistrate Rolitak.

I, Rohtash Sharma S/o Late nt Lal R/o H.No. 721/20, Prom ggar, Rohtak declare that Dev arma is my real son and his DOB is /11/2003. Dev and Dev Sharma

th R/o Poolila Road, mustawase sil Patti, Distt Tarn Taran declare my son Gurbakah Singh, his wife jit Kaur and their Daughter all are of my control. I disinherited them

vill de so on their risk.

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CHANGE OF NAME

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J. Chamdana Bengal Sponac of SUB (Hony Lt) Dhana Pati Show Resident of Village Pranabnumda Pally (South) Tehail & District Bankura (WB) Have Chauged M Name From Chandana Bengal to Chandana Shaw Vide Affidavir No. 16AA 649324 Dated 07 of 2.021 Before Sub Division Dalhounie (HF).

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Larg bor all finine purposes.

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Krushat, PO-Chowkl Jamwalan
Tehtil & Distit Hamirpur, H.P.
declare my son name wrongly
entered in my service record as
Anshal Angiras his correct name is

I, Anil Kumar S/o Sh. Amrit I Sharma R/o H.No. 2929 Sector -C Chandigarh have changed my me to Anil Kumar Prashar.

I, Mohinderjeet W/o Gurnam Singh VPO Satkoha Teh and Diatt Jurdaspur (Punjab) have changed my name Mohinderjeet to Mohinderjit Kaur Kahlon.

Ojasvi D'o Ankur Mittal R/o
132-A, Chhoti Line, Yogesh Nagar,
Yamuna Nagar have changed my
name to Ojasvi Mittal.

Ashwani S/o Anil Kumar R/o
Ward No. 22, Krishna Nagar,
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se to Ashwani Kumar.

me to Ashwam Kumaa:

I, Sharda Devi, apouse of Army

Ti-5479K, Subedaar Kailaah

Ti-5479K, Subedaar Kailaah

and resident of #195-B-Panechalen

gunt, Ajmer, Rajasthan (305004)

ve changed my name from Sardha

vi to Sharda Devi. Vide Affidavit

ted 09-042 2021 before Notal

hlic, Gravt Of India, Chandigarh.

I, Munish Jyoti Anand S'o Raj Kumur Anand Ro H.No. 858, Sec-13, Urban Estate, Distr. Karnal have changed my name from Munish Jyoti Anand to Munish Anand. In future i will be known as Munish Anand.

will be known as Munish Anand.

I. Robert Joseph S.O. Joseph
Daniel Ró. 889, Dwarka Pari
Jagalleri, Dist. Yamma Nagar
declares that Robert is my name and
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I. Andresshia Subrai W/o
Robert Joseph Ró. 889, Dwarkapuri
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I, Tilak Raj. Son of Viahwa Nath resident of Mohalla Kashmiri Sujangur, Tehall & Diatric 19-Hanakot, in my daughter Priya 10-2 educational Certificate my wife Name entered wrongly as Manju. Bud actual: Name of my wife is Ritu Sharma. So I Declare that Ritu Sharma and Manju is the one and the

I, No. 15182562H Rank Hav Name Vinod Kumar Unit Arry Records R/o Vill, Bagla, Teh, Adampur, Distt Hisar declare that I lave changed my brother name from Harish Kumar to Harish for all future

On the insurance coverage of Bariatric surgery, he said, as per IRDAT'S (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India) latest guidelines, Bariatric or weight loss surgery has been included under medical insurance cover helping patients in need of financial assistance.

I, Veenu W/o Sh, Yaahob Sing R/o H. No. City Hospital, Ward N. II, Luceni Vider Barvacia Disti Hisa hereby declare that I have changes my mame from Veenu Singh to Veeni for all future purposes.

rect name is Priyank Which ould be recorded in my record gar Malik S/o Arvind Malil sident of Village Lisath Distric

I, No. 15163811F, Hav

No. 4485836Y L/NK Amarjit Suty Serving in 3rd Sikh L.I R/o Villag Lakhmanr Disit. SAS Nugar Moha in my huaband army record M D.O.B wrongly entered 26-6-198 but my correct D.O.B ia 25-6-1986

No. 2694832F, Hav a Singh, Unit 19 Grenadier

I, Charanjeet Kaur W/O Harpreet Singh Malbotra R/O House No. B-2/1187, Lehal Colony, Patiala Have Changed My Nume To Charanjeet Kaur Malohtra.

I, Harpreet Singh S/O Harnam Singh B/O House No. B-2/1187, Lehal Colony, Patinja Have Changed My Name To Harpreet Sinhgh Malhotra.

Bhajan kaur W/O Gurmers
 Bhajan kaur W/O Gurmers
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Village Khunan Kalan Teb out Distt Sri Muktsar Sahib Ha-oged My Name To Banss Ram

I Manpreet Kaur Sidhu W/O Navdeep Singh Sandhu R/O Village Sadhim Wala PO Gofewala (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Manpreet Kaur Sandhu After

Disclaimer

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Haryana CM says pace of development in Faridabad will be enhanced

PNS = CHANDIGARH

Stating that pace of development in Faridabad will be enhanced by handing over the main projects to Faridabad Metropolitan Development Authority (FMDA), Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Saturday said that few major projects will be started soon to connect Faridabad city, which is currently divided in three parts, to Greater Faridabad. The city of Faridabad will be directly linked to the KGP, for this, a detailed action plan will be prepared and submitted soon to NHAI.

pared and submitted soon to NHAI.

Addressing the first meeting of the Faridabad Metropolitan Development Authority (FMDA), he said that the area of Faridabad across the canal will now be known as Greater Faridabad. Along with this, the entire border of Faridabad district which is 741 square kilometers long, which includes all rural and urban areas have been included in the FMDA. Special attention will be given to developing this area.

oping this area.
He said that earlier many institutions like HSVP, Municipal Corporation, PWD, and Smart City used to do

Public information is reformed to the general public hast in the office records of the Market Committee Rigid, in the pict no 159 size 20035°, the part white was intended to be in the name of Mr. Marin Chansolo, Mr. Ranbir Simpli, the Atwarn District Kounshahets, side has been not 208.2002 bits or Shrift Rajak Vursar as given an application in the Office that share of his father's name, should be

development work in Faridabad. Now all develop-ment works will come under FMDA and an Integrated Command and Control Center will also be created to coordi-nate the work. PNS CHANDIGARH PNS & CHANDIGARH

Fifty-eight more people died
from coronavirus in Punjab
on Saturday as the State reported its 3294 cases, pushing its
infection count to 2,69,733,
according to a medical bulletin.
The State had reported its
highest daily spike of 3,459
cases on April 9 while 3187
cases on April 9 while 3187
infections on April 1. So far, the
disease has killed 7448 people
in the State.
The number of active cases
rose to 28015 on Saturday.
Mohali reported the maximum 413 cases, followed by
407 in Jalandhar, 389 in
Ludhiana, 306 in Amritsar and
282 in Patiala.

e the work. Khattar said that Faridabad Khattar said that Faridabad district is highly populated and vast in area in which 179 sectors have been developed. He said that due to some geographical reasons, Faridabad district has remained backward in development but now we will ensure that the pace of development is enhanced by handing over the main projects to FMDA.

After the formation of

handing over the main projects to FMDA.

After the formation of FMDA, new systems will be generated to curb corruption. He informed that the road network systems of the entire district will be included in FMDA and construction of new road projects will be taken up by FMDA in the future. He said that FMDA will also operate Rainwell, Drinking Water Pipeline, STP and CTP. For this, Rs. 105 crore will be required in the initial year. If necessary, the government will provide more funds. Apart from this, 2 percent stamp duty received by Urban Local Body out of which 1 percent will now go to FMDA.

vakipura, Sadar Bazar Karnal, owner, and possessed one properly Shop. No. 3839006 Sadar Bazar, Karnal are is 23.11 Sq. yds vide Transfer Deed No. 7304, dated 30.10.2017, I am lating a cen on liks properly from Fullerton India thome Finance Ltd. if any person or any unstallulation home any kind of objection within 7 days of publication of this notice is below mentioned address.

PUBLIC NOTICE

कार्यातय नगर निगम, सोनीपत

Subject: Transfer of ownership in Sub:-Transfer of EWS H.No.209 FF, HBC. Sec.-3-4-4A, Panchkula in the name (s) of Sent. Sonia Rani Dio Late Sh. Baru Ram & Wo Sh. Rajender Kumar Ro H.No. 189-C, Railway Colony, ingadhari Workshop, Yamuna Nagar due

Bentry Can Dasolin Officer, Martel Comette, Figl

PUBLIC NOTICE STAND BANK
BRANCH : CHOWK PARAGODASS., AMRITISAR
Public Notice to Borrowers / Guarantors under Rule 3
of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002

Libeing the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor Bank has reason to believe that you the Borrower as well as the guarantor cannot be served through ordinary the under mentioned notices who are borrowers and guarantors in the under mentioned Accounts are hereby informed and called upon through endingry the under mentioned Accounts are hereby informed and called upon through the under mentioned Accounts are hereby informed and called upon through the under mentioned Accounts are hereby informed and called upon through the payment of the ternanded amounts within peacl of 60 dary, here within 60 days from the date of this guilaction. Please also note that 47 of 60 dary, here within 60 days from the date of this guilant the Accounts, as mentioned below the transition of the common the payment of the ternanded amounts within peacl of 60 dary, here within 60 days from the date of this guilant the Accounts and thereafter to self the same to realize its dues with further interest III realization along with costs as counted Assets mentioned below with further interest III realization along with costs as any other remedy available to the Bank for recovery of its dues, against you.

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HIMACHAL PREDESH **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

| invites the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system, in 2 cover system for the under mention from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD Department. | | | | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------|----------|---------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Sr. No. | Name of Work | Estimated Cost | EMD | Cost of tender form | Time | Eligible class of contractor | |
| 1 | Slope stabilization and portion of hill slope damaged during rain at Kotropi on P.C.M. road NH-154 Km. 11/200 to 208/0 (SH:- P/L G-I, G-II in Km. 17/2000 to 208/0 (SH:- P/L G-I, G-II in Km. 17/2000 to 208/0 (SH:- P/L G-I, G-II in Km. 17/2000 to 208/0 (SH:- P/L G-I, G-II in Km. 17/2000 to 208/0 (SH:- P/L G-I, G-II in Km. 17/2000 to 208/0 (SH:- P/L G-I, G-II in Km. 17/2000 to 208/0 (SH:- P/L G-II in Km. 17/ | 7,23,496.00 | 14500.00 | 350/- | One Months | D | |

Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The Bid document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website https://hlptenders.gov.in.

Bidder would be required to register in hew best which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Repring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in extending in PHPVID may be that the same from the westeric https://implenders.gov.in. Digital replature is mandatory to participate in the elementing Bidders aready processing the digital aignature issuant form authorized CAC can use the same in this funder.

Date of Online Publication

Document Download Start and End Date Bid Submission Start and End Date

14/04/2021 17:00HRS upto 27/04/2021 17:30HRS 14/04/2021 17:00HRS upto 27/04/2021 17:30HRS

Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document
Date of Technical Bid opening
Date of Financial Bid opening

ubmission.

reduction to be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting lender shall not be held liable for any delayes or system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, imployer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify velocities for the liable for information included to the tender.

Punjab reports its CSR collaboration is excellent, second highest to be further enhanced in daily spike of 3,294 State, says Haryana CM Constitution drafted after the independence of India made us aware of our rights and at the same time it made us familiar with our duties as well. As per cases, 58 more die

Haryana Chief Minister
Manohar Lal Khattar on
Saturday said that Corporate
Social Responsibility (CSR)
representatives have an
extremely important role in
symbolizing the core mantra of
Sabka Saahk, Sabka Vikas, He
further said that due to the outstanding efforts mode but them turther said that due to the out-standing efforts made by them, many developmental works of public interest are being com-pleted. He further said that a Trust to ensure optimum uti-lization of the CSR money will be set up in the State.

Trust to ensure optimum uti-lization of the CSR money will be set up in the State. Khattar was addressing the Chief Guest at an event organ-ised in connection with the Smart City at HSVP Convention Centre in

Faridabad.on Saturday.

The CM said that in the

mendable.

Khattar hoped that in the coming time, Faridabad will establish a unique identity in the country as well as in the word as a result of the upcoming new mega project which will be an inspiration and an example for other states in the field of development as well.

with our duties as well. As per the Constitution every citizen should become a conscious citizen so that he/she can con-ribute to make campaigns like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan a suc-cess. He elaborated that the

CSR support given by Indian Oil with regard to making the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan successful in the city is commendable.

PUBLIC NOTICE

IVIN SITE Pampening, Type Wile Shibbar Change

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Will Shibbar Shibar Sh PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE I, Vilkas Sharma S/o I. L. Sharma declare that Karanveer Singh, ® Divender Singh S/o Kishan Singh, R/o E209, Manus Hut Society, MDC, Sector-6, Panchhula was merely a treant in the said premises. His lease deed has been oppired on 31-03-2021. If anybody having any objection 6 query regarding this, please contact within 7 days from the publication of this notice at: 80549 60096

ਦਸਤਬਰ ਅਤੇ ਮਹਰ ਸਮ -2021 ਨੂੰ ਜਾਰੀ ਕੀਤਾ।

-2021 ਨੂੰ ਜਾਗ का-ਅੰਡਰ ਦਾ ਪੋਮੈਂਟ ਆਫ ਵੇਜਿਜ ਐਕਟ 1936 -ਕਮ-ਸਹਾਇਕ ਕਿਰਡ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨ ਫਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ

a Sh. Gurcharan Oberoli, «, Ms. Anuradha Ohri Dio Sh. Gurcharar arol, has applied for the transfer of neeshlp in respect of House No. 3038 ctor 40-D, Chandigarh to the actant of 25% resout of 50% share on the basis of Infastate sh of Smt. Janak Oberol, who expired or no 2019.

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Applications are invited for the posts of Assistant Prof. on regular basis Pedagory Subjects: - Mathematics-01, Computer Science-01, Health ar Physical Education-1, Fine Art-01, Perspective in Education-3, Qualification and pay scale as per latest norms of NCTE/CBLU Bhiwan

Applications to reach in the office of the College up to 1 May 2021 wit photocopies of all certificates and testimonials and same copy to the Dear College CBLU Bhiwani.

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Science-4, Hindr-2, English-2, Health and Physical Education-1, Fine Arts-1,
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B.E.LE.d. Principal/NOO1, Perspectives of Education-5, Science & Ris Pedagogy-4, Mathematics & Its Pedagogy-4, Mathematics & Its Pedagogy-1.

Science-4, Hindri-2, English-2, Health and Physical Education-1, Fine Arts-1, Performing Arts-1.

B.E.LE.G. Physical/NOD-1, Perspectives of Education-5, Science & Ris Pedagogy-4, Science-1, Health and Physical Education-1, Fine Arts-1, Performing Arts-1, Linguistics-1, Pedagogy of Hindri-2, Pedagogy of Science-2, Pedagogy of Hindri-2, Pedagogy of Hindri-2, Pedagogy of Hindri-2, Pedagogy of Science-2, Pedagogy of Hindri-2, Pedagogy of Hindri-2, Pedagogy of Hindri-2, Pedagogy of Hindri-2, Pedagogy of Science-3, Pedagogy of Hindri-2, Pedago

RO NO. 0142/21-22 Dt. 09-04-2021

28/04/2021 upto 11:00 HRS

28/04/2021 11:30 HRS

Executive Engineer, NH Division HP.PWD. Joginder Nagar on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh

Centre created Covid | Allegation to incite voters against Central forces unfounded: Didi jab shortage: Sonia



PNS III NEW DELHI

Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Saturday blamed the Centre for "mis-managing the situation" of managing the situation" of corona pandemic by exporting vaccines. "The Government allowed a shortage to be creat-ed in India," Sonia said at a vir-tual meeting with the Chief Ministers of Congress-ruled States to review their efforts to fight Covid-19, including the availability of vaccines and access to medicines and venti-lators.

