

**WORLD 7**

IRAN SUPREME LEADER BLAMES US FOR 'TRAGEDIES IN AFGHANISTAN'

**MONEY 8**

DRAFT TO BURY RETRO TAX DEMANDS INTRODUCED

**SPORT 10**

ARSENAL HUMILIATED 5-0 BY CITY IN WORST START



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**CAPSULE**

**HERBAL DRUG NEERI-KFT CAN CURE KIDNEY: STUDY**  
**New Delhi:** An Ayurvedic poly-herbal formulation, NEERI-KFT, has potential to not only slow down the progression of chronic kidney disease but also restore normalcy in functional parameters of the vital organ, a team of researchers has claimed.

**ENGLAND THRASH INDIA BY INNINGS AND 76 RUNS**  
**Leeds:** Pacer Ollie Robinson engineered a middle-order collapse with the second new ball as England completed a facile innings and 76 run victory against India on the fourth day of the third Test, here on Saturday.

**COURT RAPS HONEY FOR NOT APPEARING**  
**New Delhi:** A Delhi court on Saturday came down heavily on Punjabi singer and actor Yo Yo Honey Singh for not appearing before it in a domestic violence case filed by his wife. "No one is above the law. Surprised to see how this case is being taken so lightly," metropolitan magistrate Tania Singh said.

**NIGHT CURFEW IN KERALA FROM NEXT WEEK**  
**Thiruvananthapuram:** The Kerala Government on Saturday declared that night curfew would be enforced in the State from next week to prevent the spread of Covid-19. A review meeting chaired by CM Pinarayi Vijayan decided to impose night curfew from 10 pm to 6 am from next week. "In areas where the weekly infection population ratio is above seven per cent, the Government has decided to implement a lockdown."

## Citizens must expose Govts' lies: SC judge

Totalitarian Govts rely on falsehoods: Justice Chandrachud  
 PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Totalitarian Governments are associated with a "constant reliance on falsehoods in order to establish dominance", Supreme Court Justice DY Chandrachud said on Saturday quoting philosopher Hanna Arendt and asserting that intellectuals have a duty to expose the lies of the State.

He was delivering a speech on the topic "Speaking Truth to Power: Citizens and the Law" as part of the 6th MC Chagla Memorial Online Lecture.

Live Law.in quoted Justice Chandrachud as saying truth is integral to the functioning of a modern democracy.

"Speaking truth to power" refers to an act by a speaker to use the truth to criticise someone who is more powerful", Justice Chandrachud said. "This act aims to wield the power of truth against power. The assumption is that truth will counter-act power and obviate a predisposition to tyranny, the Justice said.

"One can consider speaking truth to power as a right of every citizen which they must have in a democracy but equal-



ly a duty of every citizen," he added.

Quoting philosopher Hanna Arendt, Justice Chandrachud said that totalitarian Governments are associated with a "constant reliance on falsehoods in order to establish dominance". He highlighted that truth is integral to the functioning of a modern democracy. "Democracy and truth go hand in hand. Democracy needs truth to survive," he said.

Justice Chandrachud said since democracies are spaces of reasons, truth is important, as...truth also create a shared public memory on which foundations of a nation can be established. In this regard, he said that the courts can also play the role of recording public truth with the ability to document information from all

parties involved after due process has been followed.

"State alone can't be relied on to determine truth. It can't be said that State will not indulge in falsehood for political reasons even in democracies. The role of the US in the Vietnam war did not see daylight until the Pentagon papers were published. In the context of Covid, we see that there is an increasing trend of countries across the world trying to manipulate data. Hence, one cannot only rely on the State to determine the truth", Justice Chandrachud said.

According to Live Law, Justice Chandrachud called for more vigilance and participation by the citizens. Quoting Noam Chomsky, he said that public intellectuals have a duty to expose the lies of the State.

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## Caned farmers block highways in Haryana

10 injured, Opp condemns police action  
 PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Protesting police action and lathi charge on farmers in Karnal district in which 10 farmers were injured, farmers blocked several roads and highways, including toll plazas in Haryana on Saturday.

Around 10 people were injured on Saturday as police allegedly lathicharged a group of farmers disrupting traffic movement on a highway while heading towards Karnal to protest against a BJP meeting.

Besides Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, State BJP president Om Prakash Dhankar and other senior leaders of the party were present at the meeting.

The farmers there were apparently charged down by police after they tried to stop State BJP chief OP Dhankar's convoy. Dhankar was going to the State-level meet of BJP leaders and elected representatives in Karnal. As his convoy exited the Bastara toll plaza (between Karnal and Panipat), farmers allegedly hit the cars



Security personnel stand guard on speculation of farmers' protest against the Central Government's three agricultural reforms laws in Amritsar on Saturday

with sticks.

Local officials said the protests hit routes, including the Fatehabad-Chandigarh, Gohana-Panipat, Jind-Patiala highways, Ambala-Kurukshetra, the Delhi highway near Karnal, Hisar-Chandigarh and Kalka-Zirakpur national highways.

Several commuters were left stranded at highways for hours. Haryana Bhartiya Kisan Union (Chaduni) chief Gurnam Singh Chaduni alleged that the police brutal-

ly lathicharged the protesting farmers, leaving many injured.

While senior Samyukt Kisan Morcha leader Darshan Pal said the SKM had given call for road and toll plaza blockade till 5 pm to protest injuries to "dozens of farmers" and detaining of some farmers by Karnal police, Chaduni said road blockades will continue till all those detained in Karnal were released.

Several protesters present at the site near the Bastara toll plaza around 15 km from

Karnal claimed to have witnessed 8-10 people sustain injuries in the police action. Karnal police IG Mamta Singh, however, said, "We used mild force because they were blocking the highway. Some stones were also pelted towards the police. Mild force was used to disperse the protesters".

She said some protesters were earlier in the day detained for maintenance of law and order and they were being released.

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## Covaxin 1 dose to infected gives same antibody level as two shots to uninfected

Development was confirmed by a study taken by ICMR  
 PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A single dose of Covaxin (BBV152) given to people already infected with Covid-19 results in the same or increased antibody response as uninfected people given two doses of Covaxin, according to a study by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

The Government's premier health research body undertook a pilot study to examine SARS-CoV-2 specific antibody responses after day 0 (baseline before vaccination), after the first dose (month 1) and then post-second dose (month 2) of BBV152 in a group of healthcare professionals as well as frontline workers.

The antibody responses of individuals with confirmed



pre-vaccination SARS-CoV-2 infection were compared with those individuals without prior evidence of infection.

The blood specimens were collected from healthcare professionals and frontline workers who received BBV152 vaccine at vaccination centres in Chennai, India, from February to May 2021. Blood samples were collected before receiving the first dose of BBV152. Prior infection with SARS-CoV-2 was determined by SARS-CoV-2 IgG positivity at baseline. The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of ICMR-NIRT.

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## States told to prevent large gatherings during festivals

'Overall Covid situation now appears to be largely stable'  
 PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ahead of the festival season, the Centre has asked all States to ensure there is no large gathering and said State Governments with high active cases and high case positivity in districts must undertake serious measures to contain the pandemic.

Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla has written to all Chief Secretaries that the overall pandemic situation now appears to be largely stable at the national level, except for the localised spread observed in a few States.

The total number of active cases and high case positivity in some districts continue to remain a matter of concern said Union Home Secretary.

According to the Union



A beneficiary receives Covid-19 vaccine dose at a district hospital in Noida on Saturday

Health Ministry data updated at 8 am Saturday, 46,759 people tested positive for Covid-19 in the country in the previous 24 hours.

"The State Governments and UT Administrations concerned, having high positivity in their districts, should take proactive containment measures so as to effectively arrest the spike in cases and to contain the spread of transmission. It is important to identify warning signs of potential surges early on and to take appropriate measures to curb

the spread. This would require a localised approach, as has been mentioned in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) advisories dated April 25 and June 28," said Bhalla.

The Home Secretary further advised them to take suitable measures to avoid large gatherings during the coming festive season and, if required, impose local restrictions to prevent such gatherings. A number of major festivals, including Diwali and Chhath, will be celebrated in the com-

ing months.

Covid-appropriate behaviour should be strictly enforced at all crowded places, he said. There is a need to continue focus on the five-fold strategy — test-track-treat-vaccination and adherence to Covid-appropriate behaviour — for effective management of Covid-19, the Home Secretary added.

Adherence to Covid-appropriate behaviour is essential for tackling the pandemic on a sustained basis, he said, adding that weekly data from States and UTs regarding wearing of face mask, maintaining social distancing, imposition of fines etc indicates a downward trend in enforcement.

"States and UTs are requested to augment their enforcement efforts for effectively checking transmission of the disease," he said.

Bhalla said the country has made significant progress in vaccination and State Governments and UT administrations should continue their drive so as to inoculate maximum number of eligible people.

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## US avenges Kabul blasts, airstrike hits ISIS-K 'planner'

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The US military has said that it carried out a drone strike in Afghanistan, killing ISIS "planner", a day after President Joe Biden promised to retaliate for the twin blasts at the Kabul airport that killed 169 Afghans and 13 American soldiers.

The Islamic State's Afghanistan affiliate, dubbed Islamic State Khorasan or ISIS-K, had claimed responsibility for the attack at the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul on Thursday.

"US military forces conducted an over-the-horizon counterterrorism operation today against an ISIS-K planner. The unmanned airstrike occurred in the Nangahar province of Afghanistan," Capt Bill Urban, spokesperson of US Central Command, said on Friday. "Initial indications are that we killed the target. We know of no civilian casualties," Urban added.

The airstrike came a day



after Biden said, "To those who carried out this attack, as well as anyone who wishes America harm notice, we will not forgive. We will not forget. We will hunt you down and make you pay. I will defend our interests and our people with every measure at my command."

Earlier on Friday, the White House said President Biden does not want the terrorists, who planned the attack at the Kabul airport, to live any longer. "I think he made it clear yesterday," White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki told reporters at her daily news conference.

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## PM inaugurates renovated Jallianwala Bagh Smarak

Complex displays massacre of April 1919 in Amritsar  
 PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday "virtually" inaugurated the renovated Jallianwala Bagh "Smarak" complex displaying massacre of April 1919 in Amritsar saying the country is making all efforts to preserve the heritage of freedom fighters.

The PM saluted the brave land of Punjab and the soil of Jallianwala Bagh. "Those innocent boys and girls, those sisters, those brothers, whose dreams are still visible in the bullet marks on the walls of



Jallianwala Bagh. That Shaheedi well, where the love of countless mothers and sisters was snatched away, their lives were snatched away. We are remembering them all today," he said.

Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh, who also virtually attended the function, said "Jallianwala Bagh Memorial must serve as a reminder for future generations

about the right of the people to peaceful democratic protest."

The Chief Minister also requested the Prime Minister to bring back the personal effects like the pistol and diary of Shaheed Udham Singh, who avenged the injustice of this massacre, from the United Kingdom to India.

He said Jallianwala Bagh is a place that gave courage to an innumerable number of revolutionaries like Sardar Udham Singh and Bhagat Singh to sacrifice their lives for the freedom of the nation.

While paying tributes to the martyrs of Jallianwala Bagh, Modi referred to the partition and its disastrous consequences that affected Punjab immensely.

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## BJP using ED to stifle TMC after defeat: Didi

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday launched a fierce attack on the BJP leadership for using the Central investigating agencies to arm-twist the Opposition parties that dared to point fingers at it.

Speaking on the foundation day of the Trinamool Congress Chitra Prishad, the students' arm of the Bengal ruling outfit, the CM said that having failed to defeat TMC politically, the BJP is using central agencies to stifle it.

"But they should remember that if they use the ED to point one finger at us, there are 10 fingers pointing at them. We have bags full of documents on Gujarat we will make them all public and then move the court



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee virtually addresses the students wing of her party at Kalighat in Kolkata on Saturday

if the agencies did nothing about them," Mamata said in an apparent reaction to summons issued by the ED to her nephew and Diamond Harbour MP Abhishek Banerjee and his wife Ruchira in relation to the coal scam case.

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## CBI files 10 more FIRs in Bengal post-poll violence case, arrests 2

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI on Saturday said it had registered another 10 cases in connection with the post-poll violence in West Bengal, a day after officially confirming that 11 separate cases were registered in the matter. This has taken the tally of total FIRs to 21.

In probing one of the cases, registered on August 25, the agency conducted searches on Saturday at 15 different locations and arrested the two accused. This case relates to an incident at Chapra, under Nadia district of West Bengal, the agency said in a statement.

Both arrested accused will be produced before the competent court, the agency said. The CBI teams probing these



cases have been provided CRPF security cover. These cases were registered by the CBI following orders of the Calcutta High Court.

The high court had recently handed over the investigation of serious crimes such as rape and murder during the post-poll violence in West Bengal to the Central agency after a report of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) that flagged serious

concerns over the serious crimes after the poll's results were out on May 2.

The Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress was re-elected in bitterly contested eight-phased polls.

In a unanimous judgment on a batch of PILs seeking an independent probe, the five-judge Bench also ordered the constitution of a SIT of State police officers to probe all other cases.

The SIT will include Suman Bala Sahoo, Soumen Mitra and Ranveer Kumar, all IPS officers of the West Bengal cadre. The Bench will monitor the investigations by both the CBI and the SIT and asked the two agencies to submit status reports to the court within six weeks.

# City Govt to build 6,836 ICU beds in 6 hospitals

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government will strengthen doorstep delivery of services and set up 6,836 ICU beds in its six hospitals, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said on Saturday.

The Delhi Cabinet approved the budget for the Health Information Management System (HIMS) project and decided to award ₹130 crore tender to a private company M/s NEC Corporation India Private Limited, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said on Saturday.

"The project had been awarded to a company after cabinet approval and the budget was also sanctioned for the same." "All the hospitals of Delhi will be brought under one platform; all information will be available at the tap of a button and that there will be no need to stand in queues at HIMS is implemented; doctors will give appointments on the phone, patients will be able to select time as per convenience," said Kejriwal.

Kejriwal said that Delhi Government is working on war footing to implement the



project and project awarded and budget sanctioned.

Delhi Cabinet also approved another project of 6,836 ICU beds in seven hospitals. These beds to be built in Sarita Vihar, Shalimar Bagh, Sultanpuri, Kirari, Raghurajpur, GTB Hospital and Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalya.

"Delhi governments' hospitals have 10,000 ICU beds; after increasing 6800 beds, the capacity of ICU beds will increase by almost 70 percent," Kejriwal said.

"If the Covid wave comes, then people will get help in treatment, if the wave does not

come, then the new beds will be ready for the people of Delhi permanently," he added further.

According to Delhi government official, 1430 beds will be added in the Shalimar Bagh Government Hospital, 458 at the Kirari Government Hospital, 1912 at the GTB Hospital, 1565 beds in Raghurajpur, 610 beds at CNBC, Geeta Colony, 525 beds at the Sultanpuri hospital. These beds will be ready in six months.

To ramp up the health infra in Delhi, the city government has pumped in rupees 1,216.72 crores for the project.

# Kejriwal inaugurates new cloverleaf at Mayur Vihar - I

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Saturday inaugurated the Cloverleaf, Ramps and Service Roads developed on the Mayur Vihar Phase-1 Flyover. The project is a part of Barapullah elevated road corridor under Phase-III extension from Mayur Vihar to Sarai Kale Khan in Delhi.

