**OPINION 6** 

HYPOCRISY IS VERY

MUCH ALIVE AND WELL

**WORLD 8** 

US SANCTIONS ON MYANMAR GEMS

TARGET KEY JUNTA FUNDING SOURCE

DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

> \*Late City Vol. 31 Issue 98 \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

CAN'T SPEAK ENGLISH: MIKA

# NEW DELHI, SATURDAY APRIL 10, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3 ne pioneer

# **US drill in EEZ, India protests**

## MEA expresses concerns to US over exercise without permission

Anaval drill by the US Navy earlier this week in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) has raised eve brows as no prior consent from New Delhi was taken for the strategic exercise, which was in total disregard of international conventions. However, the US has claimed it has abided by the international laws. This exercise without

approval by India came at a time when the two countries are marching ahead to forge closer strategic and defence ties. Moreover, the two countries, now part of the Quadrilateral last year, held the Malabar series of exercises along with Japan and Australia.

Taking exception to the exercise, the External Affairs Ministry said here on Friday India has expressed its con-cerns to the US through diplomatic channels.

A Ministry statement said UN Convention on Law of the Sea did not authorise other states to carry out military exercises or manoeuvres, in particular those involving use of weapons, in EEZ and on continental shelf, without consent of coastal state

It further said the US warship USS John Paul Jones was continuously monitored transiting from the Persian Gulf towards the Malacca Straits. "We have conveyed our con-



US Navy conducts a Freedom of Navigation Operation (FONOP) in the Indian Ocean region, in the La Pérouse exercise

cerns regarding this passage through our EEZ to the Government of the USA through diplomatic channels," the MEA statement said.

The US informed about its drill when a statement by the US Navy 7th fleet said it conducted Freedom of Navigation Operations (FONOPs) within India's exclusive economic zone off the Lakshadweep Islands without India's permission.

"On April 7, 2021, the USS John Paul Jones asserted navigational rights and freedoms approximately 130 nautical miles west of the Lakshadweep Islands, inside India's EEZ, without requesting India's prior consent, consistent with international law. India requires prior consent for military exercises or manoeuvres in its exclusive economic zone or

US 7th Fleet Public Affairs. The statement irked New Delhi since the US is among India's closest strategic partners with both sides having repeatedly opposed China's maritime

continental shelf, a claim

inconsistent with internation-

al law," said a statement by the

expansionism, particularly in the South China Sea. India and the US hold naval exercises throughout the year.

The US statement also said, "We conduct routine and regular FONOPs, as we have done in the past and will continue to do in the future. FONOPs are not about one country, nor are they about making political statements.

In the Quad group meeting held in February this year, the first since a new US administration took over, the partners pledged "to strengthen coopopen Indo-Pacific region, including support for freedom of navigation and territorial

www.dailypioneer.com

Reacting to this development, former Navy Chief Admiral Arun Prakash said on Twitter, "There is irony here. While India ratified UN Law of the Seas in 1995, the US has failed to do it so far. For the 7th Fleet to carry out FoN missions in Indian EEZ in violation of our domestic law is bad enough. But publicising it? USN please switch on IFF (Identification, friend or foe)!,"

The US regularly conducts FONOPs against several countries challenging what it says are "excessive maritime claims' and FONOPs were regularly conducted against India too in

Both the countries have differences on the rights of Littoral States to stop foreign warships from carrying out military activities in their EEZ.

India and the US have fundamental differences in coastal states' rights to stop foreign military ships from conducting military activities within their

When India ratified the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in 1995, it declared that in its understanding "the provisions of the Convention do not authorise other States to carry out in the exclusive economic zone and

eration on advancing a free and on the continental shelf military exercises or manoeuvres, in particular those involving the use of weapons or explosives without the consent of the coastal State". The US has so far not ratified UNCLOS.

The differences, which began during the drafting of the treaty, is over the interpretation of Article 58 (i) of the Convention, which says:.. In the exclusive economic zone, all States, whether coastal or land locked, enjoy, subject to the relevant provisions of this Convention, the freedoms referred to in article 87 of navigation and over flight and of the laying of submarine cables and pipelines, and other internationally lawful uses of the sea related to these freedoms, such as those associated with the operation of ships, aircraft and submarine cables and pipelines, and compatible with the other provisions of this Convention.

The second clause of the Article then lists Articles "88 to 115" as also applying to the EEZ "in so far as they are not incompatible with this Part".

The US asserts that the hrase "other internationally lawful uses of the sea" means that they can enjoy the freedom to operate in the EEZ. They also cite Article 87 that lists freedoms in the high seas, including freedom of naviga tion, implying that this applies to the EEZ.

# 700 post-shot adverse events under scanner

## **Over 1.44 lakh** cases in 24 hrs

PNS NEW DELHI

At least 700 severe and seri-ous adverse events have been reported from across the country post-Covid vaccination since nationwide inoculation drive began on January 16. The cases are under scanner in India in the wake of the global concerns over rare or unusual types of blood clots after administration of the AstraZeneca-Oxford University shots.

Meanwhile, India reported over 1.44 lakh cases in 24 hours on Friday, while the 773 people died of Covid-19. Sources in the Union

Health Ministry said the national committee on adverse events following immunsation (AEFI) is closely monitoring the cases and relooking at some of the unusual technical parameters following reports by the European regulator and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The result of the analysis is likely to be finalised by the end

of this week, said the sources. They said the review is significant as globally regulators are waiting for India's data

doses of Covid vaccine being administered here. At over 83 million, AstraZeneca's Covishield vaccine accounts for 90 per cent of the doses administered in India so far. The remaining 8.1 million doses are of Bharat Biotech's Covaxin.

"Besides, we also have a large-scale AEFI monitoring and assessment mechanism already in place for the universal child immunisation programme," he added.
On Wednesday, the

European Medicines Agency (EMA) confirmed that the cases of blood clots with low blood platelets were associated with the administration of the AstraZeneca vaccine, but should still be listed as very rare side effects.

In fact, till March 29 when over 6 crore people were inoculated, nearly, 180 people died after getting the vaccine while 617 adverse events have been reported in India. This means that 29.2 per cent of these AEFI cases resulted in deaths. However, not a single case has been attributed to deaths due to

the vaccine. Instead, the Ministry has found that most of the persons who succumbed to their illness

had co-morbidities Continued on Page 2

# Mamata defies EC, keeps blasting Shah

## **Shah: Mamata** outburst result of frustration

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

Even as the Election Commission of India slapped a second notice on Mamata Banerjee, this time for asking her supporters to blockade the Central forces and then vote because "they are Amit Shah's men," a defiant Bengal Chief Minister alleged Home Minister Amit Shah was trying to incite violence in the State and egging on the police

to engage in unethical acts.
The TMC supremo advised Prime Minister Narendra Modi to control Shah, alleging that he may incite riots in the State.

"I have not seen such a 'gunda' (gangster), 'dangabaaz' (rioteer) Home Minister in my entire life. Amit Shah is more dangerous than a tiger. People fear talking to him. I will urge

**CAPSULE** 

7 ULTRAS KILLED IN 2

**ENCOUNTERS IN J&K** 

**Srinagar:** Seven terrorists,

including terror outfit Ansar

Ahmad Shah, were gunned

Ghazwatul Hind's chief Imtiaz

down by security forces in two

encounters in J&K's Shopian

and Pulwama districts, police

2 PAK MINS OPPOSE JAIL FOR FORCES' CRITICISM

**Islamabad:** Two senior federal

Minister Imran Khan's Cabinet

have voiced their opposition to a

controversial law which seeks to

ministers in Pakistan Prime

criminalise any criticism or

powerful armed forces with a

up to rupees 50,000 or both.

PRACTICAL CLASSES

for various post-graduate

at its New Delhi campus

two-vear imprisonment or fine

IIMC DELHI TO CONDUCT

New Delhi: The IIMC said it has

decided to start practical classes

diploma courses from April 26

ridicule of the country's

said on Friday



during an election campaign rally at Jotram in Bardhaman on Friday

PM Narendra Modi to control Amit Shah first. He is inciting riots here," news agency PTI quoted Mamata saying this while addressing a rally in Memari in Purba.

On his part, the Union Home Minister on Friday pledged "common sense" to the Bengal Chief Minister informing her about how the CPF functioned during the elec-

tions. "Mamata Didi has been

**KMP** e-way

for 24 hours

Intensifying their protest

**L**against the three farm laws,

the farmers protesting at Delhi

borders will block the key

Kundali-Manesar-Palwal high-

way for 24 hours starting

"Tomorrow, on April 10, the KMP-KGP highway will be blocked for 24 hours (from 8

am, 10th April to 8 am 11th

April) as a warning to the gov-

ernment," the Samyukt Kisan

Morcha, an umbrella body of

the protesting farmer unions,

said in a statement on Friday. The KMP stands for

Kundali-Manesar-Palwal

expressway and the KGP for

Kundli-Ghaziabad-Palwal

farmers' strategy for protest this

The move is a part of the

expressway

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Saturday morning.

responsible for controlling the conduct of the Central forces during the elections... but a little common sense would make during the elections the Central forces are not controlled by the Union Home Ministry but by the Election Commission, Shah told mediapersons adding he had not seen a Chief Minister acting in a manner the way she did. Saying that Mamata's out-

burst was the result of her fear of losing the elections, the Home Minister said, "Mamata Banerjee's outburst only indicates that she is losing the elections ... the frustration is evident from her regular attack on the Central forces... In fact I have never seen a Chief Minister or party chief asking the people to gherao the Central forces." He wondered whether by using such words she was trying to create anarchy. "Is she trying to create anarchy? I do not understand," Shah said.

Continued on Page 2

PTI ■ LONDON

 $B^{\text{ritain's Prince Philip}-\text{the}}_{\text{Duke of Edinburgh, the}}$ 

husband of Queen Elizabeth II,

who passed away at the age of

99 on Friday morning — made three memorable royal visits to

India in his long years of accompanying the 94-year-old

monarch during her nearly

69-year reign.
The UK's longest-serving

royal consort joined the Queen

in India in 1959, 1961, 1983

and 1997 — during which he made quite an impression with

his sense of humour, which

often also got him into some

"Deeply saddened at sad demise of HRH Prince Philip,

Duke of Edinburgh, an iconic

pillar of the British monarchy,

regarded by his people and

controversy

visits to India and a

tiger controversy

## **Govt shuts schools** in Delhi after surge in Covid-19 cases

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government on Friday ordered all schools cases of coronavirus in the city. On Friday, Delhi recorded 8,521 fresh Covid-19 cases, highest single-day spike since November 11 last year, and 39 new fatalities, according to Health department bulletin.

The Directorate of Education (DoE) in its order stated, "In view of the sudden surge in the cases of Covid-19 in Delhi, all the Heads of Government, Government aided and unaided recognised Schools are hereby informed that conduct of all academic and examination activities through physical mode shall remain suspended with immediate effect till further orders.

"They are further directed to ensure that no student of Classes IX to XII is called in the school physically for any kind of academic or examination activity (like practice of practicals, mid-term & annual

world with the highest esteem

and affection. India had the

honour of receiving him and

HM The Queen on four mem-

orable occasions," the Indian

High Commission in London

Continued on Page 2

Related reports on P8

said in a statement.



examination related work i.e. practical, project submission, assessments etc) till further orders," said the order issued by the DoE.

"However, teaching learning activities may be conducted for the students through digital modes," it said further.

Meanwhile, Government-run Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital (RGGSH) has been again converted into a dedicated Covid-19 facility amid a massive surge in coronavirus cases in the national Capital, officials said

## 37 doctors in **Delhi's Sir Ganga**

## **Ram Hospital** test positive

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

**L**surging despite ramping up of the vaccination drive each passing day, the Government is bracing up for a new worry as the virus is infecting even those people, including large number of doctors, who have already taken both doses of vaccines.

This might hamper the health services at a time when the country is witnessing a sec-

ond wave. Dr Jugal Kishore, head of the department of community medicine at Safdarjung Hospital, said infection among doctors even after getting vaccination can impair the functionality of services that are being provided. "If doctors go for quarantine or get sick, who will provide healthcare ser-

vices," he cautioned. For instance, at least 37 doctors in Delhi's Sir Ganga Ram Hospital have tested positive for the coronavirus and five of them have been admitted for treatment.

Covid +ve after both doses!

Similarly, about 40 doctors have tested positive in a hospital in the last few days. Around half of them belong to the general surgery department, nine of the urology department and three of the department of medicine. Most in the first phase of the vaccination that was launched from January 16.

Studies say the "Peltzman Effect", might be one of the reasons. The term is used to indicate that when safety measures are mandated, people's perception of risk decreases making them take riskier deci-

#### **Vax stock to finish** in 2 days, provide at least 30L doses: **Gehlot to PM Modi**

Jaipur: Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying the stock of coronavirus vaccine in the state will finish in next two days and urged him to immediately provide at least 30 lakh doses.

The Peltzman Effect has been termed after Sam Peltzman, an economist at the University of Chicago. According to the theory, Peltzman postulated that mandating the use of seatbelts in automobiles led to more accidents. This implies that safety perception increases the terms, people become more careful when they sense greater risk and less careful if they feel

more protected. Continued on Page 2

#### **RSS** chief Bhagwat tests Covid +ve

Nagpur: Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat has tested coronavirus positive and he has been admitted to a private hospital in Nagpur, sources said on Friday.

## Maha Minister for three-week State lockdown

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Maharashtra Minister Vijay Wadettiwar on Friday said that a three-week long lockdown was required in the State to bring the coronavirus cases under control.

Having only a weekend lockdown was not enough for the State considering the rise in numbers, he said.

"We are doing all we can to check the spread, but it requires strong manpower. We will soon make available five lakh doctors, including those who are completing their postgraduation," the Relief and Rehabilitation Minister told a TV channel.

We need to bring curbs on the movement of railways and stop crowding in public places to prevent the community spread and save peo-ple's lives, Wadettiwar said. Relief

"As Relief and Rehabilitation Minister, I would demand that instead of just a weekend lockdown,we should go for a three-week long strict lockdown. It is required to check the community spread," he said.

## Kisan to block | Prince Philip: 4 royal **AIUDF** sends 22 candidates to Jaipur to avert poaching PNS ■ NEW DELHI/JAIPUR

To thwart possible attempts of horse-trading by the ruling BJP, Assam's minority-based All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF) on Friday sent all its candidates of the recently-concluded Assembly elections to Congress-ruled Rajasthan in a chartered plane, perhaps being the first case when election contestants, not MLAs, have been put in a secure place. As many as 22 candidates

of the Opposition alliance led by the Congress in Assam have been flown to Jaipur amid fears that the BJP may try to lure them away ahead of election results due early next month. The candidates from Mahajot alliance are from the Maulana Badruddin Ajmal-

oust the BIP from power.

Ashok Gehlot had put his MLAs last July during the party's internal crisis led by Sachin Pilot.

and Congress-led grand alliance of Opposition. It was

They have been kept in the

BJP tries to break the Congress

led AIUDF. AIUDF is a component of Assam's 10-party

formed two months back to same Fairmont resort in Jaipur where Rajasthan Chief Minister

"It's now a trend since the

(allies) want to take guard, AICC chief spokesman Congress's Randeep Singh Surjewala said confirming the developments.
Speculation is rife the candidates could be taken further to Dubai from Rajasthan as the results of the keenly-contested Assam elections will scheduled

after losing elections. So they

"All of us have just landed in Rajasthan. The Rajasthan Government has made arrangements for our stay," one of the AIUDF candidates said as quoted by a Assam daily. He mentioned the AIUDI chief Maulana Badruddin Ajmal though have not accompanied the team since he is in

to be declared on May 2 comes

. Continued on Page 2

## 7 terrorists killed in 2 **Kashmir encounters**

Without causing any major damage to the religious place in South Kashmir district of Shopian, the joint team of security forces on Friday eliminated two more terrorists in Ian Mohalla area while chief commander of Algaeda-linked Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind along with his associate were neutralised in a separate encounter at Nowbugh, Tral in Pulwama district, taking the total tally of terrorists killed in the last 24 hours to seven.

Four soldiers including one army officer received injuries in the overnight gunfight.

Earlier three terrorists were killed in Jan Mohalla on Thursday evening.

All these terrorists had taken shelter inside a local mosque forcing the security forces to exercise maximum restraint while neutralising them in Jan Mohalla area.

Religious leaders and family members including parents were taken inside the mosque to pacify the terrorists to lay down their arms but they refused to obey.

Briefing the media about two separate gunfights, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar said that in two different encounters one at Jan Mohalla, Shopian and another at Nowbugh, Tral in Pulwama district, seven terrorists including AGH chief



Imtivaz Shah, who was active since April 2019, was killed.

had to be very patient. We followed all SoPs. We allowed the Moulvi of the local masjid in which terrorists were hiding, to persuade terrorists to surrender twice in the night. We also brought the brother of a terrorist. His request for surrender was also turned down. We brought the parents of terrorists in the morning, but terrorists refused to surrender," the IGP said, adding that in the Shopian gunfight no IED, no explosives and grenades were used. "We used tear smoke shells. In the ensuing gunfight, five terrorists were killed-two from Hizbul Mujahideen, one from LeT and two from AGH. All were categorized terrorists."

He said that two terrorists including the AGH chief Imtiyaz Shah had fled from the Shopian encounter site during the initial cordon after throwing grenades. "We developed the lead and found that the duo had fled to Nowbugh area of

Tral. Today, early morning a cordon was launched in an "In Shopian operation we open area where Imtiyaz along with his aide were killed," he said. From of the seven slain terrorists, the IGP said seven AK-rifles and two pistols were recovered. He said that in the Shopian operation sanctity of

minimum damage.

The IGP identified the slain terrorists of Shopian as Muzamil Tantary who had joined militancy in August 2019, Adil Lone who picked up arms in July 2019, Younish Ahmed Khanday, who joined terrorists ranks in November last year and Basit Bhat who picked up gun in June last year. He said the fifth terrorist has not been identified yet. Similarly, the IGP said one of the slain terrorists of Tral gunfight was identified as Imtiyaz Shah, the chief of AGH, who was active since April 2019, and was tasked to target Amarnath Yatra in the Tral area. The identity of Imtiyaz's aide is being

the masjid was maintained and

the place of worship suffered

## Bengal polls: 80K CPF in phase-IV polling today

**VIOLENCE ON: MAN LOSES HANDS WHILE MAKING BOMBS** 

PNS KOLKATA

With instances of violence increasing with every passing phase in the ongoing eight-phase elections in Bengal, the Election Commission of India has upped the number of security forces for the fourth phase of polling on Saturday.

Accordingly about 80,000 central forces would man the conduct of elections at 12,310 polling station in 44 seats spread across five districts in North and South Bengal. Elections will be held in Coochbehar and Alipurudar districts in North Bengal and South 24 Parganas, Howrah, and Hooghly in the southern part of the State.

Little more than 1.15 crore voters would decide the fate of 373 candidates including 50 women on Saturday. About 69 lakh men, 56.94 lakh women and 293 members of the Third Gender would exercise their franchise in the fourth phase of elections.

Among the notable people whose luck would be tested on Saturday are Bengal Education Minister Partho Chatterjee, Union Minister and Asansol MP Babul Supriyo who is contesting against powerful Bengal Minister Arup Biswas, former Bengal Minister and turncoat BJP leader Rajib Banerjee, Hooghly MLA and minister Becharam Manna who is contesting from Singur, Howrah TMC leader and minister Arup Roy, Bengal Opposition

Leader Abdul Mannan, Left Legislature Party Leader Sujan Chakrabarty, CPI(M) politburo member and former MP Md Salim, BJP MP Locket Chatterjee who is contesting from Chinsura, former India cricketer Mano Tewari who is contesting from Shibpur, senior journalist Rantideb Sengupta and others.

Meanwhile, electoral violence continued in different parts of Bengal with two TMC supporters, one from Nandigram suc cumbing to their injuries on

There was midnight bedlam at Chetla are in posh South Kolkata barely a km away from Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's resi dence where hundreds of TMC and BJP supporters fought with brickbats leaving quite a few of them injured.

Alleged TMC men attacked vandalized and looted shops in Kasba area in south-eastern Kolkata, sources said adding the attackers were asking the people to remain indoors on the polling day. Elsewhere acting on secret information the police recov-ered a drum full of bombs at Bhangore in eastern fringes of Kolkata where the TMC and ISF are facing each other. At Dubrajpur in Birbhum district two hands of a person was blown up when he was making bombs He had been hospitalised, sources

## Tirath reverses Trivendra's decision, takes 51 temples out of Devasthanam board's control

**PTI** ■ HARIDWAR

 $R^{\text{eversing his predecessor's decision}}, \\ \text{Uttarakhand Chief Minister Tirath Singh}$ Rawat on Friday decided to remove the management of 51 temples from the control of the Char Dham Devasthanam Board and reconsider its formation.

"I have decided to take out of the Devasthanam Board's ambit 51 temples which had been brought under it," Rawat Rawat told reporters after a meeting with seers during the ongoing Kumbh Mela here. He added that the government will also review the decision to form the Board.

Set up during former Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat's term, the Devasthanam Board was assigned the management of 51 temples of the state, including the four famous Himalayan shrines of Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and

A fter having been in the NIA's custody for nearly four weeks, Mumbai's suspended

police officer Sachin Vaze was on Friday

remanded by a Special Court here to judicial

custody till April 23 in the twin explosive

laden SUV planting and alleged Manshuk

Taloja Central jail on a day when he allowed the CBI – which is conducting a

Preliminary Enquiry (PE) against

Maharashtra's former Home Minister Anil

Deshmukh in the alleged corruption case

access to diaries belonging to Sachin Vaze and convicted constable Vinayak Shinde

that were recovered earlier by the NIA. Earlier, the NIA did not press for the

extension of Vaze's custody when it produced him before the special NIA court which sent

Special Judge P. R. Sitre sent Vaze to the

Hiran murder cases.

The formation of the panel through legislation in December 2019 had not gone down well with the seers and 'teerth-purohits' who felt their traditional rights over the temples had suffered because of it. They had also complained that the state government had not taken them in confidence before taking such a major decision, directly affecting

Despite repeated assurances by former Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat that enough safeguards had been taken in the law bill to protect the rights of 'teerth-purohits', the priests in the state, including those in Uttarkashi, were agitated over the issue. Some of them even approached BJP leader Subramanian Swamy who later moved the Uttarakhand High Court challenging the government's decision to take over the control

## NIA Court sends Vaze to judicial custody till April 23 him to 14-day judicial custody.

Vaze was questioned for the third consecutive day in connection with allegations of corruption made by Mumbai's former police commissioner Param Bir Singh against he State's former Home Minister.

The Bombay High Court had on April 5 ordered a "Preliminary Enquiry" (PE) by the CBI into Singh's allegation that the then State Home Minister Deshmukh had asked Vaze in February to "collect" a staggering Rs 100 crore per month from bars, restaurants and other sources.