Sonia advised the Chief Minister to focus on testing, tracking and Minister to focus on testing, tracking vaccination."Covid is surging and as the principal Opposition party, it's our responsibility to raise issues and push the Government to move away from PR tactics and act in the interest of the people. Therefore, there must be transparency. Governments must reveal the actual dambers of refed the actual dambers of refed the actual dambers of refed the actual chambers of the continuous contentials of the content of t



Indians first and then the Government should think about exporting it to other countries. "We must focus on India's vaccination drive firs

India's vaccination drive first and foremost, then only export vaccines and gift them to other countries. We must stress on responsible behaviour adhering to all laws and Covid regulations without exception,' Sonia said in the wake of Centre exporting vaccines to several countries.

Asserting that all parties are united in the fight against Covid-19, the Congress chief said, 'Cooperation with States respecting federalism and in turn, for us to be constructive and cooperate with the Government in its efforts to fight the pandemic is equally important. We are all united in this fight.'

fight the pandemic is equainy important. We are all united in this fight."
She also blamed mass gatherings during election rallies and religious events for the spike in cases. "Mass gatherings for elections and religious events have accelerated Covid for which all of us are responsible to some extent. We need to accept this responsibility and keep the interest of the

nation above our own."

Pushing for strict action to be taken to control the coron iph, Sonia Gandhi said, "Ii graph, Sonia Gandhi said, in our states, we need to take strict our states, we need to take strict measures to ensure that the pandemic doesn't go out of control and ensure testing at large scale, preparation of ade-quate facilities, setting up tem-porary ones. We must make all porary ones. We must make all efforts to support those who face the brunt of reduced economic activity as the restrictions become harder and more stringent."

Taking about the economic situation in the country due to the corrowavirus pandemic.

ic situation in the country due to the coronavirus pandemic Sonia Gandhi asked the State Government to looks for the impact of government schemes so far and the next course of action which could be helpful

action which could be helpful.
"Various packages had
been announced by the Central
government to help MSMEs
and stimulate the 'economy.
What impact have these packages had and what more should
the Government be doing to
deal with the continuing crisis?
Do you see economic recovery
happening in the manner that
is being officially claimed?"

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Defending her controversial remarks over the Central forces' alleged partisan role in the ongoing State Assembly polls, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said there was no attempt to threaten, incite or influence the electroate against the force and any allegations to the contrary were unfounded to a discount of the contrary were unfounded to the Election Commission's notice Mamata said she has the highest regard for the Central orders and "commend and laud their contributions to the safety and the security of the country."

"In my speech, I had only called upon the voters, specifically voters who are women to protect (democratically between the and when somebody (including CAPF) created any obstruction in their right to vote," Mamata said adding that there a is no of the democratic ways of registering public protest.

gherao is one of the democratic ways of registering public protest.

"Be it noted that multi-dimensional word gherao has been a legitimate entry in the political lexicon of West Bengal since late 1960s..." she said. In recent years, the word has been used to connote peaceful satyagraha against authorities by silent victims of the situation, she added.

Mamata also urged the

tión, she added.
Mamata also urged the
poll body to rescind its notice,
contending she has not violated the model code or the various sections of the Indian
Penal Code. She claimed that Penal Code. She claimed that a girl was allegedly molested by an unidentified CRPF person-nel in the early hours of April 6 at Ramnagar, under Tarakeshwar police station and the matter was reported to the



Thursday issued a otice to Mamata for emarks agains Central forces

police which lodged an FIR. "...Till date, no tangible action has been taken or at action has been taken or at least an advisory or instruction has been issued by the Election Commission to CAP," Mamata said, adding several police offi-cers have been removed on "frivolous complaints by the PID."

"frivolous complaints by the BJP".

To drive home her point that she did not instigate people to carry out violent acts against the central forces, Mamata also reproduced certain portions of her speech in her reply to the EC.

The EC had on Thursday issued a notice to Banerjee for her prima facie "complety false, provocative and intemperate statements" against enertral armed police forces, saying her personnel.

The TMC chief again targeted the Centre and the CAPF on Saturday, after four people were killed in firing by CISP personnel allegedly after complex with "attempted to snatch their rifles" in West Bengals Cooch share did not be shared strick. Mamata said her government will initiate a CID strobe into the incident and government will initiate a CID probe into the incident and questioned the central forces' version of firing in self-defence.

BJP releases Kishor's video claiming 'Modi's popularity'

A mid polling for 44 Assembly Seats in West Bengal, a con-troversy broke out on Saturday as BJP IT Cell head Amit Malviya released an audio clip where Chief Minister Mamata where Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's election strategist Prashant Kishor is purportedly heard saying "PM Modi, Mamata equally popular" in the State.

State.

Malviya, who is also BJP's deputy-in-charge of Bengal, tweeted four audio clips of what he said was parts of a conversation between Kishor and a group of journalists on the Clubhouse

tion between Nisnot aura g young of journalists on the Clubhouse app.

Malviya quoted Kishor as saying that Prime Minister Narendra Modiš appeal, anti-incumbency against the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC), "Muslim appeasement" of political parties in Bengal over the years and the Dalit vote would likely work favour of the BJP.

Kishor's rejected the interpretation with selective quotes and accused the BJP of "distorted use of parts of the conversation", and asked the party to release the "full conversation".

The controversy came on the day 44 of West Bengal's total 294 seats were voting in the fourth round of an eight-phase polling process.

In the first tweet by Malviya,

fourth round of an eight-phase polling process. In the first tweet by Malviya, Kishor could be heard purport-edly saying "...Polarisation, Modi, Hindi-speaking people,

SC (Scheduled Castes) — these are the factors." Former minister Suvendu Adhikari leaving the TMC, or Kishor coming in as the TMC strategist were not the issues of significance at all, he said.

said.
"Modi is popular here, the

said.
"Modi is popular here, the Hindi-speaking people have over 1 crore votes, Dalt's account for 27% (of the population) — and they are fully backing the BJP. But, there is of course polarisation, "Kishor said.
"Matuas will be predominantly voting for the BJP, but not su unitedly as they did in the Lok Sabha (elections in 2019). I still hink 73% of the Matuas will vote for the BJP and 25% for the TMC," Kishor purportedly said.
"Even our surveys on who will form the Government shows the BJP coming to power. This is because the BJP supporters are claiming the party will form the Government. Of the people voting for the Left.—10-15% — about two-third think the BJP will form the Government. So, the majority view you are hearing is that the BJP is coming to power, 'Kishor said.

He said the perception,

said.

He said the perception, mostly among people from outside the state, that the BJP did not have workers on the ground in Bengal was not true. "They could be imported from the Left, but they are dedicatedly work-ing for the BJP today," he said, adding that the Left voters would like to see Banerjee lose.

When asked who was voting for the TMC, Kishor also purportedly clarified that he meant to say "50-55% Hindus are voting for the BIP".

In the second clip, he said the major problem "we have to accept is that for 20 years there have been efforts to appease the minority". For example, in Bengal the predominant belief was whoever got the Muslim vote would the elections, he said.

"The entire political ecosystem — be it of the Congress, Left or of Didi (as Banerjee is popularly known as) —has been thinking about that (getting Muslim votes). The first time, Hindus are thinking that they are seeing a chance. .There is some element that the BIP is exploiting. And that element is coming from blatant misuse of minority politics by some of these parties...We can't deny that," he said.

In the third clip, Kishor said.

these parties...We can't deny that," he said.

In the third clip, Kishor said. He Hindi-speaking people in Bengal were Modi's core voters in Bengal. "Plus, the anti-incumbency is against the state government, not against the State government, not against the Centre." "If we do a survey of leaders, Modi and Mamata are equally popular (in Bengal) — which is a very big thing," he said. "Bengal has not seen a BJP rule. That is a factor. The people who have not seen it (BJP rule) for 30-35 years think they (the BJP) will do something hitherto undone. They want to taste the ladoo they have not yet," he said.

CRPF staff's special

school bus facility

RAKESH K SINGH III NEW DELHI

ance of the proposa.

effect.

A Ministry letter with the

children to aet

Assam polls: EC orders repolling in 4 booths on April 20



PNS III NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Saturday ordered re-polling on April 20 in four polling booths including Haflong constituency of Assam where 181 votes were cast even

Hallong constituency of Assam where 181 votes were cast even though 90 people were eligible to exercise their franchise. The Commission has declared the votes cast at these polling stations on April 1 as void.

In a massive breach of conduct, a polling booth station at 107(A)-Khothiri LP School under Haflong Assembly constituency, located in Assam's Dima Hasao district, where 181 votes were cast even though 90 people were eligible to exercise their franchise. The presiding and first polling officer in their statements had admitted that they had allowed the voters registered at the main polling station at 107-Mouldam LP School to cast their votes at the auxiliary polling station. The Haflong constituency has witnessed 74 percent polling.

The ECI order said,

repolling will be held at Ratabari (SC) contituency's polling station number 149 at Indira M V School, after an electronic votting machine (EVM) was found in a car belonging to the wife of a BIP candidate. A magisterial probe was ordered by Karimganj district Deputy Commissioner and Returning Officer to enquire as to why a polling team in Assam carried a polled EVM in a vehicle owned by the wife of BIP candidate and sitting MLA Krishnendu Paul.

Repolling has also been ordered in Sonai constituency's 463- Madhya Dhanehori LP School polling booth where at least three persons were injured in an incident of firing, following which the state's deputy speaker and BIP candidate Aminul Haque Laskar was questioned by the police and five police personnel attached to him were suspended. According to the reports, the clash broke out between two groups after there was alleged mismanagement at Madhya Dhanehari polling station.

Tomar urges agitating farmers to call off strike amid Covid surge

Union Agriculture Minister
Narendra Singh Tomar
on Saturday appealed to the
farmers protesting at Delhi
borders to call off their longrunning agitation in view of
second wave of Covid-19 cases,
saying the Government is
ready for a discussion whenever they come with a concrete
proposal. Tomar expressed
concerns about the farmers'
health and wellbeing as India
witnessed a record surge of
over 1.45 lakh coronavirus
cases on Saturday.

witnessed a record surge of over 1.45 lakh coronavirus cases on Saturday. Thousands of farmers have been protesting against the three new agri-marketing laws for nearly five months now, braving the raging pandemic. There has been no headway in the logiam over the issue since January 22, when the 11th and the last round of formal talks happened between the Central government and the protesting farmer unions. "Now in the second wave of pandemic, the entire nation and the world is following COVID-19 protocols. Even protesting farmers should follow the protocols. Their life is important for us," formar said. "In the current COVID-19 situation, I urge them (agitating farmers) to call off their protest. The government is ready for a discussion whenever they come with a proposal," he said.

Stating that there is no dissatisfaction." among the farming community across the country over the new farm





laws, the minister said many farm bodies in fact are in the favour these legislations, while

farm bodies in fact are in the favour these legislations, while some are opposing them. "Ours is a democratic country, be it farmers or citizens, if they have any doubt, the gowernment believes it is its responsibility is to clear doubts and find a solution," he said. The minister said the three laws were not drafted all of a sudden, but there was a long discussion in the past and Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken it forward, he said.

He said that normally any protest continues if the government is not ready for talks. But this government has held with open heart 11 rounds of discussion with representatives of protesting farm unions, yet their agitation did not stop, he said.

In these meetings, the gov

ernment had identified their concerns and offered them a proposal to suspend the laws for 1.5 years and set up a committee to examine them.
"We proposed that a committee be set up to look into these laws and the MSP (issue) also. After the committee cubmits it, it reports the

these laws and the MSP (issue)
also. After the committee
submits its report, the
Government will discuss. This
proposal was welcomed across
the country, but the protesting
farmers rejected it without
citing any reason," he said.

"We had told farm unions
come up with their own
proposal and we were ready
for discussion on that also," the
minister said, asserting the
government is ready for talks
even today. Tomar reiterated
that he had appealed to the
farmer unions in all 11 rounds
of meetings to send back
senior citizens and children
from the protest sites in view
of the pandemic.

The Minister also said the
agitating farmers should
understand that ordinary cittense are facine difficulty due-

The Minister also said the agitating farmers should understand that ordinary citizens are facing difficulty due to their sit-in protest at the border.

Covid recovered patients not coming forward to donate plasma: Experts

PNS III NEW DELHI

With more and more Covid-19 patients landing into intensive care units, there is a serious shortage of Convalescent plasma, antiviral drug Remdesivir, and Tocilizumab injection being prescribed by doctors for treatment—even as scientific evidence on their efficacy is awaited.

ic evidence on their efficacy is awaited.

Though the World Health Organization (WHO) does not recommend these drugs and therapies for patients hospitalised with Covid-19, in India medical experts have been using these treatments on an experimental basis for moderately to severely ill patients.

moderately to severely ill patients.

Vasu Goel, a resident of Murad Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, said he had been trying hard for the last two days to get plasma for his grandfather who is admitted to JP Hospital in Noida for Covid treatment.

"I have not lost hope, yet," he said.

However, Vivek Jain from Kab Welfare Foundation, who had been coordinating with plasma donors to reach out to the needy this time too like last year, said that he has been getting several requests every day for the past few weeks. While the demand is rising, he pointed out, Covid-19 recovered patients were not coming forward to donate the plasma and help those in need.

He echoed the views of Dr

SK Sarin, head of the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, which houses the city's first plasma bank. Dr Sarin too recently pointed out that the number of donors was not

In a major relief to CRPF personnel parenting specially-abled and autistic children the Union Home Ministry has cleared a proposal for the provision of a school bus facility to such children to transport them to special school or institution irrespective of the minimum number of such children in a mumber of donors was not enough.

"If the pandemic continues unabated, we would need donors who have recovered to come and donate but we would not deny anyone in need of plasma. People should come forward to donate plasma," he said.

Delhi along with a few other States like Maharashtra had last year set up plasma banks to meet the demand which was at its peak.

Experts say those who are infected now will recover in the next two weeks, after which they will be eligible to donate plasma. number of such camp.

In an order issued earlier this month, the Union Home Ministry conveyed the clearance of the proposal to the

in the next two weeks, after which they will be eligible to donate plasma. Amid states grappling with stretched Covid facilities and vaccine shortage, there are also reports of shortage of anti-viral drug Remdesivir that is used to treat Covid patients, in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh.

In some cities, the drug is being sold in black markets, leaving the patients and their relatives at the receiving end. In some cases that highlight the limited options available to physicians treating Covid-19, doctors are recommending tocilizumab injection too. The doctors believe that the drug reduces inflammation that causes Covid-19 patients to become severely ill, particularly in their lungs.

effect.

A Ministry letter with the subject title as "Wellbeing of Specially Abled and Autistic Children of employees of CRPF in Government Vehicles to School/Institutions;" it said the CRPF proposal dated February 24 has been approved.

"It case of autistic/specially abled children, it has been decided that school bus facility may be provided irrespective of the strength (number) of such children in a camp," reads the communication.

According to an earlier order dated April 5, 1999 on the issue, the provision of mandatory requirement of number of children as five for Gazetted Officers and non-Gazetted Offic

tory requirement of number of children as five for Gazetted Officers and non-Gazetted Officers and non-Gazetted Officers and non-Gazetted Officers and rome of all other ranks for free of cost school bus facility was reconsidered for the latest order doing away with the requirement of the number children in a camp for availing such facility, it said.

This amendment is being issued subject to the condition that no new vehicles would be authorised and CRPF should manage this facility within available resources," added the letter. "The move will go a long way in mental succour for parients of special schools or institutions as part of their educational course. The removal of the fetters of a number of such children in a camp will mean that even a single such child of either officers or those from other ranks will be entitled to free school bus transport. The facility is also expected to help such parents concentrate on their core duties," a senior official said.

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) is the worlds

cial said.

The Central Reserve Police
Force (CRPF) is the worlds biggest paramilitary force with an operational strength of 3.25 lakh personnel. It is the designated Central force for anti-Naxal operations, counter-terror loce, and anti-insurgency operations with significant deployments in Jammu and Kashmir, the Northeast, and Naxal-hit States.