The Public Works Department (PWD) executed the project under which ramps and services roads were constructed and will bring relief for Delhi-Noida commuters. The ramps and service roads will save approximately 1.5 km of the travel distance.

It has been constructed to avoid Red light on the Mayur Vihar Phase -1 junction and will reduce the huge amount of Carbon Dioxide Emission and noise pollution by the halted vehicles on the Red Light.

CM Kejriwal took to Twitter and shared the news and said, "Inaugurated the new 'Cloverleaf' built on Mayur Vihar Phase-1 Flyover today. With the opening of these loops and ramps of the Barapullah Phase-3, the people of Delhi will experience a lot of



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Deputy CM Manish Sisodia and Health Minister Satyendra Jain during the inauguration of RAMP service road at cycle track at Mayur Vihar in New Delhi on Saturday

convenience in travelling. Especially people travelling between Delhi & Noida will benefit a lot from it."

"The service roads, cloverleaf loop, ramps, and cycle track are being inaugurated today.

This will bring a huge relief to the people of this region as well as the entire East Delhi area from traffic jams," said Kejriwal while congratulating the people of East Delhi. Deputy Chief Minister

Manish Sisodia also said on Twitter, "Today Chief Minister Shri Arvind Kejriwal inaugurated the ramp, cycle track and service road in Mayur Vihar Phase-1. This will give great relief to the people of East Delhi from traffic jams.

Alongside the CM Kejriwal, deputy CM Sisodia, PWD Minister Satyendra Jain, were present for the inauguration along with local MLAs and officials of the concerned department.

# Cong holds meeting to prepare roadmap for local elections

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Congress president Anil Kumar, along with AICC secretary Delhi-in-charge Imran Masood, held a meeting with the district observers and district presidents to prepare a roadmap for elections for the Municipal Corporations scheduled next year.

Addressing the meeting, Kumar said that the BJP and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) have ruined Delhi on every front. "Both these parties failed to deal the Covid-19 pandemic. The development of Delhi

has been pushed back by several years due to AAP and BJP's blame game politics.

Speaking on the occasion, Imran Masood said that it is not a difficult task for the Congress to come back to power at the MCDs. "We have to activate the party at the block and booth levels and the AICC observers will play a key role in the rejuvenation of the party at the ground level," he said.

DPCC vice-presidents Jaikishan, Ali Mehndi, Abhishek Dutt, Mudrit Aggarwal and Shivani Chopra also attended the meeting.



# Capital records 29 new cases, no death; positivity rate 0.04%

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi reported 29 fresh cases of the Covid-19 with a positivity rate of 0.04 per cent while no death was recorded for the third consecutive day on Saturday due to the viral disease, according to data shared by the health department of the Delhi Government.

The total number of fatalities stands at 25,080, while the cumulative case tally has reached 1437685. At least 72434 tests, including 51263 RTPCR/CBNAAT/TrueNat tests, were conducted in the last 24 hours," it said. Also, out of 12019 available beds in hospitals, 261 are occupied as on Saturday while the rest are vacant, it added. As many as 14,12,212 people have either been discharged, have recovered or migrated out. This is the 18th time since the national capital was hit by the second wave of the pandemic that

zero fatality due to the disease was logged in a day. No death due to Covid-19 was recorded on July 18, July 24, July 29, August 2, August 4, August 8, August 11, August 12, August 13, August 16, August 20, August 21, August 22, August 23, August 24, August 26 and August 27 too, according to official data. The national Capital on March 2, reported zero death due to the virus. The number of single-day cases was 217 on that day and the positivity rate was 0.33 per cent. The second wave of the pandemic swept through the city in April-May. On Friday, 46 fresh cases were recorded as the positivity rate stood at 0.06 per cent, while no death was reported due to Covid-19, according to official data. The daily cases count and the positivity rate dropped to 29 and 0.04 per cent respectively on Saturday, according to the latest health bulletin.

# Follow Covid-appropriate behaviour, says Jain

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Health Minister Satyendra Jain on Saturday said that the Delhi Government is leaving no stone unturned to deal with the impending third wave of Covid-19.

Urging people to follow Covid-appropriate behaviour, Jain said that the Government is doing its best and learning from experiences to prevent the third wave but following Covid-appropriate behaviour is very important, and thus people must not become negligent.

The Health Minister stressed that the Government's preparations for an impending third wave are "thorough". "The Government has its ear to the ground and is not taking any chances. As many as 37,000 Covid-19 dedicated beds are being laid out, include 12,000 ICUs beds," he added.

Jain was speaking at the sixth felicitation ceremony for healthcare workers of government hospitals - Institute of



Liver & Biliary Sciences (ILBS), Vasant Kunj; Deep Chand Bandhu Hospital in Ashok Vihar; Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Hospital in Mangolpuri and Burari Hospital - in northwest Delhi at Delhi Vidhan Sabha on Friday.

The Minister also thanked doctors who sacrificed their lives during the pandemic and said that their names will be written in golden words. "Their

(healthcare workers) dedicated service saved precious lives, their supreme sacrifice cannot be forgotten and shall be written in the pages of history in letters of gold.

"The Arvind Kejriwal Government salutes the selfless and dedicated service of healthcare workers, who had put their own lives at stake and stood with the Delhi Government day in and day out to fight this deadly disease."

"Along with this, 47 PSA oxygen plants along with five LMO storage tanks have already been set up in the city with many more to come up."

"Moreover our vision is to move a step forward by making ICU facilities so readily available in the capital that even a normal oxygen bed can be converted into an ICU one instantly without having to shift the patients," he said.

The Health Minister asked people to remain vigilant to stop another outbreak, and of the national Capital.

# Govt recommends Dr Sarin among Covid warriors' for Padma awards

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government on Saturday recommended names of Dr Shiv Kumar Sarin, Dr Suresh Kumar and Dr Sandeep Budhiraja for the Padma awards.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "Every year, the Central Government seeks recommendations from states for the Padma Awards and the Delhi Government had decided that this time only the names of doctors and paramedical staff would be recommended. 9,427 people suggested names of 740 medical professionals in response to Delhi Government's appeal for seeking suggestions for the Padma Awards."

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia chaired a committee and examined recommendations and shortlisted names of three people for Padma Awards.

It may be recalled, ILBS Vice-Chancellor Dr SK Sarin commissioned the world's first Plasma Bank, Delhi Government's first RT-PCR testing facility and genome sequencing lab.

Kejriwal said under the supervision of Medical Director Dr Suresh Kumar, Lok Nayak Hospital treated the highest number of corona patients across the country, set up the country's second plasma bank, and launched a video conference facility to enable Covid patients to talk to their families.

"Dr. Sandeep Budhiraja, Group Medical Director, Max Hospital, is the country's first physician to use plasma treatment. All doctors, nurses, and paramedical staff in Delhi are recommending these three names for the Padma Awards; they should be given the Padma Awards to fulfil the wishes of the people of the

country," said Kejriwal.

He further said that during Covid-19 pandemic, our frontline and medical workers, especially our doctors and paramedics, saved our lives by putting their own lives at risk. They served all of us. It is now the time to show them that the entire country is grateful to them. We respect them for their services and for saving the lives of people.

Delhi Government had decided to recommend only Covid-19 warriors, i.e. Doctors, Paramedics, and other health care professionals this year. It was decided to invite suggestions from the public. This appeal by the Government of Delhi received an overwhelming response of 9,427 suggestions. These suggestions were received in respect of 740 different health care professionals.

# BJP using ED to stifle TMC after defeat..

From Page 1

"Having failed to defeat me politically they are targeting my family members. I do not mind political fights against our leaders but when you target their families it is too much," Banerjee said, adding "more the BJP continues its repressive policies the more there will be Khela Hobe in the entire country." She said she would soon contact all the Opposition Chief Ministers to launch a united fight against the BJP.

"This is a Tandav of a Government which has politicized all the Agencies. They are using NHRC against us. But when there is violence in Tripura why don't the Human Rights people go there," she asked. "They are pointing fin-

gers on us regarding the coal scam. Why don't they catch their own people. After all Coal Ministry functions under the Centre. In fact one of their ministers from Asansol has looted the coal belt. Why no action is being taken against them," she said.

Speaking about the Centre's National Monetisation Pipeline plans that would entail privatization of underutilized government assets Mamata said, "This Government is selling out the entire country from Railways to telecom to mines to oil fields to airports, PSUs everything. Can you sell the soil of your country like this tomorrow they will ask you to sell your eyes, ears and nose." On Afghanistan policy, she asked why the Government was not disclosing the number of Indian still left in the war-torn country. "Why is the Government not telling about how many Indians are still left in Afghanistan? why did they pull out the Indian security personnel from that country?" she asked.

# Citizens must expose ...

From Page 1

"As responsible citizens, we should put these truth providers through intense scrutiny and questioning to convince ourselves of the veracity of the claims made by them. It is equally important for those making truth claims to be transparent," he said.

Asserting that citizens must strengthen public institutions and strive to ensure free press, Justice Chandrachud said, "What we as citizens of India can do. First thing is to strengthen our public institutions.

As citizens, we must strive to ensure that we have a press that is free from the influence of any kind, be it political or economic, which can provide information in an unbiased manner. Similarly, schools and universities need to be supported to ensure that they create an atmosphere where students can learn to differentiate truth from falsehood and develop a temperament to question power. Secondly, we must not only acknowledge the plurality of opinions in a country as diverse as India but celebrate this plurality. This allows open space for more opinions. We also need to protect the integrity of our elections seeing elections not only as a right but also as a duty. To do this, we need to ensure all citizens are given basic education to realize the value of their vote."

"As citizens of a democracy, we need to commit ourselves to the search for truth as a key aspiration of our society,"

he said, adding that by "citizens", he didn't mean just the elite and the privileged class alone. In this context, he reminded that in India since women, dalits and others belonging to marginalised communities did not traditionally enjoy power, their opinions were not conferred with the status of truth.

"Since they did not enjoy the freedom to express their opinion, their thoughts were confined, crippled, and caged. After the abolition of the British Raj, the truth became the belief and opinion of upper-caste men," he said.

In his speech lasting for nearly 45 minutes, Justice Chandrachud touched upon issues relating to the manipulation of information through social media and the rise in the phenomenon of fake news. The idea of "marketplace of ideas" faces test in the post-truth world, where citizens are finding it difficult to identify truth, he said. Human beings have a tendency to get attracted to sensational news, which are often based on falsehoods. Studies show lies dominated in social media like Twitter.

"People not being concerned about the truth is another phenomenon in the post-truth world. There is a contest between 'our truth' vs 'your truth' and tendency to ignore the truth which is not in alignment with one's perception of truth," he said.

Justice Chandrachud recalled legendary jurist MC Chagla as someone who consistently upheld the rule of law and advocated for civil liberties. He recounted the heroic opposition made by MC Chagla against the imposition of emergency.

# Caned farmers block ...

From page 1

Farmers protesting the Central farm laws have been opposing public functions of the BJP-JJP combine in Haryana. Several farmers had gathered at the Bastara toll plaza near Karnal, responding to a call given by the BKU.

Citing section 144 of the CrPc imposed in the area banning assembly of five or more people, the police made several announcements over loudspeakers, declaring the gathering by the protesters 'unlawful'.

Initially, they asked the farmers to disperse, but resorted to force as the protesters refused to budge.

The police said the protesters were bent on moving towards the venue of the BJP meeting in Karnal. All roads leading to the venue had been heavily barricaded. "Many farmers were injured after police brutally lathicharged them without any provocation. Some even could be seen with blood all over their clothes," Chaduni said, strongly condemning the police action. He said as part of their ongoing agitation against the farm laws, the farmers had decided to hold a peaceful protest against BJP leaders, for which they had assembled at the Bastara toll plaza.

Chaduni said orders were given by an official that if anyone who tries to head towards the BJP meeting venue should be lathicharged.

The use of force by the police invited severe criticism from various political parties.

# US avenges Kabul blasts...

From Page 1

However, it wasn't immediately known if the ISIS-K planner was involved specifically in Thursday's Kabul airport attack.

Meanwhile, the national security team of President Biden has told him that another terror attack is "likely" in Kabul and that the next few days of this evacuation mission will be the "most dangerous" period to date, according to a White House official.

This was shared with the President when he met in the Situation Room with his national security team, including top commanders and diplomats in the field.

Vice President Kamala Harris also joined by secure video teleconference. "They advised the President and Vice President that another terror attack in Kabul is likely, but that they are taking maximum force protection measures at the Kabul Airport," the White House official said.

The official said the next few days of an evacuation operation, that has taken more than 100,000 people out of the country in the past two weeks, "will be the most dangerous period to date."

His national security team reported that even in the face of those threats, America's courageous servicewomen and men are continuing to operate a historic evacuation operation. The US military is airlifting out thousands of people every few hours.

# States told to prevent large ...

From Page 1

Further, the Home Secretary said it must be ensured that areas having no virus or low transmission are adequately protected by progressively ramping up testing and other measures such as monitoring for ILI and SARI (Influenza-Like Illness and Severe Acute Respiratory Infection), and market surveillance.

"I would, therefore, urge you to issue strict directions to the district and all other local authorities concerned, to take

necessary measures for the management of Covid-19. The officers concerned should be made personally responsible for any laxity in strict enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour.

"I would also advise that orders issued by the respective State Governments and UT administrations and district authorities in this regard should be widely disseminated to the public and to the field functionaries, for their proper implementation" said the Union Home Secretary.

# PM inaugurates renovated...

From Page 1

"Whatever happened during and after the partition can be seen in every corner of the country and especially in Punjab. We have marked August 14 as Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, to remember the pain and sufferings faced by the people of India back then," he said. He said it is not right for any country to ignore such horrors of its past.

Remembering the role of India's tribal community in the freedom struggle, Modi said they played a major role in the freedom struggle but their sacrifices didn't find mention in history books to the extent they deserve. "Work is in progress on museums to showcase the struggle of Aadiwasi freedom fighters in 9 States of the country," he added. He also said India's first interactive gallery is being constructed in Allahabad. It will be dedicated

to Chandra Shekhar Azad.

"There would rarely be any village in Punjab that lacks the saga of bravery and gallantry. Following the path shown by Gurus, the sons, and daughters of Punjab stand like a rock in the path of those who look at Mother India with crooked eyes" said the Prime Minister. In his address, the Prime Minister invoked the teaching of Sikh Gurus saying 'sukh doosron ki seva main hi aata hain' and said India has brought 'saropas' from Afghanistan and referred to airlifting of Indians under operation 'Devi Shakti'. He said in crisis every Indian anywhere in the world will be helped and recalled the tagline 'India-first'.

Four museum galleries have been created in Jallianwala which showcase the historical value of events that unfolded in Punjab during that period via a fusion of audio-visual technology, including projection mapping and 3D representation, as well as art and sculptural installations.

दिल्ली सरकार

आप की सरकार

# WE WILL DEFEAT DENGUE AGAIN



DIP/Shabdarth/D/0064/21-22

Dear Citizens of Delhi,

This Sunday we start a 10-week battle against Dengue in Delhi. Every Sunday, at 10 AM, let us all spend 10 minutes inspecting our homes for any signs of stagnant water. Vases, coolers or flower pots must all be checked carefully. All stagnant water must be drained out, or covered with a small layer of oil or petrol.