On Thursday, the Supreme Court dismissed petitions filed by the MVA government and Deshmukh challenging the High Court order instituting a "preliminary inquiry" by the CBI into the allegations of corruption made by the former police commissioner against the former State Home

## COVID-19

## Maha records 58,993 daily infections, 301 deaths; 10K cases in worst-hit Pune

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

¬he "active cases" in Pune, which The "active cases in rune, which is the country's worst Covid 19affected city, breached a grim landmark of one lakh, even the infections in Maharashtra shot up further to a staggering 58,993 on Friday, as 301 more succumbed to the pandemic in various parts of the State.

The situation in Pune, where a substantial number of cases is being reported on a daily for nearly one month, worsened further, as an alarming 10,083 cases were reported on Friday, taking the total number of infections in the city to 6,29,174.

With the substantial increase in

cases" shot past one lakh mark to touch 1,00,051. Similarly, 43 more deaths were recorded taking the total number of deaths to 8575.

A day after the new cases in Maharashtra dropped to 56,286 from the previous day's record tally of 59.507, the daily infections in the state jumped further to 58,993, while the deaths dropped to 301 from the previous day's tally of 376.

With 58,507 fresh infections, the total caseload in the state climbed from 32,29,547 to 32,88,540. Similarly, with 301 new deaths, the total Covid-19 toll rose from 57,028 to 57,329.

## RIMC only boarding school in India to remain functional during Covid pandemic

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

A hundred years ago, Rajwara Camp in Dehradun, which then trained young princes, had to shut down due to the Spanish flu pandemic. The 138-acre campus today is home to Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC), which probably is the only boarding school in the country to remain completely functional during the complete Covid 19 pandemic.

"As the news of the pandemic broke last spring, famous schools in the Doon valley shut down it was different at RIMC, which is a functioning military unit in addition to being a residential school," says Sidharth Mishra, publisher of The Rimcollian, the alumni newsletter of RIMC, which has carried a detailed report on the humungous

exercise in its March 2021 edition. The team led by Col Ajay Kumar), the

Commandant, Lt Col Gaurav Hamal, Lt Col Gyan Ranjan Sahu and the Academic Head Prashant Kumar Sharma decided to keep the wheels of RIMC turning without a squeak. This needed access control, keeping the routine close to normal, being med ically and administratively prepared and also assuage fears of the parents. Since the staff and faculty residing outside the campus were asked to stay out, the College was run on a skeleton staff, but all tasks were

completed in time and the exams for the Spring Term 2020 conducted efficiently and progress reports made well within time. Meals in Cadets Mess were staggered, dished out in the lawn as a buffet, ensuring social distancing and minimal interaction with the waiters.

## 700 post-shot adverse events under...

From page 1

Till now this blood clotting issue was not being investigated by Indian officials. In fact, out of the 617 instances of severe and serious AEFI, 492 have so far been classified on the basis of their severity, by the AEFI Secretariat of the Immunisation Technical Support Unit at the Union Health Ministry. Similarly, 124 of the 180 deaths have so far been classified for their

Of these 124 deaths, more than 63 (nearly 51 per cent) have been categorised as being caused due to acute coronary syndrome (a range of conditions associated with sudden, reduced blood flow to the heart), or heart attacks. Another 11 deaths (12 percent) are due to strokes. But now possible links of blood clot-

ting and vaccination, if any will be closely investigated, said the sources.

## **AIUDF sends 22** candidates to...

AIUDF sources said the candidates would visit Ajmer Sharif during their stay. They will be provided with separate mobile phones so that others cannot contact them, sources said.

The AIUDF is not taking any chances given past experiences. In the last Manipur elections, the Congress had bagged 28 of the 60 seats and the BJP had won 22 but it managed to cobble up the numbers as some MLAs defected and form the Government. Congress's chief whip in the Rajasthan Assembly, Mahesh Joshi said, "We will take care of people coming here. We don't know from which political party they belong but there are around 20 peo-ple who have contested in the ongoing assembly elections in Assam from Opposition camp. The Congress will bear all their expenses. Till BJP is at the Centre, there will always be a possibility of buying MLAs."
Assam, where the BJP came to power in the last

elections, has completed the electioneering process in three phases between March 27 and April 6. The results will be declared along with the poll results in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry.

## Prince...

From page 1

During his 1961 visit to India, he was pictured with the Queen and the Maharaja and Maharani of Jaipur with a dead eight-foot tiger he had shot while on a hunt. It happened to be the same year he became president of the World Wildlife Fund UK.

He also shot a crocodile and mountain sheep on that trip but it was the photograph of the tiger that caused ripples around the world.

Later in life, he went on to reinvent himself as an environmentalist and "champion of the natural world" as UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson referred to him in his tribute on Friday. During Prince Philip's last visit to India to mark the 50th anniversary of independence in 1997, he joined the

निविदा व्र

दिनांक

1/30.03.202

32/30.03.202

33/30.03.2021

34/30.03.2021

R.O. No:- 60124/11

R.O. Date: - 08/04/2021

Bagh in Amritsar where the royals laid a commemorative wreath at the site associated with General Dyer's orders to gathering in April 1919. As someone known for his

gaffes, among his many infamous ones includes his query of the death toll at the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. Two thousand? It wasn't, was it," he questioned, as he passed by a plaque at the memorial, which read "This place is saturated with the blood of about two thousand Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims who were martyred in a non-violent struggle".

"That's wrong. I was in the Navy with Dyer's son. That's a bit exaggerated... it must include the wounded," he is reported to have said.

Among his other gaffes included a quip at Indian-origin entrepreneur Atul Patel during a Buckingham Palace reception for hundreds of suc-

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता,

लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खंड बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

ः ऑन लाईन निविदाा आमंत्रण सूचना ः

बिलासपुर जिले के विकासखण्ड कोटा के ग्राम मटसगरा, करगीखुर्द में जल

जीवन मिशन अंतर्गत रेट्रोफिटिंग ग्राम नल जल प्रदाय योजना अंतर्गत सम्पूण

बिलासपर जिले के विकासखण्ड कोटा के ग्राम आमागोहन, सोनपुरी केंदा मे

जल जीवन मिशन अंतर्गत रेट्रोफिटिंग ग्राम नल जल प्रदाय योजना अंतर्गत

बिलासपुर जिले के विकासखण्ड मस्तूरी के ग्राम खांडा, लुथरा में जल जीव-

मिशन अंतर्गत रेट्रोफिटिंग ग्राम नल जल प्रदाय योजना अंतर्गत सम्पूर्ण कार्य

अन्य विवरण एवं विस्तृत निविदा छ.ग. शासन के ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट वेबसाइट https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in पर दिनांक

07.04.2021 सुबह 10.30 बजे से उपलब्ध है तथा दिनांक 28.04.2021 समय 17.30 तक बीड डाले जा सकते हैं। एवं अन्य विवरण

बिलासपुर जिले के विकासखण्ड मस्तूरी के ग्राम एरमसाही, परसदाकिसान, टिकारी में जल जीवन मिशन अंतर्गत रेट्रोफिटिंग ग्राम नल जल प्रदाय

योजना अंतर्गत सम्पूर्ण कार्य (सलग्न शेड्यूल अनुसार)

कार्यालयीन समय पर लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खंड बिलासपुर (छ.ग.) में देखे जा सकते हैं।

कार्य (सलग्न शेड्यूल अनुसार)

(सलग्न शेड्यूल अनुसार)

सम्पूर्ण कार्य (सलग्न शेड्यूल अनुसार)

"There's a lot of your family in

Ten years earlier, while inspecting a factory in open fire on a large Baisakhi Edinburgh and coming across an old-fashioned fuse box, he said: "It looks as if it was put in by an Indian."

It had become common practice for the UK media to regularly compile a list of the Duke's many gaffes, many of which were believed to have been made in a light-hearted

Philip was born on June 10, 1921, on the Greek island of Corfu, the youngest child and only son of Prince Andrew of Greece and Princess Alice of Battenberg. That heritage made him a Prince of Greece and Denmark, but the following year the family was expelled from Greece after a coup and a British warship carried them to safety in Italy with baby

151.70

His childhood was turbu-

घरोहर राशि

113800.00

कार्यपालन अभियंता

बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खंड

eight years old, his mother was committed to a secure psychiatric centre after suffering a nervous breakdown, a story most recently covered in

the Netflix series 'The Crown'. When Philip left school in Scotland, Britain was on the verge of war with Germany and he joined the Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth, the UK's naval academy. He went on to serve with distinction in World War II, seeing military action for the first time in the Índian Ocean.

When King George VI paid an official visit to the naval academy in July 1939, Philip was charged with entertaining his young daughters, Princesses Elizabeth — later to be Queen and Margaret. He made an impression on the then 13-year-old Elizabeth and the couple were to later get married after a courtship through let-

The erstwhile Prince of Greece and Denmark became a naturalised British subject, formally joined the Church of England and gave up his foreign titles. On his wedding day, November 20, 1947, he was made Duke of Edinburgh, aged

The couple's marriage was to last 73 years, during which the Queen described him as her "strength and stay", and they had four children - the eldest and heir to the throne Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew, and Prince Edward. He is also survived by eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. As the Queen's consort,

his primary function was to support his wife and he accompanied her extensively alongside his own royal charities and patronages until his retirement from royal duties in 2017.

executed with the same efficiency.

To ensure social distancing, classes were held in open spaces, the syllabus was

## Covid +ve after both doses!

From page 1

Similarly, in the case of Covid-19, vaccines are giving a sense of security, which has led to an increase in risky behaviour. Such behaviour includes low adherence to preventive measures like mask usage, social distancing and hand

While it is a known fact that vaccines neither give immediate protection or full protection (against infection or death), the sense of security, unfortunately, starts much earlier, even before the actual

of people being inoculated gives rise to a "misplaced sense of security in "herd immunity" long before widespread immunity is truly present," said doctors from New York University's Langone Health in a comprehensive review of the Peltzman Effect, published in the ACP Journals on March 2. "Consciously or not, even those who have not received a Covid-19 vaccine may forgo masks and social distancing if they know that others are receiving the vaccine," the doctors added.

## Mamata...

*From page 1* He added the way she was appealing to minority voters to come together and vote for the TMC "indicates that their minority vote bank is also slipping away."

Earlier the ECI sent a second notice to the Chief Minister for using "provocative and intemperate language" against the Central forces which it said had been "working diligently" since the 1980s towards conducting free and fair elections.

Referring to the Chief Minister's allegations that the Central forces were dancing to the tunes of the Home Minister and that they were trying to influence the voters into voting for the BJP the Commission faulted her for making "... prima facie, completely false, provocative

and intemperate statements," with an intention "to berate and vilify Central Paramilitary Forces during the electoral process." She said such remarks were "causing extreme demoralisation amongst ranks and file of these forces....

Mamata who

addressing a rally at Jamalpur in Burdwan East, however, remained defiant saying she would continue to criticise the Central forces till they did not stop working for the BJP.

"I always respect the Central forces. They are not bad people. The problem is with the people up there who are controlling them ... I will continue speaking against the CPF until they stop working for the BJP. Once they stop doing that, I will salute them. do not care about your (EC's) show cause letters." The Chief Minister said responding to the EC notice.

'You are working at the behest of the BJP. I wonder why there is no MCC violation when the PM campaigns on polling days," Mamata

Attacking the CPF, Chief Minister had earlier asked the women supporters of her party in a public rally to "gherao and blockade the Central forces which are working in favour of the Home Ministry ...while the women will keep them captive the others can go and cast their votes ... do this everywhere so that your voting rights are not wasted."

The BJP leadership saw in her statement an attempt to

create anarchy by provoking the general public into attacking the forces prompting the CPF to fire in self defence generating, in turn, a sympathy wave for the Trinamool

Congress. The Commission earlier sent her a notice for making communal remarks during campaigns when she asked the Muslim voters to unite and vote for her. To that letter, Mamata said, "Send 10 notices to me but I do not care," asking why you do not send notices to Narendra Modi who is making statements dividing the Hindus and Muslims regularly? Why don't you send notices to the BJP leaders (read Suvendu Adhikari) who called the Muslims of Nandigram Pakistanis.

Back in Kolkata Shah who on Friday reiterated that his party would win 63 to 68 seats out of 91 that went to polls in the first three rounds said Bengal would get its due after the BJP would come to power winning more than 200 seats.

He said that the endeavours to make Sonar Bangla Abhiyan would commence from Kolkata pledging once again Rs 22,000 crore development package for the city. 'Kolkata will remain the 'City

of Joy' & we will also work to transform it into 'City of Future'. We will make an Rs 22,000 crore Kolkata Development Fund for infra-

structural strengthening.
Shah also rolled out plans for North Bengal, particularly its biggest city Siliguri saying the BJP Government would work towards constructing a metro railway in North Bengal city. "We will consider constructing Metro services in Siliguri besides setting up a IT park here. We will also release a fund of Rs 100 crore for a tea park" he said in addition to making a number of other promises.

Shah on Friday took part in two roadshows at Jagatdal and Madhyamgram in North



I, Vandana W/o Naresh Kumar

R/o 9/309 Sector-3 Rajendra Nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad-UP have changed my name to Vandana Bansal for all purpose. PD(8976)C

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# CM enquires about docs who test +ve after jab

Keiriwal meets Sir Ganga Ram Hospital's head

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday met the chairman of Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Dr DS Rana, at his

residence, where he inquired about the health of the 37 doctors appointed at the hospital who have tested positive for Corona.

Rajendra Nagar MLA

sent in the meeting.

Kejriwal said, "Our doctors have been at the forefront fighting Coronavirus. I pray for a swift recovery of all the doctors who



pital can reach out to the Delhi tors who tested positive, most government at any of them are asymptomatic and point, if and when have been recommended home required, and we will isolation. 4-5 doctors, who provide them with all have observed serious sympthe help possible." toms, have been admitted to During the meet-ing, the CM was the hospitals and are taken care

positive cases in the last few days. Delhi has been observing a spike in the number of Corona positive cases, with 7,437 people testing positive against 91770 tests being conducted on Thursday.

# wheat at MSP in Delhi, alleges Rai



Delhi Agriculture Minister Gopal Rai on Friday visit-ed Narela Mandi after receiving a series of complaints from farmers of the food grains not being procured at 'Minimum Support Price' (MSP).

to check the situation on ground and found that FCI did not even set up a counter

## have been apprised by the president and secretary of the

Centre should stop harassing farmers and purchase food grains by setting up counters in To resolve the matter, he

Mandi and found not even a

single counter of the FCI. The

will hold a meeting with senior officials of FCI in Delhi Secretariat on Saturday, he "It is highly unfortunate

that such a system has been created to trouble farmers. I would like to say to the union government that today farmers are fighting for their rights and they know that once the three farm laws are implemented,

## FCI not procuring Schools for Class I-VIII to remain closed until April 30: Haryana CM

The Haryana Government has decided to shut schools for classes 1 to 8 till April 30 in view of the Covid-19 situation.

This was announced by Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Friday. Khattar was present in Gurugram on Friday to chair

an annual meeting of the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority "We are monitoring the

situation in the state and are focusing on testing instead of 'Night curfew' or 'Lockdown'. In the coming days the government will increase testing at the market places, malls, bus stands, railway stations to curb infections. We don't need to panic in view of the surge in

teachers in different districts tested positive for coronavirus. Government school stu-

dents from several districts had recently tested positive for coronavirus infection after which these schools had been closed until further orders.

The students who were asymptomatic too had tested positive during a random sam-

pling drive carried out by the health department for the

Earlier, the state government had allowed classes from 3 to 12 to open in phased manner with the prior consent of

Meanwhile, the state is witnessing a surge in the cases of COVID-19.



## Man shot at by criminal in Dayalpur

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

23-year-old man was Ainjured after he was shot at by an alleged criminal in northeast Delhi's Dayalpur area.

The victim has been identified as Sahil, a resident of Nehru Vihar area.

According to a senior police official, Sahil had sustained a gunshot wound in his left leg and was admitted to the Jag Pravesh Chandra Hospital.

"Initially, Sahil accused two other persons for the incident, but when he was examined in detail upon being discharged from the hospital he told that a person named Farooq was behind the whole episode," said the senior police official.

"Farooq is a criminal of the area whose motive was to implicate others in the crime. On Thursday around 5 pm, Farooq allegedly shot at Sahil and later informed the police himself. A case has been registered and probe is underway," said the senior police official.

#### The Minister visited mandi Covid-19 cases. We should work hard to fight against they will have to face a lot of trouble. Today a farmer is Covid-19 and need to follow being sent from one place to another for MSP. No purchascovid guidelines," Khattar said. re. ing was done in the godown till Rai said "We decided to today," he added. The decision comes after many school students and

Two held for robbing people using monkeys

The Delhi Police has arrested two men for allegedly using monkeys to threaten and rob people in south Delhi's Malviya Nagar area. The accused duo, Balwan

Nath (26) and Vikram Nath (23), who are residents of Okhla Mor in the city.

According to Atul Kumar akur, the Deputy Thakur, Commissioner of Police (DCP), South district, the duo

bus stand with their two monkeys when the police team nabbed them on Thursday.

"The two monkeys have been deposited with Wildlife SOS centre. The accused, , along with their third associate, Ajay used monkeys to threaten people and rob them of their valuables," said the DCP adding efforts are being taken to catch hold of Ajay, who is still absconding.

"The accused men had

Tughlakabad Fort jungle around three months ago. The matter came to light on March 2, when an advocate from Khirki Extension reported that three men carrying monkeys surrounded them and forcefully robbed Rs 6,000 from

"When the lawyer was sitting in an auto-rickshaw, the duo made the monkeys sit inside the vehicle with one in the front and the other at the

him," said the DCP.

money from him. When the advocate took out the wallet, the duo robbed him and escaped," said the DCP. A case was registered

under Indian Penal Code Sections 392 (punishment for robbery) and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) at Malviya Nagar police station and since it was a peculiar incident involving monkeys, a dedicated team was constituted to

"Further, relevant provisions of the Wildlife Protection

Act, 1972 were added against the accused in the case. The team scanned through several CCTV footages and conducted raids in and around Delhi based on inputs from sources and informers," said the

"On Thursday, a police team got a tip-off that two men with monkeys were present at Chirag Delhi bus stand who

5 held for kidnapping

earlier and could commit further thefts. We acted upon the information and apprehended them along with the two monkeys," said the DCP. "During interrogation, the

duo confessed to their involvement in the incident along with their associate Ajay who is absconding. The arrested accused are being further interrogated for their other involvements if any," the DCP



LoP in Delhi Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, along with BJP MLAs, addresses a Press Conference on an important issue in New Delhi on Friday

## 23-year-old man shot in Mandawali

23-year-old man was shot Adead by two unidentified assailants in east Delhi's Mandawali area.

The deceased has been identified as Farman, a resident of the Welcome area

Deepak Yadav, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), East district, Farman was shot at by two unknown assailants on Thursday

The man was taken to a nearby hospital, where he died during treatment. A case under

relevant sections of the IPC has been registered at Mandawali Police Station and a probe into the matter is underway," the

DCP said.

Police said the CCTV footage of surrounding areas is being checked to ascertain the identity of the accused persons.

3-yr-old girl in Raj Park **STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI pm, her daughter was playing

The Delhi Police has arrested five people, including a couple, in connection with the alleged kidnapping of a threeyear-old girl in outer Delhi's . Raj Park area.

The accused have been identified as Ravi (26), his wife Santosh (25), Mahesh (25), Guddan (26) and Ramprasad (36). Police said that the child was safely recovered and handed over to her parents. An amount of Rs 84,500 was also recovered from the accused," said police.

According to Parvinder agh, the Deputy Deputy Singh, Commissioner of Police (DCP), Outer district, on Tuesday, the victim's mother reported that at around 8.30

with other children in a park in front of her house while she was busy with household work and subsequently, she went

"A case was registered and while scanning through the footage obtained from over 50 CCTV cameras, the police noticed a couple carrying a child. The couple were identified as Ravi and his wife Santosh and they were nabbed on April 7, but the child could not be found at their residence in outer Delhi's Mangolpuri," said the DCP.

"During interrogation, Santosh told the police that he had got a job as a patient attendant at a house through Mahesh, who works as a ward boy at a private hospital, but

lost his job and was in a financial crisis. When he approached Mahesh for help, the latter offered him Rs 50,000 if he could arrange for a child aged up to five years," said the DCP.

after the patient recovered, he

"When Mahesh was questioned, he disclosed that Ram Prasad, who also works as a ward boy with him at the hospital, asked him to arrange for a child for adoption for his sister Guddan, who is separated from her husband and is under mental depression. Mahesh made a plan to kidnap a child through Ravi and Santosh and demanded Rs one Lakh for the same from Ram Prasad. After the girl was kidnapped, she was handed over to Guddan in exchange for the promised cash," said the DCP.

## Begumpur best police station of

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police Commissioner SN Shrivastava on Friday presented "Certificate of Excellence" to Station House Officer (SHO) of Begumpur police station, Inspector Jai Bhagwan, for being selected as the best police station of Delhi among top 10 police stations of India 2020.

"The ranking is done on the basis of prefixed parameters by the Ministry of Home Affairs annually, and are conducted to incentivise effective functioning of police stations and bring healthy competition among them," said Chinmoy Biswal, the Public Relation Officer (PRO) of Delhi Police.

"The surveys were conducted across the country, and the police stations were selected based on data analysis, direct observation and public feedback. The survey team also randomly visited various areas -- Rajiv Nagar, Jain Nagar,



Begumpur falling under the jurisdiction of Begumpur police station and recorded citizens' feedback. They also noticed checking being conducted at the pickets and observed the actual on ground

situation," said Biswal. The survey team further

analysed the CCTNS (Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems) entries and Records of Police Station. They visited the Malkhanas as well as inspected the basic amenities for visitors, waiting areas, toilets, drinking water, public facilitation desks, barracks, separate rooms for women constable, safety and security of armoury and other parameters as per the standards for best police station, and adjudged Begumpur as the best police station in Delhi,"

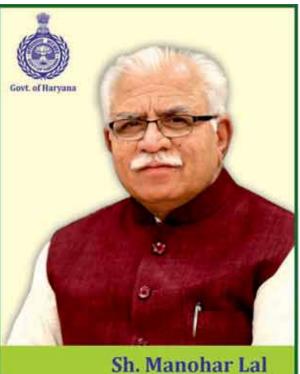
Biswal added. "To bolster effective policing, staff of Begumpur police station in coordination with members of public got installed around 400 CCTV cameras in 2019-2020. Inspector Jai Bhagwan, SHO Begampur also took an initiative to involve good Samaritans and youth in order to control crime," said

Bsiwal. "A gang of snatchers and robbers was apprehended by team of Begumpur police station actively involved in committing crime in Sector 37, Rohini through active engage-

ment of youth who participated in police patrolling during evening and night hours for 20-25 days," said the PRO. "The police team of

Begumpur police station has also taken several initiatives to promote community friendly policing like Child friendly room, redressing the complaints of vulnerable sections on a priority basis and stringent action against gangsters and property offenders while being accessible for public," said Biswal.