SC asks Centre, four States to respond on plea seeking repeal of provisions criminalising begging

PNS III NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has asked the Centre and four States, including Maharashtra and Gujarat, to file their response within three weeks on a plea seeking a direction

are sponse within three weeks on a plea seeking a direction to repeal the provisions criminalising begging.

A bench of justices Ashok Bhushan and R Subhash Reddy noted in its order that though a notice was issued on the plea on February 10 this year, only Bihar has so far filled its response in the matter.

"Although notice has been sissued on February 10, 2021, a reply has been filled by the respondent - state of Bihar endy and other respondents have not yet filed their reply.

Let reply be filed within three weeks," the bench said in its order passed on Friday. The apex court has post-ed the matter for hearing after

three weeks.

The top court had in

The top court had in February sought a response from the Centre, and the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana and Bihar on the plea which has claimed that the sections of the statute criminalising begging are violative of constitutional rights.

The plea filed by Meerut

rights.

The plea filed by Meerut resident Vishal Pathak has referred to the August 2018 verdict of the Delhi High Court which had decriminalised begging in the national capital and said that provi-

sions of the Bombay Prevention of Begging Act, 1959 which treats begging as an offence cannot sustain constitutional scrutiny. "The provisions of the statutes criminalising the act of begging put people in a situation to make an unreason-able choice between committing a crime or not committing one and starving, which goes against the very spirit of become constitution and violates Article 21 i.E. Right to Life," said the plea, filled through advocate H K Chaturvedi. Referring to the Census 2011, the plea has said that the total number of beggars in India is 4,13,670 and the number has increased from the last census.



It said that the govern-nt has the mandate to provide social security to every-one and ensure that all have basic facilities, as embedded in the Directives Principles of State Policy in the

vever, the presence is is evidence that the However, the presence of beggars is evidence that the State has failed to provide these basic facilities to all its citizens, thus instead of work-ing on its failure and examin-

ing what made people beg criminalising the act of beging what made people beg, criminalising the act of beg-gary is irrational and against the approach of a socialist nation as embedded in the preamble of our Constitution," the plea has claimed.

It said that a person, who is compelled to beg due to certain circumstances, cannot be faulted for his actions.

The plea has claimed that "The Abolition of Begging and Rehabilitation of Begging and Rehabilitation of Begging and Sabha but "Itll date, this bill is not passed and is wedged in Lok Sabha but "Itll date, this bill is not passed and is wedged in length parliamentary procedures, that has resulted in thousands of poor facing more hardships because of present arbitrary statutes".

The petition has sought directions to declare as "illegal and void" all provisions, except some sections, of the Bomby Prevention of Begging Act, 1971, Haryana Prevention of Begging Act 1951.

It has also sought to declare all other similar Acts prevailing in any part of the country as illegal.

E-comm to accelerate India's | Petrol, diesel prices auto sector growth: Report

IANS NEW DELHI

Strong acceptance of e-commerce and digitisation is expected to accelerate the growth of India's auto sector, advisory firm Grant Thornton Bharat said.

Accordingly, India's automobile market is estimated to grow more than '2.3X' from \$222 billion currently to \$512 billion by 2026.

\$222 billion currently to \$512 billion by 2026. Notably, the analysis by Allied Market Research, Market Line, Reserve Bank of India and Grant Thornton Bharat showed that e-com-merce portals focused on the merce portals focused on the automobile market, such as Droom, Cardekho, and Olx have put consumers and the

have put consumers and the user experience in the spotlight helping the manufacturers attract more users.

Besides, the growing base of internet and smartphone users will further boost the digital transformation, and lead to an increase in expanding the market size of the e-commerce portals.

portals.

"The strong emergence acceptance of the online and acceptance of the online channel have provided an impetus to seamless solutions, price discovery, transparency,

India's toll roads are likely to witness a 14-15 per cent growth in collections in FY22, ratings agency ICRA said in a report. Accordingly, this growth will be achieved on a low base

following an estimated de-growth of 5-7 per cent in FY21. "Road traffic has witnessed

New Delhi

Kanpur Cent Aishbagh

Badshahnagai

Deoria Sadar

Siwan Jn.

Chhapra

Sonpur Jn

Hajipur Jn.

Samastipur

New Delhi

Aishbagh

Gorakhpui

Siwan Jn.

Sonpur Jn

Hajipur Jn. Muzaffarpur Jn

Samastipur

Darbhanga Jn

Chhapra

Deoria Sada

Kanpur Central

Badshahnagar

Darbhanga Jn

Muzaffarpur Jn.



digital real-time payments along with certification on the quality of the vehicle for the consumers in the auto sector," said Rahul Kapur, Partner, Growth at Grant Thornton

nel gaining traction."

"Technology-enabled innovations like secure digital

FY2021 after subdued traffic witnessed in the initial months,

post resumption of tolling from April 20, 2020. This has been driven by increased movement of both -

2 Trip

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Days of Run: 04074 Ex New Delhi from 11.04.202 (Sunday) & 15.04.2021 (Thursday) dation: Sleeper, Reserved 2" seating, Chair Ca

04076 New Delhi - Darbhanga Jn. Special Express Train

STATIONS

support the growth going for

remain unchanged

IANS NEW DELHI

Fuel prices in the country remained unchanged on Saturday with oil marketing companies continuing on the pause mode and keeping petrol and diesel prices static for 11th consecutive day. Accordingly, pump price of petrol and diesel remained at previous days level of Rs 90.56 and Rs 80.87 a litre, respec-tively, in the capital.

Petrol and diesel fell by 22 paisa and 23 paisa per litre respectively last week on Tuesday in wake global softening of oil prices. OMC have decided to pause price revision as they want to watch the crude price movement that has now fallen to around \$62.5 a barrel from remaining above this level in much of the last week.

week.

Across the country as well the petrol and diesel price remain static on Saturday but its retail levels varied depending on the level of local levies

ing on the level of local levies on respective states. In Mumbai, petrol contin-ues to be priced at Rs 96.98 a litre and diesel at Rs 87.96 a litre. Premium petrol, howev-

Petrol pumps closed in Rajasthan as dealers demand rollback of VAT on fuel PTI JAIPUR

People faced difficulty across the state due to a one-day strike called by Rajasthan Petroleum Dealera Association of fuel stations on Saturday with the demand of a rollback in VAT on fuel in the state

Saturday with the demand of a rollback in VAT on fuel in the state.

Around 7,000 petrol pumps remained closed in the state due to the strike.

However, fuel pumps that are company owned and company operated were open for the public.

Association president Sunet Bagai said diesel and petrol sales remained closed on the day.

"The State Government increased VAT during the coronavirus pandemic and generated extra revenue.

The sales volume in the state has declined by 34 per cent because the fuel prices are comparatively low in neighbouring states," he said.

The association has already submitted a memorandum of demands and we would go on an indefinite strike from Anvil 25 if there is

would go on an indefinite strike from April 25 if there is no positive decision by the Government, Bagai said.

VIT-AP inks Academic

& Research MoU with

The signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the School of Advanced Sciences, VIT-AP University and CSIR-IICT was held at IICT, Hyderabad on the Saturday of 10th April 2021

Sciences, VIT-AP University and CSIR-IICT was held at IICT, Hyderabad on the Saturday of 10th April 2021.

Dr. S V Kota Reddy, Vice-Chancellor, VIT-AP University after signing the MoU with CSIR- IICT, told that this collaboration will help faculty and students to get an opportunity to conduct research in advanced thrust areas in science and technology. This collaboration can bring forth project proposals in advanced thrust areas of mutual interest of faculty and students can be submitted to various Agencies / Industries for funding.

The expertise and technical support that this collaboration brings would lead into conducting.

Symposium / Workshops VIT-AP along with H Hyderabad look forward

working on areas that would be beneficial to the academia which in turn would reflect on to the society we live in.

CSIR-IICT

Mid and small caps best performers, gold slumps in 1st quarter

IANS NEW DELHI

Mid and small cap stocks are the best performing asset class for the quarter end-ing March 2021 while gold is the worst performer.

ing March 2021 while gold is the worst performer. Mid and small cap stocks delivered returns of 14 per cent in the quarter while gold under-performed with negative 11 per cent returns. Gold is the biggest under-performer for the first three months of 2021. vs. the other asset classes. Gold prices are down by 11 per cent in rupees and 10 per cent in US Dollar in the last three months. Apart from 'Risk on' trade, ris-ing bond yields are now short term negative for the gold

As per Axis Securities, gold proved to be one of the best performing asset classes in 2020. In the last 10 years, Nifty

2020. In the last 10 years, Nitty outperformed the Emerging market in five years and developed market in four years.

The performance of small-caps is highly volatile versus other asset classes. Small-cap ranked at the bottom in 2018 and 2019 and recovered sharply.

other asset classes. Small-cap ranked at the bottom in 2018 and 2019 and recovered sharply in 2020, outperforming the other asset classes in the first quarter of 2020 delivered a healthy 15 per cent return which was significantly better than the 2019 return of 12 per cent. While NIFTY Midcap 100 and Nifty Smallcap 100 delivered 22 per cent and 21 per cent returns respectively in 2020, the returns for mid and small-cap indices were negative in 2019.

"We expect the broadbased rally of 2020 to continue well into 2021 (already visible in Q12021) as we believe a strong earnings retwial across

the in Q12021) as we believe a strong earnings revival across the board is on the cards. A lower interest rate environ-ment and higher fiscal spend-ing will continue to support the equity markets," Axis Securities

said.'

It said that asset allocation and sector rotation will be key to generate out-performance in 2021. An equity market is likely to be the best performing asset class for the next one to

asset class for the next one to two years.

It said that trading at a 10 per cent premium to large caps From a valuation perspective, the midcaps look attractive vs.

the miccaps ioos attractive vs. large caps. Historically, during the bull phase of 2017, midcaps were trading at a 45 per cent premi-um to large caps. The recent spate of IPOs and their success clearly indicates the appetite for mid and small-cap stocks, the report said

ration brings woun-conducting Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs), National, International Conferences / Seminars / Symposium / Workshops etc. small and midcaps are picking up steam and they should deliver solid returns in 2021 as economic uncertainties will reduce and volatility will decline.

The report said that top 10 stocks domination is dwin-

dling in the market. Since December 2017, Nifty has delivered a return of 40 per cent. Out of which, the top 10 stocks by free-float market cap have delivered a stellar return of 58 per cent while the remaining 40 stocks had delivered only 17 per cent. This divergence has started narrowing in recent months. Based on the top 10 stocks, the adjusted Nifty value works out to 16,647 while the remaining 40 would lead NIFTY to just 12,354.

would lead NIFIY to Just 12,354.
This indicates Nifty is better valued beyond the top 10 names. Long term risk rewards are better in the next 40 names was the top 10, the report said. Broader rally since November and broad-based market performance was seen in the month of March despite higher volatility signifying intact overall risk appetite towards mid and small stocks. Stocks ranking from 101-200

Since Jan 2020, FIIs have bought a massive amount of \$30.9 billion while the DIIs have sold \$8.6 billion from the Indian equity market.

Apple likely to use

towards mid and small stocks. Stocks ranking from 101-200 rallied by 2 per cent in March, and 98 per cent in the last year which is superior to the large-cap performance.

Stronger FII flows since November continue to drive the momentum FIIs are net buyers; FIIs have added 57.8 billion while DIIs have pulled out \$3.1 billion from the Indian centre more than the large and the pure of the

out \$3.1 billion from the Indian equity market in the last 3 months. Since Jan 2020, FIIs have

Soup Shilloil while the Dhis have sold \$8.6 billion from the Indian equity market. Highest ever FII inflows seen in the current financial year: \$37 billion, higher than FY10/11/13 levels. The fiscal year ended on a strong note for the equity mar-kets with all the sectors deliv-ering positive returns. The report said metals and IT registered the strongest gains while FMCG grew the slowest. Autos and Realty also delivered solid returns during the fiscal.

delivered solid returns during the fiscal.

While FY21 was strong which was aided by cheap val-uations and a low base, March performance was a mixed bag. The high beta sectors such as BFSI witnessed a profit book-ing while defensives such as FMCG and Pharma registered marginal gains.

The report said now the investors are betting higher on riskier assets like equity. Sentiments are improving fur-sentiments are improving fur-

ntiments are improving fur ther with increasing optimism driven by vaccine develop-ment and faster than expected economic recovery.

Strong bounce back witnessed

SUMMER SPECIAL TRAINS

Northern Railway will run following

summer special express trains as per the programme mentioned below:-

STATIONS 1

for toll road assets: ICRA

Growth at Grant Thornton Bharat.

According to the analysis report, since last year, Maruti Suzuki saw a five-fold increase in sales through digital means which now stand at 20 per cent of their total sales.

"These changes in consumer's buying and research preferences signal a shift for the auto sector, as Covid19 played a big part in the online channel gaining traction."

payments, hyper-logical logis-tics, analytics-driven customer engagement, increasing con-sumer awareness and digital advertisements are likely to

support the growth going forward."

As per the report, other factors such as rising middle class and young population with increasing disposable incomes will contribute towards growing the sector.

Furthermore, ease of owning a vehicle through the availability of multiple financing options as well as reduction in vehicle ownership tenure due to regulatory rules in some states, cited the report as other growth inducing factors.

100 a litre in the city as is the case with several cities across the country. The OMCs went on price cut for the first time this year on two consecutive days - March 24 and 25 after keeping oil prices steady for past 24 days. It again reduced the price on March 30. Thereafter, fuel prices have remained unchanged. Earlier, petrol and diesel prices increased 26 times in 2021 with the two auto fuels increasing by Rs 7.46 and Rs 7.60 per litre, respectively, so far this year. Officials in public sector oil companies said that retail price may rise again if crude and product prices pick up but for now it will fall or remain static for few more days. China slaps record USD 2.78 billion fine on Alibaba over anti-competitive tactics

ncreased movement of both-passenger and commercial vehicles, resulting in growth of around 10 per cent on a YoY basis."

PTI BELJING

China's antitrust regulators con Saturday slapped a record fine of USD 2.78 billion on Alibaba Group, the world's biggest e-commerce company, for abusing its dominant market position as Beijing tightened the screws on the country's tech giants.

Closing a months-long investigation that began last Christmas ewe, China's State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) slapped administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) slapped and by the country's top billionaire Jack Ma, setting a precedent for the ruling Communist Party to use the anti-monopoly rules to regulate tech giants.

The SAMR said that it had made an administrative penal-referitive putal-

The SAMK said that it had made an administrative penal-ty decision under China's anti-monopoly law, ordering Alibaba Group to stop illegal activities and imposing a fine of 4 per cent on its 2019 domestic sales of 455.71 billion viscon totalling 18:23 billion yuan, totalling 18.23 billion

yuan, The market regulator con-cluded the four-month inves-tigation, alleging that Alibaba has been abusing its market dominance since 2015 by prohibiting merchants from or ing stores or participating in promotional activities on other competitive platforms, state-

The move is a new setback billionaire founder Ma following a November decision by regulators to suspend the stock market

run CGTN TV reported.

The SAMR said that Alibaba's "pick one out of two" requirement restricted competition among online retail platforms and infringed the legitimate rights of the merchants, at the same time hurt consumers' interests.

The move is a new seth scheme.

at the same time hurt consumers' interests.

The move is a new setback for Alibaba and its billionaire founder Ma following a November decision by regulators to suspend the stock market debut of Ant Group, a finance platform spun off from the e-commerce giant.

Ma, one of China's most prominent entrepreneurs, disappeared temporarily from public view after criticizing regulators in a speech in November. That was followed days later by the Ant Group

days later by the Ant Group

In a statement on Saturday, the company said "Alibaba accepts the penalty with sin-cerity and will ensure its comthe pliance with determination

It pledged to strengthen its operations in accordance with the law, step up the building of a compliance system, and bet-

100 a litre in the city as is the case with several cities across

ter fulfill its social responsibilities, the CGTN report said. It also vowed to introduce a series of measures to lower platform operating thresholds and reduce platform operating costs to create a more transparent and efficient platform environment for businesses, the report said.