Let us all add this to our weekend routine for the next 10 weeks and once again defeat Dengue in Delhi.

10 Hafte | 10 Baje | 10 Minute | Every Sunday

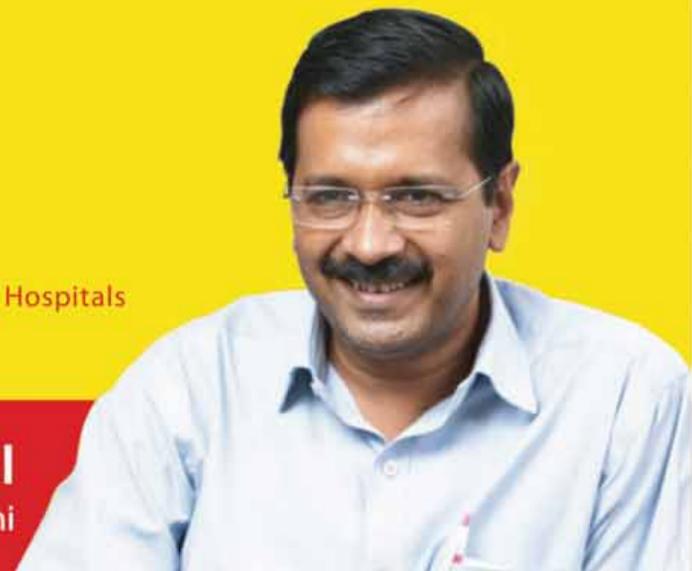
Testing and treatment facilities are available free of cost in Delhi Government Hospitals

Dengue Helpline: ☎ 011 22300012 📞 8595920530

**DEFEAT DENGUE, EVERY SUNDAY**

Department of Health & Family Welfare,  
Government of NCT of Delhi

**Arvind Kejriwal**  
Chief Minister of Delhi



# ED seizes ₹363 cr jewellers' assets

MMTC fraud by 2 Hyderabad firms

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached 45 immovable properties worth ₹363.51 crore of Hyderabad-based MBS Jewellers Private Limited and MBS Impex Private Limited among others in a money laundering case related to defrauding MMTC in purchase of gold bullion.

The attached assets are also related to promoters and directors of MBS Group, Sukesh Gupta, Anurag Gupta, Neetu Gupta, Vandana Gupta and their other group entities.

The ED had initiated money laundering investigation on the basis of FIR registered by ACB, CBI, Hyderabad against Sukesh Gupta and his companies for defrauding MMTC Limited (a Public Sector Enterprise) in purchase of gold bullion under Buyer's Credit Scheme, the agency said in a statement.

"Sukesh Gupta in active connivance with few officials of MMTC Hyderabad, had continuously lifted gold without forex cover and without adequate security deposits. His dues were consistently misappropriated to the MMTC Head Office and without squaring off the existing losses, his firms continued lifting gold from



MMTC for their personal gain and thereby caused a loss of public money to the tune of ₹504.34 crore (including interest up to 31.05.2021 of ₹277.52 crore) to MMTC," the agency said.

The CBI had filed a charge sheet against Sukesh Gupta and others in 2014.

During the ED investigation, it is found that Sukesh Gupta colluded with various officers of MMTC Hyderabad and painted a wrong picture of his accounts and kept on lifting gold to carry on its business as usual.

While the MMTC ultimately suffered a massive loss, the business of Sukesh Gupta flourished and ran with huge profit. On the basis of his business profile, he took loans and struck real estate deals and grew his business in the name of various related companies. All through the investigation,

the conduct of Sukesh Gupta has been evasive and non-cooperative and he has failed to discharge the burden of proof imposed on him under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

In another case under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), the ED had adjudicated and levied a penalty of around Rs 222 crore on the MBS Group.

Sukesh Gupta also entered into a one-time settlement (OTS) with MMTC in 2019. But as per the latest reports from MMTC, Sukesh Gupta did not deposit any funds and the OTS has failed.

The ED has now identified 45 immovable properties belonging to him and his related entities, and their directors. The ED has provisionally attached these properties under PMLA to safeguard the proceeds of crime, it added.

# I-T detects ₹175 cr tax evasion by steel firm



New Delhi: The Income Tax (I-T) department has detected alleged tax evasion of ₹175 crore following raids on a steel manufacturing and trading group based in Maharashtra and Goa, the CBDT said on Saturday.

The searches were carried out on Wednesday in Pune, Nashik and Ahmednagar districts of Maharashtra and in Goa, and a total of 44 premises were covered.

"So far, a total of ₹175.5 crore of unaccounted income has been unearthed including unaccounted cash and jewellery, shortage and excess of stock and bogus purchases," a Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) statement said, adding that the raids are continuing.

It said "unaccounted" cash of ₹3 crore and jewellery worth ₹5.20 crore have been seized.

The CBDT claimed that 194 kg "unaccounted" silver articles worth ₹1.34 crore have been found during the searches and have been "accepted and declared" as additional income by the

assessee.

"Evidence detected during the search revealed that the group was engaged in fraudulent practice of booking bogus purchases of scrap and sponge iron from various fake invoice issuers," it said. "Premises of fake invoice issuers were also covered during the search," it said.

The statement said such invoice issuers have admitted that they supplied only bills but no materials and also generated fake e-way bills to show it as genuine purchases and to claim GST input credit.

"With the active support of GST authorities in Pune, the vehicle movement tracking app was used to identify fake e-way bills.

"Total bogus purchases identified from these parties, so far, is about ₹160 crore," it said.

The CBDT claimed that the taxman found a "shortage of goods of ₹3.5 crore and excess stocks of ₹4 crore from the premises, and the same has been admitted by the assesseees." PTI

# More than ₹1.46L crore deposited in PMJDY a/cs



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Seven years into its launch, Sbank accounts under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) have swelled to 43 crore with total deposits crossing ₹1.46 lakh crore. Appreciating the untiring efforts of all those who have worked to make PMJDY a success, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said their efforts have ensured the people of India lead a better quality of life.

"Today we mark seven years of #PMJanDhan, an initiative that has forever transformed India's development trajectory. It has ensured financial inclusion and a life of dignity as well as empowerment for countless Indians. Jan Dhan Yojana has also helped further transparency," the Prime Minister tweeted.

The PMJDY was announced by Modi in his Independence Day address on August 15, 2014 and was simultaneously launched on August

28 to foster financial inclusion. This national mission was launched to ensure people have access to financial services, namely, banking, remittance, credit, insurance, pension in an affordable manner.

As on August 18, 2021, the number of total PMJDY accounts stood at 43.04 crore. Of this, 55.47 per cent (23.87 crore) Jan-Dhan account holders are women and 66.69 per cent (28.70 crore) holders are in rural and semi-urban areas, the finance ministry said in a statement.

During the first year of the scheme, 17.90 crore PMJDY accounts were opened. Out of total 43.04 crore PMJDY accounts, 36.86 crore or 85.6 per cent are operative, and the average deposit per account is ₹3,398, as per the Finance Ministry's statement.

Increase in average deposit is another indication of increased usage of accounts and inculcation of saving habit among account holders, it said.

**Total RuPay cards issued to PMJDY account holders rose to 31.23 crore**

Total RuPay cards issued to PMJDY account holders rose to 31.23 crore.

For account opened after August 28, 2018, the free accidental insurance cover on RuPay cards increased from ₹1 lakh to ₹2 lakh.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, while underlining the importance of the scheme, said the journey of PMJDY-led interventions undertaken over a short span of 7 years has in effect, produced both transformational as well as directional change, thereby making the emerging financial inclusion ecosystem capable of delivering financial services to the last person of the society—the poorest of the poor.

# Assam, Chhattisgarh yet to join one nation, one ration card plan

One Nation One Ration Card



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After West Bengal and Delhi that operationalised the ration card portability, it is now only BJP-ruled Assam and Congress-led Chhattisgarh which are yet to join the one nation, one ration card (ONORC) programme in the country.

According to the Union Food Ministry, Delhi, which operationalised ONORC in July this year, provides ration card portability for 33 States covering 69 crore beneficiaries whereas West Bengal implemented it in August and provides portability of ration cards for 34 States covering 74.9 crore beneficiaries.

"Two remaining States — Assam and Chhattisgarh — are targeted for integration under ONORC in the next few months," the ministry said on Saturday.

Currently, a monthly average of about 2.2 crore portability transactions is being recorded consistently in states and union territories, it said. According to the ministry, 40 crore portability transactions

through portability. "Thus, installation of ePoS devices at the FPSs and Aadhaar seeding of beneficiaries with their digitised ration card data are the two main enablers of this technology-driven initiative," it said.

The objective of ONORC is to empower all NFSA beneficiaries to be self-reliant for their food security anywhere in the country, through portability of their same existing ration cards to seamlessly lift their subsidised food grains (in part or full) from any e-PoS (electronic Point of Sale device) enabled Fair Price Shop in the country with biometric/Aadhaar authentication at the time of lifting the foodgrains through portability.

Further, their family members back home can also lift balance/their requirement of foodgrains on the same ration card. Due to the potential of ONORC to empower migrants, this plan has now also become a part of the "Prime Minister's Technology Driven System Reforms under the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan".

According to the ministry, 'Mera Ration' mobile app — which ration card holders, particularly migrant beneficiaries, can use for identifying the nearest fair price shop, check details of their entitlement and recent transactions — has recorded over 15 lakh downloads on Google Play Store so far.

The mobile app is available in 12 languages viz. English, Hindi, Oriya, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Urdu, Gujarati, Marathi and Bangla.

have been undertaken since August 2019. The maximum such transactions have been reported from Bihar (10.14 crore), followed by Andhra Pradesh (6.92 crore), Rajasthan (4.56 crore), Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh in the said period. ONORC aims to ensure seamless delivery of subsidised food-security entitlements to all beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), irrespective of their physical location anywhere in the country.

Although ONORC should equally benefit all 80 crore NFSA beneficiaries, but it primarily aims to enable migratory beneficiaries (mostly labourers, daily-wagers, urban poor, temporary workers in organised and unorganised sectors, domestic workers, etc.) who frequently migrate across the country in search of better opportunities or for any other reasons, to access the Public Distribution System (PDS) and, if desired, may lift their entitled foodgrains from any ePoS enabled FPS in the country

through portability. "Thus, installation of ePoS devices at the FPSs and Aadhaar seeding of beneficiaries with their digitised ration card data are the two main enablers of this technology-driven initiative," it said.

in the vehicle registration process that needed attention was re-registration of a vehicle while moving to another state." The MoRTH through a "notification introduced the new registration mark for new vehicles i.e. 'Bharat series (BH-series)'. A vehicle bearing this registration mark shall not require assignment of a new registration mark when the owner of the vehicle shifts from one state to another," the

# mRNA jab by Indian firm gets nod for trials



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved the Phase 2 and 3 clinical trials of India's first Covid-19 mRNA vaccine proposed to be developed by Pune-based pharma major Gennova Biopharmaceuticals Ltd.

Presently, a few pharmaceutical firms worldwide, including Moderna Inc and Pfizer Inc, are using mRNA technology in its coronavirus shot.

These vaccines do not use a live virus to generate an immune response but prompt the human body to make a protein that triggers one.

The Gennova, in collaboration with HDT Bio Corp, Seattle, US, has worked together to develop an mRNA vaccine

since the first report of the SARS-CoV-2 genome was published. The interim clinical data of the Phase 1 study was submitted to the DCGI. The Vaccine Subject Expert Committee (SEC) reviewed the data, and found HGCO19 to be safe, tolerable, and immunogenic in the participants of the study, said the company in a statement.

The company submitted the proposed Phase 2 and 3 study followed by a Phase III study to evaluate the safety, tolerability, and immunogenicity of the candidate HGCO19 (COVID-19 vaccine) in healthy subjects which was approved by the DCGI.

The Phase 1 study data has been evaluated and Phase 2 will commence soon. The Phase 2/3 study will be conducted in India at 10-15 sites in Phase 2

**The Phase 1 study data has been evaluated and Phase 2 will commence soon**

and 22-27 sites in Phase 3. Gennova plans to use the DBT-ICMR clinical trial network sites for this study.

The vaccine development programme was partly funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under Ind CEPI back in June 2020. Later on, the DBT further supported the programme under the Mission Covid Suraksha. mRNA vaccines carry the molecular information to make the protein in the host using the synthetic RNA of the virus.

# Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2 more virulent and transmissible than the Alpha variant: Study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2 is more virulent and transmissible than the Alpha variant! A team of researchers concluded this after they found that people infected with the SARS-CoV-2 Delta variant have approximately double the risk of hospitalisation compared with those infected with the second one. The researchers in their study, published in The Lancet Infectious Diseases journal, had analysed more than 40,000 Covid-19 cases in the UK.

"This study confirms previous findings that people infected with Delta are significantly more likely to require hospitalisation than those with Alpha, although most cases included in the analysis were unvaccinated," said researcher Gavin Dabrera, Consultant Epidemiologist at the National Infection Service, Public Health England.

"We already know that vaccination offers excellent protection against Delta and as this variant accounts for over 98 per cent of Covid-19 cases in the UK, it is vital that those who have not received two doses of vaccine do so as soon as possible," Dabrera added.

However, the study has indicated the importance of vaccination, as the team emphasised that multiple studies have shown that full vaccination prevents both sympto-

matic infection and hospitalisation, for both Alpha and Delta variants.

The Delta variant was first reported in India in December 2020 and early studies found it to be up to 50 per cent more transmissible than the variant of Covid-19 that had previously gained dominance worldwide, known as the alpha variant, first identified in Kent, the UK.

For the study, the team analysed healthcare data from 43,338 positive Covid-19 cases in England between March 29 and May 23, 2021, including information on vaccination status, emergency care attendance, hospital admission, and other demographic characteristics.

In all cases included in the study, samples of the virus taken from patients underwent whole-genome sequencing to confirm which variant had caused the infection.

During the study period, there were 34,656 cases of the Alpha variant (80 per cent) and 8,682 cases of the Delta variant (20 per cent), the study indicated.

While the proportion of Delta cases in the study period overall was 20 per cent, it grew to account for around two-thirds of new Covid-19 cases in the week starting May 17, 2021 (65 per cent, 3,973/6,090), indicating it had overtaken alpha to become the dominant variant in England.

# Transfer of personal vehicles now easier as Centre notifies new registration mark for new vehicles

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

To ensure seamless transfer of personal vehicles across States, the Centre on Saturday notified a new registration mark for new vehicles — Bharat Series (BH-series). The Road Transport Ministry's new rule aims to centralise the system of re-registration of vehicles when relocating between states an easier process. This scheme will facilitate free movement of personal vehicles across states/union territories of India upon relocation.

In this regard, the government has notified a new vehicle registration regime that will free vehicle owners from

re-registration process when they shift from one state/union territory to another.

"This vehicle registration facility under 'Bharat series (BH-series)' will be available on voluntary basis to defense personnel, employees of central government/state government/central/state public sector undertakings and private sector companies/organisations, which have their offices in four or more states/union territories," the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) said in a statement.

A MoRTH official said that an IT-based solution for vehicle registration is one such effort as "one of the pain points



notification, the motor vehicle tax levied by the state and union territories at the time of registration in respect to BH-series non-transport vehicle will be 8 per cent in case of vehicles costing up to ₹10 lakh, 10 per cent in case of vehicles costing between ₹10-20 lakh and 12 per cent in case of vehicles costing above 20 lakh.