Chief Minister, Haryana

## Farmers' welfare is our prime objective



Under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, insurance claim of Rs.3953.43 crore to 17.08 lakh farmers



Under Mukhyamantri Bagwani Bima Yojana, farmers will have to pay a reduced premium amount of only 2.5 percent



Hassle free crop procurement, payment of purchase direct into bank accounts of farmers



For accessible information about agricultural produce 81 Mandis linked to e-NAM, 32 Mandis will be linked soon



To provide fair price to farmers for their produce, 2000 'Har-Hith' Stores to be opened soon by Haryana Agro



1000 Farmer Producer Organisations (F.P.O.) will be established

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# Rahul seeks moratorium on vaccine export



PNS NEW DELHI

 $F^{ormer\ Congress\ president}_{Rahul\ Gandhi\ on\ Friday}$ wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, demanding an immediate moratorium on Covid-19 vaccine exports and opening up of the vaccination to "everyone who needs it".

Rahul also asked for a provision of a direct income support to the vulnerable sections amid the disastrous second wave of Covid-19 in India, as he extended his support to the vaccination programme. "I humbly request you to provide vaccine suppliers with necessary resources to increase manufacturing capacity and place an immediate moratorium on vaccine export," Rahul Gandhi said in his letter to the Prime

"Open up vaccination to everyone who needs it," he demanded, seeking fast-track-ing of approval of other vaccines as per norms and guidelines. He also asked the Prime Minister to double the central allocation for vaccine procurement from the existing ₹35,000 crore and give State



"Was the export of vaccines

"Our vaccination pro-

gram has to move beyond an

picture on the vaccine certifi-

ndividual's

vaccine procurement and dis-

His suggestions came a y after Prime Minister Modi said vaccines will have to be prioritised due to limited supply and lamented that some people were playing politics on the issue. Questioning the Government for permitting large-scale exports of vaccines, he said, "While our nation is facing vaccine starvation, more than six crore doses of vaccines have been exported."

The Gandhi scion alleged that the state governments were repeatedly highlighting vaccine shortages only to receive intemperate statements by the union health minister. He accused the health minister of targeting Opposition-ruled states and undercutting cooperative federalism.

also an 'oversight', like many other decisions of this government, or an effort to garner publicity at the cost of our own citizens," he asked. Stressing that his party supports a wellplanned, universalised and speedy vaccination drive, he

> cate, towards guaranteeing maximum vaccination." Expressing concern over the rising cases of the coronavirus, the former Congress chief said that over the last year, the country suffered irrepara-

sacrifices, and yet, it is under a renewed attack by this virus. "This is unfortunate con-

sidering our scientific

ble losses, made tremendous

community and vaccine suppliers worked overtime to develop a solution but their efforts are undermined by the Centre's poor implementation and 'oversight'," he said. Lamenting that the vaccination drive is slow, Rahul Gandhi claimed at the current rate, it would take years to inoculate 75 per cent of the population.

"This will have catastrophic effects and will gravely decelerate India's economy," he

Hours after Rahul wrote to the PM, hitting back, senior Ravi Shankar Prasad took to Twitter to counter Rahul's allegations and mentioned, "Rahul Gandhi must know that shortage in Congress-ruled states is

vaccines but of basic commit-ment towards healthcare." "He

## Ex-Cong president facing attention starvation: Ravi Shankar Prasad

PNS NEW DELHI

Taking a swipe at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for saying that country is witnessing "vaccine starvation", Senior BJP leader Ravi Shankar Presed on Eriday and it is not a senior to the say of the sa Prasad on Friday said it is not India that is facing vaccine starvation but "Shri Gandhi is facing attention starvation."

Former Congress president has in a letter to Prime Minister demanded that export of vaccines be immediately be halted "amidst domestic short-

Hitting back at the Congress leader, Prasad accused Rahul of lobbying for pharma companies "by asking for arbitrary approvals for foreign vaccines.

"Why has Rahul Gandhi not yet taken vaccine? Is it an oversight or he doesn't want it

should write letters to his party's governments to stop their vasooli' (extortion) ventures and concentrate on administering the lakhs of vaccines they are sitting on," he said.

India is not facing vaccine

or has he already taken one in many of his undisclosed trips to foreign locations but doesn't want to disclose?", Tweeted Prasad in an aside.

"After failing as a part-time politician, has Rahul Gandhi switched to full-time lobbying? First, he lobbied for fighter plane companies by trying to derail India's acquisition programme. Now he is lobbying for pharma companies by asking for arbitrary approvals for foreign vaccines", said the

Union minister. Prasad claimed that Rahul does not have proper understandings of the strategy that needed to be adopted to counter the Coronavirus pandemic in the country.

"Fighting a pandemic is not a one trick game. Apart from vaccination, there needs to be adequate focus on testing,

starvation but Gandhi is facing "attention starvation", Prasad

"Why has Rahul Gandhi not yet taken vaccine? Is it an oversight or he doesn't want it or has he already taken one in

many of his undisclosed trips to foreign locations but doesn't want to disclose?" he posed.

tracing & treating. Rahul Gandhi's problem is that he doesn't understand all this and

his ignorance is compounded

by his arrogance", said the BJP

shortage of vaccine in the

that shortage in Congress-ruled

states is not of vaccines but of

basic commitment towards

his party's Governments to stop

their vasooli ventures & con-

centrate on administering the

lakhs of vaccines they r sitting

of vaccine supply in the coun-

try and it's supply to foreign

nations, Maharashtra Shiv Sena

headed Government which is

currently draggers drawn with

Amidst the talk of shortage

upon", said the Minister.

Congress-ruled states.

Prasad denied charge of

"Rahul Gandhi must know

"He should write letters to

leader.

health care.

"After failing as a part-time politician, has Rahul Gandhi switched to full-time

lobbying? First, he lobbied for

ing to derail India's acquisition programme. Now he is lobbying for pharma companies by asking for arbitrary approvals for foreign vaccines," Prasad said.

Bumper sowing of

Kharif in 3 States

despite Assembly polls

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Despite Assembly polls, three States—West Bengal,

Tamil Nadu and Assam has

managed record sowing of

summer kharif crops — rice

and pulses—so far. Of the total

38.80 lakh hectare area sown

under rice acorss the country,

West Bengal contributed 10.42

lakh hectare under rice plan-

tation; Assam 2.61 lakh hectare

and Tamil Nadu 1.76 lakh

fighter plane companies by try-

accused the Modi-Government of showing bias against non-BJP-ruled states in the supply of vaccines. Maharashtra is the worst affected State in the country with the highest positive cases in the country.

The charge was denied by Union Minister Pralhad Javadekar on Thursday when he said 23 lakh does were available with the Maharashtra government on a daily basis and the latter needs to efficiently distribute them in the State, he

The second surge in Coronavirus cases have made it more so necessary that a majority of the population of all age groups get the vaccine jab as soon as possible and that would require an uninterrupted supply of vaccine does and speedy reduction in their wastage.

## EC sends notice to Mamata for making demoralising barbs on Central forces

The Election Commission The Election Community (EC) has sent a notice to West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress leader Mamata Banerjee for her "highly objectionable" statements about Central paramilitary forces on election duties in the State saying her remarks are demoralising the personnel. Among the statements cited by the EC in its notice was her appeal to women voters to "gherao" Central forces if they caused disturbance to voting. The Chief Minister has been asked to respond to the notice by 11 am on Saturday. This is the second time that a notice has been issued to Banerjee by the poll

body.

The EC said prima facie, the completely false, provocaments by Banerjee attempted to berate and vilify central paramilitary forces during the electoral process. Citing statements by Mamata, the notice said: "...prima facie, completely false, provocative and intemperate statements made by Ms. Mamata Banerjee, Chairperson of AITC, who is



Bengal, to berate and vilify Central Paramilitary Forces during the electoral process, are causing extreme demoralisation amongst the ranks and file of these forces...

The EC said it found Banerjee statements to be in violation of the Model Code of Conduct as well as Sections 186 (voluntarily obstructing public servant from discharging public functions), 189 vant) and 505 (making a statement with intent to incite any class or community of persons to commit an offence against any other class or community) of the Indian Penal Code.

The EC notice said "It is more than obvious that Ms Mamata Banerjee, Chairperson of AITMC, has been consistent Thursday night said the West

in berating and demoralising the Central para-military forces, who often played a significant role in assisting the concerned state government and governments of union territories in restoration of law and order and/or as and when requisitioned by the State Governments etc. in their day

to day functioning also. "In fact, Banerjee is sparing no effort to ensure that a deep wedge and drift is creatbound to have serious consequential damages after the process of election is over. It is extremely unfortunate that the political battles are thus sought to be fought in this manner instead of being fought in the campaign trail," it said.

The notice issued on

#### In an election rally on Thursday, Mamata claimed that Central forces on poll duty in **West Bengal were** working under the instructions of the Centre

Bengal Chief Minister's barbs and false accusations are vilifying the very forces "who have been rendering a yeoman service since late 80s, election after election, and have made a commendable contribution especially in ensuring area domination and causing deterrence for anti-social hooligans by their sheer presence, thereby playing a major role in assisting the ECI to conduct free, fair, transparent and accessible elections".

Making it a point to record its appreciation of the Central forces, EC said they have invariably done commendable job on the duties assigned to them in all sectors, to the extent of laying down their lives, the most recent being the tragic episode of Bijapur, be placed on record that they and many other ministries and departments of the Union government and departments of state governments assist the ECI for the conduct of elections. But the praiseworthy role of central forces in ensuring free, fair, transparent and accessible elections merits a special mention," it stated.

In a strongly worded notice, the poll body deemed the statements made by the TMC supremo on March 28 and April 7 as an attempt to "berate and vilify Central Paramilitary Forces during the electoral process." This, it adds, was "causing extreme demoralisation amongst the ranks and file of these forces."

The EC notice said a delegation of TMC leaders had alleged during Commission's visit to West Bengal in February 21 that Border Security Force personnel were intimidating villagers living along the border to vote for a particular party. The EC said the delegation was asked to give empirical evidence of the allegation, but it did not do

In an election rally on Thursday, Mamata claimed that central forces on poll duty in West Bengal were working under the instructions of the Central Government. Mamata also accused the forces of committing atrocities on villagers and harassing women. Addressing a public meeting Alipurduar district, the TMC boss also accused the Election Commission of turning a blind eye to the "excesses" of the CRPF, CISF, BSF and the ITBP.

The poll body on Wednesday issued a notice to Mamata for "openly demanding votes on communal grounds". The Trinamool Congress (TMC) chief has been directed to explain her remarks within 48 hours of receipt of the notice, failing which the commission would take a decision without further reference to her.

## No fresh Covid-19 case reported in 149 dists in a week, says Harsh Vardhan

PNS NEW DELHI

No fresh Covid-19 case has been reported in 149 districts in a week, while eight have not registered any new infection in a fortnight, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said on Friday even as ten States -Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Rajasthan have shown a steep rise accounting for 83.29 percent of the new

Chairing the 24th meeting

of the high-level Group of Ministers (GoM) on Covid-19 through a video link, he said more than 9.43 crore vaccine doses have been administered in the country till Friday morning.

More than three crore vaccine jabs have been administered to senior citizens, the health minister said.

"India has also supported the global community through Vaccine Maitri', under which 6.45 crore doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been sent to 85

"While 3.58 crore doses

have been supplied to 25 countries under commercial contracts, 1.04 crore doses have been sent to 44 nations as grants, and 1.82 crore to 39 countries under COVAX," Vardhan was quoted as saying in a statement.

The Minister said that there has been no fresh COVID-19 case in 149 districts in the last seven days. Eight districts have not reported any fresh case in the last 14 days, no new infection in three districts in the last 21 days and none in 63 districts in the last 28 days.

Similarly, in oilseed cultivation, West Bengal reported 2.61 lakh hectare while Tamil Nadu 0.61 lakh hectare. Sowing of summer crops is in full swing despite an increase in the number of Covid-19 cases, with the area expanding by 16.4% from last year to 6.78

million hectares. As per data released by the Ministry of Agriculture on Friday, total summer crops has hectare area against 58.26 lakh hectare during the corresponding period of last year, thus increase in total summer area coverage by 9.61 lakh hectare compared to corresponding period of last year in

the country. Sowing reported under Pulses 8.68 lakh hectare against 5.72 lakh hectare area of last year i.e. increase in area coverage by 2.96 lakh hectare. Area coverage under Coarse Cereals reported on 10.86 lakh hectare area against 8.54 lakh hectare area of last year i.e. increase in area coverage by 2.33 lakh hectare in the country. Area coverage reported under Oilseeds 9.53 lakh hectare area against 7.96 lakh hectare area of last year, thus increase in area coverage by 1.57 lakh hectare. Area coverage reported under Rice on 38.80 lakh hectare area against

Summer crops are planted during March-May, the intervening period between rabi and kharif season which starts with monsoon in June. "The trend of summer sowing progress is very good as on date. Besides, the prospect of rabi crops is also very good in the country. There is no impact of COVID-19 pandemic situation on progress of area coverage under summer crops in the country," officials said.

36.05 lakh hectare area of last

year i.e. increase in area cov-

erage by 2.75 lakh hectare.

Harvesting of wheat and other rabi crops have been completed in 65.05 per cent of the total 697 lakh hectares sown area during 2020-21 rabi season, according to data released by the agriculture ministry on Friday. Harvesting of rabi (winter) crops begins from March. The main rabi crop is wheat.

Wheat crop has been harvested in 135.85 lakh hectares,43.02 per cent of the estimated total cultivated area of 315.77 lakh hectares during the rabi season of the 2020-21 crop year (July-June).

## K'taka, HP join 15 other States, UTs in imposing night curfew

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

s the daily caseload has Abreached the one lakh mark for the fifth consecutive day, Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh on Friday joined the list of 15 States and Union Territories which have imposed restrictions in the form of night curfews, weekend lockdown and related curbs to combat the rapid transmission of coronavirus infections.

Karnataka has imposed

corona curfews (night curfews) Bengaluru, Mysuru, Mangaluru, Kalaburagi, Bidar, Tumkuru, Udupi-Manipal till April 20 while Himachal Pradesh has closed all education institutions till April 20. Chhattisgarh's Raipur has been in complete lockdown for 10 days. Bihar has closed all schools for a week. According to Pratyaya Amrit, Principal Secy (Disaster Management), Bihar. all shops are permitted to open till 7pm. Restaurants, Dhabas & hotels are exempted & can function on 25% seating capacity. Cinema hall, public transportation can function on 50% occupancy.

Maharashtra, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Chandigarh, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu Kashmir, Odisha, Rajasthan, Punjab, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are among those states and UTs which have been forced to reintroduce lockdown-like curbs. Through the week, weekend lockdowns have been imposed in parts of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh, while Delhi, Puniab, major cities in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and urban areas of Rajasthan have announced night curfews. Almost all states have limited the capacity of restaurants and

bars and banned public events. In Karnataka, all the public religious services in Churches, Chapels & institutions of Bangalore's Urban & Rural districts of Archdiocese will be suspended from 7th to 20th April. However, Churches/Chapels

The UP Government has announced night curfew in Gautam Budh Nagar, and Ghaziabad from 10 pm to 5 am till April 17.

Government imposed a night curfew in all "urban areas" of the state. Tamil Nadu government has barred all religious events and festival-gatherings have

ment has announced a lock-Fearing another lockdown, many migrant workers and their families have started proceeding to the hometowns. The Chandigarh adminis-

tration has announced a night curfew in the city from 10 pm to 5 am until further notice. Punjab has declared a series of restrictions including night curfew across the whole state -- up from the earlier 12 districts -from 9 pm to 5 am. All political, social, cultural or sports gatherings have been banned for now. The MP Government also announced a lockdown in urban areas of all districts on every Sunday till further orders.

Delhi government has imposed a seven-hour night curfew from 10 pm to 5 am, till April 30 to curb the spread of the coronavirus cases in the national Capital. People will require a soft or hard copy of the e-pass to travel during curfew hours. The e-pass can be obtained from the Delhi government's website www.delhi.gov.in. Punjab has

the state till April 30. Maharashtra Government

maybe kept open for private visits and adoration. Jammu and Kashmir has imposed night curfew in eight districts including Jammu, Kupwara, Anantnag and Srinagar till further order.

Madhya Pradesh

been barred till further orders. The Chhattisgarh governdown in the Raipur district with effect from April 9 to 19.

extended night curfew across

has imposed a night curfew from 8 pm to 7 am till April 30. There will also be a weekend lockodown all through the month. All shops, malls and markets, except those selling

groceries, medicines and vegetables, will remain closed till April 30. Cinemas, multiplexes, theatres, video parlours, clubs, swimming pools, sports complexes, auditoriums, water parks, salons, beauty parlours and spas will remain shut during the period. Restaurants and bars will also remain closed except those that are part of a hotel but round-the-clock take-

aways have been allowed.

In Gujarat, the Rupani Government has imposed a curfew from 8 pm to 6 am in 20 cities of the State. The restrictions were earlier in force from 9 pm to 6 am in Ahmedabad Surat, Vadodara and Rajkot cities in Gujarat. The cities where the curfew is being imposed are Ahmedabad, Surat Vadodara, Rajkot, Jamangar, Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Gandhinagar, Anand, Nadiad, Mehasana, Morbi, Dahod, Patan, Godhra, Bhuj, Gandhidham, Bharuch, Surendranagar and Amreli. The Government has also banned political or social gatherings till April 30 and has further reduced the number of guests at a marriage ceremony to 100. Government offices will remain closed every Saturday and Sunday in April.

Odisha has extended the night curfew from 10 PM to 5 am in 10 districts which include Sundergarh, Bargarh, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Balangir, Nuapada, Kalahandi, Malkangiri, Koraput and

Nabarangpur. Rajasthan has also imposed a night curfew and ordered the closure of multiplexes, gymnasiums till April 19. The night curfew will remain in force from 8 pm to 6 am. Dining at restaurants and hotels during the curfew hours has been prohibited but home delivery of food has been allowed.

Karnataka announced night curfew in six cities including capital Bengaluru and Mysuru even as Tamil Nadu banned on all religious gatherings from April 10 till April 30.

# Chola

Date: 09/04/2021

Place: Delhi

## Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited

Corporate Office: 1st Floor, 'Dare House', No.2, N.S.C. Bose Road, Chennai-600 001 Branch Office: Plot No.6, 2nd Floor, Pusa Road, New Delhi - 110 005.

## POSSESSION NOTICE Under Rule 8 (1)

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 hereinafte called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13[12] read with Rules 9 of the Security Interest [Enforcement] Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column [B] below on dates specified in Column [C] to repay the outstanding amount indicated in Column [D] below with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties mortgaged with the Company described in Column [E] herein below on the respective dates mentioned in Column [F] in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13[4] of the Act read with Rule 9 of the Rules made there under.

The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned in Column [E] below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited for an amount mentioned in Column [D] along with interest and other charges.

Under section 13 [8] of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale

SL. NO	NAME AND ADDRESS OF BORROWER AND CO-BORROWER & LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBER	NOTICE DATE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT AS PER NOTICE	SECURED ASSET ADDRESS	DATE OF PHYSICAL POSSESSION
Α	В	С	D	E	F
1.	Loan No. X0HEDHE00000882623, X0HEDHE00001020554, X0HEELD00001584575 & X0HEDHE00001325634  1. GAURAV MALHOTRA (BORROWER), 2. Renu Malhotra (CO-BORROWER), 3. A K Malhotra (CO-BORROWER), 4. Saroj Malhotra (CO-BORROWER), 5. Saurabh Malhotra (CO-BORROWER) All residing at: H. NO. 5 F-38A, FIRST FLOOR NIT FARIDABAD 121001. Also at: NO. 5 -H/3, GROUND FLOOR AND FIRST FLOOR NIT FARIDABAD 121001.	20/06/2018	Rs.1,07,50,433.06/- (Rupees One Crore Seven Lakhs Fifty Thousand Four HundredThirty Three And Paisa Six Only)	PROPERTY ADMEASURING 122 SQ.YDS., BEARING HOUSE NO-5-F/38A, FIRST FLOOR, SITUATED IN NIT, FARIDABAD, HARYANA.  ENTIRE GROUND FLOOR WITHOUT ROOF/TERRACE RIGHTS HAVING COVERED AREA ADMEASURING 320 SQ. FTS., BUILT ON PORTION MARKED AS SUB-DIVISION NO-A AREA ADMEASURING 61 SQ. YDS., PART OF PROPERTY BEARING NO-5 F-38-A SITUATED AT NIT FARIDABAD TEHSIL AND DISTRICT FARIDABAD.  PROPERTY ADMEASURING 61 SQ.YDS., BEARING HOUSE NO-5-F/38A, FIRST FLOOR, SITUATED IN NIT, FARIDABAD, HARYANA.	08-04-2021
	Loan No. X0HEDHE00001215291  1. SHISH PAL (Borrower),  2. NIRMAL PAL (Co-Borrower)  All residing at: HOUSE NO- 58/3, SECOND FLOOR, GALI NO. 4, ARYA NAGAR, NEW DELHI – 110092.	15-03-2019	Rs. 67,68,200.24/- [Rupees Sixty Seven Lakh Sixty Eight Thousand Two Hundred and Paise Twenty Four Only]	PROPERTY BEARING SECOND FLOOR PORTION WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS HAVING ITS COVERED AREA OF 117.05 SQ.MTS., BUILT ON PLOT NO-2,PART OF PROPERTY BEARING NO-58/3, OUT OF KHASRA NO-1399, SITUATED IN THE ABADI OF ARYA NAGAR GALI NO-4, IN THE AREA OF VILLATE KARKARDOOM, ILLAQA SHAHDARA, DELHI-110092.	09-04-2021

**AUTHORISED OFFICER** M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited

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the sectors which has borne considerable impact of the epidemic. A year after the lockdown was first imposed,

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institutions in Nainital.

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Sherwood College, All Saints' College,



college, Birla Vidya Mandir, Amtul Public School, Saint Xavier, Don Bosco Public School, Parvati Prema Jagati Saraswati Vihar, Longview Public School, Mohan Lal Sah Bal Vidya Mandir, Radha Children Academy, Bharatiya Shahid Sainik Vidyalay, GIC and GGIC are among the prominent schools in Nainital. The climate in Nainital is also conducive

for education with maximum temperature in the summer being 32 degrees Celsius. The temperature

when schools have winter vacation.