The fine sends a clear message to the world that China will crackdown harshly on any monopolistic behaviour if Big Tech companies such as Alibaba breach the law with their monopolistic business models, said Zhai Wei, executive director of the Competition Law Research Centre at East

tive director of the Competition Law Research Centre at East China University of Political Science and Law in Shanghai. "This is the biggest impact, way more important than the penalty," Zhai told the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post owned by Jack Ma.

He said small businesses

Ma.

He said small businesses which previously had to pick sides among Big Tech companies may benefit from the mes may benefit from the implementation of anti-monopoly law.

"The space for their free development has obviously been maintained and expanded", he said.

Observers say the fine Observers say the mose shows China intends to move against internet platforms that it thinks are too big and aimed at serving warning to them.

IFC proposes \$50mn debt finance for Thar Surya solar power project



IANS CHENNAI

nternational International Finance Corporation (IFC) plans to debt finance the construction of Thar Surya 1 Pvt Ltd's 300 MW solar power project in Bikaner, Rajasthan by \$50 mil-lion.

Enel Green Power is one of the largest renewable energy developer in the world with 49 GW installed capacity across wind, solar, geothermal and hydropower projects, and with presence in 28 countries.

IANS NEW DELHI

Apart from lending \$50 million, IFC will also mobilise \$100 million debt through par-

slow million debt through par-allel lenders.

According to IFC, the total solar power project cost is esti-mated at \$200 million.

The solar power project is sponsored by Enel Green

Power India, one of the step-down subsidiaries of Enel Green Power S.p.A., an existing IFC client. Enel Green Power is one of

Enel Green Power is a sub-sidiary of Enel S.p.A., Italy. The solar power generation project was awarded by Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI).

Energy Corporation of India (SECI).

The power generated by Thar Surya will be sold to SECI under 25 year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).

Rewa: A view of the Ultra Mega Solar Power project in Madhya Pradesh's Rewa that was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi from New Delhi via video conferencing on July 10, 2020. Union New Delhi via video conferencing on July 10, 2020. Union Power Minister RK Singh and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan were among the dignitaries present on the occasion.

sion.
The 750-MW solar project is said to be Asia's biggest. The Rs 4,000-crore project has three units of 250 MW each at a solar park spread over 1,500 hectares developed by Rewa Ultr.

India's OEMs accelerating shift towards EVs: **HDFC Securities**

India's automobile OEMs are accelerating their shift towards EVs by investing in startups and enhancing collaborations, HDFC Securities said.

along with developing electric products in-house, OEMs are open to collaborations, to reduce the speed-to-market as well as maintain capital efficiency. HDFC Securities said in a report. "Part suppliers are attempting to be segment agnostic, developing components for ICE, hybrid and EV products." Further, the report cited that other OEMs are adopting different methods towards electrification such as investiging

trification such as investing in startups and ramping up production of EVs in their portfolios. Besides, it said that passenger which GOEMs such as Maruti are expected to introduce hybrid models, which will enable the company to transition towards EVs in the medium term (FY25-30).

"However, as we look further ahead ie. beyond 2030, the toullook becomes cloudy as the longer-term threat from BEVs and the resultant competitive dynamics will impact the traditional business models in different manners." trification such as investing in

120Hz ProMotion display in 'iPhone 13' lineup IANS SAN FRANCISCO

The next-gen iPhone 13 Pro lineup will reportedly come with 120Hz ProMotion dis-play for the first time. According to AppleInsider, low-temperature polycrystalline oxide (LTPO) displays have been rumoured for the iPhone for about two years

been rumoured for the iPhone for about two years.

However, the report claims that the displays will finally arrive on the iPhone, granting the device a 120Hz refresh display for the first time. Citing "industry sources," supply chain monitor DigiTimes claims that Samsung and LG are converting iPhone-only production lines to LTPO tech production.

The report claims that this

production.

The report claims that this migration will end shortly, allowing both to provide the screens to Apple in time for use in 2021. Apple is said to be using the displays in its high-er-end 'iPhone 13,' likely in the so-called 'iPhone 13, Pro' and 'iPhone 13 Pro' and 'iPhone 13 Pro' and 'iPhone 19 Pro Max' Display panel orders for lower-end 'iPhone 19 models are expected to be filled by OLED suppliers LG Display and BOE.

Apple was reportedly working on a battery-saving technology for LTPO thin-film transistors prior to release of the iPhone 12. The report claims that this

tion: Sleeper. Reserved 2" seating norms of the State and Central Government regarding I including Social distancing, sanitization etc., may be of in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other ons associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured Visit RailMadad website:www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in 139 **NORTHERN RAILWAY**

Days of Run: 04076 Ex New Delhi from 13.04.2021 (Tuesday)

JioMart activity scaling up

JioMart activity is scaling up as per a report by JP Morgan research which found brisk research which found brisk online activity across stores and formats it visited in Mumbai in the last week of March that could have been nudged further by rising Covid-19 cases

March that could have been nudged further by rising Covid-19 cases. "We found the delivery infrastructure to be a mix of bike-based delivery executives, similar to e-commerce/food O2O, and van-based batched delivery that peers use (e.g., Bigbasket, DMart, Grofers). Our conversations suggest that there has been an evolution from bikes to largely vans at several stores, reflecting higher value, and heavier and more complex orders delivered with

greater efficiency. Bike-based delivery ensures short turn-around times for lighter, low-value orders, improving cus-tomer experience," JP Morgan

said.
The note said most delivery staff identified themselves as being from JioMart or Grab (a delivery firm acquired by Jio in 2018), although few wore JioMart or Grab branding, and the vans and drivers were largely outsoured.

ly outsourced.

This is unlike the branded fleets maintained by peers (Bigbasket, DMart Ready, Swiggy) that provide free pub-Swiggy) that pro-licity.

The report notes that the

current infrastructure can sup-port \$8-11 billion in annual gross merchandise value (GMV).

PUBLIC NOTICE

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Myanmar junta attacks again Iran tests advanced

Security forces in Myanmar cracked down heavily again on anti-coup protesters even as the military downplayed reports of state violence.

Reports on online news outlets and social media on Friday said at least four people were killed in Bago, about 100 kilometers northeast of Yangon, in an attack by government troops and police that began before dawn and continued sporadically until after dark. The Bago Weekly Journal Online said as source at the city's main hospital, whom it didn't amne, believed about 10 people had been killed.

It was the third attack this

It was the third attack this week involving the massive use of deadly force by security forces to try to crush active opposition to the February 1 coup that ousted the elected government of Aung San Suu Kui

Kyi.

On Wednesday, attacks were launched on opponents of military rule in the towns of Kalay and Taze in the country's north. In both places, at least 11 people — possibly including some bystanders — were reported killed. Security forces



Children flash the three-fingered symbol of resistance as they join an anti-coup protest in Yangon on Saturday

were accused of using heavy weapons in their attacks, were accused of using heavy weapons in their attacks, including rocket-propelled grenades and mortars. The allegations could not be inde-pendently confirmed by *The Associated Press*.

Some of the protesters used homemade weapons, especial-ly in Kalay, where defenders called themselves a "civil army."

called themselves a "civil army," and some were equipped with rudimentary hunting rifles. Most protests in cities and town around the country have been nonviolent, with demon-strators espousing civil dis-obedience.

media posts.
At least 614 protesters and bystanders have been killed by security forces through Thursday, according to the Obedience.
Violence by security forces
was also reported Friday in sev-

Assistance Association for Political Prisoners, which monitors casualties and arrests.

At a news conference in the

At a news conference in the capital. Naypytaw, as spokesman for the ruling junta defended the actions of the security forces.

Brig. Gen. Zaw Min. Tun, when asked about reports that automatic weapons have been fulled in just. The conference of the capital state of the capital state

also said 16 policemen had been killed.

Asked about air strikes carried out by Government jets on territory held by guerrillas from the Karen ethnic minority in eastern Myanmar, which reportedly killed at least 14 civillans, Zaw Min Tun said the aerial raids allowed more exact targeting than ground attacks which would have caused more deaths. Supporters of the Karen charge that the army is carrying out a ground offensive as well, including the use of artillery.

nuclear centrifuges

AP III TEHRAN

AP I TEHRAN

I ran said on Saturday it has begun mechanical tests on its newest advanced nuclear centrifuge, even as the five world powers that remain in a foundering 2015 nuclear deal with Iran attempt to bring the US back into the agreement. Irans IR-9 centrifuge, when operational, would have the ability to separate uranium isotopes more quickly than the current centrifuges being used, thereby enriching uranium at a faster pace. The announcement carried on state TV came on Iran's annual Nuclear Day.

TV came on Iran's annual Nuclear Day.
The IR-9's output is 50 times quicker than the first Iranian centrifuge, the IR-1. Iran's nuclear program is also developing IR-8 centrifuges.
Since January, Iran has begun enriching uranium at up to 20% purity, a technical step away from weapons-grade levels, though Iran's leadership insists the country has no desire to develop a nuclear weapon. Former US President Donald Trump pulled the US



In this photo released by the official website of the office of the Iranian Presidency, President Hassan Rouhani, second right, listens to head of the Atomic Energy Organization of tarn Ali Abdra Salehi while visiting an exhibition of Iran's new nuclear achievements in Tehran, Iran on Saturday

out of the nuclear accord in 2018, accusing Iran of failing to live up to the agreement, opt-ing for what he called a maxiing for what he called a maximum-pressure campaign of stepped-up US sanctions and other tough actions. Iran responded by intensi-fying its enrichment of urani-um and building centrifuges in

plain violation of the accord, while insisting that its nuclear development is for civilian not military purposes. Israel main-tains Iran still maintains the ambition of developing nuclear weapons, pointing to Tehran's ballistic missile program and research into other technolo-gies.

12 hurt as hardline Islamist attack devotees inside mosque in B'desh

Dhaka: Activists of a hardline Islamist group attacked devotees inside a mosque in northern Bangladesh, injuring at least 12 persons, according to a media report. The incident took place on Friday at the mosque in the Gabandha district when self-proclaimed Hefazat-e-Islam activists snatched the mic from the Imam and preached about the organisation, Dahaka Tribune reported. They attacked the devotees who tried to intervene, Imam Motlob Uddin said. At least 12 men were injured in the attack, the report said. A case is being filed at Sundarganj Police Station. Officer in Charge Bubbul Islam said: Toisagreements over he mosque's committee is the reason for this Islamist group attacked devotees

Two Christian nurses booked under blasphemy charges in Pak

Lahore: Two Christian nurses have been booked under blasphemy charges in Pakistan's Punjab province following a complaint by hospital authorities, police said, as people staged demonstrations against the duo demanding strict action against them. According to police, an FIR has been registered against the two nurses, Mariyum Lal and Newish Arooj, working in District Headquarters (DFIQ) Hospital, Faisalabad, on FIGU Hosp Lahore: Two Christian nurse

committee is the reason for this untoward incident."

PTI | psychiatric patients are being treated.

Djibouti says longtime Prez Ismail on way to winning 5th term

Mogadishu: Djibouti's government says longtime President Ismall Omar Guelleh has overwhelmingly won a fifth term, citting provisional results. Home Affairs Minister Mumin Ahmed Sheikh told reporters overnight that Guelleh has received more than 98% of the 177,391 votes cast in the Horn of Africa nation, defeating his sole rival, businessman Zakaria Ismail Farah. Other opposition boycotted Friday's vote. The final results are expected to be announced later Saturday by the electoral commission. "Thank you for your confidence?" the president tweet dovernight. "Let's continue together!" AP Mogadishu: Djibouti's gov

Harry expected to fly in for funeral of grandfather

eral other areas, including Loikaw, the capital of Kayah sate in the east, where live ammunition was employed, according to numerous social

of grandfather

London: The rift in the royal ranks after an explosive interview by Prince Harry and wife Megham Markle is to be set aside as reports suggest that the Duke of Sussex is keen to fly to the UK to attend grandfather Prince Philips funeral.

Harry was close to his grandfather and, according to media reports, he is keen to be by the side of his grandmother, Queen Elizabeth II, as she mourns the passing ofher husband of 73 years. Harry, who is now based in California, is unlikely to be joined by Meghan, who is heavily pregnant with their second baby. He will, of course, be there, no matter how difficult relations are between the Sussexes and the family," a source was quoted as saving in The Duki George 14. source was quoted as saying in 'The Daily Telegraph'. AP

Gun salutes honour Prince Philip

UK enters 8 day mourning

Cun salutes in all capitals of the United Kingdom as well as aboard some Royal Navy ships on Saturday honoured Prince Philip, the husband of Queen Elizabeth III and the Duke of Edinburgh, who passed away aged 99 at Windsor Castle on Friday. The 41 rounds fired in London, Cardiff, Belfast and Edinburgh at a rate of one shot per minute from midday local time on Saturday mark the start of an eight-day national mourning period.
"The tradition of Gun

"The tradition of Gun Salutes being fired throughout



Members of the 104th Regiment Royal Artillery fire a 41-round gun salute in the grounds of Cardiff Castle in Cardiff on Saturday

the country to mark significant national events dates back to at least the 18th century, and there are historical records of

the 14th century when guns and ammunition began to be adopted more widely," a state-ment on the royal website read. "Similar gun salutes were

fired to mark the death of Queen Victoria in 1901," it notes. They also honour the Duke's strong military links, having served with the Royal Navy in World War II.

"His Royal Highness has been a great friend, inspiration and role model for the armed forces and he will be sorely missed," said General Sir Nick Carter, the UK's Chief of the Defence Staff.

Carter, the UK's Chief of the Defence Staff.

"The Duke of Edinburgh served among us during the Second World War, and he remained devoted to the Royal May and the armed forces as a whole. A life well lived, His Royal Highness leaves us with a legacy of indomitable spirit, setdifastness and an unshakeshed sense of duty. From all of us who serve today and who have served, thank you," he said.

US unveils new rules for Govt contacts with Taiwan

Washington: The State Department has unweiled new rules for US government contacts with Taiwan that are likely anger China but appear to reimpose some restrictions that had been lifted by the Trump administration. The department announced the changed policy in a statement that said the Biden administration intends to "liberalize" the rules to reflect the "deepening unofficial relationship" between the US and Taiwan. However, the revised guidelines don't include all the changes put in place by former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in the waning days of the Trump administration. Pompeo had lifted virtually all restrictions on contacts with Taiwan, including allowing Taiwanese military officers to wear uniforms and display

the Taiwanese flag at meetings with US officials. Friday's

the lawanese flag at meetings with US officials. Friday's changes were silent on those matters, although the rules do continue to permit US officials to meet their Taiwanese counterparts in federal buildings. China regards Taiwan as a renegade province and opposes any attempt to treat the island as an independent country. China had condemned Pompeo's easing of the restrictions that had been in place since the US recognised Beijing and dropped formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan in 1979.

"These new guidelines will continue the US. Government's longstanding practice of providing clarity throughout the US executive branch of how to implement our one China' policy," the department said. AP

Earthquake in Indonesia's Java, Bali kills at least 6

Malang: A strong earthquake killed at least six people and damaged buildings on Indonesia's main island of Java and shook the tourist hotspot of Bali, officials said Saturday. No sunami warnings were posted. The US Geological Survey said the magnitude 60 quake struck off the island's southern coast at 200 p.M. Local time (0700 GMT). It was centered 45 kilometres south of Sumberpuccung town of Malang District in East Java province, at a depth of Se kilometres (51 miles). Rahmat Triyono, the head of Indonesia's earthquake and tsunami center, said in a statement the undersea earthquake Bali, officials said Saturday. No

ment the undersea earthquake did not have the potential to cause a tsunami. AP

Stalled at first jab: Vaccine shortages hit poor countries

As many as 60 countries, sincluding some of the world's poorest, might be stalled at the first shots of their coronavirus vaccinations because nearly all deliveries through the global programme intended to help them are blocked until as late as June. COVAX, the global initiative to provide vaccines to countries lacking the clout to countries lacking the clout to countries lacking the past week shipped more than 25,000 doses to low-income countries only twice on any given day. Deliveries have all sut halted since Monday.