It further said that 2 per cent extra charge will be levied for diesel vehicles, while electric vehicles will be charged 2 per cent less tax.

In case, where the vehicle bears BH-series registration mark, the motor vehicle tax shall be levied electronically. After the completion of 14th year, the motor vehicle tax shall be levied annually, which shall be half of the amount which was charged earlier for that vehicle, the notification said.

Currently, a person is allowed to keep vehicle for a maximum of 12 months in any state other than the state where it is registered. The owner has to get such vehicles re-registered before the expiry of 12 months.

The format of BH-series registration mark will be YY BH #### XX. YY denotes the year of first registration, BH is code for Bharat Series, #### is the randomised four digit number and XX are two alphabets, according to road transport ministry.

A vehicle bearing this registration mark shall not require assignment of a new registration mark when the owner of the vehicle shifts from one state to another, according to a statement from the ministry. According to government

notification, the motor vehicle tax levied by the state and union territories at the time of registration in respect to BH-series non-transport vehicle will be 8 per cent in case of vehicles costing up to ₹10 lakh, 10 per cent in case of vehicles costing between ₹10-20 lakh and 12 per cent in case of vehicles costing above 20 lakh.

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# Academicians, medicos favour reopening of schools

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Over 55 academicians, doctors and other professionals have favoured reopening of schools, asserting that Covid-19 vaccination of children should not be a prerequisite for sending them to schools.

In their letter, which has also been marked to the Prime Minister's Office, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and the National Disaster Management Authority Chairperson, the signatories said. "There is global evidence to support school opening and governments

should urgently consider opening schools and resuming in-person classes."

India is among only four to five countries across the world where schools have been closed for such a long time (one-and-half years), they said in the letter.

"A number of governments have not yet reopened schools for all classes because of concerns including students not being vaccinated, schools appearing to be 'super-spreaders', fear of a third wave and a rise in cases in areas where schools have been opened.... "There is an urgent need to bring children back to school.

Since younger children are least at risk, we urge you to permit primary schools to open first, in line with ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research) recommendations, and then higher classes. We look forward to leaders across political parties coming together for the sake of our children," the letter stated.

"Open schools now with proper planning and if there is a steep rise in cases, shutting them again can be considered as a last resort," it added. The signatories said vaccination is not a prerequisite for reopening schools, stating the purpose of vaccination is to prevent severe illness.

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.- 33002/99

REGD. No. D. L.-33002/99

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



सत्यमेव जयते

# दिल्ली राजपत्र Delhi Gazette

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भाग IV  
PART IV

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी राज्य क्षेत्र दिल्ली सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

राजस्व विभाग  
कार्यालय जिला अधिकारी (दक्षिण-पूर्व)  
घोषणा  
दिल्ली, 26 अगस्त, 2021

फा. सं. डीएम/एसई/आरआर/एलएस/208 - भूमि अधिग्रहण, पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन का उचित मुआवजा और पारदर्शिता अधिकार अधिनियम, 2013 की धारा 19 (1) [भूमि अधिग्रहण, पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन का उचित मुआवजा और पारदर्शिता अधिकार अधिनियम 2013 (मुआवजा, पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन, विकास योजना) नियम 2015 के नियम सं. 10 के अनुसार] के अंतर्गत गांव नांगली रजापुर के खसरा संख्या 6 मिन (6727.05 वर्ग मीटर), 8 मिन (1150 वर्ग मीटर), 13 मिन (3164.5 वर्ग मीटर), 40 मिन (2360 वर्ग मीटर), 156 मिन (9401 वर्ग मीटर), 221 मिन (7440 वर्ग मीटर) कुल 30242.55 वर्ग मीटर, सराय काले खां से मयूर विहार, नई दिल्ली तक बारापुल्ला नाले के ऊपर एलिवेटेड रोड के तीसरे चरण निर्माण हेतु भूमि के प्रस्तावित अधिग्रहण के संबंध में घोषणा। जहां सरकार को एसा प्रतीत होता है कि लोक प्रयोजनार्थ सराय काले खां से मयूर विहार, नई दिल्ली तक बारापुल्ला नाले के ऊपर एलिवेटेड रोड के तीसरे चरण निर्माण हेतु ग्राम - नांगली रजापुर उपखंड- डिफेंस कॉलोनी जिला - दक्षिण पूर्व दिल्ली में कुल 3.024255 हेक्टेयर भूमि अपेक्षित है।

इसलिए घोषणा कि जाती है की उपयुक्त परियोजना के लिए अर्जन के अधीन एक भूखंड है जिसका क्षेत्रफल कुल 3.024255 हेक्टेयर है जो ग्राम - नांगली रजापुर, उपखंड- डिफेंस कॉलोनी, जिला - दक्षिण पूर्व दिल्ली में है एवं जिसका विस्तृत ब्यौर निम्नलिखित हैं:

क्र. सं.	सर्वेक्षण संख्या	स्वामित्व का प्रकार	भूमि का प्रकार	अर्जन के अधीन क्षेत्र (हेक्टेयर में)	हितबद्ध व्यक्ति का नाम एवं पता	सीमाएं			
						उ.	द.	पू.	प.
1	6 मिन	व्यक्तिगत	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.120205	रिसाल सिंह पुत्र रामबल आदि, सह स्वामित्व	डी डी ए की भूमि	खसरा सं. 6 का अन्य भाग	डी डी ए की भूमि	खसरा सं. 6 का अन्य भाग
2	6 मिन	व्यक्तिगत	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.2950	रिसाल सिंह पुत्र रामबल आदि, सह स्वामित्व	डी डी ए की भूमि	खसरा सं. 6 का अन्य भाग	डी डी ए की भूमि	खसरा सं. 6 का अन्य भाग
3	6 मिन	व्यक्तिगत	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.0875	रिसाल सिंह पुत्र रामबल आदि, सह स्वामित्व	डी डी ए की भूमि	खसरा सं. 6 का अन्य भाग	डी डी ए की भूमि	खसरा सं. 6 का अन्य भाग
4	6 मिन	व्यक्तिगत	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.1700	रिसाल सिंह पुत्र रामबल आदि, सह स्वामित्व	डी डी ए की भूमि	खसरा सं. 6 का अन्य भाग	डी डी ए की भूमि	खसरा सं. 6 का अन्य भाग
5	8 मिन	व्यक्तिगत	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.1150	रिसाल सिंह पुत्र रामबल आदि, सह स्वामित्व	खसरा सं. 6 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 13 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 40 का अन्य भाग एवं पुरानी पेट्टन	खसरा सं. 8 का अन्य भाग
6	13 मिन	व्यक्तिगत	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.3154	रिसाल सिंह पुत्र रामबल आदि, सह स्वामित्व	खसरा सं. 6 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 1 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 13 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 12 & 13 का अन्य भाग
7	13 मिन	व्यक्तिगत	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.00105	रिसाल सिंह पुत्र रामबल आदि, सह स्वामित्व	खसरा सं. 8 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 1 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 13 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 12 & 13 का अन्य भाग
8	40मिन	व्यक्तिगत	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.1760	रिसाल सिंह पुत्र रामबल आदि, सह स्वामित्व	खसरा सं. 6 & 40 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 13 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 40 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 8 का अन्य भाग
9	40मिन	व्यक्तिगत	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.0600	रिसाल सिंह पुत्र रामबल आदि, सह स्वामित्व	खसरा सं. 6 & 40 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 13 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 40 का अन्य भाग	खसरा सं. 8 का अन्य भाग
10	156मिन	व्यक्तिगत	यमुना नदी	0.9401	रिसाल सिंह पुत्र रामबल आदि, सह स्वामित्व	खसरा सं. 1, 13 & 14 का अन्य भाग	बहलोलपुर के किनारे	यमुना नदी	यमुना नदी
11	221मिन	आम जमीन	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.7050	सामलात देह	डी डी ए की भूमि	डी डी ए की भूमि	खसरा सं. 221 का अन्य भाग एवं पुरानी पेट्टन पुल मार्ग	खसरा सं. 221 का अन्य भाग
12	221मिन	आम जमीन	कृषि (सैलाब नदी बांध)	0.0390	सामलात देह	डी डी ए की भूमि	डी डी ए की भूमि	खसरा सं. का अन्य भाग एवं पुरानी पेट्टन पुल मार्ग	खसरा सं. 221 का अन्य भाग

**वृक्ष**

Variety	Number	Variety	Number	Variety	Number
बकायन	21	पीपल	10	अनार	1
शिम्ल	1	आम	1	चीकू	3
नीम	11	अमरूद	4	फैकस	8
सहतूत	8	बेरी	2	गुलमोहर	1
जामुन	3	संतरा	1	पोपुलर	6
बेलपत्र	3	मोसमी	5	टीक	5

यह घोषणा हितबद्ध व्यक्तियों के आक्षेपों को सुनने और भूमि अधिग्रहण, पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन का उचित मुआवजा और पारदर्शिता अधिकार अधिनियम, 2013 की धारा 15 में यथा उपबंधित सम्यक जांच करने के परचात की गयी है। भूमि अर्जन के कारण पुनःस्थापन के लिए संभावित परिवारों की संख्या "शून्य" है एवं इसलिए कोई भी पुनर्वास क्षेत्र चिह्नित नहीं किया गया है। उक्त भूमि के यथा उक्त भूमि के किसी भी भाग में पड़े कोयला, लोह पत्थर, स्लेट या अन्य खनिजों की खाने हैं, खान और खनिज के ऐसे भागों में जिन्हें उस परियोजना के लिए भूमि अर्जित की जा रही है, की परियोजना के निर्माण चरण के दौरान खोदे जाने या हटाये या उपयोग किये जाने की अपेक्षा है, को छोड़कर आवश्यक नहीं है।

जिला भूमि अर्जन अधिकारी दक्षिण पश्चिम के कार्यालय में किसी भी कार्य दिवस को भूमि योजना का निरीक्षण किया जा सकता है एवं यह मंडलायुक्त एवं जिला अधिकारी दक्षिण पश्चिम की वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध है। पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन स्कीम का सार संलग्न है। संलग्नक: यथावत

संजीव खिरवार, भा, प्र. से. प्रधान सचिव (राजस्व) सह मंडलायुक्त

पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन योजना के लिए सारांश प्रारूप (सभी आवश्यक परिवार के लिए पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन अधिनियम के तहत)

परियोजना का नाम	सराय काले खां से मयूर विहार, नई दिल्ली तक शुरू होने वाले बारापुल्ला नाले के ऊपर एलिवेटेड रोड के निर्माण के लिए परियोजना का तीसरा चरण
पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन के लिए भूमि और उनके संबंधित दावे की प्रकृति का नाम/	जैसा कि कॉलम नं 4 में उल्लेख किया गया है
प्रभावित परिवारों को दिए गए पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन अधिकारों के प्रावधान की समय सीमा	अवार्ड धारा 23 भूमि अधिग्रहण पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन का उचित मुआवजा और पारदर्शिता अधिकार अधिनियम, 2013 की तारीख से 18 महीनों के भीतर

Sl. No.	दावेदारों के नाम /परिवार को प्रभावित करना	पिता / पति का नाम	आधार संख्या	व्यवसाय	पुनर्वास और पुनःस्थापन पात्रता।	टिप्पणियाँ
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1.	रविंद्र मंजू	श्री संतोषी प्रसाद श्री सतीश	उपलब्ध नहीं है	कृषक	i. विस्थापन के मामले में आवास इकाई का प्रावधान	i. लागू नहीं, चूंकि प्रभावित परिवार का कोई विस्थापन नहीं है
2.	अनिल कुमार	स्वामी श्री जिले सिंह	उपलब्ध नहीं है	कृषक	ii. जमीन आवंटित की जाए	ii. लागू नहीं, यह एक सिंचाई परियोजना नहीं है।
3.	भोपाल सिंह	तेज राम	उपलब्ध नहीं है	कृषक	iii. विकास भूमि के लिए प्रस्ताव	iii. लागू नहीं, चूंकि शहरीकरण उद्देश्य के लिए भूमि का अधिग्रहण नहीं किया जा रहा।
4.	मोहन सिंह, राजीव संजीव, दीपक चौहान पिंकी चौहान और हरी सिंह	स्वामी अमन सिंह श्री संदीप श्री महिपाल	उपलब्ध नहीं है	कृषक	iv. वार्षिक रोजगार v. वर्ष पर विस्थापित परिवार के लिए अनुदान vi. विस्थापित परिवार के लिए परिवहन लागत	iv. उपयुक्त सरकार यह सुनिश्चित करेगी कि प्रभावित परिवारों को निम्नलिखित विकल्प प्रदान किए जाएं:- लागू नहीं, क्योंकि प्रभावित परिवारों का कोई विस्थापन नहीं है एवम न ही उनके आजीविका की हानि है (परिवारों के पास आय के अन्य स्रोत भी हैं)
5.	1/2 भाग कुलवंत, सुमंत, निशांत राणा 1/2 भाग वीरेंद्र कुमार	श्री जसवंत राणा श्री देव करन	उपलब्ध नहीं है	कृषक	vii. पशुपालक, पेटी दुकान	v. लागू नहीं, प्रभावित परिवार का कोई विस्थापन नहीं है
6.	दीवान सिंह, ऋतुपर्ण, सूर्य प्रकाश और मुकेश चौहान	श्री नरोत्तम सिंह र व ग र य बालकृष्ण	उपलब्ध नहीं है	कृषक	viii. कारीगर, छोटे व्यापारियों और कुछ अन्य लोगों को एकमुश्त अनुदान	vi. लागू नहीं, चूंकि अधिग्रहित की जा रही भूमि पर पशुपालक/छोटी दुकान गैर कानूनी है।
7.	अमित चौहान, पुनीत चौहान, अजय चौहान	श्री हुकम सिंह	उपलब्ध नहीं है	कृषक	ix. मछली पकड़ने का अधिकार	vii. लागू नहीं, चूंकि अधिग्रहित की गई भूमि प्रभावित क्षेत्र में गैर-कृषि भूमि/वाणिज्यिक/औद्योगिक संरचना नहीं है।
8.	जगदीश, अमित चौहान, पुनीत चौहान, अजय चौहान	श्री देवराज श्री हुकम सिंह	उपलब्ध नहीं है	कृषक	x. अधिकार	ix. लागू नहीं, यह सिंचाई / पनबिजली परियोजना नहीं है।
					xi. स्टाप्प शुल्क और पंजीकरण शुल्क	x. प्रभावित परिवार को रु. 50,000 / - का एकमुश्त अनुदान दिया जाएगा।
						xi. जरूरतमंद विभाग/निकाय (पीडब्ल्यूडी) द्वारा वहन किया जाएगा।

## REVENUE DEPARTMENT Office of the District Magistrate (South East) DECLARATION Delhi, the 26th August, 2021

F. No. DM/SE/RR/LAC/208.—Subject: Declaration under Section 19 (1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 [in accordance with Rule 10 the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Compensation, Rehabilitation and Resettlement, Development Plan) Rules, 2015] regarding the proposed acquisition of land bearing Khasra No. 6 min (6727.05 sqmtr), 8 min (1150 sqmtr), 13 min (3164.5 sqmtr), 40 min (2360 sqmtr.), 156 min (9401 sqmtr.) and 221 min (7440 sqmtr), total measuring to 30242.55 sqmtr in village NangliRazapur for construction of 3rd Phase of Elevated Road (infrastructure project) on Barapulla Nallah from Sarai Kale Khan to Mayur Vihar, Delhi.