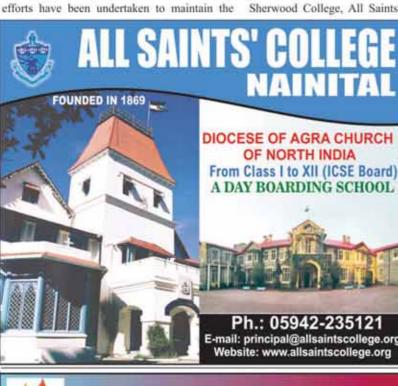
According top priotity to the health of the students, the schools are following all the Covid-19 protocols. Social distancing, the frequent use of sanitisersn and ensuring their nutritious diet are the focus of the school management.

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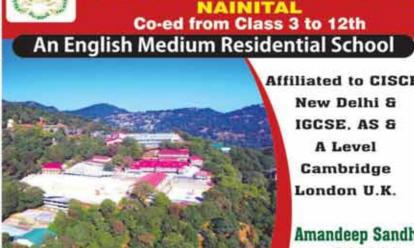
कोविड संक्रमण को ध्यान में रखते हुए कक्षा में कोई भी विद्यार्थी एक दूसरे से 🜬 करीब नही जा सकता। अर्थाश्र दो गज की दुरी के साथ मास्क पहनना पेन-पेंसिल नहीं लाता है तो वह किसी

अन्य विद्यार्थी से भी नहीं ले सकता है। कोविड गाईंड लाईन का पालन हर हाल में जरूरी है। ऑलसेंट्स कालेज विद्यालय का संचालन कर रही है। अंग्रेजी माध्यम से संचालित इस विद्यालय की स्थापना 1869 में हुई थी तब से लेकर आज तक यह विद्यालय निरंतर प्रगति की ओर अग्रसर है। मणहर पत्रिका फोब्स इण्डिया ने ऑलसेटस शामिल किया है। देश विदेश के बच्चे इस विद्यालय में अध्ययन करने आते हैं। इस विद्यालय से पढ़कर कई ऐसी हस्तियां हैं जो देश और दुनिया में अपना नाम रौशन कर रही है। श्रीमती किरन जरमाया कहती है कि शिक्षा के मापदंड को ध्यान में रखकर वह गुणवत्ता युक्त शिक्षा प्रदान

समस्त सुविधार्ये विद्यालय में मीजूद है

पठन-पाठन कार्य अनुभवी शिक्षकों द्वारा किया जाता है। बच्चों के बेहतर भविष्य बनाने के लिये वह सभी सविधायें विद्यालय में मौजूद है जो वर्तमान मे जरूरत के हिसाब से आवश्यक होती है। अंग्रेजी माध्यम से संचालित यह विद्यालय कथा 3 से लेकर कथा 12वं तक संचालित किया जाता है। वर्तमान में प्रधनाचार्य अमनदीप संधु विद्यालय का संचालन कर रहे हैं।

कोरोना को लेकर विद्यालय जरूरी एहतियात बरती जा रही हैं, जिसके तहत कोविड नियम का पालन हर हाल में जरूरी है। मास्क, सैनीटाइजर व एक दूसरे से जरूरी दूरी के साथ विद्यालय में कक्षाएं संचालित की जा रही है।



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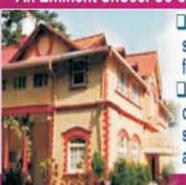
### गौरवमय इतिहास है बिड़ला विद्या मंदिर का

देश में बिडला विद्या मंदिर अग्रणी पब्लिक स्कूलों में अपना अलग नाम व मुकाम हासिल किया है। जिसके फलस्वरूप यह विद्यालय अपना एक अलग स्थान कायम किए हुए हैं। सीबीएसई से संबंद यह विद्यालय पूर्ण रू से आवासीय है। अंग्रेजी माध्यम से संचालित नगर के सर्वाधिक ऊंचाई वाले नैसर्गिक वातावरण में स्थित है विद्यालय के प्रधानाचार्य अनिल शर्मा के कुशल नेतृत्व में संचालित किया जा रहा है। देश के कोने-कोने से सैकडों की संख्या में छात्र अध्ययनरत हैं। श्री शर्मा कहते हैं कि वर्तमान परिवेश को ध्यान में रखकर बच्चों का भविष्य <del>अनित शर्मा (प्रकार्य)</del> अनिवार्य विषयों के अलावा तमाम प्रतिस्पद्धाओं में भी छात्रों को निपूर्ण बनाया जाता है। विद्यालय का इतिहास है

कि बोर्ड परिक्षाफल शत-प्रतिशत रहा है। जिसे भविष्य में भी कायम रखा जायेगा। कोरान के प्रति जागरूकता को लेकर विद्यालय के हर छात्र को इस बीमारी की बारिकियों व बचाव के बारे में जानकारी दी जा रही है। कोविड गाईंड लाईन का पर्ण तरीके से

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THE MOTHER'S HEART SCHOOL Brief History and objective of the school The Mothers heart school was established on the 1st last march of 1999. in the town (Nainital) Uttarakhand. It was the need of the town where people early sought for the quality of prepatory education for their children seeking admission in the prestigious

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- A Emenual (Principal)

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### वुंदावन पब्लिक स्कूल ने बहुत कम समय में अर्जित की ख्याति



चंद साल पहले वृंदावन पब्लिक स्कूल की स्थापना की गयी थी। स्कल का उद्देश्य छोटे-छोटे बच्चों का सर्वांगींण विकास कर भविष्य संवारना था। इस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति में विद्यालय शत-प्रतिशत खरा उतरा है। अंग्रेजी माध्यम से संचालित इस 💋 विद्यालय में बच्चों के बौद्धिक व शारीरिक विकास के लिए सभी सुविधाएं विद्यालय में उपलब्ध हैं। प्रधानाचार्य राखी साह

के नेतृत्व में बखुबी विद्यालय का संचालन हो रहा है। वह कहतीं हैं कि बच्चों के प्रति अधाह स्रेह ने उन्हें विद्यालय का संचालन करने के लिए बाध्य किया। नन्हें-मुन्हें बच्चों का बहमुखी विकास करने के लिए वह संकल्पबद्ध हैं।

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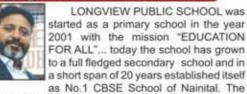


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- B.C. Tripathi (Principal)

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#### उत्कृष्ट शिक्षा दे रहा है सेंट जेवियर्श स्कूल दो गज की दूरी के साथ बच्चों के बैठने



की व्यवस्था कक्षा में की गयी है। सैनीटाइजर की समुचित व्यवस्था की गई है। इसके अलावा प्रत्येक बच्चे का खान पान का पुरा ध्यान दिया जा रहा है। नैनीताल की सरम्य पहाडियों के मध्य स्थित सेंट जैवियर्स स्कुल की स्थापना वर्ष 1991 में हुई। प्रकृति के नैसर्गिक व शांत

वातावरण में स्थित होने के कारण विद्यालय में छात्रों का सर्वांगीण विकास हो रहा है।विद्यालय में बेहतर कक्षाओं, कम्प्यूटर लैब तथा सुसन्जित लाइब्रेरी आदि उपलब्ध हैं। छात्रों को कम्प्यूटर तथा इंटरनेट के माध्यम से नई-नई जानकारियां प्रदान की जाती हैं। विद्यालय में विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया जाता है। विद्यालय में अत्याधनिक हॉस्टिल सुविधा होने के साथ-साथ कक्षा 1 से 12 तक बोर्डस तथा डेस्कालर के लिए शिक्षा उपलब्ध हैं। प्रधानाचार्य नईम अली खान के अथक प्रयास तथा सरल स्वभाव के कारण विद्यालय में छात्र-छात्राओं की संख्या में निरस्तर बढ़ोत्तरी NAEEM ALI KHAN (PRINCIPAL) हो रही हैं।विद्यालय का परीक्षाफल शत-प्रतिशत रहता है।

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pinion 06

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PAPER WITH PASSION-

## **Tightening the screws**

It might be a good idea for the CBI and the NIA to work in tandem for unravelling the Vaze maze

The two independent agencies — the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the National Investigation Agency (NIA) — will likely discover many common nodes and leads during their probe related to Maharashtra's former Home Minister Anil Deshmukh and suspended cop Sachin Vaze. The probes by these premier agencies will probably converge at several points and it would only serve the purpose of justice if both these agencies work in consonance. Extending this logic, the constitution of a common team — drawing officials from both these agencies — may also be considered to investigate the cases that are inter-related. Collecting evidence, recording statements and zeroing in on the culprits would become easier in a joint probe. In the latest devel-



opment, two CBI teams reached the NIA office to record the statement of Vaze, who is in the latter's custody. Also, a special NIA court allowed the CBI to access the "extortion" diaries belonging to Vaze and Vinayak Shinde, both suspended policemen. In a startling revelation, Vaze had alleged in a four-page letter to the special NIA court that State Transport Minister Anil Parab of the Shiv Sena had asked him to initiate talks with a Trust for a "₹50-crore settlement" to close an inquiry. The Minister also asked Vaze to identify fraudulent contractors listed with the BMC and demand at least ₹2 crore from 50 of them, the letter claimed.

The letter mentioned an alleged "₹2 crore demand" by Deshmukh after NCP chief Sharad Pawar considered cancelling Vaze's reinstatement, and alleged that someone "very close" to Deputy CM Ajit Pawar asked Vaze to collect ₹100 crore a month from illegal gutkha sellers. Earlier, Vaze had said he was being made a scapegoat. These allegations are indicative of the fact that not only Deshmukh but several other dirty fish in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government seem to be neck-deep in corruption. On the other hand, Deshmukh — who tendered his resignation on "moral grounds" only after the Bombay High Court directed the CBI to conduct a preliminary inquiry into corruption allegations against him — got no respite from the Supreme Court, which dismissed his as well as the MVA Government's petition challenging the Bombay High Court's order. The Maharashtra developments resemble a Bollywood potboiler on the underworld, portraying the nexus among politicians, corrupt officials and criminals. But unlike the movies which have heroes fighting the corrupt system, the Maharashtra saga has none. However, with the CBI and the NIA tightening the screws, one hopes that several other influential names in the MVA Government would be exposed. Corruption has become the hallmark of the State Government, which is a coalition of the NCP, Congress and the Shiv Sena. The Opposition has often alleged that the Centre uses these agencies to target adversaries and settle scores; nevertheless, it doesn't take away from the fact that the Uddhav Thackeray-led Government arguably has many black sheep whose rightful place is behind the bars rather than in the Assembly.



The Baisakhi celebrations in full swing at a wheat farm in Amritsal

# In low spirits

The migrant workers are making their way back to villages after local curbs were announced

oughly around this time last year, millions of migrant workers and their families - with their young ones and meagre belongings on their heads and shoulders started a long, weary walk back to their native places after the Government clamped a nationwide lockdown to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus. As the



industries shut operations, they were forced to go back because they couldn't afford to pay for food and relatively higher rent in the cities, especially in the absence of any regular inflow of income. Their trudge was made more tragic as several of them died on their journey back owing to fatigue by walking under the scorching sun since all forms of public transport had also been ordered off the roads. To this day, a significant percentage of these hired hands has not rejoined their workplace, either because the industries they worked in haven't yet become fully operational or they are still scared and scarred by last year's sudden clampdown that brought the wheels of their already-mundane life to a grinding halt. Worse, the few who had dared to

venture back to the big cities for want of employment opportunities in the hinterland, are again rushing back as local curbs and night curfews in several States have again spawned in them the fears of a total shutdown.

The bitter experience of the abrupt March 2020 lockdown has undeniably played a huge part in their decision to return quickly to their native places before any restrictions on travel are announced. Now, since migrant workers play a key role in the manufacturing sector, their hasty departure has dealt a severe blow to the small and medium industry owners who are yet to level their losses accrued from the shutdown that extended across most of last year. The trend is worrisome also because a second reverse migration would likely result in surplus labour in the rural areas while creating manpower scarcity in the urban and industrial centres. The logical conclusion would be a depressed demand, more people pushed into poverty and an increase in the rate of unemployment. A hint of confirmation of this trend has come with the announcement of the Central Railway to run special trains from Mumbai — which is among the worst hit regions to places where a significant number of migrant labourers in the nation's financial capital come from, including Gorakhpur, Patna, Darbhanga and Danapur.

# Hypocrisy is very much alive and well



## In all spheres of life around us, every day we see leaders indulging in acts of abject pretence and insincerity

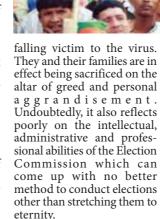
aving been slaves for the better part of a millennia, we tend Leto have a heightened instinct for survival that is best reflected in our hypocritical behaviour. It is no surprise then that, by and large, our adherence to principles, rules and regulations is inversely proportional to the impact that they might have on our lives, preferring them to be applicable only to others and not us.

Take Prime Minister Narendra Modi's attitude towards the alarming spike in COVID cases. He is unable to see the dichotomy of, on the one hand, publicly berating State Governments and citizens for not adhering to basic precautions, while simultaneously rushing off to address election rallies. Rallies that are conducted with tens of thousands of attendees without masks, packed together like sardines.

The truth is that not just him or his associates are being hypocritical but other politicians as well, regardless of party affiliations. All those associated with the ongoing State elections are guilty of such irresponsible behaviour. This nonsensical behaviour has been aggravated by the utter lack of political will on the part of leaders across the country in their refusal to stop religious and cultural events, be it events like Holi or the Kumbh.

Their fear that they would be held responsible if they curtailed mass gatherings is not difficult to understand because, in their view, their career and reputation as politicians are at stake. Sadly, while they may well be, or become, renowned politicians, one thing they will never ever be is leaders. That requires the backbone to take difficult decisions, sometimes at great personal cost, when the occasion so demands.

Obviously, the most affected are not just those attending such gatherings, who may be tnere voluntarily, but public servants compulsorily co-opted for duties such as crowd control and security, who are now



Of course, politicians and Government officials are the easiest to point fingers at, but others too are as much to blame for the hypocrisy that abounds. The Supreme Court, for example, has recently pointed to the delay in giving women permanent commissions in the military, blaming it on systemic bias within the Ministry of Defence. While there certainly is some truth in what it says, it is a complicated issue, especially the impact of women in combat roles. More importantly, the military's only job is to win wars and keep us safe and it is by no means an equal opportunity employer.



THEY MAY WELL BE, OR BECOME, RENOWNED POLITICIANS, ONE THING THEY WILL **NEVER EVER BE IS** LEADERS. THAT REQUIRES THE **BACKBONE TO** TAKE DIFFICULT **DECISIONS** SOMETIMES AT **GREAT PERSONAL** COST, WHEN THE OCCASION SO **DEMANDS** 

While the Supreme Court's emphasis on gender issues is to be applauded, it would truly have credibility and value if its own actions were consistent in this regard. By some accounts, there are only two women judges among the 34 that constitute the Supreme Court and it has had only eight women judges

since its inception.

Even the military has not been able to avoid this pernicious trend and its leadership seems to have lost its way in this regard. By stating that China has not occupied our territory in Eastern Ladakh, despite knowing it well that we can no longer patrol areas up to our claim lines, the Army chief has lowered his image and credibility. In addition, he has caused grievous damage to the Services' reputation.

The reason for where we are today is not very difficult to diagnose. Interestingly, in 1893, Swami Vivekananda while addressing the first World's Parliament of

the world both tolerance and universal acceptance. We believe not only in universal toleration, but we accept all religions as true. I am proud to belong to a nation which has sheltered the persecuted and the refugees of all religions and all nations of the

Despite the fact that Modi sees himself as a devoted follower of the Swami, he has never let compassion or empathy get in the way of realpolitik. For all intents and purposes, we are now involved in an intense zero sum game where the winner takes all and losers are shown the door; where only the ends matter, not the means. What he and those who follow him have yet to realise is that all this can only get you so far and at the end of the day you have no choice but to pay the piper.

(The writer is a military veteran, who is a Visiting Fellow with the Observer Research Foundation and Senior visiting reliow with Religions meeting at Chicago The Peninsula Foundation, said: "I am proud to belong Chennai. The views expressed to a religion which has taught are personal.)

## **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

## **GOOD DECISION BY THE SUPREME COURT**

Sir —It's good that the Supreme Court has dismissed a plea filed by former Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh, challenging the Bombay High Court's order that had allowed a preliminary CBI probe against him. The apex court also dismissed a similar plea filed by the Maharashtra Government in the same

Delivering its order, the Supreme Court said the people involved in the matter do require to be investigated by an independent agency. "What has been directed by the High Court is a preliminary inquiry, and we are not inclined to interfere," the court said. Deshmukh resigned not because of his morality but he was compelled by the circumstances. His resignation came hours after the Bombay High Court ordered a CBI probe into the allegations of extortion against him, in what is the most high-profile casualty so far in the sensational Sachin Vaze-Antilia explosives case. The high-voltage events in Maharashtra started with the discovery of an explosives-laden vehicle outside the residence of billionaire Mukesh Ambani, gathered momentum with the alleged murder of the man in possession of the car, and who had reported it stolen, Mansukh Hiran, and took a surprising turn with the arrest of a politically connected assistant inspector of police Sachin Vaze in the explosives case.

Maharashtra's Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government, in an attempt to manage the fallout, transferred Mumbai Police Commissioner, with Deshmukh clearly articulating that the move was prompted by his mismanagement of the case. A miffed Singh wrote to the chief minister, alleging that Deshmukh instructed Vaze to run an extortion racket.

Abhishek Singh | Varanasi **MAHARASHTRA BACK TO SQUARE ONE** 

Sir — With Maharashtra witnessing an increase in the daily COVID-19 cases, the State Government was left with no option

## Vaccine shortage is serious issue



hat we may land into serious trouble in the coming days can be gauged from the data collated from the Union Health Ministry which shows that the States have on an average just over five days' vaccine stocks remaining at their current levels of vaccination, and an additional week's supply is in the pipeline. Despite India manufacturing the vaccines and supplying these to other countries across the globe, such a situation is a real

cause of worry. In some States like Andhra Pradesh and Bihar, however, the current stocks are for less than two days.

However, there is also good news. Johnson & Johnson is in talks with the Indian Government to begin a clinical trial of its single-dose COVID-19 vaccine in the country, the company has said. The US drugs and healthcare giant's vaccine is currently approved for use in the United States, the European Union and other nations, including Thailand and South Africa.

The news comes as some parts of India face a shortage of vaccine supplies just as the country of 1.3 billion battles a second wave of COVID-19 infections. India's Government, however, has said there is no shortage of the shots. Since Johnson & Johnson's vaccine has already been approved by the US regulator, a small bridging trial on about 1,000 participants would be enough before it is given the approval to manufacture the vaccine in

Sean Colin Young | New Delhi

except announcing a "strict lockdown" over the weekends. The Government has the IPL extravaganza has seen many episodes and, this time round, the second wave of COVID-19. With such also enforced a night curfew in the State from 8 pm to 7 am daily when only essenobscene amounts of money, this has tial services will be allowed to function. become the norm. All are waiting for the However, private and public transport will big event and everyone wants to play in continue to operate but rickshaws, taxis the IPL if it is held twice in six months. and private vehicles can run with only 50 The game of cricket is a religion. The IPL extravaganza has become hotter during per cent seating capacity. Further, newspaper printing and disthe summer months and the floodlights will add to the already hot stadiums. The

tribution can continue, provided the vendor is vaccinated. The Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) has decided to keep all inoculation centres in its areas closed due to a shortage of doses. The BMC on Thursday released a statement, saying it had around 50,000 doses left for Friday

**IPL EXTRVAGANZA HAS BECOME HOTTER** 

Sir — The slam-bang league is back and

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and the world.

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IPL is nothing but a glorified way of mak-

ing easy money and the gentleman's game

of cricket is brought into disrepute. The

IPL 14 is commencing as a Friday feature

and television sets are ready to show the

big event to the cricket lovers across India

of COVID-19, the lack of vaccines is a serious issue By putting own countrymen at risk, is

it right to export COVID vaccines? Congress leader —Rahul Gandhi



With these dictators (Turkish President Recep Tavvip Erdogan) one must be honest in expressing one's diverging ideas

**Italian Prime Minister** 

and views about society.

— Mario Draghi I only actually eat real





— Catherine Zeta-Jones



It is good for us that we are tested against a tough opponent like Argentina.

> India men's hockey captain — Manpreet Singh

It is not possible to implement the Sixth Pay Commission at this point in time. So I request you once

again to come and



Karnataka CM BS Yediyurappa

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## **FIRST COLUMN**

## THE SCOURGE OF **FOREST FIRES**

Precious forest resources, including the carbon locked in biomass, are lost due to forest fires every year



VK BAHUGUNA

he forests in Uttarakhand are in the grip of a massive fire these days; so much so that apart from destroying the rich biodiversity, it has killed four villagers and injured a forest guard during fire-fighting operations. Forest fires have become a recurring phenomenon in the State and every year thousands of acres of forests are engulfed by the raging inferno. Fires are a common feature in forests all over the country and sometimes the controlled burning of forest floor is used as a management tool to promote conservation by the foresters. The ecological impacts of forest fires are disastrous for the biodiversity and the forest hydrology. The forest department of Uttarakhand is failing year after year on prevention and control of the forest fires and prima facie it is gross negligence at all levels in dealing with the threat due to mismanagement, coupled with the shortage of resources.

The incidents of forest fires globally are increasing every year. In India through the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectro-radiometer sensor data (MODIS) of the Forest Survey of India (FSI), 37,059



forest fires were detected during 2018. Precious forest resources, including the carbon locked in biomass, are lost due to forest fires every year, which adversely impact the flow of goods and services from forests

The FSI website showed 3,23,414 fire points across the country, detected through satellite during February 1- April 8, 2021, while Uttarakhand alone accounted for 1,31,61 fire points. More than 80 per cent of the forest fires are man-made and caused by the villagers, and the rest are due to natural factors like intense heat wave, lightning and friction in vegetation. The best strategy for forest fire control is in its prevention with mobilisation of resources, specially the local village communities, the Van Panchayats and Joint Forest Management. The forest fires can thus be effectively prevented and controlled, provided the State Government and the forest department have the commitment for taking timely action. With the FSI now coming up with real-time monitoring of forest fires through satellite-based messaging to the Divisional Forest Officers, it should be easy for the field staff to control the forest fires, provided that they have cleaned the forest fire lines in time before the commencement of the fire season, in the month of November, and have in place an early warning system and a fire management plan in operation.

The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Uttarakhand Government, and the State Governments all over India must accept responsibility for their gross inaction. They must take control of enforcing the preparation of the forest fire management plan, risk assessment maps of the vulnerable areas and establish the early warning systems in each division before the month of November. The Centre had already released to all forest departments of the country the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) funds to the tune of more than ₹50,000 crore. Did the forest department earmark the CAMPA fund for divisional-level fire-fighting plan, and what is the role of officers and the Ministers in filling up the vacancies of forest guards and other related ranks? The question is what has been done by the Uttarakhand Government to prevent forest fires?