During the past two weeks, according to data compiled daily by UNICEE, fewer than 2 million COVAX doses in total

were cleared for shipment to 92 countries in the 'developing world — the same amount injected in Britain alone.

On Friday, the head of the World Health Organization slammed the 'shocking imbalance' in global COVID-19 vaccination. WHO Director

samment the stocking mosa-nace' in global COVID-19 vac-cination. WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreysus said that while one in four people in rich countries had received a vaccine, only one in 500 people in poorer coun-tries had gotten a dose. The vaccine shortage stems mostly from India's decision to stop exporting vaccines from its Serum Institute factory, which produces the over-whelming majority of the AstraZeneca doses that COVAX counted on to supply around a third of the global population at a time coron-

avirus is spiking worldwide. COVAX will only ship vaccines cleared by WHO, and countries are increasingly impatient.
Supplies are dwindling in some of the first countries to receive
COVAX shipments, and the
expected delivery of second doses
in the 12-week window currentty recommended is now in doubt.
In a statement, the vaccine alliance
known as GAVI told The
Associated Press that 60 countries
are affected by the delays.

In vaccination tents set up

are affected by the delays.

In vaccination tents set up at Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi, many of those who arrived for their first jabs were uneasy about when the second would arrive.

"My fear if I don't get the

second dose, my immune sys-tem is going to be weak, hence I might die," said Oscar Odinga a civil servant.

Pakistan OK's emergency use of third

"This is the third Chines AMS IS the third Chinese vaccine allowed to be used in Pakistan," a DRAP official said, adding that the country now has five approved COVID vaccines.

Pakistan has already grant-ed the EUA to China's two-dose Sinopharm and single-dose Convidecia vaccine developed by the Cansino Biologicals Inc. UK's AstraZeneca and Russian Sputnik V vaccines have also been approved by the DRAP.

कार्यालय नगर निगम हल्द्वानी - काठगोदाम ई-निविदा सूचना नगर निराम सन्तरानी (डा. जोगेन्द्र सिंह रीतेला) (सी.एस.मर्तालिया) नगर निगम हल्द्वानी

राजस्थान राज्य पथ परिवहन निगम ः ई-बोली सुचना

र्य हेतु ई- बोली के माध्यम से निर्धारित प्रथत्र में ऑनलाईन बोलियों आमंत्रित से संबंधित विस्तृत विवरण येथसाईट www.isrlc.rajasthan.gov.in एवं sthan.gov.in व स्टेट पोर्टल (SPPP) पर देखा जा सकता है।

निगम की बसों के माध्यम से लघु पार्सल सेवा संच करने हेतु सोल लाइसेंसी नियुक्ति का सुनहरा अर प्रदान करते हुए लघु पासंल एवं सामान्य वस्तुओं के परिवहन हेतु निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-बोली प्रक्रिया द्वारा ऑनलाईन बोली आमंत्रित की जाती है।

Saudi Arabia executes 3 soldiers for 'high treason'

Dubai: Saudi Arabia executed

Dubai: Saudi Arabia executed three soldiers Saturday it accused of committing "high treason," without elaborating on which enemy the kingdom believed the men aided.

The state-run Saudi Press Agency identified the men as soldiers working in the Defence Ministry. It did not elaborate on how the men aided the kingdom's enemies. Saudi Arabia is fighting Yemen's Iranian-backed Houthi rebels. The kingdom also views Iran as The kingdom also views Iran as

The kingdom also views Iran as a regional archrival.
The kingdom said the three men were convicted in court and a later royal order served as a death warrant. Saudi Arabia carried out the worlds third most executions in 2019, according to figures from Amnesty International. The kingdom followed China and Iran, respectively.

AP

Egyptian archaeologist reveals details of ancient city



A man covers a skeleton in a 3,000-year-old lost city in Luxor province, Egypt on

Cairo: Egypt's best-known archae-Carro: Egypts best-known archae-ologist on Saturday revealed fur-ther details on a Pharaonic city recently found in the southern province of Luxor. Zahi Hawass said that archaeologists found brick houses, artifacts, and tools brick houses, artifacts, and tools from pharaonic times at the site of the 3,000-year-old lost city. It dates back to Amenhotep III of the 18th dynasty, whose reign is considered a golden era for ancient Egypt. "This is really a large city that was lost... The inscription

reporters at the site.

reporters at the site.

Archeologists started excavating in the area last year, searching for the mortuary temple of boy King Tutankhamun. However, within weeks they found mud brick formations that eventually turned out to be a well-preserved large city.

City walls and even rooms filled with ovens, storage pottery, and utensils used in daily life are said to be present. Archeologists also found human remains that were visible to reporters and visitors on Saturday.

Iran enforces 10-day lockdown amid fourth wave of pandemic

Tehran: Iran on Saturday began a 10-day lockdown amid a fourth wave of coronavirus infections, state TV reported, a worrisome trend after more than a year of the country bat-tling the Middle East's worst outbreak.

outbreak.
Iran's coronavirus task
force, charged with determining virus restrictions, ordered
most shops closed and offices
restricted to one-third capacity in cities declared as "redzones." AP

Chinese vax despite low efficacy rate Islamabad: Pakistan has

asiamabad: Pakistan has approved the emergency use of the third Chinese vaccine, despite its low efficacy rate, as the country struggled to contain the spread of the coronavirus.

avirus.

The Drug Regulatory
Authority of Pakistan (DRAP)
on Thursday granted
Emergency Use Authorisation
(EUA) to CoronaVac, developed by Chinese company
Sinovac Biotech, officials said

JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Indira Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004

NOTICE INVITING BID

NIB No.: EE & TA to Dir. Engg.-I/25/2021-22 zones as per details given

Bids are invited for works given below in various | Cost of Work (Lacs) | A&F | | UBN No. UBN : JDA2122WSOB00022 EE-11 Road Renewal Details are available at Procurement Portal website www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, www.sppp.rajast 03.05.2021 Executive Engine TA to Dir. Engg.-I

WESTERN RAILWAY

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No.

| S.N. | Short Description of Item | Quantity | T.Q.D. |
|------|---|------------------|-----------|
| 277 | Stop valve hand wheel for tank wagons | 453 Nos. | 19.04.202 |
| 278 | Set of Air Brake Pipes | 100 Set | 23.04.202 |
| 279 | Application Form for Reservation | 20000000 Nos. | 30.04.202 |
| 280 | IR-DRDO Bio-toilet tanks | 30 Set | 30.04.202 |
| 281 | Air Brake Hose Coupling for Brake Pipe | 3000 Nos | 30.04.202 |
| 282 | Body Side Lower Panel of Lavatory | 1350 Nos. | 30.04.202 |
| 283 | Air Brake Hose Coupling | 2600 Nos. | 30.04.202 |
| 284 | Disposable HIV Protection Kit | 5000 Nos. | 30.04.202 |
| 285 | Liquid Oxygen for Medical use | 477000 CUM | 03.05.202 |
| 286 | Pipe 32 N.B. | 30 Nos. | 03.05.202 |
| 287 | Set of Air Brake Pipes | 700 Set | 03.05.202 |
| 288 | Compreg packing | 10400 Nos. | 03.05.202 |

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Raina returns with firepower

Suresh's 54 in his first match since 2019 final, Sam Curran's quick 34 guide Super Kings to 188-7

PTI MUMBAI

uresh Raina announced his IPIc comeback with a blazing 36-ball 54 and powed Chennai Super Kings to a solid 188 for seven against Delhi Capitals here on Saturday. Sam Curran smashed away to 34 off only 15 balls to prop up the CSK innings towards the end. Curran hit four fours and two sixes.

end. Curran hit four fours and two sixes.

The last five overs yielded to the control of the con

over.

In the first ball of the third over, Woakes had Gaikwad caught in the slip cordon as CSK slipped to seven for two.

The English pacer drew Gaikwad into a push with a ball that moved a slightly on pitchine.

that moved a slightly on pitching.
In came Raina — he had missed the last IPL owing to personal reasons — and in the company of Moeen Ali, the seasoned campaigner revived CSK's innings and looked to put up a challenging total against a strong DC batting line-up at the Wankhede Stadium.
During his 24-ball 36, Moeen struck four boundaries



Chennai Super Kings batsman Suresh Raina raises his bat after he completes his fifty against Delhi Capitals

and two sixes, playing a fine Ravichandran Ashwin cut short helping hand to Raina. Moeen's innings when the all-Experienced off-spinner rounder got himself into an ensuring top-edge ending in a

IPLT20.com

Sam Curran reacts as he hits his sibling Sam Curran reacts as he rins in Social Tom Curran for six during IPL clash between Delhi and Chennai

to the Colland of Ste Olimpi (r. Coast)

Ambati Rayudu came in and straightaway got into the act, hitting a couple of sixes and a four to race away to 23 off 16 balls before Tom Curran ended his stay in the middle.

Meanwhile Raina went about his stak in a manner that did not give the impression that be was coming back to top-flight after a long histus.

Raina got himself going with a four off Woakes and then worked Ashwin for two successive boundaries, not afraid to dance down the wicket against the wily spinner's flight.

Using his feet well, the veteran southpaw hocked leyen spinner Amit Mishra for two and also got a maximum against Ashwin.

It was no different with Marcus Stoins as Raina pulled

Ashwin. It was no different with Marcus Stoinis as Raina pulled the Australian medium pacer for another six before being run-out following a mix-up with Ravindra Jadeja (26).

PLAYER 1. Suresh Raina (CSK) 2. Chris Lynn (MI) 49 PLAYER **WKTS**



MOST SIXES

1. Suresh Raina (CSK) 2. Chris Lynn (MI) 3. AB de Villiers (RCB)

CUMMER CLAM

MOTION DICTURE



WERE A TEAM: Delhi Capitals players and support staff for group photo at the end of final training session aheac 14 first game against Chennai Super Kings

Oblinic @DelhiCapitals



HE'S BACK: Rajasthan Royals pacer Mustafizur Rahman pose for photo after he joins Royals bio-bubble **Grajasthanroys**



Mumbai Indians skipper Rohit Sharma wore shoes highlighting the great one-horned rhinoceros during the IPL opener against Royal Challengers Bangalore on Friday to help build awareness about conserving the endangered species

about conserving the endangered species
COVID - VE REPORT MUST AT WANKHEDE
The Mumbal Cricket Association has asked its Apex
Council members to produce a Covid-19 negative
certificate in order to enter the Wankhede stadium,
which will host 10 matches of the 14th edition of the
PLE. "Dear Apex Council members. As per BCCI's
protocol, all the officials who would be attending the
PLE 2021 matches at Wankhede Stadium are required
to produce a Negative report of RT-PCR test
conducted within 48 hours of the match day," MCA
secretary Sanjay Maik, wrote in a note to all the
members. "The tests are enandatory even for those
who have been vaccinated. The report will have to be
produced at the time of entry to the stadium on each
match day."

28507

Mumbai favourites to lift trophy: Anjum

Former skipper of India's national women's cricket team and commentator Anjum Chopra backs Mumbal Indians to make a hat-trick of the IPL titles after wining back-to-back tournaments in the UAE last year.

The side, led by Rohit Sharma, defeated Delhi Capitals in the 2020 final in Dubai on November 10 and, in five months, is back on the field to take part in the 2021 edition.

November IO and, n Iwe months, is back on the field to take part in the 2021 edition.

Speaking to The Pioneer ahead of the 2021 season, Chopra said.

"Mumbal Indians will start as the favourites because there are no loopholes in that line-up, Just six (live) months back, they won the last championship. And they haven't changed many players from that squad. At least the playing eleven remains the same. The majority of their players are in good form and you can never discount them from the competition because of their consistency." In March, Mumbal Indian Stantan Suryakumar Yadav and Ishan suryakumar England in the recently-concluded. T20 International series.

series. Also in the One Day International, Krunal Pandya hit 50 in his first match. Ahead of the auction in Chennai this year, Mumbai — who have lifted the trophy on five occasions — retained the core group, apart from adding the likes of experienced Piyush Chawla, Kiwi all-rounder Jimmy Neesham and pacer Adam Milne, besides a few rookies including Ariun Tendulkar.

besides a few rookies including Arjun Tendulkar. In fact, the 20-year-old, 68° South African left-arm pacer Marco Jansen made his debugt against Royal Challengers Bangalore in the season's opener on Firday and took 2-28 in his four-over spell. And if that was not enough, the return of Hard Pandya as a bowler is a welcome boost for the side. Hardik didn't bowl in the last season but, with his remodelled action, picked up LOW III WE HAST SEASON BUT, WITH his remodelled action, picked up the ball against England in the T201 series. However, whether he will bowl during the tournament is still unclear.

Talking about other teams,

Anjum, who is part of the Star Sports commentary team for this IPI, said the form of Virat Kohli and Ab de Villiers will be crucial for Royal Challengers Bangalore's chances despite the team having he likes of T20 specialist Glenn Maxwell.

"Like every year, there are high expectations from RCB. Last time, they came close (finished third after losing Qualifier 2 against Delhi Capitals). But gainst Delhi Capitals, but guild the onus lies on two players — Virat Kohli and Ab de Villiers. It's good to have Glenn Maxwell but Virat and AB's form will be decisive, she said.

the onus lies on two players — Virat Rohil and Ab de Villiers. It's good to have Glenn Maxwell but Virat and ABs form will be decisive," she said.

After the final T201 against England on March 20, Virat and ABs form will be decisive, she said.

After the final T201 against England on March 20, Virat announced that he will open the innings in IPL as well. Anjum believes that it is a well-planned move by the Indian skipper to get into the groove ahead of the T20 World Cup in India later this year. It (Virat as opener) just broadens the options. If he wants to open, no endiate the propose of the transportation of the Indian line-up so well. The IPL matches are just going to give him that greater exposure to open and structure the innings because we (India) are leading into the World Cup.

"And if Virat and Rohit Sharma open in the World Cup and lay a strong foundation, it will be easy for players like Suryakumar and Hardik to follow," she added.

One thing that makes this edit ond different from yestervears is

low, she added.
One thing that makes this edition different from yesteryears is that there are no home games for any team. It is going to play a key role in the tournament, according to the former India captain.
"The neutral venue concept will affect a lot in this tournament because teams make strategies

mil affect a lot in this tournament because teams make strategies according to home conditions. When it was announced that the tournament would be held in India, it meant seven home games for every team. So everyone picked the players according to that but now when it is not there, it will have an impact," Anjum opined.

On the "one player to watch out for" in the tournament, she put her weight behind Hardik Pandya. "The will have a fantastit tournament. He had one in Dubai too and, this time, he will do even better," she concluded.

Knew my role in Bangalore since I was traded: Harshal

Harshal Patel was told well in Audvance that he will be death overs' "pointsman" for Royal Challengers Bangalore, a role he played to perfection in the Played to perfection in the Played to perfection in the Start St

ning performances for RCB with the other coming from AB de Villiers.

"When I was traded from Delhi Capitals, I was told what role I will play for the franchise," the Haryana pacer said at the post-match press conference. He was brilliant at the death and just like skipper Virat Kohli said, Harshal also knew that he is expected to perform the tough job for which he had planned meticulously.
"There were clear instruc-

"There were clear instruc-tions that I will be bowling in the last two overs (he bowled 18th

meet flashy KKR

seasons now.

"Just that when you don't get wickets of slow yorkers, people don't tend to see that. I always had the yorker but earlier couldn't take it into the a lot of clarity. It helped me pre-pare certain plans against batters and kept my preparations concise."

game.

He did a lot of simulation of sowling yorkers during training ession to get it right during the Harshal said that change of pace and the slow yorkers have been his biggest

"In the past 15-20 days, I was trying to put myself into situa-tions"

'OUR DEATH BOWLER'

OUR DEATH BOWLER
Royal Challengers Bangalore
skipper Virat Kohli was all praise
for Harshal Patels match-winnig
bowling performance, terming
bowling performance, terming
him their designated death
bowler in this edition of the IPI.
"We brought Harshal in a
trade from Delhi. He is relsishing the responsibility
and is clear with his plans.