Whereas it appears to the Government that a total of 3.02425 hectares land is required in the Village - NangliRazapur, Sub-Division Defence Colony, District South-East Delhi for the public purpose, namely 3rd Phase of Elevated Road on Barapulla Nallah from Sarai Kale Khan to Mayur Vihar, Delhi.

Therefore, the declaration is made that a piece of land measuring 3.02425 hectares is under acquisition for the above said project in the Village NangliRazapur,Sub-Division -Defence Colony, District South-East, whose detailed description is as following:-

S. No.	Survey No./ Khasra No.	Type of Title	Type of Land	Area under acquisition (in hectare)	Name /address of person interested	Boundaries			
						N	S	E	W
1	6min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.120205	Rishal Singh s/o Rambal, etc: Co-sharers	DDA Land	Other Part of Kh. No.6	DDA Land	Other Part of Kh.No.6
2	6min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.2950	Rishal Singh s/o Rambal, etc: Co-sharers	DDA Land	Other Part of Kh. No.6	DDA Land	Other Part of Kh.No.6
3	6min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.0875	Rishal Singh s/o Rambal, etc: Co-sharers	DDA Land	Other Part of Kh.No.6	DDA Land	Other Part of Kh.No.6
4	6min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.1700	Rishal Singh s/o Rambal, etc: Co-sharers	DDA Land	Other Part of Kh. No.6	DDA Land	Other Part of Kh. No.6
5	8min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.1150	Rishal Singh s/o Rambal, etc: Co-sharers	Other Part of Kh. No.6	Other Part of Kh. No. 13	Other Part of Kh. No. 40	Other Part of Kh. No.8 & Old Pantoon
6	13min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.3154	Rishal Singh s/o Rambal, etc: Co-sharers	Other Part of Kh. No.8	Other Part of Kh. No.1	Other Part of Kh.No.13	Other Part of Kh. No. 12 & 13
7	13min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.00105	Rishal Singh s/o Rambal, etc: Co-sharers	Other Part of Kh. No. 8	Other Part of Kh. No.1	Other Part of Kh.No.13	Other Part of Kh. No. 12&13
8	40min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.1760	Rishal Singh s/o Rambal, etc: Co-sharers	Other Part of Kh. No. 6 & 40	Other Part of Kh.No.13	Other Part of Kh.No.40	Other Part of Kh. No.8
9	40min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.0600	Rishal Singh s/o Rambal, etc: Co-sharers	Other Part of Kh. No. 6 & 40	Other Part of Kh.No.13	Other Part of Kh. No. 40	Other Part of Kh. No.8
10	156min	Private	River Yamuna	0.9401	Rishal Singh s/o Rambal, etc: Co-sharers	Kh. No.1, 13 & 14	Seams of Behlolpur	River Yamuna	River Yamuna
11	221min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.7050	Shamlat Deh	DDA Land	DDA Land	Other Part of Kh. No. 221 & Old Pantoon Pul Road	Other part of Kh. No. 221
12	221min	Private	Agriculture (Sailab River Band)	0.0390	Shamlat Deh	DDA Land	DDA Land	Other Part of Kh. No. 221 & Old Pantoon Pul Road	Other part of Kh. No. 221

Trees	
Variety	Number
Bakayan	21
Shimbal	1
Neem	11
Shatut	8
Jamun	3
Bailpatar	3
Peepal	10
Mango	1
Guava	4
Beri	2
Orange	1
Mausmi	5
Anar	1
Chikku	3
Fykus	8
Gulmohar	1
Popular	6
Teak	5

This declaration is being made after hearing of objection of the persons interested and due enquiry as provided u/s 15 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act,2013. The number of families likely to be resettled due to land acquisition is 'NIL' and as such no Resettlement Area has been identified. Mines of coal, iron-stone, slate or other minerals lying under the said land or any particular portion of the said land, except such parts of the mines and minerals which may be required to be dug or removed or used during the construction phase of the project for the purpose of which the land is being acquired, are not needed.

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the Land Acquisition Officer on any working day and the same shall also be available on the website of the Divisional Commissioner (Revenue) and the District Magistrate, South-East Delhi.

A summary of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme is appended.  
Enclosure: As above  
SANJEEV KHIRWAR, IAS, Pripl. Secy. (Revenue) and Divisional Commissioner  
**Summary for Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme (Elements of Rehabilitation and Resettlement entitlements for all the affected families)**

1. Name of the project	3rd phase of the project, for construction of Elevated Road over the Barapullha Nallah starting from Sarai Kale Khan to Mayur Vihar, New Delhi.
2. Name/Number of persons interested in the land and the nature of their respective claim for Rehabilitation and Resettlement	As mentioned at Serial No. 4
3. Time limit for provision of Rehabilitation and Resettlement entitlements given to the affected families	Within 18 months from the date of award u/s 23 RFCTLARR Act, 2013
4. Rehabilitation and Resettlement Entitlements	

Sl. No.	Name of claimants/ affect family	Father's/ Husband Name	Aadhar No.	Occupation	Rehabilitation and Resettlement entitlement	Remarks
1	Ravinder Manju	Sh. Santoshi Prasad Sh. Satish	NA	FARMER	i. Provision of housing unit in case of displacement	i. NA, as there is no displacement of affected family.
2	Anil Kumar	Late Zile Singh	NA	FARMER	ii. Land to be allotted	ii. NA, it is not an irrigation project.
3	Bhopal Singh	Late Tej Ram	NA	FARMER	iii. Offer for Developed Land	iii. NA, as land is not being acquired for urbanization purpose.
4	Mohan Singh, Rajeev Sanjeev, Deepak Chauhan	Late Aman Singh Sh. Ajit Singh	NA	FARMER	iv. Annuity /Employment v. Subsistence grant for displaced family for period of one year	iv. NA, as there is no displacement of affected family nor loss of livelihood (families having alternate sources of income). v. NA, as there is no displacement of affected family
5	1/2 Kulwant, Sumant, Nishant Rana 1/2 Virender Kumar	Sh. Jaswant Rana Sh. Dev Karan	NA	FARMER	vi. Transportation cost for displaced family vii. Shuttle shed, petty shop	vi. NA, as there is no displacement of affected family vii. NA, as 02 Petty shops found are unauthorised.
6	Diwan Singh, Ritupran, Surya Prakash & Mukesh Chauhan	Sh. Narottam Singh Late Bal Kishan	NA	FARMER	viii. One time grant to artisan, small traders and certain others	viii. NA, as land being acquired is not a non-agricultural land/ commercial/ industrial structure in the affected area.
7	Amit Chauhan, Punit Chauhan, Ajay Chauhan	Sh. Hukam Singh	NA	FARMER	ix. Fishing rights x. One time resettlement allowances	ix. NA, it is not a irrigation /hydel project.
8	Jagdish Amit Chauhan, Punit Chauhan, Ajay Chauhan	Sh. Devraj Sh. Hukham Singh	NA	FARMER	xi. Stamp duty and registration fee	x. Affected family shall be given one time grant of Rs 50,000/- only. xi. To be borne by the requisition department/body (PWD).

# Kerala leads nation in Covid management: CM

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan claimed on Saturday that Kerala leads the nation in controlling and managing the Covid-19 pandemic despite the higher number of cases reported daily from the State.

"The last few days have seen the number of new cases going up in Kerala. But if you take into account the density of population and the diminishing barrier between rural and urban areas in the State, Kerala is well ahead of others in Covid-19 management. The death rate is just 0.51 per cent in Kerala whereas the national average is more than three fold of this figure," said Vijayan on Saturday while briefing the media.

He was addressing the media after a gap of 36 days. "We could not meet all these days because of the Legislative Assembly session and the Onam holidays," said Vijayan.



He said though there were negative campaigns from certain circles accusing the State administration of failure in controlling the Covid-19 transmission, the reality was that Kerala is shining. He said the Centre itself has said that Kerala was the State which leads in most efficient distribution of vaccines.

"We are very transparent in our dealings. There was not a single instance in Kerala of people waiting outside crematoriums for their turn to perform last rites of the departed ones or throwing dead bodies in rivers," said Vijayan who also read out from Indian Council of Medical Research report

that Kerala was a role model for other States in the country.

Vijayan disclosed that 31,265 new cases were diagnosed on Saturday while 153 lives were claimed by the Covid-19 during the last 24 hours. The Test Positivity Rate was 18.67 per cent while the death toll till date reached 20,466.

The chief Minister said that most of the persons who succumbed to the pandemic were aged and suffering from co-morbidity. "We are holding a meeting on September 1 with senior and experienced doctors working in Medical College Hospitals and private hospitals and virologists of repute who have gained considerable experience in Covid-19 management to take stock of the situation.

This will be followed by a meeting with the chiefs of local self governments in the State for further coordination of Covid-19 management works," said Vijayan.

# Maha deaths dip to 126 in last 24 hrs

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

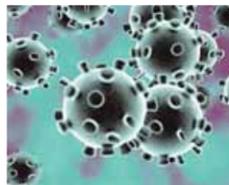
The daily Covid-19 deaths dropped to 126 in Maharashtra on Saturday and the infections rose marginally to 4,831, even as 4,455 patients were discharged after full recovery from various hospitals across the State.

A day after the state logged 170 deaths and 4,654 infections, the daily deaths went down to 126 and the infections rose marginally to 4,831.

With 126 fresh deaths reported on Friday, the total number of deaths in the state increased from 1,36,900 to 1,37,026, while the total infections -- with 4,831 new cases -- went up from 64,47,442 to 64,52,273.

As 4,455 patients were discharged from the hospitals across the State after full recovery, the total number of people discharged from the hospitals since the second week of March last year increased from 62,55,451 to 62,59,906. The recovery rate in the state stood static at 97.02.

The total "active cases" in



the state dropped from 51,574 to 51,821. The fatality rate in the state stood static at 2.12 per cent.

Pune with 13,054 active cases emerged as the first in the State in terms of maximum number of "active cases" in the state, while Thane with 7,151 cases stood second in the State, followed by Satara (5356), Ahmednagar (5287), Sangli (4,772), Solapur (3980) and Mumbai (3406).

Of the 5,34,56,403 samples sent to various laboratories across the state so far, 65,52,273 have tested positive (12.07 per cent) for Covid-19 until Monday.

Currently, 3,92,530 people are in home quarantine while 2,367 people are in institutional quarantine.

# Helpline facility for women in distress launched in Mangaluru

PTI ■ MANGALURU

An emergency response support system with a helpline (number-112) for women's safety was launched here by Olympian and Arjuna Awardee M R Poovamma, an athlete, on Saturday.

The inaugural function for the system was organised by the Mangaluru city police commissioner and awareness was created among women on the facility which, the law enforcers said, would bring in a sense of security among the women.

A demonstration on how to use the facility was also held. Commissioner of Police N Shashi Kumar said the dialing of the number- 112 by any woman in distress would alert the police personnel and they would come to the rescue within 5-10 minutes if the call is within the city and within 15 minutes if the call is made from the outskirts of the city. Deputy Commissioner Hariram Shanker was also present at the function.

# Fadnavis: Discussed only OBC quota during my meeting with CM

Mumbai: Maharashtra BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis on Saturday said his one-on-one meeting with Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray was regarding OBC quota in local bodies and no other topic was discussed.

After attending an all-party meeting on Friday, the Leader of Opposition in the Maharashtra Assembly and Thackeray met behind closed doors for ten minutes, triggering speculation amid a raging political feud between BJP and ruling Sena over the arrest of Union Minister Narayan Rane on Tuesday for his controversial remarks against the Sena chief.

"It is true that I held discussions with Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray after the all-party meeting on OBC quota in local bodies. The discussion during our meeting was only about the OBC quota in local governing bodies. Thackeray asked my cooperation and I responded positively," Fadnavis told reporters.

"No other topic came up for discussion during our meeting," he added. The meeting between Fadnavis and Thackeray, whose parties had shared power in Maharashtra from 2014 to 2019, had generated intense political interest amid speculation that leaders of BJP and Sena have agreed informally to go soft on each other especially in the wake of the Rane episode.

The all-party meeting was held at the Sahyadri Guest House of the state government here on the issue of restoring the reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in local governing bodies.

CM Thackeray had said all political parties agreed to restore the reservation for OBCs in local governing bodies and a decision would be taken in a week.

The state government is trying to find a way to restore political reservation for OBCs in Maharashtra after the Supreme Court read down the earlier provision. PTI

# Centre directs Maha to impose curbs during festivals

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Three days after Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray announced that there would not be any "Dahi handi" celebrations this year, the Centre has advised the Maharashtra Government to impose and enforce "restrictions" during the forthcoming festivals and mass gatherings.

In a letter written to State chief Secretary Sitaram Kunte late on Friday night, through Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan stated, "In view of mass events and public gathering expected during celebration of upcoming festivals (including Dahi handi and Ganapati Utsav) in Maharashtra, it is advised that the state may consider imposing and enforcing local restrictions in public observation of these festivals and mass gatherings".

As part of the advisory, Bhushan cited the concerns expressed by the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) and National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)



over such mass-gathering events turning into 'super-spreader events', thereby resulting in a spike in Covid case and said that the same was communicated to the states on July 20.

"This is particularly important in view of circulation of more transmissible variants of concern being reported by various states, including Maharashtra," Bhushan said.

"Any laxity in ensuring strict adherence to the five-fold strategy of "Test-Track-Treat-vaccinate and ensuring Covid-19 appropriate behaviour may

result in losing the impetus that Maharashtra and country has gained so far in managing the pandemic,

Meanwhile, Maharashtra Health Minister Rajesh Tope has said has warned that there would be three million cases, which would be the 2-million recorded during the 'first-wave' in 2020 and much higher than the 4-million recorded during the 'second-wave' this year.

It may be recalled that even before a formal advisory about the need to impose Covid-19 restrictions in the affected areas of Maharashtra,

Uddhav said the State Government would not grant permission for this year's Dahi Handi festival that falls on August 30. This is the second consecutive year the celebrations have been cancelled owing to the Covid-19 pandemic.

During a meeting held on Monday last, the CM requested the festival organisers to prioritise public health amid an ongoing pandemic and suggested that large scale public celebrations should be avoided. Senior Government officials,

members of the task force and the representatives of the Dahi Handi Samvay Samiti attended the meeting.

"We all have the same feelings about the festival, but today's priority is saving people's lives. For the past one-and-a-half years, we have been fighting against Covid-19 and hence, we have to follow some restrictions. Some people speak against the curbs. Instead of agitating against the Government, they should fight against Covid-19," Uddhav had said.



# Procure tomatoes, Centre will help with losses: Union Min to Maha

Mumbai: Union Minister Bharati Pawar has said the Maharashtra Government must buy tomatoes as farmers are throwing away due to a production glut and subsequent fall in prices, and 50 per cent of any loss incurred by the State while selling them would be borne by the Centre.

Speaking to reporters on Friday night, Pawar said she had spoken to Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar and Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal on the issue and they had informed that export of tomatoes was underway and there was no ban on it.