(The writer is Chairman, Centre for Resource Management and Environment. The views expressed are personal.)

# India-Pakistan peace process is far from dead



Right now, peace looks elusive, but the peace process does not. By all aspects, it is clear that the process is thriving and may succeed in thrashing out some of the differences

ne does not need to be a rocket scientist to know Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has robbed whatever little credibility civilian Governments in his country have, with his multiple policy flip-flops. Just like one does not need to be an astute political pundit to know Prime Minister Narendra Modi is not like former PM Rajiv Gandhi in wanting to leave contentious border disputes to the "wisdom of the next generation". If anything, PM Modi has enough political capital to push through a resolution. Amidst the contrast in the two civilian leaderships of the hostile neighbours, how does one read the current India-Pakistan situation? Is there any prospect of peace, given that even baby steps like trade and resumption of sporting ties are not possible in the vitiated atmosphere? There are reasons to assume a positive movement will take place in the India-Pakistan ties, for three clear reasons.

First, the Pakistani economy cannot continue the *status quo* — of next-to-nothing trade with India. Islamabad is on its 13th loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the economy is battling a crippling inflation. Adding to Pakistan's economic woes is its surging wheat imports. After years of being self-sufficient, Pakistan is now being forced to import wheat to feed its people. Even if one discounts any comparisons with Bangladesh — which is growing at an impressive eight per cent with higher Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and four times more forex collections — Pakistan's economy needs help.

It is not for nothing that the Pakistani Army chief spoke about geo-economics in his much talked-about speech on March 18. No amount of jingoism can cover up for the present economic woes of Pakistan. The Pakistani Army understands this even more, given that it is one of the key stakeholders in the economy. If it were not for its obsession to 'checkmate' India, would the Pakistani economy — with its excessive defence spends — be in such a mess? Opening up trade with India will be the first set of the baby steps that are needed towards any normalisation. But more importantly, it will be vital for fixing Pakistan's economy

The worst of Pakistan's economic mess is yet to present itself, in the form of large payouts to China. China has invested heavily in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, which is a vital part of its Belt and Road Initiative. China is a rentseeking country, not an aid-granting friend. And sooner than later, China will extract its pound of flesh from Pakistan for the large amount of funds it has invested in the strategically-located country. In fact, the few sane voices in the Pakistani establishment must be wondering what ould have been islamadads relations with Beijing if the former was not focused only on its Índia hatred. It would have had normal ties with China and not become its vassal State only because it sought to undermine New Delhi. In the process, though, it has become heavily indebted to Beijing. As the payments would start, so would Pakistan's economic headaches.

Second, the happenings in Afghanistan keenly watched by Islamabad — may have a



THE HAPPENINGS IN AFGHANISTAN — KEENLY WATCHED BY ISLAMABAD -MAY HAVE A BEARING ON THE INDIA-PAKISTAN CONUNDRUM. IF SOME REPORTS ARE TO BE BELIEVED THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE US FORCES FROM AFGHANISTAN COULD PAVE THE WAY FOR A MULTI-NATION UN TEAM TO OVERSEE THAT THE NATION DOES NOT FALL INTO CHAOS. IT WOULD BE LOGICAL TO

**NEW DELHI'S** INCLUSION IN THE SAME, SINCE THE US HAS ALWAYS FAVOURED INDIA TO PLAY A LARGER

The writer is a senior journalist and Visiting Fellow at the United Services Institution of India. The views expressed are personal.



bearing on the India-Pakistan conundrum. If some reports are to be believed, the withdrawal of the US forces from Afghanistan could pave the way for a multi-nation UN team to oversee that the nation does not fall into chaos. It would be logical to assume New Delhi's inclusion in the same, since the US has always favoured India to play a larger role. Such an outcome would be least desirable for Islamabad since it will undercut its geo-strategic importance and reduce its bargaining power with the US.

It would not be out of the ordinary to assume that some of the backchannel lines of communication may include Afghanistan and the role both India and Pakistan would play in it. After all, Pakistan — which now has diminishing returns from its Kashmir rhetoric has not been able to successfully rake up the support of global owers on the issue of abrogation of Article 370. On the contrary, Islamabad stands to gain significantly by leveraging its role in Kabul post-US exit. Šo will Imran Khan (or his military bosses) want to risk a larger play in Afghanistan by holding onto the Kashmir issue? Or would they choose to show some positive gestures (like

the issue of integration of Gilgit-Baltistan and the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) as the fifth and sixth provinces. Imran may not be able to resist the temptation to be seen as similar to Modi (post -abrogation of Article 370). This will quite naturally invite a strong response from New Delhi, since the incumbent dispensation has spoken about the will and determination to reclaim both these areas. If such a situation does arise, it will limit the flexibility that can be shown by the Indian side or its Pakistani counterpart to move beyond the usual irritants.

Since August 5, 2019, the Indian Government has made its stance clear — "all future discussions will now be only on PoK"

sellout". Given these complexities, purview of formal diplomatic channels — would expedite any outcome.

India and Pakistan are not doomed to live in hatred, hostility and tension. Despite false starts and multiple attempts by India which have been followed by terror attacks by Pakistan — Modi may be keen to move ahead. Right now, peace looks elusive, but tne peace process does not. By all aspects, it is clear that the process is thriving and may succeed in thrashing out some of the differences. A peaceful solution does not need to decide the fate of the most complex geo-political problem of the subcontinent right away; it needs to demonstrate the will to do so.



I REQUEST THE MAHARASHTRA **GOVERNMENT TO DOUBLE** THE RATE OF VACCINATION. — UNION MINISTER **PRAKASH JAVADEKAR** 





THE STATE CAN ACHIEVE THE FEAT ONLY IF THE CENTRE ENSURES AN UNINTERRUPTED SUPPLY OF VACCINES. — MAHARASHTRA HEALTH MINISTER **RAJESH TOPE** 

## With law for healthcare workers, reforms continue unabated

The Act makes a significant shift from the doctor-led model to a more care-accessible and team-based model. It will transform the healthcare scenario

he National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2020 (NCAHP Act) has been passed by Parliament after a long and anxious wait, particularly by the health professionals. The Act provides for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by allied and healthcare professionals, assessment of institutions, maintenance of a Central Register and State Register and creation of a system to improve access, research and

development. Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Harsh Vardhan explained the reasons and objects of the Bill: "I would say that most of you must have paid a visit to a hospital at some point of time in your life and I wish not, but you might have had



DEVENDER SINGH ASWAL

The writer

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The views expressed

are personal

to. Please recall those days and remember the people who took care of you and who brought you out of your illness. You may remember the name of the doctor. You may remember the name of the hospital. But do you also remember the name of the persons who took your blood samples, gave you physiotherapy, took your X-ray, advised you on what you should eat, checked your eyesight, assisted your doctor or surgeon, looked into microscopes and bid you a farewell with a smile. Who are these people?

They are varied health professionals — the lab technicians, physiotherapists, radiographers, dieticians, record keepers, optometrists, X-ray technicians, and many more, who are a critical part of the healthcare system and the foundation of the pyra-

mid of the entire healthcare

According to studies, the role of doctors, undoubtedly critical, varies between 25 to 50 per cent in the entire healthcare chain. A wag said "doctor is next to God, nurse is next to the doctor and the pharmacist is closest to the patient", but there are many others who are as vital and integral to this chain. In fact, these professionals are the bedrock of the complex healthcare system.

After enacting the National Medical Commission Bill, 2019 which was fiercely contested by a large body of medical practitioners, another transformative piece of legislation, the NCAHP Act, has been enacted which covers a wide range of healthcare professions which were unrecognised or unregulated to date.



The Act is a paradigm shift in healthcare delivery as it recognises the specialised skills and contributions of more than 56 types of the allied and healthcare professionals. The nation, nay the world, has witnessed the invaluable contribution of these professionals during COVID-19 as the frontline health workers who risked their lives every day fighting the pandemic.

The Act would regulate and leverage the qualified allied and healthcare workforce and ensure high-quality multidisciplinary care in line with the vision of the universal health coverage moving towards a more care -accessible and team-based model. The Act would reform and regulate this entire sector in order to give these professionals their due, increase their employment opportunities and, more importantly, enhance their dignity by recognising their true worth, within the country and globally. The Act envisages the establishment of a Central statutory body as the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions.

The commission will frame policies and standards, regulate professional conduct and prescribe qual- countries have a regulatory

ifications for all these profes-A National Allied and

Healthcare Advisory Council to advise the national commission with representation from all the States is provided under the Act to enable adequate representation from all the States and Union Territories. Further, each State will have a separate State Council with four autonomous Boards pertaining to undergraduate education, post-graduate education, assessment, rating, ethics and registration. While doctors, nurses, dentists and pharmacists in India are regulated through their respective regulatory bodies, the allied and healthcare professions are still unstructured, and unregulated.

Globally, most of the

in India, there was an absence of a regulatory framework and lack of standardised education curriculum as well as training for these allied and healthcare professionals, a void now removed. Also, the Act makes a doctor-led model to a more care-accessible and team-

framework for standardised

education and training. But

significant shift from the based model. The NCAHP Act, 2020, is a landmark legislation which will go down in the history of healthcare revolution in India. It will transform the healthcare scenario and make a paradigm shift in the ministration of the entire healthcare system and make it efficacious. Apparently, India is on the course of wholesale health sector

# **Britain mourns Prince Philip**

## Leaders honour service to Queen

**AP** ■ LONDON

Britain mourned the death of Prince Philip, the husband of Queen Elizabeth II, on Friday as the *BBC* interrupted scheduled programming to broadcast the national anthem, "God Save the Queen."

The flag at Buckingham Palace, the queen's residence in London, was lowered to halfstaff after the announcement of Philip's death. The Royal Family's website featured a black-and-white portrait of the prince, also known as the Duke of Edinburgh. Prime Minister Boris Johnson said Philip "earned the affection of generations here in Britain, across the Commonwealth and around the world."

"Like the expert carriage

The latest US sanctions on Myanmar target an army-controlled gems business rife

with corruption and abuses

that is one of the junta's key

will do much to close the taps

of income and royalties from

gems sales. Some estimates say

more than half of such trans-

actions are not declared, even

though they are the country's

second biggest export after

Myanmar on Friday urged the

U.S. government to expand

penalties to include the

Myanmar Oil & Gas

Enterprise, which handles the

country's largest share of

countries follow suit in sanc-

tioning the key businesses

enabling the Myanmar military's criminal conduct," said

the group's spokesperson,

from the Extractive Industries

Transparency Initiative for

wo senior Federal Ministers

▲ in Pakistan Prime Minister

Imran Khan's Cabinet have

voiced their opposition to a

controversial law which seeks

to criminalise any criticism or

ridicule of the country's pow-

erful armed forces with a two-

year imprisonment or fine up

Minister for Science and

Technology Fawad Chaudhry

and Minister for Human Rights

Shireen Mazari came after a

Pakistani parliamentary panel

endorsed the law on

ed by the National Assembly

Standing Committee on

The legislation was adopt-

The dissenting voices of

to Rs 50,000 or both.

Wednesday.

The most recent report

Yadanar Maung.

"It is imperative that other

The rights group Justice for

It's unclear if the sanctions

sources of revenue.

natural gas and oil.

driver that he was, he helped to steer the royal family and the monarchy so that it remains an institution indisputably vital to the balance and happiness of our national life."

Keir Starmer, leader of the opposition Labour Party, was among the first to offer his condolences, noting Philip's long Record of public service,

first as as a naval officer during World War II then during more than 70 years of marriage to the queen.

"He will be remembered most of all for his extraordinary commitment and devotion to The Queen," Starmer said in a

For more than seven decades, he has been at her side. Their marriage has been a symbol of strength, stability

2016-17 found that gems,

pearls and jade accounted for

13% of Myanmar's natural

resource revenues, with oil and

Thursday freeze any assets held

Enterprise in the U.S. or in U.S.

jurisdictions and bar American

citizens from doing business

gemstone activities in

Mvanmar, also known as

the

Department said in announc-

ing the latest sanctions against

the military leaders who seized

That includes control of

power in a Feb. 1 coup.

Burma.

The company oversees all

Treasury

The sanctions announced

the Myanma Gems

gas accounting for 87%



A tribute to Britain's Prince Philip is projected onto a large screen at Piccadilly Circus in London on Friday

and hope, even as the world around them changed — most recently during the pandemic. It was a partnership that inspired millions in Britain

royalties and overseas market-

tant enough that coup leader Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing

and Myanmar's central bank

governor were among the dig-

nitaries who visited the open-

ing of a gems, pearls and jade

emporium earlier this month in

ernments have been ramping

up sanctions in response to the

coup and a deadly crackdown

on mass pro-democracy

protests. At least 598 protesters

and bystanders have been killed

by security forces since the

coup and violence has spread

from major cities to provincial

of U.S. President Joe Biden

sanctioned Myanmar Ruby

Enterprise, Myanmar Imperial

Jade Co., and Cancri (Gems

and Jewellery) Co. — other

military-controlled traders of

gems and other precious

stones. U.S. sanctions have also

targeted two major military-

controlled conglomerates that

also have stakes in mining and

Earlier, the administration

The U.S. and other gov-

the capital, Naypyitaw.

The gems trade is impor-

ing and sales.

**UK Prince Philip United Nations:** UN Secretary US sanctions on Myanmar gems General Antonio Guterres on Friday expressed condolences on the death of Britain's Prince Philip, saying the Duke of target key junta funding source Edinburgh capably supported

as sovereign for over 60 years. Philip, the longest-serving consort in British history, died

Queen Elizabeth II in her duties

**UN chief Guterres** 

condoles death of

Friday at age 99.

"The Secretary-General is saddened at the passing of His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, the husband of Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. He extends condolences to Her Royal Highness, the Queen and to the people of the UK," a statement released by the spokesperson of the Secretary General said.

### Pvt sales emerge as obstacle to Senate action on guns

Washington: Democrats in Congress are trying to pass the first major gun control legislation in more than two decades with the support of President Ioe Biden, who said Thursday that it is "long past time" to do so. But they are confronting a potentially insurmountable question over what rules should govern private sales and transfers, including those between friends and extended family, as they seek Republican votes.

A bipartisan Senate comdefeated eight years ago was focused on expanding checks to sales at gun shows and on the internet. But many Democrats and gun control advocates now want almost all sales and transfers to face a mandatory review, alienating Republicans who say extending the requirements would trample Second Amendment rights.

The dispute has been one of several hurdles in the renewed push for gun-control legislation, despite wide support for extending the checks. A small group of senators have engaged in tentative talks in the wake of recent mass shootings in Atlanta and Colorado, hoping to build on bipartisan proposals from the past. But support from at least 10 Republicans will be needed to get a bill through the Senate, and most are intractably *PTI* | opposed.

#### permits for mines, collecting gems businesses. 2 Pak Ministers oppose law Biden unveils initial plans to

Coup-prone Pakistan has been under military rule for almost half of its existence, with many governments deposed before completing its term, mostly at the behest of the country's powerful armed

express his concern against the proposed legislation, calling it ridiculous in a tweet.

to criminalise criticism, respect is earned, cannot be imposed on people, I strongly feel instead of new such laws, Contempt of Court laws should be repealed," he said.

Shireen Mazari retweeted Chaudhary's tweet and then proceeded to add her comments: "Totally agree. Cannot state it strongly enough."

amend the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC), was introduced for discussion by the ruling Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) lawmaker Amjad Ali Khan.

However, difference erupted over the law between the 11member body after Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) opposed the harsh punishment suggested in the bill.

Friday that it will raise the coronavirus alert level in Tokyo to allow tougher measures to curb the rapid spread of a more contagious variant ahead of the Summer Olympics.

Many of Tokyo's cases have

## Indian docs to benefit from UK's fee-free 1-year visa extension

Indian doctors and nurses are among 14,000 applicants from across the world that are set to benefit from a one-year fee waiver for visa extensions announced on Friday for frontline workers dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic

The UK Home Office said that the free one-year visa extensions will be automatically granted to eligible overseas health and care workers and their dependents whose visas were due to expire before October 1.

The extension will cover healthcare professionals working in the National Health Service (NHS) and the independent health and care sector, which includes a large number of Indian professionals.

The dedication and skill of overseas health and care workers who are leading the UK's fight against coronavirus is truly extraordinary," said UK Home Secretary Priti Patel.

"Thousands of them have helped save countless lives throughout this pandemic and are now playing a vital part in the hugely successful vaccination rollout. Our offer of free visa extensions shows how our country values the contributions of these heroes," she said.

Periodic free visa extensions for health workers have been announced since last year at the peak of the pandemic

#### **Extension will apply** to those working both in NHS as well as independent sector

and the Home Office said it has extended the visas of more than 10,000 people across the UK.

The latest extension is intended for doctors, nurses, paramedics, midwives, occupational therapists, psychologists and others to be able to continue their crucial work in the fight against coronavirus as their visas will be extended for a year, free of all fees and charges, including the Immigration Health Surcharge.

"Our overseas health and care workers make such a vital contribution to our health system and have been a key part of the fight against the pandemic. They are protecting our loved ones and vaccinating the public so that we can save lives and return to normalcy," said UK Health Secretary Matt Hancock.

"To help those staff from overseas, we are extending their visas to provide security while they continue to tackle this virus," he said. The Home Office said that

those benefiting from this extension will need to complete a simple online form to verify their identity, with employers asked to confirm eligibility.

TERRORIST OMAR SHIFTED FROM KARACHI TO LAHORE terrorist Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh who was on death row for 18 years before his acquittal last year in the sensational kidnapping and beheading of US journalist Daniel Pearl, has been shifted to Lahore's Kot Lakhpat jail from Karachi, officials said on Friday Pearl, the 38-year-old South Asia bureau chief for The Wall Street Journal, was abducted and beheaded while he was in Pakistan investigating a story in 2002 on the links between the country's powerful spy agency ISI and al-Qaeda

#### NEPAL TO RESTRICT **GATHERING OF OVER 25** Kathmandu: Nepal's Health Ministry

on Friday recommended to restrict any gathering involving more than 25 people at a time in a bid to arrest the spread of the coronavirus

## MINING ACCIDENTS KILL 10 IN CHINA

Beijing: Nine workers were killed in northern China during an operation to destroy expired mining explosives, while one miner died and seven others were reportedly trapped by a blast in mine, underscoring the country's challenges as it attempts to improve industrial safety.

ARCHEOLOGISTS UNEARTH AN ANCIENT CITY IN EGYPT Cairo: Egyptian archeologists have unearthed a 3000-year-old lost city, complete with mud brick houses, artifacts, and tools from pharaonic times. Noted archeologist Zahi Hawass said Thursday that an Egyptian mission had discovered the mortuary city in the southern province of Luxor. It dates back to what is considered a golden era of ancient Egypt, the period under King

Amenhotep III of the 18th dynasty.

## **Positive atmosphere, little** progress in Iran nuclear talks

SUMMER SPECIAL TRAIN

Northern Railway will run following single trip

summer special express train as per the

Berlin: Nascent talks aimed at bringing the United States back into the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran broke Friday without any immediate signs of progress on the thorny issues dividing Washington and Tehran, but with delegates talking of a constructive atmosphere and resolving to continue the discussions.

Ex-US Prez Bush

Philip's devotion

 ${\mathbb F}^{
m ormer}$  US President George W Bush has praised Prince

Philip's devotion to worthy

causes and to others, in a state-

ment issued on behalf of him-

Philip died Friday at age 99.
"He represented the United Kingdom with dignity and

brought boundless strength

and support to the sovereign.

Laura and I are fortunate to

have enjoyed the charm and wit

of his company, and we know

how much he will be missed,"

self and his wife, Laura.

praises Prince

AP DALLA

Bush said.

Two working groups that have been meeting in Vienna since Tuesday to brainstorm ways to secure the lifting of American sanctions and Iran's return to compliance with the deal reported their initial progress to a joint commission of diplomats from the world powers that remain in the deal France, Germany, Britain, on Iran.

programme mentioned below:-

**STATIONS** 

Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn.

**New Delhi** 

Patna Jn.

Fatuha Jn.

Mokama

Kiul Jn.

Abhaipur

Dharhara

**Bariar Pur** 

Sultanganj

Bhagalpur Jn.

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04068 New Delhi - Bhagalpur Jn.

**Special Train** 

China and Russia.

Russian delegate Mikhail Ulyanov tweeted that participants had "noted with satisfaction the initial progress made? "The commission will

reconvene next week in order to maintain the positive momentum," he said.

The talks took place without the United States, which unilaterally left the nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, in 2018, under then-President Donald Trump. He embarked on a campaign of "maximum pressure" by restoring previous sanctions and adding new ones

1 Trip

Dep.

23:15

05:00

10:10

13:35

13:55

14:05

14:31

14:45

15:06

15:14

16:02

16:54

17:14

17:27

17:42

18:02

18:19

18:41

Train No. 04068

Arr.

04:55

10:05

13:25

13:53

14:03

14:29

14:43

15:04

15:12

16:00

16:52

17:12

17:26

17:41

18:00

18:17

18:40

19:30

## It is notified for the information of Rail Passengers that in

part supersession to the Public Notice published in various newspapers on 07.04.2021, regarding running of Godda-New Delhi-Godda Humsafar Special Exp., Railways have decided to revise the Train No. and timings of Godda - New Delhi-Godda Humsafar Special Express (Weekly) as under:-

#### 02307/02308 GODDA - NEW DELHI - GODDA **HUMSAFAR SPECIAL EXPRESS (WEEKLY)** Train No.: 02307 Train No.: 02308

ARR. DEP.		STATIONS	ARR.	DEP.
	12:40	GODDA	00:45	
13:10	13:12	PRAYAHAT	00:10	00:12
13:37	14:07	HANSDIHA	23:15	23:45
14:32	14:34	MANDARHILL	22:47	22:49
14:56	14:58	BARAHAT	21:57	21:59
16:35	17:30	BHAGALPUR	20:00	20:30
18:00	18:01	SULTANGANJ	19:14	19:15
18:32	18:37	JAMALPUR JN	18:40	18:45
18:56	18:57	ABHAIPUR	18:08	18:09
20:00	20:05	KIUL JN	17:40	17:45
21:22	21:24	NAWADAH	15:08	15:10
23:20	23:25	GAYA JN	13:25	13:30
00:28	00:30	SASARAM	11:57	11:59
01:50	02:00	PT DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA JN	10:50	11:00
04:00	04:10	PRAYAGRAJ JN	08:10	08:20
06:30	06:35	KANPUR CENTRAL	05:35	05:45
12:35		NEW DELHI		23:45

DAYS OF RUN: 02307 from Godda on 19.04.21 (Monday) and 02308 from New Delhi on 20.04.21 (Tuesday) ACCOMMODATION: 3 Tier AC

#### TIMINGS OF REGULAR RUN OF HUMSAFAR **WEEKLY SPECIAL EXPRESS TRAIN**

Regular number of the Humsafar Express Special train will be 02349 from Godda on and from 26.04.2021 and 02350 from New Delhi on and from 27.04.2021.