He was the difference today (Friday). He is going to be our death bowler. As a captain you want players with clarity, and he has that," Kohli said at the post-

has that," Kohli said at the post-match press conference.

Kohli also applauded his other bowlers -- Mohammed Siraj and New Zealander Kyle Jamieson. The two kept the con-omy rate very decent and didn't allow batsmen to go after the bowling. Jamieson started off well, Yuzi was good, Siraj was good too."

well, Yuzi was good, Siraj was good too."

The RCB skipper, who made 30 off 29 balls, said that facing MI in the tournament opener was important to test the side as it gave him an idea of the options they have. "It was important to play against the strongest side in the competition and test our side. Everynore was involved in this game, and when you win by two wickets, it means that everyone has gone in and played.

"The ball started reversing at one stage. It was important to bowl the yorkers and slower balls," he said. According to Harshal, he has been bowling those slower yorkers that got rid of Ishan Kishan and Marco Jansen, for almost two DIRECTORATE OFPUNJAB STATE LOTTERIES Consistent Sunrisers RESULT OF PUNJAB STATE DEAR 1000 MONTHLY

PTI CHENNAI

Former champions Kolkata Knight Riders will look to strike a perfect balance under the astute leadership of Eoin Morgan when they open their IPL campaign against a consistent Sunrisers Hyderabad at Chepauk on Sunday. In his first stint as full time captain, all eyes would be on the ODI World Cupwinning English skipper who will look to transform the misfiring army of cricketers and bring back the glorious days of two-time IPL champions.

In Shubman Gill, they

In Shubman Gill, they In Shubman Gill, they have a fantastic young top-order batsman who can easily shift gears, while the likes of Rahul Tripathi, Nitish Rana and veteran Karthik, who's free from the captain-cy burden, can form the core of their Indian batting. Then there is the skipper Morgan who will look to bat through the overs while hop-

strength. "The ball started

ing that 2019 MVP Andre Russell gets back his explo-sive touch after a quiet sea-son in 2020.

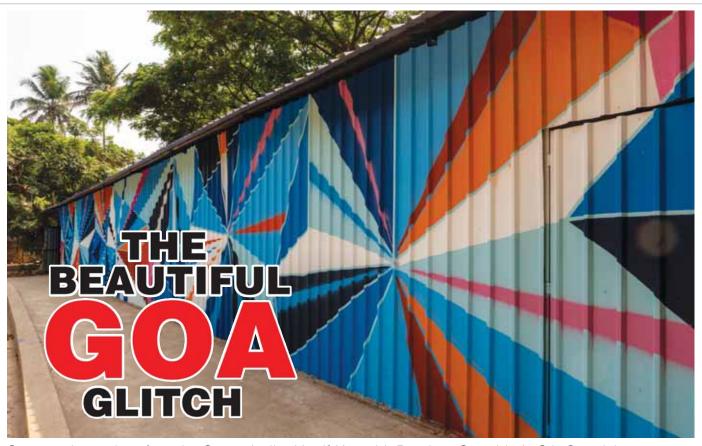
Reason by his standards aver-aging 13 in nine innings without a single match-win-ning performance as the over-dependency on the Jamaican cost KKR dear last season.

season.
One the other end, SRH
will be bolstered by the
return of Bhuvneshwar
Kumar who played just four
games in last year due to a
hip injury.
Fresh from his fine form

Fresh from his fine form during the white-ball leg of the England series at home, Bhuvneshwar will spearhead their attack with yorker spe-cialist T Natrajan by his side. Add Afghan star spinner Rashid Khan to the bowling lineup and the Orange Army

lineup and the Orange Army looks pretty balanced in their But the real strength of SRH will be their destructive

1st Prize (1)Rs2.5Crores/-(On 5 digits) 2nd Prize (1)Rs.50Lakhs/-(On 5 digits) 80970 3rd Prize (160)Rs.99004-(70a has 4 signs)
2680 3109 4076 4252 4794 5036 6356 7534 8312 9588
4th Prize (200)Rs.79004-(70a has 4 signs)
9370 9775 1153 1791 1994 2302 2403 3407 4085 4095 5094 8080 4985 5096 6698 6730 7220 8091 8160 8535 8804
5th Prize (200)Rs.59004-(70a has 4 signs)
1672 2991 3709 3811 5135 5211 5995 5998 6907 6027 6230 6552 6614 6906 7604 864 8647 8667 9935 last 4 digits)
5649 6430 7025 7386 7406 7777 8844 9125 9254



Street artist and co-founder St+art India, Hanif Kureshi, Bombay Sapphire's Stir Creativity, Serendipity Arts Foundation and the Corporation of the City of Panaji join hands to paint Goa's dry waste sorting stations and turn them into works of art. NAVNEET MENDIRATTA speaks to the artist

ou just cannot miss the beautiful mural painted in colours of Goa as you drive past the busy road in Dona Paula, Panjim, Goa. It's an unusual canvas. Painted in bright hues, mostly work of public art is painted on Goa's esorting stations, making for an attrac-point. waste sorting stations, making for an attract eselfie point. Called Goa Glitch, this mural is a joint ini-

Called Goa Glitch, this mural is a joint initiative of Bombay Sapphire's Stir Creativity, Serendipity Arts Foundation, the Corporation of the City of Panaji (CCP) and St-art India cofounder Hanfi Kureshi. The idea being to tap into the imaginative spriit of those passing by. The mural features geometric visuals in beautiful hues of the Bombay Sapphire blue, representing the spriit of adventure and the openness of Goa, and bringing to life the endless coastlines, and the expansive blue skies of the city.

"The mural is about exploiting the colours of Goa, like a glitch," says Kureshi in a candid conversation post the unweiling of the mural. Tivisualised it as glitching of the colours of Goan skies — in summer, monsoon, winter; morning, affernoon and noon...

skies — in summer, monsoon, winter; morning, afternoon and noon. Different shades of blue that could also be interpreted as colours of water, more specifically the ocean. It's like the glitch of both skies and the ocean and that's why Goa Glitch, he says. Kureshi has been working with Serendipity Arts for the last four years or since it started. In the first edition, Kureshi participated as an artist and then from the next edition nonwards he worked as a curator,

vorked as a curator where he brought in St+art India and put together street art editions in Panjim. Bombay Sapphire's Stir Creativity plat-form aims to revive and enable creative self-expressio amongst the audience. For

over three decades, the

brand has collaborated with designers, artists, architects, and individuals from outside the creative industry to create artworks that reawaken creative potential.

"Bach mural has a story. It's interesting when you work on the street, you find that there are so many stories that are waiting to be told. As for this, I am kind of familiar with Panjim's land-scape and whenever a new structure comes up, we look at it as a possible canvas," he shares. This, or shall we say, these canvases have been particularly interesting. "Not many are aware that these new structures are actually dry waste sorting stations. This is where CCP segregates the waste of dry kind such as paper, plastic, sharp objects, glass, steel and metal. These sheds play a very important role in the whole recycling. We wanted to give it a new life and make it not look like a dustbin. And we thought what better than art to get the conversation started," he says, speaking of the collaboration.

Considering Dans Paula is one of the

speaking of the collaboration.

Considering Dona Paula is one of the Considering Dona Paula is one of the busiest public areas in Goa, the mural highlights the artist's message on the importance of sustainability and recycling very effectively. In India, Goa is one of the cities that recycles 80% of their waste with a strong model created for waste management and sustainability. In addition to stirring creativity among the community, the collaboration builds awareness for environmental sustainability.

ability and encourages people to be more conscious of their

he more conscious of their actions, he shares. Besides this shed, Kureshi is collaborating to paint at least three more in a year.

An alumni of Baroda School of Art, Kureshi started painting on streets in 2008. He began with Graffiti and gradually moved on to the world of street art which he says, he finds "more free". "The difference between Graffiti and Street Art, Graffiti and Street Art, Graffiti and Street Art, and Street Art. Graffiti and Street Art, you could say, is the sense of style. While Graffiti can

be likened to vandalism, Street Art is more positively thought out and refined. So, yes, you could say that I sought an expression that is more positive and would provoke people to think," he shares.

From getting German street artist, Hendrick ECB to paint the 150 ft mural of Mahatma Gandhi at the Police Headquarters in New Delhi, as part of the St+Art Delhi street art festival in January 2014 to commemorate the martyrdom of the Father of the Nation, to putting together Street Art festival in Shahpur Jat and Hauz Khas in Delhi, the entire process evoked the idea on gentrification in the city. "The awareness regarding the street art grew as we moved towards Lodhi Colony and worked with the government properties. However, working at a central location like Lodhi Colony, we realised that there is no room for gentrification there. We have been doing similar work in Chennai and Mumbai," he shares.

While Kursehi shares that the response and reception to street art has grown in the past decade the deepent of alsonation in the than.

While Kureshi shares that the response and reception to street art has grown in the past decade, the element of planning in the urban-scape continues to elude in the country. "There's no urban planning element to street art as of now. And that's why, I feel, it becomes more important for art to cover up for all that is not planned," he avers. Delhi's Lodhi Colony perhaps is a case in point but then there is a catch. "Maybe at some point, Lodhi Colony will be demolished and there would be high rises instead. But I still feel the art that found place there would leave a lasting impact. I think about the children growing up in Lodhi Colony and their imagination and what they would like think about art and perhaps, choosing art as a career option," he says.

On the subject of Street Art versus vandalism, Kureshi has a take: "There is a thin line."

On the subject of Street Art versus vandal-ism, Kureshi has a take: "There is a thin line between vandalism and street art. Personally, when I set out to de graffiti. I could have gone on to become a rebel. More so in principle, as there is a school that produces rebels and is more of a breeding ground where you adopt a bottom down approach. Street art, on the other hand, takes a top down approach where you get on the ground with more voices on the street to inspire more people to express themselves. You can be vocal about issues with the same amount of rights which any other company has in terms of putting in money and making an ad and

putting on the face. If carried out properly, with requisite permissions, even the people start owning street art. That's when the real change takes place."

ing street art. I hat's when the real change takes place."

This is also not the first time that Kureshi has lent his creativity to a cause. Kureshi has recently partnered with Art For Change, a virtual art challenge and exhibition, as one of the jury members. The initiative aims to change the narrative by turning the focus away from the victim and putting the spotlight on the perpetrator. Organised by Gordon Thomas Honeywell-GA & Ogilvy India in partnership with UN Women India, Girl Up (UN Foundation), reputed academic institutions like National Institute of Pashion Technology, Delhi (NIFT) and Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune (SIMB), this initiative seeks to unleash the power of creativity to transform the way our society deals with survivors of rape & sexual violence, shifting the accountability from the survivor to the perpetator.

"Art for Change is a project all about vio-lence against women, which includes domestic

lence against women, which includes domestic abuse. It is about inviting ideas about how we can change the situation so the project moves people to act instead of being mute spectators," he says.

Besides Delhi, Kureshi has been working a lot in Chennai. "We did a district called Kannagi Art District. I find cities in south India to be much more welcoming than the cities in north India. The art culture is there and people understand and respect the art as well as the artist," he shares.

stand and respect the art as well as the artist," he shares.

Similarly, Kureshi-led St+art has worked on creating Mahim Art district in Mumbai:

Ukkadam Art District in Coimbatore and Maqtha Art District in Coimbatore and Maqtha Art District in Hyderabad. "Different cities have different styles. So in Maqtha, which is predominantly a Muslim district, we try not to paint portraits. The focus is to be more abstract in that space, trying to be more sensitive to the surrounds. It is also about encouraging people to own the art and the space," he shares.

Ask him about the dream city to paint, Kureshi says: "We are okay with the metros that we are painting. There really is no dream city as such in our mind. The idea, however, is to go to cities where people are excited and reach out to

cities where people are excited and reach out to the grassroots of India. For that is where the real artist would love to leave their mark.



RECYCLING

April 11, 2021

The book not only provides the political account of Vajpayee and Advani, it also delicately steers through all the major events of the Indian politics, mainly right-wing, writes MOHAMMAD IRSHAD

A rare Jugalbandi

he book. Jugatbanda: The BJP before. Madi by Vimay Sitapati presents a fascinating account to trace the journay Sitapati presents a fascinating account to trace the journay of the two tallest and major drivers of the Thida Right-wing as they remained at the helm and navigated through the testing times beginning from Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) to managing and executing the affairs of the Bhartiya Jan Sangh (1951) and Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP). Book offers a larger ambit to study the rise of 'LK Advani and AB Vajpayee' and analytical chronology of all the organisations cemented on the idea to unite Hindus that is Hindu Mahasabha, RSS (1925), Bhartiya Jan Sangh (1951), VHP (1964), BJP (1980) and Bajrang Dal (1984) and Sawdeshi Jagran Manch (1991). Sitapati, an candemic's shadow falls over the book. He is aptly thoughtful in metaphorically chosen title; Jugatbandi — demonstrates the relationship between

metaphorically chosen title; Jugalbandi — demonstrates the relationship between Vajpayee and Advani — means the melody of the ragas in Indian classical music concerts by two musicalsan playing different instruments, however perfectly in tune with the other. Neither of the artistes does survive under the shadow of the other, instead mutually compliment to mesmerise through that music recital. Sitapati had pitchfully utilised all the available resources, to tease out the arquement to his book and left a mark of solid scholarship. It took him three straight

available resolutes, on tease of the agid ment to his book and left a mark of solid scholarship. It took him three straight years to complete book. Book not only provides the political account of Vajpayee and Advani, it also delicately steers through all the major gleaning events of the India politics mainly right-wing, who have marked a substantial presence on the political map of this country. Markedly, ranging from their struggle—to register mass accept-ability, electorally—prevailing in the early years of the post-independent India to the rise of bahujan politics, Khalistan movement in Punjal globalisation and Babri Masjid demolition movement. Conspicuous shift had taken place in Babri Masjid demolition movement. Conspicuous shift had taken place in 1980, the author says: "After decades in which Advani was subordinate to Vajpayee, by 1980 their relationship had become more equal. While Advani had always needed Vajpayee, he was now needed. They were now a classical jugal-bandi." (p 108-109) Before 1980,

vajpayee with support of Advani was busy crafting a space for himself by political burying leaders like Balraj Madhok — founded ABVP in 1948 — ML Sodhi, Nanaji Deshmukh, and others. First chapter of the book puts light on events that caused the emergence of RSS (1925) and Hindu Mahasabha and prepares a background which helped Advani and Vajpayee joined politics with a resolve to unite the Hindus of all sects. Sitapati, theoretically spurns a widely are solve to unite the Hindus of all sects. Sitapati, theoretically spurns a widely believed argument followed after the murder of Mahatma Gandhi by Nathuram Godse, that Godse was a direct beneficiary/borrower of RSS' religious-political ideas — on the contrary, he argues far from supporting political violence, RSS had wanted nothing to do with politics during this period (p. 33). He maintained considering Godse's differences with RSS, Godse went on to repeatedly criticise him throughout the mid-1940s. Book detests the fact that RSS was remotely involved in the murder of the Mahatma Gandhi. This could be a of the Mahatma Gandhi. This could be a

of the Mahatma Gandhi. This could be a matter of great further academic dispute. Through the journey of both the leaders — nurtured by the RSS — during the formative years of the modern Indian state, book exposes the hypocrisy and inconsistency in their ideology to accomplish political goals, whether it was their shift from adopting 'Gandhian Socialism' to drift towards capitalism as a core economic principle and approach towards the minorities especially Muslims and Christians. Jinnah grandson, Nusli Wadia, was the first one wealthiest busithe minorities especially Muslims and Christians, Jinnah grandson, Nusli Wadia, was the first one wealthiest business person to fund the party; Bhartiya Jan Sangh (BJS) and BJP find no hesitation in accepting the donation from him. Advani perhaps paved his debt back to Nusli's grandfather, Jinnah, — founder of Pakistan — during his visit to Pakistan and hailing him as 'secular,' Great Man' and Apostle of' Hindu-Muslim Unity! In my reading, this 'political jugalbandi was to deceptively trick non-Hindus to garner the political acceptability to further marginalise them masking their much admired fascist ambition under the garb of so called secularism followed by Vajapave to spear the right-wing, Jugalbandi of the Advani and Vajapave took shape on the foundation of organisational Hindu unity and theocratic principles, meanwhile if we take to



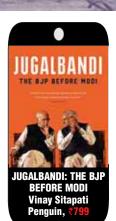
first decade of post-independent India, Jugalbandi of Nehru and Patel build on democratic-secular values, which thrive on adequate scope to diverse viewpoints still remains as a major glue to unite the

still remains as a major glue to unite the country.