"The Centre has suggested to the state that it should procure tomatoes from the market and sell it using its network. The state can do so under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS). If the state incurs losses, 50 per cent of it would be borne by the Union Government," Pawar, Union Minister of state for public health, said.



A view of the tomatoes dumped by farmers on the Solapur-Pune highway as they are not getting optimum prices for it, in Solapur on Saturday PTI

However, she said there was hardly any demand for tomatoes in the international market and the Centre was looking for a solution to the problem. After a good run for the past two years, prices of tomatoes crashed recently, forcing

many farmers, like those in Nashik, to throw their stock on the streets in protest.

She also informed that the Centre had issued a notification regarding MIS and the State Government must submit its proposal at the earliest. PTI

# Gujarat Govt firm on stopping forcible conversion through interfaith marriage, will move SC: Rupani

Ahmedabad: Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani on Saturday said the State Government is firm on stopping forcible religious conversion through marriage and will approach the Supreme Court against the high court's order staying several sections of the Gujarat Freedom of Religion (Amendment) Act, 2021.

On August 19, the Gujarat High Court had stayed sections 3, 4, 4A to 4C, 5, 6 and 6A of the amended Act pending further hearing, saying that they "shall not operate merely because a marriage is solemnised by a person of one religion with a person of another religion without force or by allurement or by fraudulent means and such marriages cannot be termed as marriages for the purposes of unlawful conversion".

Talking to reporters, Rupani said, "The State Government is firm. Hindu girls are made to elope, and

later forced to undergo religious conversion. (Law against) love jihad (was brought) in this very context, to take strong action (against such activities). The State Government will certainly approach the Supreme Court against the high court's order staying sections of the Gujarat Freedom of Religion (Amendment) Act, 2021, and will do all that is required."

He was speaking on the sidelines of an event organised in the state capital Gandhinagar to celebrate the 125th birth anniversary of Gujarati poet Jhaverchand Meghani, who was also given the title of "Rashtriya Shayar."

The 2021 law, which penalises forcible or fraudulent religious conversion through marriage, was notified by the BJP Government on June 15 this year. The original Act was in force since 2003 and its amended ver-

sion was passed in the Assembly in April.

Last month, the Gujarat chapter of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind filed a petition in the HC, claiming that some of the amended sections of the new law were unconstitutional.

Among other sections, which mainly deal with religious conversion through marriage, the high court has also stayed the operation of section 5, which according to the BJP government, is the "core" of the entire Act and a stay on it effectively stays the entire legislation.

The Government on Wednesday told the high court that section 5 has nothing to do with marriage per se. A stay on section 5 would actually stay the application of the entire law itself, and no one would approach the authorities for seeking permission before getting converted, the government had said. PTI

# Yogi Ministry expansion on cards next week

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With Assembly polls knocking the doors, the Bharatiya Janata Party Government in Uttar Pradesh led by Yogi Adityanath is set to go for an expansion of the Ministry next week.

Sources here on Saturday said the BJP high command had given the green signal for the expansion of the Yogi Adityanath ministry. The Cabinet expansion will take place in the first week of September.

It is believed that the party will take care of caste and regional representations this time in the ministry expansion just before the crucial 2022 assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh.

It is expected that seven to eight ministers can be administered oath while no present minister will be removed, sources said.

Some legislators of the allies will also be accommodated in the ministry. Along with Brahmin, Nishad and Gurjar society, Gond, Jat and Patel community will also be taken

care of.

The probable leaders who could be inducted into the ministry are Jitin Prasada, who came from Congress to the BJP, and Sanjay Nishad, national president of Nishad Party.

Along with these, Somendra from Meerut, Krishna Paswan from Fatehpur, Tejpal Gurjar from Dadri in Ghaziabad, Ramchandra Vishwakarma, Manju Siwach and Ashish Patel from Apna Dal could also get a berth in the ministry.

After the formation of the state government on March 19, 2017, the first Ministry expansion of the Yogi Adityanath Government took place on August 22, 2019. During that time there were 56 members in the council of Ministers. Three ministers have died due to coronavirus infection.

In the first Ministry expansion, six ministers with independent charge were administered the oath of cabinet, in which three new faces were also included.

# Preparation for Janamashtami on in Aligarh with enthusiasm

Aligarh: Muslims of Aligarh have participated in the preparations of Janamashtami indirectly on a large scale. The dresses of Krishna and Radha have been prepared and stitched by Muslims. Not only that the idols of Krishna and Radha have also been sculptured by them. Janamashtami festival is to be celebrated in more than one dozen temples of city including Tika Ram mandir, Achal and Khereshwar Dham.

But the contribution of Muslim craftsmen is much more in Krishna and Radha than Hindu devotees who worship Krishna and Radha. The shop of an Abid Naem of Barahdwari market is the glaring example of this communal harmony.

He has left the government job for preparing impressive dresses of Krishna, Radha and other Hindu god and goddesses. His income on Diwali, and Janamashtami crosses that of Hindu shopkeepers.

The dresses of Hindu god and goddess prepared by Abid Naem are not only being used locally in temples but also in Banke Bihari temple, Rang Mahal and Dwarkadheesh temples of Mathura and apart of that in many temples located in south India.

These Muslim families are contributing in strengthening the social fabric of country which has become an example. PNS



Women beneficiaries wait in queues for different Government schemes at a Duare Sarkar camp in Burdwan on Saturday PTI

# Christians in Kerala miffed at biased films

KOCHI: Amidst the raging controversy over the Mappilai Rebellion of 1921, described as the biggest ever communal pogrom in Kerala, a new bickering has erupted in the State over the names of two movies. If the authorities do not heed the warnings issued by people, chances are that the State may see zealots taking law in their hands with claims of fighting for preserving the sanctity of the religions.

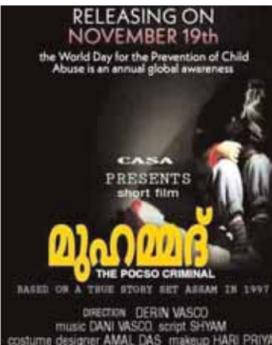
It all started two months ago when mimicry artist-turned-movie maker Nadirsha announcing the launching of his new venture "Eesho" with the tagline "Not From the Bible". For Christians in Kerala, the name Eesho sacrosanct as it stands for Jesus. There was a hue and cry over the name Eesho as members of the community felt it was an attempt to humiliate the Christians.

PC George, senior leader of the community and a seven time member of the Kerala Legislative

Assembly, fired the first salvo by announcing that he would not allow the movie to be released in the name. George was equally upset that the tagline "Not From the Bible" had been selected by the director with ulterior motives.

Elsewhere in the State, the laity and the clergy expressed their displeasure over the name of the movie and this forced Nadirsha to remove the tagline. He told media persons that the movie has nothing to do with Jesus Christ or the Bible. Nadirsha also announced the name of his next venture "Keshu Ee Veedinte Nathan", the Malayalam for "Jesus, the Lord of this House" a billboard quite common in all traditional Christian homes in the State. This further aggravated the situation as resentment grew manifold among believers.

The Kerala Catholic Bishop Council, a powerful body of bishops in the State issued a communique in which it decried the ten-



decy among 'certain people and groups' to portray the Christian community in poor light through mass media. "Movie makers and artists should not discredit and ridicule a community with the intention of upsetting religious harmony," said the communique. Christian Association and Alliance for Social Action (CASA),

an umbrella organization of all Church factions, is equally upset over the "targeting of the community" by certain groups. "We have not forgotten what happened to Prof TJ Joseph, whose righthand was chopped off by fanatics who alleged that he had offended the Prophet while preparing a question paper for the University. They should understand that we too have beliefs and respect for our religion," said Kevin Peter, president, CASA.

Not to be left behind, youngsters affiliated to CASA are coming out with a short film titled Mohammed-The Pocco Criminal, with the tagline "based on a true story set in Assam in 1997".

The poster of the movie was released on Thursday with the announcement that it would be ready for public release on November 19 (which is the birthday of Indira Gandhi). The question being asked in Kerala is who would blink first. PNS

# Taliban largely seal off Kabul airport as airlift winds down

AP ■ KABUL

Taliban forces sealed off Kabul's airport on Saturday to most Afghans hoping for evacuation and most NATO nations flew out their troops after two decades in Afghanistan, winding down a frantic airlift that Western leaders acknowledged was still leaving many of their citizens and local allies behind.



Taliban commando fighters stand guard in Lashkar Gah, Helmand province, southwestern, Afghanistan. AP

The United States, which says the round-the-clock flights have evacuated more than 1,00,000 people since the Taliban claimed Kabul on Aug. 15, was keeping up airlifts ahead of President Joe Biden's Tuesday deadline for withdrawal.

Britain also was carrying out its final evacuation flights Saturday, though Prime Minister Boris Johnson promised to "shift heaven and earth" to get more of those at risk from the Taliban to Britain by other means.

argument ensued, and the Taliban said they had been told by the Americans to only let US passport-holders through.

The Pentagon said on Friday that Afghans with the proper documents still were being allowed in.

The economic crisis, which predates the Taliban takeover, could give Western nations leverage as they urge Afghanistan's new rulers to form a moderate, inclusive government and allow people to leave after Tuesday.

A UN agency warned on Saturday that a worsening drought threatens the livelihoods of more than 7 million people.



Afghans wait for hours to try to withdraw money, in front of Kabul Bank, in Kabul, Afghanistan on Saturday. AP

## Afghans protest at Kabul bank

Hundreds of Afghans have protested outside a bank in Kabul as others form long lines at cash machines.

## Pak to restrict entry of Afghan evacuees to only Islamabad: Report

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

The Pakistan Government has decided to accept evacuees from Afghanistan — mostly transiting passengers to stay for a limited period — only in capital Islamabad, dropping plans of using Karachi and Lahore as two other transport bases, according to a media report on Saturday.

## Iran supreme leader blames US for 'tragedies in Afghanistan'

PTI ■ TEHRAN

Tehran: Iran's supreme leader has called the situation in Afghanistan a tragedy and blamed the US for the problems there.

## US evacuates over 1,11,900 people from Afghanistan since Aug 14: White House

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The US has evacuated and facilitated the shifting of approximately 1,11,900 people from the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul since August 14, the White House has said.

## UK to conclude evacuation from Afghanistan

PTI ■ LONDON

The UK will conclude its evacuation programme of civilians from Afghanistan on Saturday with only troops left to be flown out after that ahead of the August 31 exit deadline.

## Baby girl born on Af evacuee flight to UK

AP ■ ISTANBUL

Turkish media says an evacuation flight from Afghanistan has landed in the U.K. With an extra passenger — after cabin crew delivered a baby girl mid-air.

## China, US hold first military-level talks under Biden's presidency

PTI ■ BEIJING

Beijing: China and the US have held their first round of high-level military talks after President Joe Biden came to power in January this year during which the two sides discussed the rapidly evolving situation in Afghanistan.

## Iraq hosts meeting to ease West Asia tensions

AP ■ BAGHDAD

Iraqi security forces fanned out across the Iraqi capital on Saturday ahead of a regional conference aimed at easing tensions in the West Asia and emphasising the Arab country's new role as mediator.

## Passenger boat in Bangladesh sinks after collision, 22 dead

AP ■ DHAKA

At least 22 people died when a Bangladeshi passenger boat sank with more than 100 aboard, and the driver of a cargo vessel suspected of colliding with the boat was arrested, officials said on Saturday.

## China protests US Navy, Coast Guard ships in Taiwan Strait

PTI ■ BEIJING

Beijing: China's defence ministry protested on Saturday the passage of a US Navy warship and Coast Guard cutter through the waters between China and Taiwan, a self-governing island claimed by China.

## Queen Elizabeth II to attend climate summit in Scotland

PTI ■ LONDON

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II will attend the UK-hosted United Nations Climate Change Conference scheduled for November in Glasgow, Scotland, it was confirmed by the organisers on Saturday.

## Harris holds steady on Southeast Asia trip as crises loom

AP ■ HONOLULU (US)

In Singapore, in between a foreign policy speech and a roundtable talk about supply chain issues, Vice President Kamala Harris stopped to smell the flowers.

## Chinese actress fined \$46M for tax evasion

PTI ■ BEIJING

Beijing: A top Chinese film and television actress has been slapped with a whopping \$46.1 million fine for tax evasion, as China tightened supervision on celebrities under its new policy for reducing the wealth gap.

## UK prepares to vaccinate children

PTI ■ LONDON

London: The British Government says it is preparing to vaccinate children ages 12-15 against the coronavirus, even though the inoculation campaign has not yet been approved by the country's vaccine advisors.

## Minnesota wildfires level off

PTI ■ MINNEAPOLIS

Isabella (US): Fire crews were working on Saturday to put out the largest of numerous wildfires in northeastern Minnesota, where smoke from the blazes prompted a warning to residents to remain indoors.



### PALESTINIAN CHILD DIES WEEK AFTER BEING SHOT

Ramallah: A 12-year-old Palestinian boy who was shot in the head by Israeli fire during a violent demonstration at the Gaza-Israeli border last week died of his wounds Saturday, Gaza health officials said.

### CHINESE ACTRESS FINED \$46M FOR TAX EVASION

Beijing: A top Chinese film and television actress has been slapped with a whopping \$46.1 million fine for tax evasion, as China tightened supervision on celebrities under its new policy for reducing the wealth gap.

### UK PREPARES TO VACCINATE CHILDREN

London: The British Government says it is preparing to vaccinate children ages 12-15 against the coronavirus, even though the inoculation campaign has not yet been approved by the country's vaccine advisors.

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# Draft to bury retro tax demands introduced

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In a move that will aid closure of retro tax demands against companies such as Cairn Energy and Vodafone PLC, the Income Tax Department on Saturday released draft of rules to drop such demands provided companies concerned give an "irrevocable" undertaking to withdraw all legal cases against the government as well as undertake not to pursue any in future.

Earlier this month, the government enacted the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Act 2021 to scrap a tax rule that gave the tax department power to go 50 years back and slap capital gains levies wherever ownership had changed hands overseas but business assets were in India.

That rule had been used to levy a cumulative of ₹1.10 lakh crore of taxes on 17 entities, including ₹10,247 crore on Cairn and ₹22,100 crore on Vodafone.

Cairn was levied tax for a 2006 internal reorganisation of India business before listing while Vodafone was charged for not withholding tax from consideration it paid for acquiring Hutchison stake in India

telecom unit.

Scraping such demands, the government undertook to refund ₹8,100 crore it had collected from companies to enforce the retro tax demand. A bulk - ₹7,900 crore - is due to Cairn Energy of UK alone. This was to be done only if the companies concerned gave an undertaking to withdraw all present legal challenges as well as not take such recourse in the future.

"The amendment made by 2021 Act also provides that the demand raised for offshore indirect transfer of Indian assets made before 28th May, 2012 (including the validation of demand provided under Section 119 of the Finance Act 2012) shall be nullified on fulfillment of specified conditions such as withdrawal or furnishing of undertaking for withdrawal of pending litigation and furnishing of an undertaking to the effect that no claim for cost, damages, interest, etc. shall be filed and such other conditions are fulfilled as may be prescribed," the tax department said in a statement.

The amount paid/collected in these cases shall be refunded, without any interest, on fulfillment of the said conditions, it said, adding a draft of the undertaking is being released for comments.