#### 02349/02350 GODDA - NEW DELHI - GODDA **HUMSAFAR SPECIAL EXPRESS (WEEKLY)**

Train No.: 02349		1 074710110 4	Train No.: 02350	
ARR.	DEP.	<b>↓</b> STATIONS T	ARR.	DEP.
	12:40	GODDA	00:45	
13:10	13:12	PRAYAHAT	00:10	00:12
13:37	14:07	HANSDIHA	23:15	23:45
14:32	14:34	MANDARHILL	22:47	22:49
14:56	14:58	BARAHAT	21:57	21:59
16:35	17:30	BHAGALPUR	20:00	20:30
18:00	18:01	1 SULTANGANJ		19:15
18:32	2 18:37 JAMALPUR JN		18:40	18:45
18:56	18:57 ABHAIPUR		18:08	18:09
20:00	20:05 KIUL JN		17:40	17:45
21:22	21:24	NAWADAH	15:08	15:10
23:20	23:25	GAYA JN	13:25	13:30
00:28	00:30	SASARAM	11:57	11:59
01:50	02:00	PT DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA JN	10:50	11:00
04:00	04:10	PRAYAGRAJ JN	08:10	08:20
06:30	30 06:35 KANPUR CENTRAL		05:35	05:45
12:35		NEW DELHI		23:45

DAYS OF RUN: 02349 from Godda on Monday from 26.04.21 to 28.06.21 and 02350 from New Delhi on Tuesday from 27.04.21 to 29.06.21. ACCOMMODATION: 3 Tier AC

All norms of the State and Central Go COVID-19 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., must be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also the ensured

For any other information passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTES App.

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## LOCOMOTIVE WORKS E-TENDER NOTICE

Name of the Work: Annual Maintenance contract for 01 (one) number Zayer make of CNC Bed Type Milling Machine bearing Machine Number 08/2595/03, of Shop No. 08 /CLW, Chittaranjan for a period of Two (02) Years. (a) Tender Notice No .: MW\_ELM\_S\_8\_AMC-3\_M-ZAYER. (b) Tender No .: MW ELM S 8 AMC-3 M-ZAYER. (c) Cost of Tender Form (Document): Rupees 3,000/-. (d) Approximate Value of the Work (Tender Value): Rupees 21,90,658/- (including GST). (e) Earnest Money to be deposited:00.00 (NIL). (f) Duration of Contract:02 (Two) Years. (g) Validity of offer (Days): 90 Days. (h) Allocation Head: 01/055/059. (i) Tender Submission Closing Date: 23/04/2021 [13.00 Hrs.]. (j) Complete Details of Tender can be seen in the Railways Websites: www.ireps.gov.in.

Dv. CME/Plant. ARUN-011 CLW, Chittaranjan

Interior despite sharp criticism by the Opposition parties which called it ultra vires of the fundamental rights.

Chaudhry was the first to "Absolutely ridiculous idea

Minister for Human Rights

The law, which aims to

lender no. 44215014. The details are as under:

Website particulars where complete details

2) For all terms and conditions please refer tender docum

of tender documents can be seen:

No.- 16/44215014/ETD/GZB Dated: 07.04.2021

Tender due on

**NORTHERN RAILWAY** 

03.05.2021 11:00 Hrs

Note: 1)The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procureme

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System (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in E-tender document

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seeking jail for Army critics curb growing gun violence in US

**Washington:** Declaring the spike in gun violence in the US an "epidemic" and an "international embarrassment,' President Joe Biden has outlined actions to regulate certain home-made firearms and pressed Congress to renew the country's long-expired ban on assault weapons.

Under mounting pressure to act after a spate of mass shootings across America, Biden on Thursday said that whether Congress acts or not, he was going to use all the resources at his disposal as President to keep the American people safe from gun violence.

## Japan imposes new measures in Tokyo ahead of Olympics Tokyo: Japan announced Japan's national vaccination

drive has lagged and most people in the capital still have not been inoculated as infections have surged. The raised status announced by Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga will allow Tokyo's governor to mandate shorter opening hours for bars and restaurants, along with punishments for violators and compensation for those who comply. The measures are to begin Monday and continue through May 11.

been linked to nightlife and dining, though they have recently spread to offices, elderly care facilities and schools, experts say. Suga also raised the alert level for Kyoto in western Japan and the southern island prefecture of Okinawa, where cases have surged in recent weeks.

# **Crisil: India Inc revenue** may rise by 17% in Q4

Aspurt in volumes on a low base, coupled with improvement in realisations riding on higher commodity prices, are expected to lift corporate revenue by 15-17 per cent year-on-year to Rs 6.9 lakh crore in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2021, a Crisil Research report said.

As per the estimates, the double-digit growth comes after eight quarters of either decline or single digit growth.

The estimates are based on an analysis of 300 companies, which account for 55-60 per cent of the market capitalisation excluding financial services and oil companies of the National Stock Exchange.

Crisil Research Director Hetal Gandhi said: "The robust revenue growth rides on a low base of the corresponding yearago quarter, besides higher government capital expenditure, and higher realisations amid a commodity upcycle, among others."
"A closer look at the rev-

cent of the recovery is contributed by three key verticals - automobiles, IT services and construction.

The report cited that construction-linked sectors such as steel and cement are estimated to have seen revenue rise 45-50 per cent and 17- 18 per cent on-year, respectively, buoyed by higher realisations and vol-

However, the report said that a cloud of uncertainty continues to loom over consumer discretionary services.

"Revenue for players in sectors such as airline services is estimated to drop 30 per cent on-year amid social distancing and cut in discretionary expenses, especially travel bud-

"Similarly, revenue for players in media and entertainment is also expected to drop 10 per cent on-year due to lower advertisement spends and suscriptions. That said, a lower share of such sectors in the top 300 sectoral mix has muted the impact.

commodity prices should result in contraction of margins across key sectors, it warned.

"Margins in steel, cement and pharmaceuticals sectors. which together account for 30 per cent of aggregate Ebitda profits, are expected to contract by 380 bps, 230 bps and 160 bps, respectively, on a sequential basis.

"Despite this, fiscal 2021 would see Ebitda profiles rise 12-13 per cent on-year over flat revenues. Ebitda margins would reach a decade high of 22.2 per cent led by low commodity prices in the first half and fixed cost-reduction initiatives across companies for

In addition, the report said that due to the second wave, states are likely to mount partial lockdowns, keeping demand recovery uncertain in the near term.

Newer strains of the virus, scale of vaccinations and subsequent revival in demand would be among the key monitorables for fiscal 2022."

## India's fuel consumption contracts 9.1 pc in FY21; first since 1998-99

rndia's fuel demand contracted by a massive 9.1 r per cent in the financial year ended March 31, the first in more than two decades, as a stringent lockdown imposed to curb the spread of the pandemic pummelled economic activity, government data showed on Fridav.

India consumed 194.63 million tonnes of petroleum products in 2020-21 as compared with 214.12 million tonnes demand in the previous year, according to the latest data released by the oil ministry's Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC).

This the first time that the fuel consumption has contracted since 1998-99, the most historical year for which government data is The demand contraction was led by diesel,

the most-consumed fuel in the country. Diesel consumption fell 12 per cent to 72.72 million tonnes while petrol demand shrank 6.7 per cent to 27.95 million tonnes.

The government imposed a nationwide lockdown at the end-March of last year, shutting down factories and businesses, halting most road transport, canceling flights and stopping trains. The lockdown was lifted in stages beginning June. The GDP is estimated to have contracted by 7-8 per cent in 2020-21 after economic activity showed signs of recovery in last quarter of 2020.

## Sensex snaps 3-day winning streak as RIL, banks slide; logs weekly loss

nursed losses on Friday after three days of gains as the unabated rise in COVID-19 cases and localised lockdowns prompted investors to unwind bets in banking, finance and

infra counters. A continuously depreciating rupee also sapped risk appetite, traders said.

After a fluctuating session,

the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 154.89 points or 0.31 per cent lower at 49,591.32.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty slipped 38.95 points or 0.26 per cent to 14,834.85.

Bajaj Finance was the top laggard in the Sensex pack, tumbling 3.12 per cent, followed by UltraTech Cement, NTPC, Axis Bank, ICICI

Bank, IndusInd Bank,

# 15 paise at 74.73

**Mumbai:**The rupee depreciated by another 15 paise against the US dollar to register its fifth loss in a row on Friday, facing headwinds on the economy front due to rising Covid-19 cases. Tumbling to its weakest level since November 4, 2019, the rupee settled at 74.73 against the US dollar.

Besides concerns over domestic equities and strengthand traded in the range of 74.53 to 74.96 during the day.

HDFC Bank. On the other hand, Sun Pharma, HUL, Tech Mahindra, Dr Reddy's and Titan were among the gainers, climbing up to 3.69 per cent.

## ₹ logs 5th straight session loss, down against \$

COVID-19 resurgence, weak ening American currency also weighed on investor sentiment.At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 74.75 against the greenback

## **BRIEFS**

SECURITY PRINTING & MINTING CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED CELEBRATES ITS 16TH FOUNDATION DAY



Tripti Patra Ghosh, CMD, SPMCIL presented the certificates and cheques to the Corporate Office employees for their excellent performance during the year 2019-20 in the presence of ShashankSaksena, Senior Economic Advisor, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Sunil Kumar Sinha, Director (HR.), Ajay Agarwal, Director (Finance) and Mamta Singh, IPS, CVO. Addressing the event, the Chairman and Managing Director highlighted theachievements of the company and also mentioned the innovative initiatives. She also called upon all the employees to perform their best in the interest of the company

#### **IIFL SECURITIES STARTS ACTIVATION OF 11 LAC** FROZEN KARVY ACCOUNTS

IIFL Securities Ltd, one of India's leading broking and advisory firms today said that 11 lac frozen Karvy demat account holders can now trade or invest on its platform. IIFL Securities has won the official bid to acquire all demat accounts held by Karvy Stock Broking with National Securities Depository Ltd and Central Depository Services Ltd. The asset under management for 11 lac Karvy demat accounts stands at Rs 3 lac crore. The bidding process which began in early February has finally ended the ordeal of 11 lac investors whose account has been frozen for over a year.

**INDIAN INTERNATIONAL OPTICS FAIR FROM APRIL 10** New Delhi: Three-day long Indian International Optics Fair 2021 will begin on April 10 at the Noida Expo Centre. The optics and ophthalmic exhibition, organised by the Ontician India magazine, focuses on opportunity to enhance learning and networking. The exhibition will prove to be a big platform for the traders associated with the optical industry, said Madhur Gupta, MD and Editor, Optician India.

#### **CROWD FUNDING RAISES HOPE FOR INFANT'S CURE**

**Mumbai:** A concerted crowd funding bid has raised the hopes of Pune-based parents of a 9-month-old girl Vedika Shinde who needs a large sum of money, Rs 16 crore, for the treatment of a rare genetic disease, called SMA Type 1. Thanks to benefactors from India and abroad, the couple has raised over Rs 3.5 crore in less than a month with the help of fundraiser Milaap

#### **BOEING: POSSIBLE ELECTRICAL ISSUE IN SOME 737 MAX** AIRCRAFT

Chicago: Boeing has told 16 of its customers to address a possible electrical issue in group of 737 Max aircraft before using them further. The Max was grounded worldwide in March 2019 after two crashes killed 346 people. Regulators in the U.S., Europe, Canada Brazil and other countries cleared the plane to resume flying after Boeing changed an automated flight-control system that played a role

## I-T, corporate tax mop up exceeds revised estimates at ₹9.45 lakh cr in FY21

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Tncome tax and corporate tax Lcollections at ₹9.45 lakh crore in the fiscal year ended March 31 exceeded the revised target by 5 per cent but were 10 per cent lower than the direct tax collections in the previous year, tax department head said Friday.

The Government had pro-

jected ₹13.19 lakh crore from direct taxes in the budget for 2020-21 presented on February 1 last year.

This was before pandemic took roots; and post it pum-

Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs

Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday

reviewed the progress of

the staff of her ministries and

urged officials to get themselves

and their family members vac-

today held interactions with

officers and staff from Section

Officers to Secretary level of all

departments of @FinMinIndia

and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs to review the progress

of vaccinations among the eli-

"FM Smt. @nsitharaman

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

cinated

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राजपुर

melling the economy, the target - called revised budget estimate - was lowered to ₹ 9.05

Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Chairman P C Mody said his department has exceeded the revised estimate (RE) despite issuing substantial refunds in the 2020-21 fiscal (April 2020 to March 2021). Direct tax collections,

which consist of income tax and corporate tax, in 2019-20 fiscal was ₹10.49 lakh crore. As per the provisional figures released on Friday, collection in 2020-21 is ₹9.45 lakh crore.

among officials of finance, corp affairs Ministries

In keeping with Covid-19

safety protocols, the

interactions were held

virtually in six separate

batches

istry said in a tweet.

als," the fina

During her meetings with

officials, she reiterated the

Prime Minister's call for a

nationwide vaccination festival

during April 11-14 and

appealed to all officials to

strictly follow COVID-19 safe-

ty protocols, including wearing masks, sanitising frequently,

and maintaining social dis-

कार्यालय नगर निगम, देहरादुन

नगर निगम क्षेत्रान्तर्गत विभिन्न स्थलों पर यूनिपोल / होर्डिंग के माध्यम से विज्ञापन

यूनिपोल / होर्डिंग 🛚

हेतु कुल साईट

नगर आयुक्त, नगर निगम, देहरादून

सार्वजनिक निविदा सूचना

प्रदर्शित करने हेतु दिनांक 01.05.2021 से दिनांक 30.04.2023 तक कुल 02 वर्ष हेतु निविदा प्रकाशन की

निविदा के साथ निविदा सूचना प्रपत्र में निर्धारित धनराशि रू0-79,61,607/-की सी०डी०आर० / एफ०डी०आर० संलग्न करनी अनिवार्य होगी। जो नगर आयुक्त नगर निगम, देहरादुन

के नाम प्लेज होगी। निविदायें ई0निविदा के माध्यम से निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय उपलब्ध करायी

जायेगी। निविदादाता को निविदा में अंकित समस्त तकनीकी दस्तावेजों एवं निर्धारित धनराशि की

एफ0डी0आर0 / सी0डी0आर0 को मूल रूप में दिनांक 24.04.2021 की अपरान्ह 4.00 बजे तक निगम

कार्यालय में जमा कराना अनिवार्य होगा जिसका परीक्षण दिनांक 26.04.2021 की सांय 4.00 बजे गठित

समिति के समक्ष किया जायेगा। तकनीकी निविदा के परीक्षण के उपरान्त तकनीकी निविदा में सफल

निविदादाताओं की वित्तीय निविदा समिति द्वारा खोली जायेगी। निविदा प्रपत्र एवं शर्ते विज्ञप्ति प्रकाशन

की तिथि से यु०के0टैन्डर की वेबसाईट से भी डाउनलोड की जा सकती है अथवा किसी भी कार्यदिवस

में नगर निगम कार्यालय से दिनांक 24.04.2021 सांय 4.00 बजे तक प्राप्त की जा सकती है। निविदा

ई0-निविदा के माध्यम से www.uktender.gov.in पर उपलब्ध करायी जायेगी।

तिथि से दिनांक 26.04.2021 की अपरान्ह 2.00 बजे तक ई0—निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

रोड–70 साईट, मसूरी डाईवर्जन से मेन

राजपुर तक-08 साईट, चकराता रोड-47 साईट

जी०एम०एस०रोड-10 साईट, गांधी रोड-10 साईट,

सहारनपुर रोड–16 साईट, हरिद्वार बाईपास रोड–02 साईट, रायपुर रोड–03 साईट, सहस्त्रधारा रोड–10

साईट रेसकोर्स एण्ड रैस्ट कैम्प-03 साईट, ई0सी0

रोड-04 साईट तथा कैन्ट रोड-01 साईट

HSIIDO

FM reviews progress of Covid-19 vaccination

## Mutual fund assets soar 41% to ₹31.43 L cr in FY 2021

**PTI** ■ MUMBAI

Assets under management with the mutual fund industry jumped a whopping 41 per cent in fiscal 2021 to Rs 31.43 lakh crore, despite a minor 1 per cent decline in March, says a report. The 1 per cent decline in assets on monthly basis in March was because of net outflows from open-ended debt funds, even though open-ended equity funds for the first time in June 2020 recorded net inflows, according to the industry data collated by Crisil on Friday.

In keeping with COVID-

19 safety protocols, the inter-

the eligible officials of the two

Smt. @nsitharaman explained

the importance of the

#COVID19 vaccine and

requested the officials to reg-

ister on the Co-Win portal and

get themselves and their fam-

ilies vaccinated at the earliest,"

another tweet said.

निगम द्वारा विज्ञापन हेतु

आरक्षित निविदा धनराशि

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

"During the interactions,

six separate batches.

## Fresh restrictions imposed in Maha may impact festive season auto sales: Icra

PTI MUMBAI

The fresh restrictions imposed in Maharashtra to contain the second wave of Covid-19 are likely to impact the festive season auto sales, as Navaratri and Gudi Padwa are falling in April, according to rating agency Icra.

These two festivals account for a sizeable chunk of the annual vehicle sales across the country, especially Maharashtra, it said.

Gudi Padwa, which is a major festival of Maharashtra, will be celebrated on April 13, while Navrarati will also begin

on the same day.

The Maharashtra government earlier this week announced a slew of restrictions, including night curfews and weekend lockdowns to curtail the rapid spread of the

The state government has imposed stricter restrictions to curb the rapid spread of Covid-19 infections. Automobile dealerships, which are also covered under Shops & Establishment Act might have to remain shut till April 30, Icra vice president Ashish Modani said in a statement on

## South Indian Bank total deposits slightly down at ₹82,710 cr

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

South Indian Bank's total deposits stood at ₹82,710 actions were held virtually in The finance minister also crore as of March-end 2021, sought information on the slightly down from ₹83,034 had been administered among on Friday.

Of this, the retail deposits were up by 15 per cent at ₹76,294 crore as against ₹ 66,457 crore, as per the provisional data, released by the bank to comply with the Sebi norms on disclosure requirements and fair practices.

Bulk deposits, however, plunged 55 per cent year-onyear to ₹4,853 crore at Marchend 2021

Current account and savings account (CASA) dep were up by 18 per cent to ₹24,590 crore as of March 2021. The gross advances fell 8 per cent to ₹60,385 crore, of which corporate advances degrew by 21 per cent to ₹14,800 crore as of March

456740

#### GUJARAT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD TENDER NOTICE NO: SK/ RC /05 of 2020-21 Tender ID ISI Marked 32mm dia Medium Duty G.I. Pipes 456741 only Indian Manufacturer) ISI Marked 200mm and 250mm ERW Pipes

Pre-bid meeting on Dtd. 22/04/2021 at 12 Hrs. onwards at GWSSB Last Date of Online Submission of Tender: 07/05/2021 Bid Opening Date: 10/05/2021 after 15.00 Hrs

(only Indian Manufacturer)

Contact Office: Executive Engineer, Public Health Mechanical Store Division, "A" Block, Patnagar Yojana Bhavan, 2nd Floor, Near GH-4, Sector-16, Gandhinagar-382 016, Gujarat State. Tel/fax. No. (079) 23222844,9978406605. The detailed tender notice and tender documents are available on web site: www.gwssb.org and www.nprocure.com

For Village Level Drinking water Complaint Please Contact our Toll Free No : 1916 NO/INF/VPN/2020/G/45



d. Dehradun-248006

e-Tender Notice Office of Executive Engineer (M&G) Kulhal Power Station Kulhal, invites sealed tenders for following work: Tender No. 01/UJVNL/EE(M&G)/KPS/2021-22 "Design, manufacture testing, delivery, installation and commissioning of 12.5 MVA 6.6/132 kV generator transformers at Kulhal Power House" Estimated cost :Rs. 195,00,000/-(GST Extra)

Date of availability of bid document on website: 09/04/2021 Last date for submission of bids on website: 04/05/2021, 17:00 Hrs

'Avoid Wasteful use of Electricity"

For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in" Executive Engineer (M&G), Kulhal

NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
MAJOR REPAIR OF ONE NO.250 TR (YORK MAKE) CHILLER PLANT (PLANT NO.2), INSTALLED AT UDYOG MINAR BUILDING, UDYOG VIHAR, PHASE-V, GURUGRAM.	09.04.2021 23.04.2021	8.73 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	124-2398418 ia.gurugram@hsiidc.org.in
STRENGTHENING AND UP GRADATION OF 6-LANE IN BOTH WAYS SECTOR DIVIDING ROAD OF SECTOR 81A/82A, 81/82, 85/86, 89/90, (NH-8 RAMPURA CHOWK TO PATAUDI ROAD), ASSET ID 66, 67 & 68 GURUGRAM.	08.04.2021 04.05.2021	113.97 LACS	https://www.gmda.gov.in	xen1infra1.gmda@gov.in
REPAIR OF SURFACE DRAIN, PRECAST RCC SLAB AND PROVIDING & FIXING SFRC M.H. COVER SLAB OF MASTER DRAIN AT VARIOUS LOCATION SECTOR DIVIDING ROAD 52/52A, 56/57, 39/46, 40/45, 41/44, 33/34, 32/38, 46/47, 46/51, 44/45, 45/52, 47/49, 51/52, 51/57, 49/50, 524/56, 33/48 AND TAU DEVI LAL STADIUM SECTOR 38 GURUGRAM AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO	09.04.2021 30.04.2021	1.04 LACS	https://www.gmda.gov.in	xen2infra2.gmda@gov.in
SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE FOR PURCHASE OF PESTICIDES/INSECTICIDES/BIO- PESTICIDES FOR TRADING ON 100% CONSIGNMENT BASIS AND ANNUAL RATE CONTRACT FOR RAW MATERIALS, FOR HAFED PESTICIDES PLANT, TARAORI FOR THE YEAR 2021-22 UPTO 31.03.2022.	09.04.2021 15.04.2021	2.62 LACS	www.hafed.gov.in	0172290520 hafed@hry.nic.in

## PARTIAL CANCELLATION/DIVERSION/ **REGULATION & RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS**

In order to further strengthen the infrastructure and enhance safety standards, Northern Railway will undertake the construction work of Road Under Bridge in lieu of L-Xing no. 73 at KMs. 127/19-21 between Karnal-Bhaini Khurd Stations on Delhi Jn.-Ambala Section. To execute this works, there will be a Power and Traffic Block for a duration of 4.00 hours on 12.04.2021 (Monday). As a result, the following trains will temporarily be affected as under:-

SHORT TERMINATION/ORIGINATION OF TRAINS						
Train No. & Train Name	Trains to Short Terminate/ Originate at/from Station	Cancelled between Stations	Date of Cancellation (from originating station)			
01841 Khajuraho - Kurukshetra Jn. Spl. Train	Panipat Jn.	Karnal - Nilokheri - Kurukshetra Jn.	11.04.2021			
01842 Kurukshetra Jn Khajuraho Special Train	Panipat Jn.	Kurukshetra Jn Nilokheri - Karnal	12.04.2021			
04449 New Delhi - Kurukshetra Jn. MEMU Train	Panipat Jn.	Babarpur - Kohand - Gharaunda - Bazida Jatan - Karnal - Bhaini Khurd - Taraori - Nilokheri - Amin - Kurukshetra Jn	12.04.2021			
04452 Kurukshetra Jn Delhi Jn. MEMU MEX Special Train	Panipat Jn.	Diwana - Samalkha - Bhodwal Majri - Ganaur- Rajlu Garhi - Sandal Kalan - Sonipat - Harsana Kalan - Rathdhana - Narela - Holambi Kalan - Khera Kalan - Badli - Adarsh Nagar Delhi - Delhi Azadpur - Subzi Mandi - Delhi Jn.	12.04.2021			

DIVERSION OF TRAIN				
Train No. & Train Name	Diverted Route	Date (from originating station)		
02716 Amritsar Jn	Ambala Cant. Jn Saharanpur -			
Hazur Sahib Nanded	Meerut City - Ghaziabad -	12.04.2021		
Express Special Train	Tilak Bridge - Hazrat Nizamuddin	22.2004.01.242-104		

#### REGULATION/RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS

Train No. 02926 Amritsar Jn. - Bandra Terminus Express Special will be regulated for 20 Minutes on 12.04.2021 at Kurukshetra station.