In Sitapati's argument there is a fundamental flaw, he only takes into account Varpayee's verbal conflict with RSS on various subjects but it largely ignores his assessment on the basis of the power and positions including prime ministership, happily cherishing on the RSS' support in his political life, more than benefit taken by Advani, therefore Sitapati's argument fails on merit, as Vajpayee markedly compromised on his principles in public life to peddle the idea, Right wing fundamentally stands for.

Book suggests Vaypayee's politics was formulated during the Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru's golden era perhaps that amplified his never ending discontent with the RSS in contrast his public political actions largely contradict Nehruvian vision except on countable occasions. For instance, after the Babri Masjid demolition, Vajpayee is famously known to be

tion, Vajpayee is famously known to be quite disturbed; however, he followed the party route and surprisingly demonstrat-ed himself as secular leader to later siege the power in Delhi. This morally does not carry any weight as Vajpayee never distanced himself officially to fight back the unjust, inhuman and degrading ideas. It, however, will remain a perennial irony that the person who drove the rath



to Ayodya to mobilise mass support in favour of the Ram Mandir, could not ished in his self-nurtured party with humiliation and forced to live life in

OR YOUR PART

When the right-wing could not decided to follow the essence of Brahman — described as absolute Brahman — described as absolute knowledge in Advaita veduntic philosophy — known to us as neti neti (not this, not this), similarly, without projecting a clear vision of its hierarchical and communal philosophy to gather support from all non-lindus to establish and politically empower RSS and BJP. Neti neti, basically, here means it advocates nothing but accepts everything as long as it suits them to expand organisation, to secure the throne of Delhi, which Indian right-wing always imagined ever since its inception, to declare India as 'Hindu Rashtra'. Had Deendayal Upadhyay and Balraj Madhok survived strategies employed against them, we

Upadhyay and Balraj Madhok survived strategies employed against them, we would have read their Jugalbandi.

Book seems lost in its argument as it attempts to strike a balance when two contentious historical subjects require the definite response of the author. It could be an intentional move, since the book is devoid of mere subjective convictions and prejudices as the author approaches them purely, while using considerable references.

Despite other things, it is the Hindu nationalism and call for the organisational unity that kept them together. They were devout to their ideology. At the end book, attempts to see through the new developing Jugalbandi between Modi-Shah.

Book points out their similarities and dissimilarities; as new on-going jugalbandi is more hostile towards the opposition though adhere to age old conviction of public display of internal unity (p 299). New jugalbandi's expanded social base from upper castes, to tribals, middle castes and even dalits (p 300), mastered the strategy to hide their failures by directly channelising the Hindu anger towards the Muslims on all the matters, to conveniently safeguard the ideology and galvanising the support for the larger good of Hindutva. It aims at Hindutvisation of Dalits, Advasis and OBC, this trait is a unique and distinct at Hinduvisation of Dalits, Advasis and OBC, this trait is a unique and distinct attribute of the Modi-Shah jugalbandi. It is authoritative, less democratic in its functioning as only the few are allowed to speak the truth to power. The Vapayee-Advani relationship was more ideological than the Modi-Shah's relationship, but still to conclude their relationship, but still to conclude their relationship, could be a little unfair as long as the artistes of new jugalbandi (Modi-Shah) have not gone off stage after the delivering performance.

This book engages the reader and is written sedately. Sitapati has interwowen all the major events and figures essen-

written sedateiy, Sitapati nas interwoven all the major events and figures essen-tially required to make it an intriguing read to students of right-wing politics and post-colonial Indian Politics in gen-eral.



Rupa, *295

Set in pre-Partition Lahore, from the turn of the century to the time of Independence, this is the story of two women, both strong and willing to challenge the limits of the acceptable, but in their own way and under very different circumstances. Harjeet, belonging to a landlord family of Punjab, is married to Gautam, from an equally prominent Khatri family of Lahore. Deeply dissatisfied with her life, harjeet enters into a passionate affair with Haider, a Muslim. The book explores their relationship against the backdrop of the growing Indud-Muslim divide, and the politically turbulent times they are living in. Author Anuradha Kumar Jain offers a powerful accounts of desire, love, society and politics, and takes a probing look at the struggles and aspiration of a nation and its people.

Karan Pur Invincible Publisher, ₹199

The book is a miniature of human life as it comprises real-life sentiments. Readers can feel this book close to their life as they continue floating between emotions like dreams, passion, love, the continue life the book of the continue floating between emotions like dreams, passion, love, the continue life is the continue floating between emotions like dreams, passion, love, and the continue floating between the continue emotions like dreams, passion, love, betrayal etc., just like in real life. The book talks about speaking up for oneself irrespective of their age, gender, profession, and financial background, etc. #Me Too comes as an eye-opener for the people who think it is okay to be hurt when it is not. In India, where individuals and institutions give tremendous amounts of significance to respect and escolal inspara living with. give tremendous amounts or significance to respect and social image, living with hampered self-esteem is incorrect. The book highlights that every human is eligible for personal space. Anybody violating the pre-defined boundary is dis-respecting and harming that individual space of yours which is nothing but a serious crime. partner, this is for you. Menopause can be a big deal, and maybe your partner is having a hard-enough time to have given you this book. This is unlikely to be easy. Sorry. This is not a slight blip in the road; you are effectively on a journey together that will take some time to get to the end—estimates range from 4 to 14 years. There will be challenges and setbacks but, at the end of it, you and your partner have the potential to be astounding. But you will both need to work together and have a clear undertogether and have a clear under-standing of what you want from this second phase of your lives

THE ICEBERG EFFECT

INE ICEDENG EFFECT

Menopause is like an iceberg, in that the majority of what is going on is beneath the surface. You might think you are getting the rough end of the deal. While I sympathize with you, I can assure you, you are not.

Your partner's hormones are

Your partner's hormones ar slowly but surely receding to their steady post-Menopausal state. They play such a pivotal role in her sense of who she is, and how she is in the world that

and how she is in the world that as they diminish, they cause havoc with her sense of self and her day-to-day behaviour. Their increasing absence delivers a whole host of symptoms as well. You are likely at the sharp end of her symptoms, vicarious-pexperiencing them with her. Most women require reassurance that their partners are still committed to them and the relationship. It's easy to believe that you're all right and that this is her problem. To some degree it is, but it would be unfair of you to believe that this was com-

together.

The fact that she has given you this book is an indication that she loves you and wants your support. She is also saying that she is in need of some words to successfully communicate with you what this is like.

Your Second Phase: Reclaiming Work & Relationships During & After Menopause by Kate Usher is a survival guide for women to cope with menopause at work, home and play. An edited excerpt:



pletely the case

You are a team of two that no doubt has had to face adver-sity before. How did you manage sity before. How did you manage it? What was the dynamic between you? Is this the same or different? If it's the same, due to its unpredictability or that one of you needs additional consideration and support, you already have a model of how to work together. If it's different, what kind of different is it? If it's different because it was you who needed support and now it's her, then there is an element of quid pro quo. How did she manage it, pro quo. How did she manage it, what did she do that was so effective and also, what was inef-fective and why? These are all

things you both can learn from.
Discuss between you what Discuss between you what worked and what didn't and identify what you can use here.

WHAT IS THIS THING THAT'S HAPPENING TO HER ... AND ME?

Earlier in this book, you will find a section on symptoms where we discuss the variability in women's experience of Menopause by duration, type and their severity. Please read through it, as awareness is a considerable part of successfully supporting your partner.

First, Menopause is not a sprint, which is essentially what the monthly period experience was, or even an 800m run,

which was pregnancy. No which was pregnancy. No, Menopause is an endurance race, and it goes on for years. With this in mind, it's important to make yourself aware of what your partner might be experiencing and think about what support she might need. Please note, this does not give her a licence to be revolting to you without any form of comeback. If her behaviour makes her more difficult to handle than a bag of poisonous

makes her more difficult to handle than a bag of poisonous snakes, you have a right to say so. This is about creating a psychologically safe place for both of you to air your grievances without a shouting match or sulky silences. This space should

be non-judgmental, with no fear of consequences. You are adults and now is the time to behave like it.

FIRESIDE CHAT

Where do the two of you Where do the two of you get uninterrupted time to chat face-to-face? Whether over breakfast, dinner or some other time, whenever it is, choose a day when you know neither of you will be preoccupied or focused on something else. Be clear that this is a conversation about understanding what is happening and what it. what is happening and what it feels like for her. Make sure you are actively listening - a method of intently listening to

SECOND Kate Ushei

what the other person is saying whilst giving them your full

whilst giving them your full attention.

Once you have actively listened, ask questions and share how you feel about it. Please note, this about listening, sharing and reconnecting, not about point scoring or arguing. If you find that you are descending into this, you may need to walk away and come back later. You are both adults and equal partners — you are not a winner or a loser, a leader or a follower, in charge or subservient. You are a team of two equal parts.

Excerpted with permission from Your Second Phase.

Reclaiming Work and Relationships During and After

Relationships During and After Menopause by Kate Usher, pub-lished by SAGE Publications

CHINA'S GAME ON NORTH KOREA

China has spread its tenta-cles across almost all cor-ners of the world. With North Korea, China has employed a unique strategy both to support stability and to have a grip over the nuclear gear of this myste-rious land.

Successive Chinese leaders have maintained three distinct strategies towards North Korea: first, not to provoke a war; sec-ond, to maintain the status quo; and finally, no to nuclear arsenal. Succinctly, China is North

Succinctly, China is North Korea's all-weather friend. Thus, though Beijing ostensi-bly condemns North Korea's nuclear developments, it avowedly opposes harsh glob-al sanctions on that mysterious nation. And China's strategy is aimed at addressing two major critical concerns: to obviate

aimed at addressing two major critical concerns: to obviate massive refugee influx across 870-mile border area that it shares with North Korea and prevent an immediate collapse of the Kim rule.

The relationship between China and North Korea can aptly be described through this Chinese proverb: "Chun wang chi han" (If the lips are gone, teeth will be cold). It rightly indicates that both the rightly indicates that both the countries are intimately inter-dependent. Beijing's support for Pyongyang dates back to the historic 1950-53 Korean War. Those were the days, China under Chairman Mao, was more than eager to aid its northern Communist ally North Korea, against the cap-italist South Korea. Its support to North Korea continues irre-spective of whoever comes to power in Pyongyang. rightly indicates that both the

spective of whoever comes to power in Pyongyang. Kim II-sung from 1948-94, Kim Jon-il (1994-2011) and now Kim Jong-un since 2011 till date, China has been offer-ing both political and eco-nomic support to various regimes of Kims. On record, China is North Korea's biggest trade partner till date. In fact, from 2000-2020, the bilateral trade between both the nations have increased

both the nations have increased almost ten-fold. Even amid tougher international trade

Pyongyang's

announcement almost

three months before the start of the Games of no

narticination is a clear signal that it doesn't want to take the bait by Seoul to use the Olympics to create a mood for dialogue. It could also show a determination to boost

pressure on the new US

respectable negotiations

administration of President Biden for sanctions against North Korea, the long China-North Korea border is still open for estab-lished trade routes in com-modities such as mobile phones, silkworms, fuel, seafood, etc. Much beyond these regu-

Much beyond these regular economic activities, China has established a high-speed railway link between its border cities like Dandong and Shenyang so as to boost trade with North Korea. Both the nations have also opened a cargo and container shipping route to enhance the supply of coal from North Korea to China. China also offers aid to North Korea primarily in food and energy sectors.

Besides China, the US, Japan and South Korea provided more than 75 per cent of the food aid to North Korea since 1995. The country's severe familine was caused by heavy

the food aid to North Korea since 1995. The country's severe famine was caused by heavy floods and droughts that took lives of more than million people in the 1990s. Unfortunately, the country has not been able to come out of this prolonged food crisis till date. Thus, Pyongyang is fully dependent on China and its goodwill.

As per the estimates revealed by the UN agencies, more than 43 per cent of the country's population is malnourished. Though Kim Jongunished. Soloking for robust economic ties with the former. However, China's continued support to Pyongyang came under severe strain when

However, China's contin-ued support to Pyongyang came under severe strain when the latter tested a nuclear weapon in October 2006. Subsequently, Beijing had to back a UN Security Council Resolution No. 1718 that led to the imposition of severe sanc-tions against North Korea. And for the first time, the international community witnessed transition of China's tactics from sustained diplomatic support to outright punishment towards its Northern



Communist neighbour. When in November 2017,

When in November 2017, Kim again tested a missile, Beijing called on Pyongyang to restrict all actions that create tensions in the Korean Peninsula. These all clearly

demonstrate that China is wary of North Korea's belligerent moves that may militate against the mutual interests of both the countries.

Beijing has played the role

high-profile global negotia-tions on North Korea. After two crucial summits between then US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, interna-tional policy makers have so far

sation steps, immediate mea-sures towards peace in the Korean peninsula and finally, corresponding sanctions relief. However, Pyongyang has been becoming an Asian tinder box. Kim's madness and clan-

destine nuclear programme could turn the entire Korean peninsula into a serious war

peninsula into a serious war zone of the continent.
Probably, China knows best how to tackle Kim dynasty. But then at times some foundational questions arise as to whether North Korea is a strategic liability or an opportunity for China. The Communist leaders in Beijing must have realised the fact that its northern neighbour is to be tamed and to be used for all possible gains both domestically and internationally.

tically and internationally.

The world brands North The world brands North Korea as a pariah state, but Beijing takes the Kim regime otherwise. Though apparently China has backed the UN sanc-tions against North Korea over its incessant efforts to become a formidable nuclear state, its financial and trade support directly and effectively facili-tated Kim's nuclear machine for lower. This base also helped

tated Kim's nuclear machine for long. This has also helped North Korean economically survive so far. Further, these Chinese efforts are indirectly dashed the hopes of the reunification of both the Koreas. The US is literally pressuring North Korea to abandon its nuclear programme. Washington says once it is done, there could be a guarantee of trade, diplomatic relations, aid and normalisation of the with the rogue state. tions, aid and normalisation of the with the rogue state. Though the US and China both are interested in denuclearising North Korea, their approaches to the same goal are completely different. America wants China to use its economic leverage to pressure or convince Kim to abandon it nuclear ambition. Thus Washington officials look at China as a part of the solution but unfortunately Beijing is fast becoming part of the Korean conundrum only. For Xi, the

Chinese President, who is now a life-time leader, wants to use North Korea to win brownie points at the domestic front. US President Joe Biden is fully aware that only China can maintain stability in the region if not solve the Korean puzzle for now. Certainly, Beijing will use this comportunity to turn in use this opportunity to turn in his favour other vital issues that

are constantly pestering XI, like Hong Kong, Taiwan, Tibet, Xinjiang and South China Sea. What is the problem with Kim? Kim wants to sustain his family rule. And for him, the nuclear button is the only guarantee for him to maintain both his hereditary regime and to threaten the neighbours and the world. Despite the leverage over North Korea, China and South Korea have failed to bring Kim to a negotiating table. Kim is totally against bringing reforms in his country. As such reform measures might bring down the curtain on his rule. The elites in North Korea have failed to bring Kim to an egotiating table. Kim is totally against bringing reforms in his country. As such reform measures might bring down the curtain on his rule. The elites in North Korea know very well that its central problems lie within, not outside. Thus, they, along with Kim, ensure no reform takes place, in order to solidify their control over its impoverished populace. Clearly, hollow summitry will not work with Kim. Hemands serious negotiations on the nuclear front. It is better for Biden to extend grand gestures the way Trump did. At times, Beijing's bosses have displayed stern attitudes towards Kim Jong-un. But Western nations, particularly, America will never ever believe the intentions of China. Because nowhere Chinese lead-restirica will never ever believe the intentions of China. Because nowhere Chinese lead-restrictions over this reclusive the intention of China keeps North Korea going and precisely surviving against all odds. Many in the West have accused China of circumvent. ing global sanctions against North Korea.