The declaration provides for "irrevocably withdraw, discontinue and not pursue" any present or future legal challenge against the tax demand.

Both Cairn and Vodafone had challenged the retro tax demand before international arbitration panels which ruled their favour. Other companies too have got relief from various Indian courts.

In the case of Cairn, the British firm was awarded USD 1.2 billion in claims for the value of its shares that were seized and sold by the tax department, dividend seized and tax refund withheld.

The government failed to pay and the company moved jurisdictions such as the US and France to recover the money due by seizing Indian assets.

The new law will require all the companies to withdraw Indian challenges and Cairn dropping its pursuits of Indian assets in the US, France and other foreign countries.

# Economic rebound expected on rapid vaccination, infra spend: Niti Vice-Chairman

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A strong economic growth rebound is expected on the back of rapid vaccinations, a recovering monsoon boosting agricultural output, thrust on infrastructure investments by the government, and growth in export, Niti Aayog Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar has said.

Kumar further said that as per consensus estimates, despite downward revision in the GDP growth projections, India is expected to be amongst the fastest-growing major economies in the world.

"A strong rebound is expected on the back of rapid vaccinations, a recovering monsoon boosting agricultural output, thrust on infrastructure investments by the government, growth in exports, which have performed remarkably during April-June registering a growth of 18 per cent over the same period in the previous year," he said in a newsletter 'arthNITI'.

The Reserve Bank has lowered the country's growth projection for the current financial year to 9.5 per cent from 10.5 per cent estimated earlier, while the World Bank



has projected India's economy to grow at 8.3 per cent in 2021.

According to Kumar, after phased unlocking post the second Covid wave, the economic activity has gained strength.

"The government has also stepped into provide another dose of stimulus of Rs 6.3 lakh crore, focused on healthcare, tourism, agriculture, infrastructure, MSMEs and exports.

"As growth momentum gathers pace, supported by the measures undertaken by the government, the Indian economy will emerge stronger on a sustainable development path," he noted.

The Niti Aayog Vice-Chairman pointed out that compared to steady expansion in the first five months of

2021, the global Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) recorded slower growth in June and July. "In Asia, the manufacturing PMI witnessed deceleration in China.

In India, manufacturing PMI rose to a three-month high of 55.3 in July, reflecting likely expansion of manufacturing activity in the coming months," he said, adding that India's services PMI improved to 45.4 but remained in the contraction zone.

Kumar observed that subsequent to a fairly robust recovery in the March quarter, the Indian economy was impacted by a much stronger Covid second wave, leading to imposition of strict curbs across states and decline in economic activity.

# CAIT slams Niti Aayog for interfering in e-commerce rules

FIANS ■ NEW DELHI

The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) Saturday slammed the Niti Aayog for interfering in the e-commerce Rules proposed by the Consumer Affairs Ministry and said that such a line taken by Niti Aayog clearly seems to be under the pressure and influence of the foreign e-commerce giants.

CAIT Secretary General Praveen Khandelwal came down vehemently on Niti Aayog and said, "It is highly unfortunate that Niti Aayog in the last seven years since its inception had done absolutely nothing to support the 8 crore traders of India and now when the government is trying to cre-

ate a level playing field in the retail sector, Niti Aayog is interfering in between and trying to derail the process."

CAIT President B.C. Bhartiya also said, "It is deeply shocking to see such a callous and indifferent attitude of the Niti Aayog who have remained a silent spectator for the last so many years when the foreign e-commerce giants have circumvented every rule of the FDI policy and blatantly violated and destroyed the retail & e-commerce landscape of the country but have suddenly decided to open their mouth at a time when the proposed e-commerce rules will potentially end the malpractices of the e-commerce companies."



# FDI equity inflows up 168% to USD 17.57 bn during Apr-June 2021-22

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Foreign direct investment (FDI) into the country rose by more than twofold to USD 17.57 billion during April-June this fiscal on account of measures such as policy reforms and ease of doing business, an official statement said on Saturday.

Total FDI inflow rose to USD 22.53 billion during the first three months of 2021-22 as against USD 11.84 billion in the same period of the last year, it said. Total FDI comprises equity inflows, reinvested earnings and other capital.

"FDI equity inflow grew by 168 per cent in the first three months of 2021-22 (USD 17.57 billion) compared to the year ago period (USD 6.56 billion)," it said. The data showed that the automobile industry has emerged as the top sector during the period under review



with 27 per cent share of the total FDI equity inflows. It was followed by computer software and hardware (17 per cent) and services Sector (11 per cent). Further, Karnataka is the top recipient state during April-June 2021, with 48 per cent share of the total FDI equity inflows. It was followed by Maharashtra (23 per cent) and Delhi (11 per cent). Measures taken by the government on the fronts of FDI policy reforms, investment facilitation and ease of doing business have resulted in increased foreign inflows into the country, the commerce and industry ministry said.

# No outages in facility linking Aadhaar with PAN, EPFO; all services stable: UIDAI

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) on Saturday said there have been no outages in its Aadhaar-PAN/EPFO linking facility, which is authentication-based, and asserted that all its services are "stable".

"The comment came amid reports of UIDAI system outages in linking Aadhaar with PAN and EPFO. The reports said that the glitch had left Aadhaar users in a lurch, even as EPF and PAN linking deadline looms.

In a statement issued on Saturday, UIDAI emphasised that all its services are "stable and functioning fine".

"There have been no outages in its Aadhaar-PAN/EPFO linking facility, which is authentication-based facility," it added.

UIDAI explained that as it was going through an essential security upgrade in its systems in a phased manner over the



last week, some intermittent service interruptions were reported only in the enrollment and mobile update service facility at a few enrollment or update centres "which too is working fine now, after upgradation".

UIDAI went on to say that even though the system has stabilised, it is monitoring the same to ensure that no inconvenience is caused to residents.

"It may be noted that more than 51 lakh residents have been enrolled in last nine days since the beginning of the upgradation process on August 20, 2021, at an average of 5.68 lakh enrolment per day," UIDAI said.

# Future Retail moves SC against high court order on deal with Reliance Retail

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Kishore Biyani-led Future Retail Ltd on Saturday said it has approached the Supreme Court against an order passed by the Delhi High Court to maintain status quo in relation to its ₹24,713 crore deal with Reliance Retail and directing it to enforce the order of the Singapore-based Emergency Arbitrator.

In a regulatory filing, Future Retail said, "Please be informed that the company has filed a special leave petition before Hon'ble Supreme Court of India against the impugned

orders dated 2nd February 2021 and 18th March, 2021 passed by 'Ld. Single Judge'. The SLP will be listed for hearing in due course."

On February 2, a single bench of the Delhi High Court had directed

Future Retail Ltd (FRL) to maintain status quo in relation to its ₹24,713 crore deal with Reliance Retail, which was objected to by US-based e-commerce giant Amazon.

Justice J R Midha said the court was satisfied that an immediate interim order was required to be passed to protect the rights of Amazon.



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## Office of the Superintending Engineer 3rd Circle, Public Works Department, Pithoragarh

Letter No. : 5624/58C-03/2021 Dated : 28/08/2021 National Competitive Bidding (E-tendering) Short Term E-Tender Notice

The Superintending Engineer, 3rd Circle, Public Works Department Pithoragarh invites tender through E-Tendering (Two Bid System) on behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Uttarakhand for following works. All other information will be available from date 03/09/2021 & onwards on website <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (in Lac)	Cost of Tender (in Rs.)	Validity of Tender	Period of Completion	Contractor's Category of Registration
1	Improvement and Damikaran Work of Thal Lejam Motor road in Vidhan Sabha Gangolihat Dist- Pithoragarh Under SSCP (MM Ghosna)	3.51	5000.00 + 18% GST	60 Days	9 Month	Category 'B' and above for Road works in any State Govt./ Govt. of India/Govt. Undertaking

## WESTERN RAILWAY E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

No.S/32/2021 Date 23.08.2021

S.N.	Short Description of Item	Quantity	T.O.D.
860	8V-290AH Lead Acid Battery	169 Nos	10.09.2021
861	Secondary Lateral Damper	700 Nos	10.09.2021
862	Glass Unit for Fixed Window	2797 Nos	10.09.2021
863	Lock Bolt	44159 Nos	13.09.2021
864	5 watts VHF Analog Walki Talkie Set	283 Set	16.09.2021
865	Axle Box Complete	16 Nos	16.09.2021
866	Set of Spares for Wheel Mounted Brake Disc	8 Set	16.09.2021
867	Draft Gear	18 Nos	17.09.2021
868	PU Paint-Gentian Blue	18000 Ltr	18.09.2021
870	RTV Silicon Rubber Compound	25085 Nos	18.09.2021
871	Single Bottle Vacuum Circuit Breaker	350 Nos	18.09.2021
872	SMPS based Integrated Power Supply (IPS)	14 Set	20.09.2021
873	Hood for Smoothing Reactor	160 Nos	20.09.2021
874	Repair Kit for Motor Suspension Unit	57 Set	21.09.2021
875	3-Phase Asynchronous Motor	3 Nos	21.09.2021
876	Low Maintenance Lead Acid Batteries 75AH	812 Nos	22.09.2021
877	Main Transformer	1 No	23.09.2021

Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) and [www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in).

For Principal Chief Materials Manager

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to be informed to Public at large that the insurance cover notes bearing following Numbers of The Oriental Insurance Co Ltd. Has been found missing. Kindly note that Cover Note With following Numbers are invalid & hence insurance co. will not liable to pay any claim what so ever arising on from these.

MOTOR - BOOK NO 789419 SR.NO 2143002 014474801 TO 4474802 BOOK NO 789421 SR.NO 2143002014474853 TO 214300201 4474875 MISCELLANEOUS 11996 SR.NO 21C1N222404

Sd/- Rajnish Kapoor Dev.Officer,The Oriental Insurance Co.Ltd, D.O.17 Kirti Nagar New Delhi # 9810293183

## OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, CONSTRUCTION WING, UTTARAKHAND PEYJAL NIGAM

DURGAPAL GARDEN NEAR SINTHIYA SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, PILIKOTHI ROAD, BARI MUKHANI HALDWANI, DISTT- NANITAL. (PIN 263139)

Ref no. 1215/Nvida/173 E-Tender Notice Date: 28.08.2021

- Name of the work - Construction of Additional Class Rooms At Govt. Degree College Kashipur (Udhm Singh Nagar).
- Estimated Cost - Rs. 310.79 Lakh
- Period of Completion - 12 Month
- Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal - 28.08.2021 (17.00 hrs)
- Last date/Time of receipt of bids in the portal - 18.09.2021 (17.00 hrs)
- Date & Time of Technical bid Opening - 21.09.2021 (11.00 hrs)
- Name and Address of the Officer inviting bid - General Manager (Kumaon), Nirman Wing, Uttarakhand Pey Jal Nigam, Laxmi Niwas, Durgapal Garden, Pilikothi, Haldwani.
- Pre-bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place - 06.09.2021 (11.00 hrs) Project Manager, Construction Unit, Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Collectorate Compound, Rudrapur, Distt.- Udhm Singh Nagar, 263153.
- For further details, details of subsequent Amendment / correction documentation etc. may be obtained from the e-Procurement portal [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in)

## Appeal for Identification

General public is hereby informed that one lady Name: Unknown, D/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: Approx. 35 Yrs., Height: 5'1", Sex: Female, Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Place of Recovery: Found at Nirmal Harday Majnu Ka Tilla on 20.08.2021 in unconscious condition in Road Accident who was admitted in Trauma Center Hospital by PCR Staff. During treatment on 26.08.2021, she was declared dead by doctor.

In this regard FIR No. 279/21, U/s 279/337 IPC, Dated 20.08.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Timarpur, Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign.

SHO P.S. Timarpur, Delhi DP/1463/N/2021 Ph.: 011-23812734, 23814421

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mr. Rajesh Jain is owner of Property bearing No. 1/424/26 area measuring 38 sq. yds. out of Khassa No. 1956/952/364, situated at Village Chandrawali, located at Friends Colony, Industrial Area, G.T. Road, Jhilmil Jlaqa Shahdara, Delhi, vide Sale Deed dated 17.03.2021. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner want to take a Loan from Fullerton India Credit Company Ltd. if anybody has any objection/s upon the ownership of Mr. Rajesh Jain in respect of the said property its Sale / Mortgage, and any kind of objection kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 208, Ind Floor 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, N. Delhi-15 Ph: 011-4119297-29 kumarassociatesadvocates@gmail.com

## NOTICE

LOSS OF SHARE CERTIFICATE Notice is hereby given that Share Certificates bearing Folio No. NAT100019 of Dalmia Refractories Limited having 350 Shares vide Certificate No. 12681, 12684 - 12696, 15640 - 15641 and 15685 bearing Distinctive No. 514001 to 514050, 514651 to 514600, 661951 to 662050 and 664201 to 664250 respectively standing in the name of Mr. Joydeep Basu has been lost/misplaced and the advertiser have applied to the Company for issue of duplicate share certificate(s) in lieu thereof. Any person(s) who has/have claim(s) on the said shares should lodge such claim(s) with the Company's Registrars and Transfer Agents viz KFin Technologies Private Limited, Seanium Tower B, Plot Nos. 31 & 32, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Serilingampally Mandal, Hyderabad - 500032. e-mail: [enward.rs@kfintech.com](mailto:enward.rs@kfintech.com), Toll-Free: 1-800-309-4001 within 15 days from the date of this notice failing which the Company will proceed to issue duplicate share certificate(s) in respect of the said shares. Joydeep Basu Date: 29-08-2021 New Delhi

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is informed that Late Sh. Suraj S/o Late Sh. Phoolo R/o Village Sultanpur, Noida Distt. G.B. Nagar, has taken its share of plot area 63.00 sq.meters in total plot area 252.00 sq.mtrs., related Khassa No. 411, situated in Village Sultanpur Tehsil Dadri Distt. G.B. Nagar, has made a Will Deed in favour of Mr. Rajpal Singh Chauhan S/o Sh. Om Prakash R/o Village Asgarpur Jagir Teshil Dadri Distt. G.B. Nagar, registered in sub-registrar office-III, Noida dated 31.01.2015. Late Sh. Suraj expired in on 05.12.2019. Now on the basis of the Will Deed, mutation is being done in favour of above Sh. Rajpal Singh Chauhan, this information has been published to be appreciated and useful in future. Any person who has any claim of any sort with respect to the said property, can Lodge his/her objection in the Residential Section of Noida Authority within 30 days of this Public Notice. Rajpal Singh Chauhan

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# Increased consumption prompts higher natural gas imports: Ind-Ra

FIANS ■ MUMBAI

Domestic natural gas consumption has prompted higher LNG imports, ratings agency India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) said in a report.

"Ind-Ra believes that 11.8 per cent month-on-month (MoM) growth in liquefied natural gas (LNG) import volume to 93 metric standard cubic metre per day (mmscmd) in June 2021 was led by 7.7 per cent MoM growth in domestic gas consumption to 166 mmscmd," the report said.

"In June 2021, the city gas distribution segment volumes increased 61.2 per cent YoY and 10.3 per cent MoM to 28.9mmscmd."

Accordingly, NG production has increased 19.5 per cent YoY.

"During the month, Oil India Limited and private or joint venture fields recorded an increase of 5 per cent YoY and 202 per cent YoY, respectively, while Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited recorded a decline of 7.4 per cent YoY in NG production volumes."