Train No. 02925 Bandra Terminus - Amritsar Express Special will departs at 13:00 hrs. instead of 11:30 hrs. from Bandra Terminus station and will be rescheduled for 90 minutes on 11.04.2021

Train No. 02715 Hazur Sahib Nanded - Amritsar Jn. Sachkhand Express will departs at 11:00 hrs. instead of 09:30 hrs. from Hazur Sahib Nanded station and will be rescheduled for 90 minutes on 11.04.2021

Note: All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., may be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

For any kind of Information such as detailed Time-Table and Stations enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website http://www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTES App.

Visit RailMadad website: www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in Download RailMadad app.



RailMadad Helpline No.



Serving Customers with a Smile



Bollywood Most of the people don't know that my mother tongue is Bhojpuri. But I became famous for the



#### HUMA QURESHI

It's not often that you get to portray a character that lets you explore so many layers as a performer. Rani Bharti in *Maharani* has been a delight to play. She starts off as someone whom we all know and relate to but what she goes onto become is someone few of us can

THERE IS HOPE



#### **MIKA SINGH**

My biggest weak point is my language. I cannot speak fluent English. At an award function, I tried but I messed up. What I wanted to say was 'I would love to work with Rahman sir,' but I ended up saying 'Rahman sir would love to work with me.' It was an awkward moment but Rahman sir understood me



**SHORTCIRCUITS** 

The shooting for Bisaat was intense because it was emotionally draining. But as an actor it's been very satisfying, because each day when I would come back home, although I would be emotionally and physically tired, I would feel happy about the fact that I gave it



#### **ABHISHEK BANERJEE**

My role was that of a pressman in Ajeeb Daastaans and the fun part is I do not know how to iron When Rai (Mehta) watched me try, he knew I was no good. I had to learn it from scratch. I realised that this was something my father and my wife wanted me to learn all my life. It's finally happening now.

#### **KAT DENNINGS**

This body positivity movement that is happening now is amazing but when I was younger, this wasn't the way it was. I got a lot of negative talk about my body and I just lived with it. There is something visceral that happens to me when somebody talks about a young person's body. It's not okay, and it's none of their business



#### **ENCOUNTER 45 MINUTES**

Filmmaker and series producer of *Age of* Nature, VERITY WHITE, talks about a fresh look at our relationship with nature, our impact on it, how it works and how we can begin to restore the balance of life on earth. By TEAM VIVA

he world is changing. And clearly, at this crucial turning point of our planet, three most important things are: Awakening, understanding and changing. Giving us a deeper understanding of nature and our place within it, Sony BCC Earth brings the Age of Nature. The show is a fresh look at our relationship with nature and how we are beginning to restore the balance of life on earth. Excerpts:

#### ■What does the show Age of Nature try to convey to the audience?

Well, we wanted people to understand a few fundamental things about nature. One is that we're utterly dependent on it, whether you live in the countryside of your farm or in a city, and you drink water, breathe air, we're all as a human species utterly dependent on it. And that nature is in a bit of trouble at the moment. I think that's not new for anybody. But we're almost at a tipping point where if we don't start to pay more attention and look after nature better, we're going to find ourselves living on a very uncomfortable planet. The most important thing is it's not that difficult to help nature heal itself. The power of it has what it needs and nature will heal itself quickly.



some of the ways we can restore our

I think giving space to nature is the most important thing we can do. It will balance itself and take care of itself. Nature changes all the time and that's fine. But we just need to sort of leave it to get on with it. So if you give it an empty field, it will very quickly reseed that field with plants and then the pollinators will come and the birds will come in and very quickly that empty field will be full of life again. So I think just to give it some space,

take away our chemicals, our intensive

unsustainable building practices, and let nature do what it wants to do.

> ☐How are the concepts of awakening, understanding and changing explained in the show?

For us as filmmakers, we needed to go back in time to explain how we've got to the point where we are today. And it hasn't taken very long in the great history of the world where humans have only been distressing nature for relatively a couple of 100 years in

an intensive way. So you can see the journey of what's happened there,

we've been doing and the effect. But also what we can see is that we do already treat nature in some ways, much better than we did 50 years ago. And that's because our understanding of nature is so much better now. And that's what you can see in Episode Two: The science that we can do now is incredible. We understand how ocean currents work, how the atmosphere protects our planet, how biodiversity is, so it's sort of complicated and interconnected. We didn't know these things 50 years ago, but we know them now. That means that we can know better how to look after them. Going forward into the future with climate change, this is obviously the greatest challenge that humanity has ever faced. But nature can be a huge part of helping us cope with that because nature sequesters carbon. It's the cheapest, easiest, most obvious way to help us reduce some of the carbon in the atmosphere, which is something we

### Can you explain the importance of balance of nature, and how humans

need to do urgently.

Balance of nature is quite an interesting term. I think nature is far from balance. It is wild, dynamic, moving and changing all the time. It's natural to have fires and floods. It adapts quickly to all the changes that happen across the planet. And if you're

a larger timescale and a larger space, then it all balances out. But we're not expecting nature to be still and to be calm. What nature needs to have is the ability to make these changes because that's what it's always done. And that's what it needs more space for. So I think, to get us to get the balance with nature right we just need to give nature more

#### What are some of the incredible things you learned about nature during the making of the show?

Well, I learned the term. For me, the biggest revelation was the term 'nature's ability to store carbon forests'. It stores that carbon with the strength of its biodiversity. So it's not just planting trees, which as you know, a useful technical pump to pump the carbon down. But the storage needs to happen in the soil, it needs to happen under the water in the oceans. That can only happen if ecosystems are healthy and biodiversity — rich and strong. When we destroy nature, when we trawl the ocean floor without huge fishing trawlers, when we burn forests, when we plough, we admit as much carbon as burning fossil fuels. That was something that I didn't know earlier. The other, probably the most interesting shoot I did was going to film the ranches live with wolves around the Yellowstone National Park over in North America, and how they've

learned to cope living with

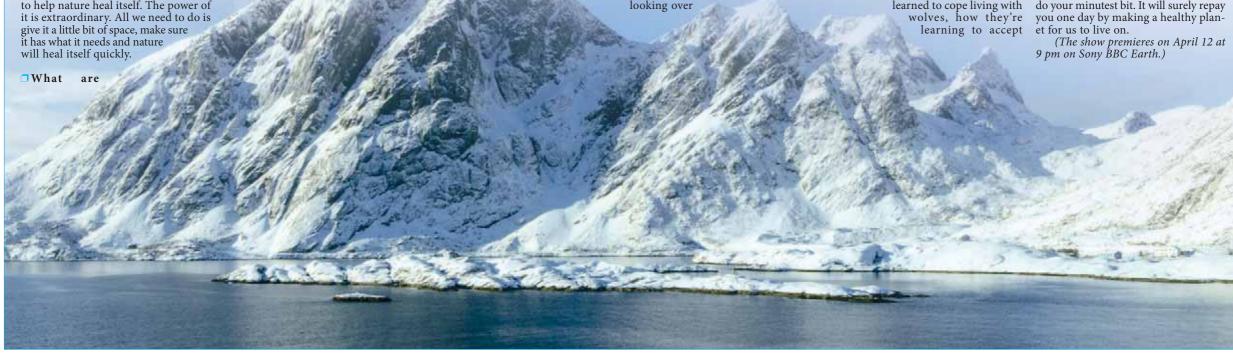
predators back into the ecosystem and how we could learn from their journey and apply it to other places in the world where wolves are being tolerated, once again, across Europe, for example.

#### ■What really drove you to this profession — wildlife filmmaking?

Well, I've been into nature since I was a child. I've always spent a lot of time observing, collecting bugs, bringing them home, much to my mother's horror. It must be genetic because it's been with me for a very long time. Also, I really enjoy storytelling — the technical aspect of filmmaking doesn't interest me so much, it's simply telling of stories. So to bring those two passions together, I entered into the world of wildlife filmmaking. And I feel, one cannot make wildlife or nature-inspired films without realising that there's a bigger story to tell, and that our nature is in a bit of trouble. We simply need to pay more attention to it, especially now.

#### Any message you have for the Indian audience?

Yes, I think there's a lot of hope out there, and the narrative of climate change is frightening. It's depressing. But there's hope in nature and everybody can play their part, be it a small window box in a city or a back garden in a rural area or when you're farming. Nature will be grateful for everything, even if you do your minutest bit. It will surely repay

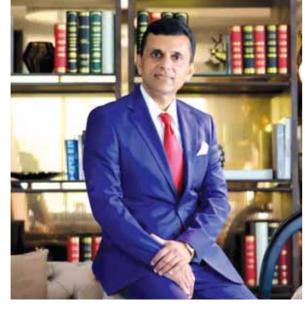


# Ambitious and unstoppable 'I value my privilege'

Veteran producer ANAND PANDIT shares that actor Abhishek Bachchan often gave him chills while performing key scenes in the film The Big Bull

Veteran producer Anand Pandit is a cinephile and storytelling through powerful performances is what has always drawn him to the world of cinema. His latest release The Big Bull is now streaming on Disney+Hotstar and Anand looks back at the film's journey with pride, especially his lead actor Abhishek Bachchan's rivetting portray-

Pandit says, "I am glad that after all the challenges COVID-19 posed, the film has reached the audience. The biggest highlight of the film for me is, of course, the performance of Abhishek Bachchan. He is a very different actor and in a league of his own. There are a few scenes in the film where his character has shades of Trishul's iconic



protagonist Vijay but he played them the way only he can. As when he says, he is in a hurry to reach the top or when he reminds industrialists that by giving him ten minutes, they can earn crores. This similarity was not intentional. But his character was similarly driven, ambitious and unstoppable. Yet, he played it with his trade-mark half smile, that unmistakable twinkle in the eye. He has revived memories of landmark performances from Hindi cinema, including

his own in Guru." Pandit hopes to work with Abhishek again. He says, "I want to cast him in a role that is

completely different from anything he has done before. Maybe, as a full-fledged action star in revenge mode. Or maybe in a hyper real-ism mode that will shock everyone. He often gave me chills while performing key scenes from the film especially near the climax."

The Big Bull is directed and co-written by Kookie Gulati and produced by Ajay Devgn, Anand Pandit, Vikrant Sharma and Kumar Mangat Pathak It Kumar Mangat Pathak. It stars Abhishek Bachchan along with Nikita Dutta, Ileana D'Cruz, Sohum Shah, Ram Kapoor and Saurabh Shukla

BAFTA-nominated actor ADARSH GOURAV says that he knows the advantage of being middle-class

 $B^{\text{AFTA-nominated actor Adarsh}}_{\text{Gourav says a middle-class}}$ upbringing in smalltown Jamshedpur had its advantage. It helped him experience a wider perspective of life.

Gourav has received a BAFTA nomination in the Best Actor category for his starring role of Balram Halwai in *The White Tiger.* Balram is a lower-class boy from the backwaters of Bihar, who moves to swanky Gurgaon. Adarsh, who did his schooling in Jamshedpur, subsequently relocated with his family in Mumbai.

On the advantage of being middle class, Adarsh said, "I think the fact that you do not get everything in life that you want, and how to deal with it (is an advantage). If I give a small example, at the age of nine, if I wanted a pair of Nike shoes, I wouldn't get that because either there was no showroom of Nike



back then or my father thought it was an unnecessary expense. It wouldn't have been the same with a boy from a wealthy family. Not that I was upset or anything but we always knew what we could afford and what we couldn't. Having said that since my parents had a huge passion for travelling, we would go

on a family vacation every year."

He continued: "We did not go abroad for those vacations but in India, as child, I have travelled everywhere, and I know how beautiful my country is. We went to Himachal Pradesh, we went to Goa and also different places in South India. I felt the diversity, and whenever we travelled by train, we would chat with fellow passengers and the journeys were filled with memory."

"I know the advantage of being middle-class. My spectrum towards life is wider because I have interacted with people from different walks of life. My compassion and empa-thy towards other people and their condition is more. I value my privilege of having good food, going to a good school, living in a good house and everything that my parents have given me. Honestly, I do not want to change those values," he summed





CONVERSATION



→pp Gear S27 sees Paddy McGuinness, Freddie Flintoff and Chris Harris tackling the fastest, hottest, toughest top gear challenges to date: pushing their cars and themselves to the very limits of endurance. All because no one takes testing cars as seriously as Top Gear. And also because they really should have checked the small print of their contracts more closely before signing. From the brutal heat of the Ethiopian desert, the sweltering Borneo rainforest, the wilds of Iceland to the pedestrianised shopping district of down-town Mansfield, the show is getting bigger than ever before. Excerpts:

## ☐How did the chemistry between the three of you begin?

Chris: We had a little test late last summer. We secretly went to an airfield with a couple of cameras and just messed about. It was a really good idea. It wasn't a chemistrybuilding exercise as much as a ques tion of: "How's this going to play?" We had only met for about an hour. I thought: "They're my heroes, I can't be that offensive." But then this note came through from them saying: "Nothing is off-limits," which was very refreshing. That's when I knew we'd be fine. We hit it off immediately.

It was quite clear from the beginning that the banter was pretty good and that we had a very similar puerile sense of humour, and the motorcar is a very good medium for that. It was immediately apparent that it was going to be quite light-hearted. If there is some geekery that needs to be done, I can cover that off. But Fred and Paddy know more about cars than they let on. They're very modest about









# BEHIND THE WHEELS

From the brutal heat of the Ethiopian desert, the sweltering Borneo rainforest, the wilds of Iceland to the pedestrianised shopping district of downtown Mansfield, Top Gear S27 is getting bigger than ever before, shares the host of the show CHRIS HARRIS. By TEAM VIVA

between us. We just clicked.

□So you've become close?

Chris: Yes. They've both become massive mates of mine. This is quite strange for me, working with two people that I have admired from afar for a long time. Paddy was in Phoenix Nights, which is in my top three programmes ever. I still watch it religiously, and I'm always quoting bad lines at him. I'm a complete cricket tragic. So I'm working with my heroes. But this is a comfortable place for me. I know that. I knew then that it would work a lot about cars. I can test drive a

Lamborghini. I can plug the gaps in their knowledge. Meanwhile, they can be funny, and occasionally just kick the hell out of me. That's fine!

□Do Paddy and Freddie sometimes gang up on you?

Chris: Yes. There is a danger that with Paddy and Fred, it's going to become a northern show. Even though I'm the incumbent presenter, I do sometimes feel that the North has taken over. It's a bit like Game Of Thrones. Paddy and Fred get into this northern bickering thing when they leave out the def-

inite article, and I don't understand what they're on about. So sometimes you have to say: "Can you just leave it alone?" You should hear them try and speak to people in Ethiopia — it's a struggle at times. Paddy always introduces himself by saying: "Hi, I'm Paddy from Bolton", which doesn't mean very much when you're on the Eritrean border.

□Did Freddie also struggle to fit in some cars?

Chris: Yes. Fred is not designed for cars. There is a Lotus he drives later in the series, and it was funny

watching him getting strapped into that because his feet don't fit into the pedal boxes. Most cars are comfortable until you are about 6'3 or 6'4. A lot of sports cars are just not designed for the larger gentleman. We drove a buggy in Iceland at the weekend, and I just didn't know how Fred was going to fit. His knees were touching the steering wheel. I thought: "I'm not sure how that's going to work." But he always manages to do it, and he never complains about it.

□How would you characterise

others' driving styles?
Chris: I would describe Paddy's driving style as squeaky, and I don't mean the tyres. When he's excited, he gets quite squeaky. But he and Fred are both amazing drivers. They wouldn't be doing this unless they could drive. We're a bit more rigorous about how we screen test people now. If someone turns up and they are absolutely mustard on camera, but they can't really drive, they aren't going to get the job. It's just not possible. You can't do that. It's not safe. The practicalities of filming mean you have to have cameramen near you. You can't be running people over. You need a level of skill behind the wheel. Both of these two have it. I won't say anything nicer than that, otherwise their egos will swell.

☐Is it important that the show also appeals to non-petrol heads?
Chris: Yes. With the changes in

media increasingly, if you want to watch 40 minutes on the differential of a BMW, that's online. It's not eight o'clock on a Sunday night on

BBC Two, is it? This has got to be a more general show. That means fun and that's what Fred and Paddy bring. Frankly, they just have to walk through the door in the morning, and I start laughing. It's an entertainment show, and those guys really know how to entertain.

☐How does this series compare with previous ones that you have been involved with?

Chris: We are in a great place. We are very happy. There's a sense that anything is possible. From the first time we knocked about, the three of us have got on very well. We have a really good laugh. Paddy and Fred are very giving. They don't need to be as giving to me because they're both super famous. But they're both very willing to have the mickey ripped out of them, which is really important. We call chemistry the 'c' word on Top Gear, and you can't fake that, can you?

(The show will air on April 10 every Saturday at 10 pm on Colors Infinity.)

#### STUDIO CHAT =

# Proud of my wife: Sajid

In a special episode of Indian Pro Music League, composer Sajid Khan's wife LUBNA shares that she went behind everyone's back to donate Wajid her kidney

While the competition will heat up during the forthcoming episodes of Indian Pro Music League with all the teams putting their best foot forward, the Wajid Khan special' had many light moments with all the stars sharing some heart-warming anecdotes about the late musician. Sajid-Wajid's mother, Razina, and Sajid's wife, Lubna, also appeared on the show as special guests and a video tribute by them for Wajid had a very special revelation. Wajid's mother revealed a time when the late musician was in dire need of a kidney. Being a diabetic patient, she couldn't donate her kidney, but they were still hopeful of finding a match. However, as time went especially with people cheating them and not helping them out. That's when Sajid's wife Lubna went behind everyone's back and gave her kidney to Wajid.

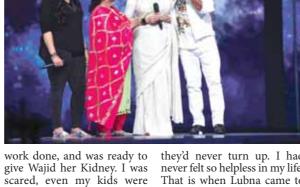
As Razina revealed, "We had asked all our relatives, however, no one came forward. But during that time, Lubna



also donate him a kidney, I didn't ask anyone. I just got all my this for him." I told Wajid everything and told him that if we're a match, we'll go for a transplant. He was very upset, but I told him one thing that you're very important to me, and that left him speechless. The person who has always stood by everyone, if his family doesn't stand by him in

secretly got all her tests done and gave him her kidney." his time of need, then it is very shameful. Thankfully, we were a match. Sajid, my mother, and heard that someone else can my children were very supportive, and I am happy I could do

> Sajid mentioned, "Wajid was unwell for two years and my mother took care of him on a daily basis. We requested her to go home and rest, but she never left the room where Wajid was staying. There was a time when my wife went to the hospital, got all the paper-



worried, but I am really proud of what she did. At that time, none of our family members name, fame and we went to the best doctors, but we couldn't get the right donor. I can recall people taking money from me saying that they will donate their kidney but when the time came they just disappeared. I used to wait at the airport for hours for people to come, but

they'd never turn up. I had never felt so helpless in my life. That is when Lubna came to me and said I want to donate my kidney to Wajid, which she did. All I am trying to say blessed to have a family that loves us, and we don't need anything more than that in life. We should spend time with them, love them and be there for them always.

(Indian Pro Music League airs every Saturday and Sunday at 8 pm on Zee TV.)

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Vivek Tandon son of Late Shri J.K. Tandon resident of MIG flat no. 312,1st floor, Prasad Nagar, New Delhi hereby informed to all that I am the bonafide ALLOTTEE/lessee/GPA holder of property no. MIG flat no. 312,1st floor, Prasad Nagar, New Delhi vide file no. F.27(25)77/LAB(H)MIG has applied for Mutation and conversion from lease hold to free hold in DDA and the opinional domand latter, Pesseesing latter, eight

and conversion from lease hold to free hold in DDA and the original demand letter, Possession letter, site possession and NOC for water and electric connection of the above said propertyflat have been lost / misplaced. An NCR/FIR to this effect has been lost in Delhi vide no 288603 dated 02.04.2021. If any one found same may please contact to me within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, the person' institution / government/ Authority claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property can personally inform or write of Dy. Director (MIG), 3rd floor, D-Block, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi 110023

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mr. Dharmender Kumar Sharma and Mr. Pardeep Kumar Sharma are the owners and in possession of Entire Third Floor with roof rights built on Property bearing No. C/88, measuring 140 sq. yards, Rect. No.17, Killa No. 7, Village Asaltpur, Khader Delhi colony known as Jeewan Park, Pankha Road, Uttam Naara Zelhi: Said Property bu virtue of Relinquish-

colony known as Jeewan Park, Pankha Road, Uttam Nagar, Delhi: "Said Property by uttrue of Relinquishment Deed dated 17.05.2018, duly registered as Document No.12424, All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owners intend to take loan from our client i.e. Aditya Birla Finance Ltd. by mortgaging the said property to our client, if anybody has any

objection's upon said property its ownership & Title's its Sale and Mortgage, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)

#### OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER- II **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL- II, DELHI** 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001. PROCLAMATION OF SALE

NOTICE UNDER RULE 38 OF THE SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 READ WITH SECTION 25(A) THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO BANKS & FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT,1993. RC No. 312/2014

ICICI BANK VS BHARAT SOMASTAMB

TO CD# Mr. Bharat Somastamb. S/o. Sh. Krishan Gopal Somastamb. R.o House No.523, Sector-21C Faridabad, Haryana-121001.