(The writer an expert on international affairs)

Though the US and China both have voiced concern over North Korea's nuclear ambition. their approaches to the same goal are distinctly different. America wants China to use its economic leverage to pressure Kim to abandon nuclear ambitions. However, China under Xi. is willing to do only what suits its interests



PERSPECTIVE -

No Olympic participation: Kim's message for Biden

North Korea has become the world's first country to drop out of the Tokyo Olympics, ostensibly because coronavirus has spread its deadly tentacles. It is true that the rogue nation is extremely sensitive about Covid-19, knowing that a widespread outbreak in a country with an already battered health system could be disaster.

However, North Korea also

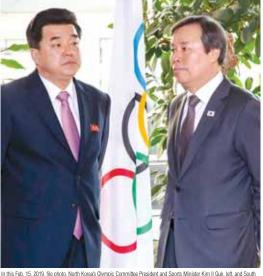
However, North Korea also has previously used big sporthas previously used big sport-ing events to set up diploma-cy with the United States meant to win it much-needed sanc-tions relief in return for nuclear disarrament pledges. Some see pulling out of the Olympics as the North sending Washington a message. Purportedly, there is legit-imate coronavirus fears. A

imate coronavirus fears." A state-run website has claimed that North Korea's Olympic Committee has decided not to take part in the Tokyo Games slated to begin in July "to protect players from the world public health crisis caused by Covid-19."

North Korea has previously boycotted Olympics and other international sports events for political reasons or failed to appear when none of

failed to appear when none of its athletes or teams qualified. But this is the first time North

But this is the first time North Korea has pulled out of a major international sports event citing an infectious dis-ease, according to Seoul's Unification Ministry. Pyongyang has developed a reputation for withdrawing from talks with Seoul and Washington before returning at the last minute to boost its bar-casing research. But sixen that gaining power. But given that the country has been on high alert over Covid-19, experts say there is little chance that it will



In this Feb. 15, 2019, file photo, North Korea's Olympic Committee President and Sports Minister Kim II Guk, left, and South Korean Sports Minister Do Jong-hwan attend a meeting with the IOC for their bid to co-host the 2032 Summer Olympics, at the IOC Headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland AP

reverse its Olympics decision. North Korea has shown "a North Korea has shown "a coronavirus-related neurosis since it declared an emergency anti-virus system in January last year," said Park Won Gon, a professor of North Korea studies at Seoul's Ewha

Womans University.
Park said it is highly unlikely that North Korea will secure enough vaccines for its 26 million people or report major progress in its anti-virus fight by July.
North Korean officials

know how disastrous a major virus outbreak would be in a nation with public healthcare infrastructure that has been in a shambles for decades. North Korea has so far taken some of the world's most draconian anti-virus steps, including a 15-

month-long closure of its inter-national borders and the depar-

ture of foreign nationals. North Korea still officially

North Korea still officially claims to be coronavirus free, an assertion many foreign experts dispute. North Korea's decision to kip the Olympics shows that it "thinks contact with for-eigners is the most dangerous thing now," said Seo Yu-Seok at the Seoul-based Institute of North Korean Studies.

However, there is certain-ly a message for US President Joe Biden. The North Korean announcement, three months before the Games begin, could before the Games begin, could signal that Pyongyang is rejecting a repeated push by Seoul to use the Olympics to create a mood for dialogue. It could also show a determination to boost pressure on the new US administration of President Biden. North Korea is sending the message that it wants to deal directly with the US now rather than using the Olympics as a venue to reach out to Washington for talks, said Kwak Gil Sup, head of One

Korea Center, a website specialising in North Korea affairs.
Now-deadlocked nuclear talks between Pyongyang and Washington began in 2018 after a reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula following North Korea's participation in the Pyeongchang Winter Games in the South earlier that year.
During those Olympics, athletes from the Koreas marched together under a single unification flag during the opening ceremony and formed the Koreas first-ever joint team in women's ice hockey, Kim Yo Jong, the influential sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, became the first member of the North's ruline framily to

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, became the first member of the North's ruling family to visit South Korea since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War.

There's been little progress in nuclear talks the past two years. North Korea recently fired two ballistic missiles into the sea in the first such weapons tests in a year. Kim Yo Jong has warned Washington not to "cause a stink" and called South Korea's president "a parrot raised by America."

Experts say North Korea ntually wants talks with the Biden Administration to win sanctions relief and achieve

Biden Administration to win sanctions relief and achieve better ties because its economy has been devastated by the pandemic, US-led sanctions and natural disasters last year.

Analyst Seo said North Korea likely wasn't sure about the benefits of attending the Tokyo Games because Biden has made it clear that he worlt engage in made-for-TV summits with Kim Jong Un like his predecessor Donald Trump did.

"They knew that they would return home empty-handed from Tokyo," Seo said.

But North Korea's domestic difficulties may push it to pursue talks with the United States soon. Seo said North Korea could perform big weapons tests, such as an inter-continental ballistic missile launch, in coming months if it's not satisfied with the Biden Government's North Korea policy review expected to be completed soon. policy review expected to be completed soon.

(With inputs from AP)





























ARIES March 21-April 19

Those seeking fitness must follow a proper workout regimen. Negativity around and within is disappearing. Your presence of mind and wisdom is unmatched. You leel strong both physically and mentally. Professionally, you will be working hard but results are availated. You find it difficult to earn accolades for a job well done. Be careful on the financial front. Reschedule your investments. Restrict your expenditure as this will help you to maintain balance. On the relationship front a fresh start is your expenditure as INIS WIII nelp you to maintain balance. On the relationship front, a fresh start is indicated. You are not ready for a commitment yet, even though others might be pressing you for one. Now is the time to make it. This is a positive period for your love life.

Lucky number 20 Lucky colour Mauve Lucky day Monday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

LEU July 23-Aug 22

This week you need to be strict and draw a line in certain matters. No compromise should be made on the health front. Direct or indirect spiritual influence is needed to bring blance in life. Your casual attitude in health may result in seasonal ailments. Be cautious of cold, cough, constipation, bovel syndrome and weight related problems. On the professional front, the situation is getting better and stronger for you. You are ready to take any type of challenge. You are creative and very enterprising, if you have applied for a job, you may get an intervier call this week. Shifting or change of office or home is likely, in love relations, a better understanding between you and your partner is indicated. Allow your partner to have his hier space.



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

In terms of health, you need to be practical. Listen to the body, and not the heart. You have to change your food habits or craving for sweet food. You will have to make some efforts to improve your health situation. You need more exercise, nutritional education to improve your health. At work, something planned meticulously is likely to take off smoothly if you go with the flow. Be activities in your verbal communication. Face the challenges with a cool mind. Your ability to look and the property of the logic and reasoning are giving you full benefits in this week. On the personal front, feel free to express your feelings. If you have some loving words to say, say them now before it is too late. Attending a family function is likely.



TAURUS April 20-May 20

You need to think about improving your health. Your health and teelings of well-being should be a priority. This is a great time to take some time off and just go for an improved litestyle, nutrition and balancing your work. A need for balance in body, mind and soul is required. You need to have patience at the workplace. Make strategies to get more outputs and productive results but if yo keep it to yourself. You may need some assistance to find a better approach to work and don't hesitate to ask. If you rel soling for work, you may need to look in a different way or a different field than the one you've been pursaing. On the relationship front, warmth, care and concern for each other at home and in a loving relationship is indicated.



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Value your health and make it a priority. Count your blessings. Your health may not be all that good as you would like it to be, but it is better than that of many other people. Be grateful for what you have. Careerwise, you must not impose restrictions on yourself. Be careful in your communication. If you are bent upon caretiu in your communication. If you are bert upon thrusting your suggestions down somebody's throat, don't get surprised if she or he rebels. Arguments and conflicts are on the cards which will go against you. On the personal front, make peace with someone, who seems to be against you. There is a need for liberating the mind and reconnecting with the heart. You need to reintroduce trust and find at way of freeing yourself from suspicion, mistrust and jealousy.



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

A good message in terms of your health is on the cards. Those who are waiting for test results need to know that nothing so serious is indicated. You need a small course of medication to free yourself from the health problem you are suffering from. Increase intake of liquids, juices and fibrous food in your diet. On the work front, new and inrous stood in your olet. On the work front, new opportunities will be on the horizons making you hopeful about the future. Money inflow looks good this week. A prestigious assignment is yours' if you play you cards right. On the relationship front, something may be troubling. Serious differences with spouse may take place. You can be stubborn when the circumstances demand but make an exception when your near and dear ones are involved. Don't be in too much of a hurry.



GEMINI May 21-June 20

This week you will manage balancing challenges and blessings with ease. This will improve your health and bring great hope. You will be full of life this week. The bring great hope. You will be full of life this week. The negabitivity in the past is dissolved. You are hopeful and playful now. Spending money on medical tests, for better living is on the cards. On the career front, you have some plans in your mind. It could be a change of job, or starting a new venture or any other thing that enhances your liability. Even if things have been lousy at work for the last few months, there is cause for hope and positive anticipation. In terms of love, you are ready to start something new. If you are in a committed relationship, there's something positive on the cards.



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

LIDRA Sep 23-Oct 22

This week you need a braak. Take time out of your monotonous schedule. Those waiting for test results are likely to get favourable news. You may take spiritually as a stress buster and lead a healthy life. This is the right time to get involved in frog. Pranspar and mediation. Sood news amount in frog. Pranspar and mediation, sood news amount in the seven from At work, someone's advice will come in handy in tacking, complicated issue. You may be emprised to take on more duties and responsibilities. Regularise your work. On the president from, you might be having some doubts about the issues regarding the activity amon doubts about the issues regarding the south of the proof of children's future, their study, marriage and expenses is indicated.



AOUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

AUJARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week you will feel enthissistict and adventurous enough to take on challenges life throws at you with full spirit. You are on the right path on the health front. Your health concern is againly pure in dividends now. You feel very chirgy, withrant, energetic and full of life. Your possitive mindest and cheerfulness will add charm to your personality. Work-wise, you take life easy with a possitive mindest and stored to closued on your work. Your mind and thoughts are in harmony. There are chances that others might take advantage of your efforts. Use your judgment, instead of billingly tollowing orders to remain on the right track. On the personal front, great fruit is in store. Your goodwill and reputation will pay you rich dividends.



CANCER June 21-July 22

This week you will feel lost due to work overload. Neglecting your health at this point is not advisable. ealer physically and mentally. Listlen to your body. Nurture it. care for it and feed it with natural food. Avoid junk and oly food. You have boy leve up all the bad habits. Prevention is better than cure. On the work front, you may be moving to a new position or a new set of responsibilities. Promotion, hike in salary or histories would be not be carefy cure load association. business profit is on the cards. You feel at ease on the obusiness profit is off the cards. You leef at ease off the financial level. Business expansion plans could materialise this week. This is a good week for students. On the personal front, something undestrable may occur on an emotional level. You may lose your cool in a strenuous relationship.



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week you will be filled with energy and vitality. Your body, mind and soul are in perfect harmony. You are focused and know what you want from life. You are smart enough to bring balance between professional and personal commitments. On the work front, leaving northing peerfing a work will work in your favour If you have started a new business or job recently, this may cause some wory. Things may not seem clear. Ask questions and practice active listening to make sure that you and your co-workers understand each other perfectly. Relationship-wise, expect to harmonise your bonding with someone who had offended you in the past. Love blooms and so will you Happiness, contentment in all relations is on the cards.



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

PISUES Feb 19-March 20
This week balance is needed in all areas of life. You should know how to handle your professional and health commitments. Take care of your diet, exercise, and relexation line. A nap between the busy hours would help you relax and refresh you to take on the challenges. On the career front, the financial part is looked after well this week. Those in media, finance, and artwork are likely to do better. Use your inner power, communication skills and wisform. Time is tavourable, crack your full potentials. New contacts in this pendo will prove furfull for you. On the relationship front, stop being too formal with your partner, it may keep you away from expressing your true feelings. Your loved ones need your attention too.



Controlling the monkey mind

ord Hanuman is believed to have surrendered himself in service of his ideal, Lord Rama. Driven by his intense sense of love, he put in his heart and literally merged his identity heart and literally merged his identity with his ideal; consciousness. Having thus, being fully in tune with his ideal, he could avail of the wholesome powers intrinsic to the consciousness element. No wonder he could perform such extraordinary feats as would find no parallel.

In prayer mode, when you put in your whole, you acquire the virtues of what you remain focused to. So says Tha Bible. "Soft we first the kinedom of

The Bible: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and all his goodness, and all that get added on to you."

The paradox, however, is that Lord Hanuman ordinarily remained ignonanuman ordinarily remained igno-rant about immense power, he was endowed with. Evidently, under usual circumstances, he would be driven by his animalistic instincts. But when reminded, Lord Hanuman could invoke his indwelling powers if ever needed.

As the Ramavana story line runs Lord Hanuman was entrusted with th task to locate Sita, who had been kidnapped and was in Ravana's captivity. As per available indications Sita was somewhere in Sri Lanka. To make it to his desired destination, Hanuman had to cross over the ocean, which

his desired destination, Hanuman had to cross over the ocean, which appeared impossible. But when reminded by Janwant, the boar chieftain, about the powers latent in him, he realised that he could fly across ocean. So, he invoked his untapped power base and then made it to Sri Lanka. Hanuman story is similar to human dilemma. Human beings are armed with immense power. If full human potential gets unfolded, one would know no limits. The irony, however, is that invariably human beings are not aware of their own true self. Fact remains that human beings are born with a clouded and preconditioned mind. Stuck to the limits circumscribed, human beings fail to have access to full land scape of mind. One's mind power, thus, remains limited. It is said that human beings have access to just 5 to 7 percent of their mind-power by default.

More than that is subject to our exercituse defects to heaven were the server of their content of their mind-power over the server was the se

More than that is subject to our conscious efforts. If, however, even if they are able to make optimum use of



whatever they have in hand, they could successfully negotiate the usual callings of life with ease and comfort.

The irony, however, is that an ordinary mortal, caught up in the thought

nary mortal, caught up in the thought web of their own making, dissipate a considerable sum of their mind power over inconsequential acts — dealing with carryover effect of negative imprints picked up in the past, which in turn induces a sense of insecurity over assumed thoughts and thereby stress; over assumed dream perceptions. Consequently, they are hardly left with enough to do justice to their priority preferences, and with obvious consequences.

Human beings too carry both animalistic institutes as well as humanistic

malistic instincts as well as humanistic virtues. Which of the two drives a virtues. Which of the two drives a being would depend on how one's mind is oriented. The irony of the whole situation is that one's animalistic instincts keep playing their part involuntarily from the front. But one's virtues need to be identified, acknowledged, honed, and then consciously invoked to be put to use.
What stands in the way is the fact that human mind is fragile. It keeps

randomly flirting around with varied thoughts, something like a monkey randomly and unmindfully jumping from one branch of a tree to the other It, thus, becomes incumbent upon a It, thus, becomes incumbent upon a being to first control one's monkey-mind, for the indwelling virtues to play out unhindered. And that can be achieved following the two-stage meditation process as discussed in the previous chapter. Pursuing Dhyana, with focus on Lord Hanuman, would inspire the seeker to imbibe his spirit. Accordingly, one would be tempted to explore, identify, and acknowledge, inlaid virtues, and then hone them, so that they become worth use in contemporary

become worth use in contemporary

And because Lord Hanuman is And because Lord Hanuman is identified with valour, reflecting on His imagery may also help get over the sense of fear and insecurity if any. Also, it may grant the will and resolve needed to take on the challenges ahead in life in all strength.

The writer is an astrologer, vastu consultant and spiritula counsellor. Connect with him at 1et: 9:1-11-98180372739871037272