Also At:- Bharat Enterprises, G1/203A, Indera Enclave, Sector-21-D, Faridabad-121002.

Whereas in execution of ibid RC No.312/2014 dated 28.08.2014 in OA No.308/2013 drawn up by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi, the CD is to pay to the applicant Rs.12,16,823/- (Rs. Twelve Lacs Sixteen Thousand Eight Hundred And Twenty Three Only) has become due from you as per the ibid Recovery Certificate drawn in OA No. 308/2013 by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal - II, Delhi. The applicant is entitled to recover a sum of Rs. 12,01,823/- (Rs. Twelve Lacs One Thousand Eight Hundred And Twenty Three Only) alongwith pendentelite and future interest @15.01% per annum w.e.f. 18.10.2013 till realization with cost of Rs.15,000/- and costs from the Certificate Debtor (CD), failing which the amount shall be recovered by sale of the hypothecated vehicles. In case of any shortfall, the same shall be recovered from the personal movable and immovable assets of the CD.

And whereas the undersigned has ordered the sale of the hypothecated vehicle mentioned in scheduled property for satisfaction of the said Recovery Certificate.

3. Notice is hereby given that in the absence of any order of postponement, the said hypothecated vehicle (mentioned under the schedule of property below) shall be sold through auction by Sh. Kamlesh Kumar Tiwari, Advocate (Mobile No. 9810019131), by Public Auction at 11:00, AM on 06.05.2021.

4. The CH bank shall ensure that prospective bidders are allowed inspection of the said hypothecated vehicle (mentioned under the schedule of property below) before day of auction for which interested individuals may contact the concerned officer of CH Ms. Kalayani Preeti (MOB: 9599281817).

5. The sale shall be of the movable property of the above named Certificate Defaulters (CD), subject to the liabilities and claims attaching to the said hypothecated vehicle, if any.

6. The sale shall be stopped if, before lot is knocked down, the arrears mentioned in the said certificate, interest costs (including cost of sale) are tendered to the officer conducting the sale or proof is given to his satisfaction that the amount of such certificate alongwith the interest and costs has been paid to the undersigned.

7. At the sale the public generally are invited to bid either personally or by duly authorized agent. No officer or other person, having any duty to perform in connection with this sale shall, however, either directly or indirectly bid for, acquire or attempt to acquire any interest in the property sold.

8. The property is being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS" BASIS AND "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS." The sale shall be subject to the conditions prescribed in the Second Scheduled to the Income-Tax Act, 1961 and the rules made thereunder and to the following further conditions: he particulars sp

ed in the Schedule have been stated to the best of the information of the undersign but the undersigned shall not be answerable for any error, mis-statement or omission in this proclamation. 10. The Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) be fixed as follows:

No.	Details of property	Price(in Rs.)	Deposit (EMD) (in Rs.)
1.	Mercedes Benz/E280CDI, bearing Registration No. HR-51Y-0945.	3,00,000/-	30,000/-
11 7	The amount by which the hiddings are to be increased shall be de	termined by the	ne Officer conducting the

sale. In the event of any dispute arising as to the amount of bid, or as to the bidder, the lot shall at once be again 12. Intending bidders shall be required to pay Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of pay order/demand draft payable at New Delhi and in favour of Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi before the start of biding and identity proofs, address proofs etc. The said deposit shall be adjusted in the case of successful bidders; and in

the case of unsuccessful bidders the same shall be refunded without interest, on the date of sale 13. Successful highest bidder shall have to deposit 25% of the sale proceeds by way of pay order/demand draft favoring the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, within 24 hours (next working day) by way of

bank draft, after adjusting the EMD stated above, failing which the EMD shall be forfeited 14. The purchaser shall deposit the balance 75% of the sale proceeds alongwith poundage fee @ 2% upto Rupees 1,000/- @ 1% of the sale price exceeding Rupees 1,000/ within 15 days from the date of auction. The Poundage fees shall be deposited through a demand draft payable in favor of the

15. In case of default, the amount earlier deposited by the bidder, if the undersigned considers fit, after defraying the expenses of the sale shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold, and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or to any part thereof or of any part of the sum for which it may

16. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids if found unreasonable or postpone the auction at any time without assigning any reason

of	Description of property to be sold with names of co-owners where the property belongs to the defaulter and any other persons is co-owners		encumbrances to	Claims, if any, which have been put forward to the property and other known particulars bearing on its nature and value.
	Mercedes Benz/ E280CDI, bearing Registration No. HR- 51Y-0945.	No information	No information	No information

Place of auction: Godara Yard, Khewat No:166/1. Near Atul Kataria Chock, Behind Gyan Devi School, Sec-17,

Sukhrali, Gurugram- 122022

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal at New Delhi on this 02.03.2021.

(Dattatrey Bajpayee) Recovery Officer- II DRT- II, Delh

#### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARENCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused namely Rama S/o Otiya @ Teja R/o C-Block, T-Hut, Raghuveer Nagar, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 263/2019 U/s 308/34 IPC P.S.: Pahar Ganj, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrants of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Rama could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Rama has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Rama of FIR No. 263/2019 U/s 308/34 IPC P.S.: Pahar Ganj, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 29.05.2021. By order

Sh. Chander Mohan Addl Chief Metropolitan Magistrate-01 Central District, Room No 366, 3rd Floor DP/746/CD/2021 Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

SEARCH OF MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one

girl, Named: Neha, D/o: Sh. Sonu, R/o:

H.No. C-2, Aman Vihar, Kirari, Delhi. Aged:

19 years has been missing from her home

since 15.03.2021 at 05:00 PM. In this regard,

a Case Vides DD No. 101A, Dated

15.03.2021, has been lodged at P.S. Aman

Height: 4'9" feet, Complexion: fair, Face:

Round, Built: Thin, Wearing: Dark Yellow

Vihar, Delhi. Her description is as under:

### **SEARCH FOR MISSING WOMAN**



General public is hereby informed that this woman namely Meenu Saini W/o Rakesh Saini R/o H.No. B-50, Naharpur, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi Age: 38 years, Height: 5'2", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Build: Medium, Identification: Mentally Sound, wearing blue colour salwar-kurta and hawai chappal in feet, has been missing

since 23.03.2021 from her house. In this regard DD No. 36-A dated 23.03.2021 has been lodged at P.S. North Rohini, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this missing woman may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Website: http://cbi.nic.in Tel.: 24368638/24368641

SHO: P.S. North Rohini, Delhi Ph.: 011-8750870330

## SEARCH FOR MISSING



Neha

General public is hereby informed that a man namely Suresh Anand, D/o: Sh. Vishmber Datt, R/o: H.No. B-2/8, Budh Vihar, Ph-I, Delhi has been missing since 11.03.2021 from the area of P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 80A dated 18.03.2021 has been lodged at Police Station Vijay Vihar. The

Name: Suresh Anand, Age: 34 Years, Height: 5'4" Face: Long, Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, Wearing: Blue Jeans and Checkdar Shirt and Blue shoes in feet

If anyone has any information about this missing man please inform P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi.

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in

Police Station, Vijay Vihar, Delhi Ph: 011-27511294, 8750870329 DP/756/RD/2021

## SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that a lady namely Babita (along with her daughter namely Sanskarti), W/o: Devender, R/o: Lala ka Makan Near Bus Stand 990 Rithala village, Delhi has been missing since 07.03.2021 from the area of P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 46 A dated 19.03.2021 has been lodged at Police Station Vijay Vihar. The description of missing lady and her daughter is as under:

Name: Babita, Age: 38 Years, Height: 5'3", Face Round, Complexion: Fair, Built: Strong, Wearing: Red & Blue Colour Suit-Salwar and Chappal in Feet. Name: Sanskarti, Age: 04 Years, Height: 2'5"

Face: Oval, Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, Wearing: T-Shirt & Blue Colour Half Pant and Pink Colour Sandal in Feet.

Sanskarti If anyone has any information about this missing lady and he daughter please inform P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi.

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in

Police Station, Vijay Vihar, Delh DP/757/RD/2021 Ph: 011-27511294, 8750870329

Usman R/o Foot path infront of Central Baptish Church, Main Road Chandani Chowk, Delhi, Age: 1 Month, Height: 1', Complexion: Sallow, Face: Oval, Built: Thin is kidnapped since 20.10.2016 from the area of P.S. Kotwali, Delhi. In this regard a vide case FIR No. 497/16, u/s 363 IPC dated 20.10.2016 has been registered at P.S. Kotwali, Delhi.

General Public is hereby informed that a

small boy namely Ryhaan S/o Mh

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the kidnapped child but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this child please inform undersigned.

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.nic.in Ph.: 011-24368638,24368641 Fax: 011-24368639 DP/582/N/2020

## (Direct), 23015229, 23015218 Extn. 210. S.H.O

Colour T-Shirt, Blue Colour Jeans and White Colour Shoes in her feet.

If anyone has any information about the missing girl, then please

inform P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi at email: ciccbi@cbi.nic.in or website

: http://cbi.nic.in Fax: No.011-23011133, Ph.: 011-23014046

### DP/755/RD/2021

P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi Ph. No. 011-23014046, 23015218

description of missing man is as under:

Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

P.S. Kotwali, Delhi. Ph.: 011-23797100, 23953442, 8750870121

# HARSHAL'S DREAM DAY

## RCB all-rounder takes his maiden IPL fifer & then scores the winning run in final ball to script 2 wicket win

PTI CHENNAI

B de Villiers rolled back the years with his beautiful yet brutal assault as Royal Challengers Bangalore pipped defending champions Mumbai Indians by two wickets in a last-ball thriller in the Indian Premier League opener here on Friday. De Villiers smashed 48 off 27 balls

after RCB were down in the dumps at 106 for 5. Harshal Patel capped off his dream day by scraping a single off the final delivery to reach the target of 160 in 20 overs.

Haryana's Harshal, an eternal peripheral presence in the IPL, finally had his night under the lights with 5 for 27, which helped RCB restrict MI to 159 for nine.

MI again lost the first match as has been the tradition in the IPL but they lost it to de Villiers, who changed the script in a space of two overs by attacking the two MI spinners Rahul Chahar (0/43) and Krunal Pandya (1/25).

His attack prompted Rohit Sharma to finish his best bowler Jasprit Bumrah's spell (2/26 in 4 overs) before the final over, from which seven runs were required.

RCB were in control when Glenn Maxwell (39 off 28 balls) came in and upset leg-spinner Chahar's line with a reverse-pull boundary. He repeated the shot off the same bowler for a six and got another maximum off Krunal Pandya over long-on.

Skipper Virat Kohli (33 off 29 balls), who had launched into an experienced Marco Jansen in his first over, got a bit bogged down as the innings progressed. However, Maxwell's attack meant that Kohli could take his time. It was MI's strike bowler Bumrah,

who came back for his second spell at the back-10 and removed the Indian captain with an angular delivery.

If that wasn't enough, Jansen, the once 6 feet 8 inch youngster, banged one little.



Royal Challengers Bangalore all-rounder Harshal Patel celebrates with his teammates after he takes wicket of Mumbai Indians batsman during 2021 IPL opening game

short that ended Maxwell's potentially dangerous innings as the 'Big Show' once again promised a lot but delivered

After Jansen removed Shahbaz Ahmed, de Villiers announced his arrival with a six and a boundary off total under check.

Earlier, Harshal produced a death over masterclass, which kept the MI

He picked up three wickets in his

final over for a run and also became the first bowler to pick up a five-wick-et haul against Mumbai Indians.

Reserve opener Chris Lynn (49 off 35 balls) partially made amends for his part in a horrible mix-up that led to skipper Rohit Sharma's (19 off 15 balls) run-out, by adding 70 runs in seven overs for second wicket with Suryakumar Yadav (31 off 23 balls).

That stand was the platform that MI needed to fire during the back-end. Fresh from his exploits for India, Ishan Kishan blazed his way to 28 off 19 balls but Harshal got a few wickets

inflicting bigger damage On a Chepauk track where a good score is anything in the region of 150, the total was certainly par for the

in the final over to prevent MI from

Kyle Jamieson (1/27 in 4 overs) had an impressive IPL debut with his disconcerting bounce but the seasoned Yuzvendra Chahal (0/41 in 4 overs) has clearly lost his bearings for

some time now.

But Harshal, Chahal's Haryana teammate made it up with some accurate wicket-to-wicket bowling in the 18th and 20th over. Lynn, who looked shaky during

the first few overs, stepped out to loft Chahal for a six over long-on and another over wide of long-on off left arm spinner Shahbaz Ahmed to get his rhythm back. This was after he called Rohit for

a non-existent single and then sent him back, only to find the skipper yards short of his ground.

Suryakumar (31 off 23 balls), at the other end, took off from where he left against England as he clipped Jamieson for a boundary, punched Chahal through covers off the back foot and then back-cut Dan Christian for another four.

The pitch that looked slow during the first four overs went out of the equation as runs came at a fair clip.

#### **PLAYER**

1. Chris Lynn (MI)

2. AB de Villiers (RCB) 3. Glenn Maxwell (RCB)

## **PLAYER**

1. Harshal Patel (RCB)

#### **WKTS** 5 2

**RUNS** 

49

48

39

#### 2. Jasprit Bumrah (MI) 3. Marco Jansen (RCB)

**MOST SIXES** 

1. Chris Lynn (MI) 2. AB de Villiers (RCB)

#### 3 2 3. Glenn Maxwell (RCB)

#### SUMMER SLAM

MOTION PICTURE



ENROUTE: Sunrisers Hyderabad's English recruit Jason Roy poses for photo as he boards flight to leave for India and take

#### **GREAT TO HAVE BHUVI BACK: WARNER** SRH captain David Warner on Friday said the return of

senior India pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar will strengthen his side which is already quite balanced in all departments. "Our team is pretty balanced and there are going to be some selection headaches which is always good," Warner said. "It is great that Bhuvi is back. He has had a fantastic series against England. We have a lot of depth in bowling and firepower in batting.

#### **BEHRENDORFF REPLACES HAZLEWOOD**

Australian fast bowler Jason Behrendorff will replace compatriot Josh Hazlewood in the CSK squad after the latter pulled out of the IPL. Behrendorff, a left-arm pacer, has featured in 11 ODIs and seven T20Is for Australia so far. This is his second IPL stint after having represented Mumbai Indians in 2019.

#### **NZ TRAVEL BAN COULD AFFECT KIWIS**

New Zealand's travel ban from India starting Sunday could impact its cricketers playing in the IPL and force them to fly straight to the UK for the two-Test series against England in May-June, followed by the World Test Championship final. Captain Kane Williamson, pacers Trent Boult and Kyle Jamieson are among the 10 New Zealand players taking part in the IPL.

### JHYE TO DEAL PRESSURE WITH SMILE

The T20 format can be unforgiving for the bowlers and Punjab Kings Australian pacer Jhye Richardson plans to deal with high pressure situations in his maiden IPL with a "smile" before his delivery stride. A smile before starting his run up worked for him in the Big Bash League, where he ended up as the leading wicket-taker, and he feels sporting a grin even after he is hit for a six should help him deal with the extreme pressure that comes with playing in the world's biggest T20 league.

#### **PUNTER EXPECTS RIGHT ATTITUDE**

For Ponting facing a team like CSK, with a proven record, is always a tough challenge and he expects the "right attitude" from each and every member of his side. "Although we've got a slightly different squad, we expect to play better as a group and achieve some better results. So, for us, CSK is just game one. We need to approach it with the right attitude and play well. "Hopefully, win that game and move onto the second game. But we know that we'll have to play well to win."

# Master vs Apprentice Mayor Sadiq wants to bring Pant ready to pip Dhoni on his captaincy debut IPL matches to London

# Pant ready to pip Dhoni on his captaincy debut

## **KEY PLAYERS**

RAVICHANDRAN ASHWIN Being a senior pro, his role will be to assist skipper Pant and

provide early breakthroughs



### **RAVINDRA JADEJA**

The Indian all-rounder's 3D skills will be vital to CSK's

### PNS NEW DELHI

In his first match as Delhi Capitals skipper, Rishabh Pant will be up against his mentor and talismanic former Indian captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni's Chennai Super Kings in the IPL clash at Wankhede stadium in Mumbai on Saturday.

In a battle between the past and present of Indian cricket superstars, both teams will look to start the new season on a positive note.

Last year Delhi ended as runners-up

while CSK finished second from the bottom. For Delhi, apart from Pant, the onus will be on the likes of Shikhar Dhawan and in-form Prithvi Shaw to give a good start. And to com-

pliment the Indian openers there's Steve Smith's and Marcus Stoinis in the middle. But they will miss the services of South African Kagiso Rabada and Anrich Nortje on Saturday. The pacer duo is currently serving six-day mandatory quarantine.

Also, the positive corona test has already ruled out Axar Patel.

In the absence of these three, Chris Woakes is likely to lead the pace attack. While Ravichandran Ashwin will head the spin department. On the other hand, Chennai

will be bolstered by the return of Suresh Raina, who opted out of last year's edition due to Covid-19 related restrictions. He will bat at No

Myntra

His return will give more stability to the Super Kings middle-order which has the likes of Amabti

Rayudu, MS Dhoni. Robin Uthappa had a good domestic season with Kerala in the Vijay Hazare and he is expected to get the nod ahead of Ruturaj Gaikwad to

### **VENUE:** WANKHEDE STADIUM, MUMBAI **HEAD TO HEAD** Matches

Chennai Super Kings Delhi Capitals

**LAST YEAR'S MATCHES** 

### Delhi Capitals defeated

Chennai Super Kings by 44 runs at Dubai

Delhi Capitals defeated Chennai Super Kings by 5 wickets at Sharjah

#### **590**

Mahendra Singh Dhoni who scored 590 runs at an average of 32.77 in 24 innings of 26 matches for Chennai Super Kings and Rising Pune Supergiants against Delhi Capitals, needs just 10 runs to become sixth batsman to score over 600 runs against Delhi Capitals

### 1479

Shikhar Dhawan who made 1479 runs at an average of 38.92 in 47 innings of as many matches, needs 21 runs to become the fourth

batsman to score over 1500 runs for Delhi Capitals in IPL

Faisel Features partner Faf du Plessis at the

In Moeen Ali, Ravindra Jadeja, Sam Curran and big buy Krishnappa Gowtham, CSK has good all-rounders.

And ever-improving Shardul Thakur, who can also bat, and Deepak Chahar will lead the pace

### PTI LONDON

15

London's Mayor Sadiq Khan has vowed to work with cricket authorities and bring IPL matches to the British capital after the Covid-19 pandemic has subsided.

Khan expressed his optimism after the successful hosting of NFL (National Football League) and Major League Baseball (MLB) matches in London.

"This is part of my plan to build a better London after the pandemic," Khan said in a press release.

"I know Londoners are hungry to see more of the likes of Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and Rishabh Pant and, with two of the world's greatest cricket grounds in Lord's and The Kia Oval, London is ide-



ally placed to host IPL matches. The absence of Live crowds at

elite competitions has been hard for many sport-loving Londoners but I know we can build a better, more open and prosperous city after the pandemic and see our capital confirmed as the undisputed sporting

capital of the world. Taking IPL to England will present its own set of challenges, including timing of hosting match-

es and a busy cricket calendar. But Khan is determined to

popular T20 league in his country's capital city and also sees plenty of benefits should his plans turn into reality. "I will never stop banging the drum for investment in our city and bringing the Indian Premier League to London would not only guarantee a home crowd for every country but boost tourism and generate much-needed revenue to help get our capital back on its feet," Khan

NFL has a ten-year agreement to play matches at Tottenham Hotspur's new stadium.

The IPL has been held outside India in the past, with South Africa hosting it in 2009 and the UAE last year amid the pandemic.

# Zidane hopes more Clasicos for Messi & Ramos

## **AFP** ■ MADRID

Zinedine Zidane on Friday said that he hoped Lionel Messi and Sergio Ramos won't have played their last Clasicos come the end of the season, with doubts over the futures of the Barcelona and Real Madrid captains ahead of a huge La Liga encounter.

Both players' contracts are up at the end of the campaign and Messi is yet to commit to a new deal with Barca after trying to force an exit last summer. When asked if Saturday's

clash in the Spanish capital would be the last of the pair's careers at Spain's top two clubs, Madrid coach Zidane said: "I hope not".

"Sergio is not going to play tomorrow. It's sad, but I really hope that he will stay here," the Frenchman added of the injured 35-year-old. Zidane also said that he

hoped Messi woud remain at Barca for the good of Spanish football, joking "let him stay at Barcelona — he's doing very well there!' Barca and reigning champiReal Madrid vs Barcelona

Atletico Madrid, whose defeat at Sevilla last Sunday allowed their rivals to move within touching distance of the sum-

Madrid are three points behind their city rivals in third, while second-placed Barca are a point closer, meaning a win for either side at Valdebebas will knock Atletico off the top for the first time since

December after ruthlessly chipping away at what was a 10-point lead in February. Zidane whose impressed in a 3-1 Champions League

win over Liverpool this week, appeared confident ahead of a crucial fixture in his attempt to retain ons Madrid are both trying to his team's league chase down league leaders

"We have been very good recently, consistent," he said.

"And not just with the ball, we have improved defensively too. We know that regardless of what we have done up to now, we will have to



## Man Utd on course for semis

**AFP** ■ MADRID

Manchester United defeat-ed Spanish club Granada 2-0 in the first leg of their Europa League quarterfinal tie in Spain on Thursday, while Arsenal conceded a stoppage-time equaliser in a 1-1 draw at home to Czech champions Slavia Prague.

Marcus Rashford raced on to a long ball sprayed upfield by Victor Lindelof to fire United in front at Los Carmenes on 31 minutes against a team enjoying a brilliant debut European cam-

Bruno Fernandes converted a late penalty after he was caught off the ball by Yan Eteki, with the Portuguese midfielder's spot-kick squirm-ing agonisingly through the hands of Rui Silva.

However, Solskjaer will be without the suspended trio of captain Harry Maguire, Luke Shaw and Scott McTominay for the second leg at Old Trafford next week.



poor league form under Mikel Arteta has left the Gunners with the Europa League as their only hope of silverware this year, but the 2019 runners-up were denied victory at the Emirates following a 94th-minute header by Tomas Nicolas Pepe had come

off the bench to give Arsenal the lead four minutes from time, only for Holes to nod in at a corner and extend Slavia's unbeaten run to 22 games, having already knocked out Leicester City and Rangers.