# Discussions on FTAs with several countries progressing fast: Union min

FIANS ■ NEW DELHI

India is fast progressing in discussions with several countries for Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), Union Minister Piyush Goyal has said.

Currently, India is in discussions on FTAs with several countries including the UK, UAE and GCC countries, Australia and European Union.

The Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles cited that India and US have agreed to aspire for \$500 billion trade in near future.

Furthermore, while addressing the business and trade fraternity through the platform of Jain International Trade Organisation (JITO), he noted that recently India emerged as the world's second most desirable manufacturing destination overtaking the US.

The minister pointed out that the trend showed the potential and promise of India to become the "manufacturing hub" of the world.

He asserted that along with becoming the "manufacturing hub", India should also become a "trading hub".

According to Goyal, every growth parameter is showing an extremely "exciting future for all of us".

## Business Corner

### GOOGLE MAY INVEST INTO AIRTEL

New Delhi :Bharti Airtel might soon get an investment from Google which could run into several thousands of crores, as per media reports. Both the companies are already in advanced stage of discussions and negotiations since last year, media reports said. These reports suggest the investment from Google into Airtel can be quite large in amount. It remains to be seen what are the underlying dynamics because the Jio and Google partnership might have come with a restriction for the latter to invest in any of its rival companies, including Airtel or Vodafone Idea. Google had invested Rs 34,000 crore into Jio Platforms. Bharti Airtel is already looking to raise capital so that it can invest in its 4G networks around the country to increase capacity. Jefferies believe that since there's no urgent need of raising cash, the telco is likely assuming that it will need a larger capacity network to hold all the Vodafone Idea (VI) customers that come its way, Telecom Talk reported.

### INCOME TAX DEPT CONDUCTS SEARCHES IN MAHA, GOA

New Delhi: The Income Tax Department has carried out a search and seizure operation on a group based in Maharashtra and Goa. The operation was carried out on August 25. The group is a prominent steel manufacturer and trader of Pune, Nashik, Ahmednagar and Goa. More than 44 premises were covered in the search operation, the finance ministry said in a statement not divulging the name of the group. The department said that during the course of the search and seizure operation, many incriminating documents, loose papers and digital evidence were seized. Evidence detected during the search revealed that the group was engaged in fraudulent practice of booking bogus purchases of scrap and sponge iron from various 'fake invoice issuers'.

### ROUND-THE-CLOCK EFFICACY AGAINST COVID

New Delhi: Covid-19 pandemic has added hand sanitizer in the list of most common household goods. However, one has to apply it multiple times for effectiveness. Keeping this in mind, Swanrose launched Just Human hand sanitizer with 24-hour efficacy. "After many years - I have found my purpose - It combines my interests in science and technology with my desire to make a difference in people's lives," said Roshini Sanah Jaiswal, CEO of Swanrose.



CHANGE OF NAME

I, Chandni W/o. Mohammad Salman, R/o. 8983, 1st & 2nd Floor, Naya Mohalla, Pul Bangash, Delhi-110006 have Changed my name as Sabiha Rehman for all future purposes. PD(9062)A

# THIRD ENCOUNTER

There is a lot of uncertainty as to when and if at all the third wave of COVID-19 will hit the country. Amid the ongoing claims, WHO Chief Scientist suggests that India might be entering an endemic stage. MUSBA HASHMI speaks with experts to understand what awaits us

**T**he third wave is imminent, said an expert. We are heading towards achieving endemicity, said another. There are several such claims and assumptions made by eminent experts and doctors.

However, the fact of the matter is that nobody has yet been able to fully understand the nature of the virus, which is why many doctors believe that it will take us at least another year, if not more, to draw concrete conclusions.

Scientists worldwide are on the go. They are chasing the virus' evolution and its mutants with a few winning streaks. But a silver lining in the dark clouds of what seems to be a never-ending pandemic is that the country might be entering an endemic stage.

Dr HK Mahajan, Anaesthesiologist, Indian Spinal Injuries Centre, Vasant Kunj, tells you that as per the World Health Organisation's Chief Scientist Dr Soumya Swaminathan, India is entering into an endemic stage. "This suggests that a population has learnt to live with a virus. There is a low or moderate level of transmission going on. There are no peaks or exponential growth like pandemic or epidemic," he says.

The high cases, he points out, occur where immunity is less, people are not vaccinated or not infected in the previous waves.

However, as per the experts from National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), a third wave is imminent and can hit the country any time between September and October. "It will not be that severe, but paediatric cases will be more, though not backed up by any scientific evidence. In this case, we need to have paediatrics infrastructure, ICU wards and doctors and trained nurses to deal with children getting infected," says Mahajan.

If the stats are anything to go by, they suggest that the country will see cases anywhere between one lakh and five lakh a day.

"NIDM has predicted three scenarios. One, the third wave may peak in October. Two, three lakh cases per day. Three, if more virulent variants emerge, it may peak in September with five lakh cases per day. Four, it could peak in late October with two lakh cases per day," adds Mahajan.

All these models, he says, are based on calculations and are basically for forecasting and making predictions to anticipate the dynamics of the pandemic. "How many cases, virulence, morbidity and mortality trends will happen are demonstrated based on mathematical models. In India, these are mostly done by experts from IIT Kanpur and IIT Hyderabad. They take clues from several warnings indicating an imminent third wave, understand them and prepare for it," explains Mahajan.

Dr Shuchin Bajaj, Founder & Director, Ujala Cygnus Group of Hospitals, agrees with Mahajan and says that with the highest zero positivity rate and progressively increasing vaccine coverage, it appears that India is heading for an endemic stage of the virus. "Kerala, which is seeing very high numbers is currently suffering from the third wave because of the low zero positivity rate, which is less than 40 per cent compared to about 70 per cent in the Northern part of the country. So, with the increased vaccination coverage, we are already administering about 50 lakh vaccines a day and we're hoping that we will be doing about one crore vaccines per day to achieve our target of complete vaccination by the end of the year. We hope that the next wave, if it does come, will be like the British third wave, which even though with increased numbers, it had very low hospitalisation rates as well as very low death rates," says Bajaj.

However, Dr Akshay Budhraj, Pulmonologist, Aakash Healthcare, Dwarka, says that if we go by stats, a third wave won't happen. "Having said that, no stats or analysis can clear this doubt with absolute certainty, only time will. The virus is mutating and we are not sure how long the immunity lasts after vaccination or COVID infection. We don't even know how effective the vaccine will be to newer mutant strains in coming times. So, in any case we must continue to follow the COVID protocol in this time of uncertainty, till we achieve herd immunity, which isn't far now. It is a matter of eight-10 months," opines Budhraj.

He adds that we may see a rise in the number of cases but the mortality rate won't rise like in the second wave. "If at all a third wave hits us, we will surely emerge stronger than before. Simple reason is more people will be immune. The very reason the number of cases are declining at present," he says.

The future looks bright. We have so many vaccine options now and a ramped up vaccination rate. "All of the available vaccines are efficacious and safe. We have understood the nature of the virus. Like any other virus, it is mutating, but at a faster rate. The only solution to this is, increasing the vaccination rate, followed by an annual booster dose, if required. Only herd immunity can end this. Till then, uncertainty regarding coming waves will remain. It's a respiratory virus, you cannot eradicate it completely. It will remain here for lives to come. But you can surely eradicate the disease caused by it," Budhraj tells you.



A THIRD WAVE WON'T COME. HAVING SAID THIS, NO STATS OR ANALYSIS CAN CLEAR THIS DOUBT WITH ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY, ONLY TIME WILL. THE VIRUS IS MUTATING AND WE ARE NOT SURE HOW LONG THE IMMUNITY LASTS AFTER VACCINATION OR COVID INFECTION. WE DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW EFFECTIVE THE VACCINE WILL BE TO NEWER MUTANT STRAINS IN COMING TIMES. IN ANY CASE WE MUST CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THE COVID PROTOCOL TILL WE ACHIEVE HERD IMMUNITY, WHICH ISN'T FAR NOW. IT IS A MATTER OF EIGHT-10 MONTHS

— DR AKSHAY BUDHRAJA, PULMONOLOGIST, AAKASH HEALTHCARE, DWARKA

**NIDM has predicted three scenarios. One, the third wave may peak in October. Two, three lakh cases per day. Three, if more virulent variants emerge, it may peak in September with five lakh cases per day. Four, it could peak in late October with two lakh cases per day**

— Dr HK Mahajan  
Anaesthesiologist, Indian Spinal Injuries Centre, Vasant Kunj

Bajaj, too, is of the opinion that once the third wave hits, we will emerge much stronger because we are much more prepared. "We have developed our ICUs well as hospital infrastructure, including oxygen supply. And I think this is a hidden blessing from the pandemic because we are now focusing on ramping up our healthcare infrastructure, which will serve us well in the long term to fight other diseases as well," says Bajaj.

The future, he says, holds the same fate as it was with the Spanish flu. "The current flu virus is apparently a mutation of the Spanish flu virus that happened about 100 years ago, and then became endemic into the com-

munity and now needs almost yearly immunisation and booster shots for those at risk. So, this COVID virus will also mutate into a virus that is endemic to the community and will always be a risk for those members who are high risk like immunocompromised elderly, or very young, and the rest of the community will slowly become immune to that," opines Bajaj.

But the high risk community members, he adds, will definitely need yearly boosters to make sure that they do not suffer. This virus will replace the common flu virus which is prevalent now. "So we will not be fighting against multiple viruses. But this will be the predominant virus that will live with our community until

God forbid the next pandemic comes in," says Bajaj.

But for that to happen, the vaccination drive also needs a booster dose. "Only 7.6 per cent people, that is 10.4 crore people, have been fully vaccinated. This rate has to be increased substantially. Otherwise cases would increase and that would need healthcare infrastructure and staff. This is still compromised and deficient. We also have to expedite the vaccination of kids and follow COVID appropriate behaviour and judicious lockdowns," says Mahajan.

Dr Vineeta Singh Tandon, Consultant, Internal Medicine, PSRI Hospital, New Delhi, says that with the different projections, that may or may not turn true, what we need is a robust health care system that can hold a caseload like this. What we would need is localised lockdowns in case numbers shoot up and that needs to be implemented strictly by the authorities.

"Fear-mongering does more than good. Third-wave to a large extent depends on multiple factors like people not following COVID appropriate behaviour, lax vaccination and people mingling in crowded zones. Vaccination holds hope and we should focus on this number going up. By all signs, the third wave (if it happens) should not be as devastating as the second one," says Singh. Future holds promise and vaccination by all accounts would give us protection against this virus. It will remain among us but would reduce its severity, she adds.

A ray of hope, Mahajan, says that by the end of 2022 we would achieve 70 per cent vaccination coverage in the whole world and then countries can get back to normal. "Vaccination is the key to get the herd immunity and hence ultimate protection," he concludes.

# EMERGING JHARKHAND

Emerging Jharkhand  
COME | EXPLORE | ENGAGE



## Jharkhand inks MoU worth Rs. 10,000 Cr



Jharkhand is a land of unlimited opportunities. We welcome all the investors with open arms. We will provide you with every possible facility. From scratch to production, our government will stand with you. This will create employment opportunities for our young skilled workforce and assure you excellent growth with Emerging Jharkhand.

**Chief Minister, Jharkhand HEMANT SOREN**

The 2-day Summit witnessed a commitment of nearly 10,000 Crore investments in Jharkhand in the coming months, leading to around 20,000 direct and around 1.5 Lakh indirect employment\*  
\*All potential investors who would commit to engage 35% of their workforce from Scheduled Tribes / Scheduled Castes communities will be incentivised over and above the existing provisions of the new JIIPP 2021\*  
Chief Minister Shri Hemant Soren launched Jharkhand Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy 2021 during Investors' Meet organized in New Delhi. TATA steel expresses intent to invest Rs. 3000 cr over the next three years. Dalmia Group signs MoU to expand their cement plant & establish solar power plant & solid waste management plant. SAIL commits an investment of Rs 4,000 Crore, Adhunik Power signs MoU for investments worth 1900Cr & Prem Ruber Works pvt Ltd signs MoU to invest Rs 50Cr. We are establishing India's largest floating solar power plant



in Jharkhand: CM Hemant Soren in the quest to attract investments in the state and foster industrial development, Chief Minister Shri Hemant Soren completed his two-day visit to New Delhi to attend the Investor's Meet organized by the Department of Industries,

Government of Jharkhand. During the launch of the Jharkhand Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy 2021, Chief Minister Shri Hemant Soren said, "The state government wants to move forward with the cooperation of the investors.

We are trying to leverage the infinite resources which the nature has gifted to Jharkhand and walk the path of development. In this quest, we expect your cooperation. The government has stepped up and we will not stop here. From the

very beginning, the state government has been deliberating upon how to generate employment in Jharkhand. Hitherto, our focus largely revolved around industries based on mines and minerals. They are undoubtedly immensely valuable and will continue to be the backbone but we are now also working in the field of Tourism, Education, Renewable Energy, Food Processing, Auto Mobile, Pharma & Textile. A major part of these industries has been untouched in Jharkhand. Talking about Renewable Energy, I would like to inform you all that very soon we are coming up with a very big project. We are establishing India's largest floating solar plant. This will generate electricity on a very large scale.

We are working on paving way for industries to come and establish their plants and generate employment in the state. Our effort is to take Jharkhand upwards in the category of leading states of India."

### VISION, MISSION & TARGET

The overall growth of Jharkhand has accelerated under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Hemant Soren. Jharkhand is becoming the vanguard of industrialisation among the Indian States. After a long discussion involving stakeholders, Chief Minister Jharkhand Industrial & Investment Promotion Policy (JIIPP) 2021 to boost investment and industrialization in Jharkhand. The government focuses upon investments in sectors like Textile & Apparels, Automobile, Auto, Components & Electric Vehicles, & Electric Vehicles, Agro-Food Processing & Meat Processing Industries, Pharmaceuticals and Electronic System Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) among others. With a thrust upon manufacturing and service industry—key to employments—the government has revised and simplified processes to the benefit of investors and to promote 'ease of doing business.'

### Industry Speaks



This is a progressive policy. Electric vehicles are the future of the country. Tata group has given our feedback to the government about EVM policy. Tata steel has extended investments. We too invite investors in Jharkhand.

**T. V. Narendran Managing Director, Tata Steel**



He (Hemant Soren) is a young CM with innovative thoughts. We are happy and satisfied with the government supports and law and order of Jharkhand so we have decided for more investment in Jharkhand.

**Mahendra Singhi Group CEO, Dalmia Cement (Limited)**

### Industrial clusters a gamechanger



Tata Motors, one of India's leading automobile companies, began manufacturing of commercial vehicles in the early 1950s onward at Adityapur in Jamshedpur where so far more than 600 auto ancillary industries have been set up to cater to the needs of automobile companies. It has generated direct employment for more than 25000 individuals and several times of it as indirect employment. All types of auto-grade steels are being produced in Jamshedpur since the 1980s. The aim is to establish Jharkhand as an automobile hub in India. Adityapur Auto-Cluster has been made operational in Jamshedpur to extend common

facilities, such as testing centre, design lab, tool rooms, calibration plants, IT Training Centre, effluent treatment plant, etc., to auto component makers. Automobile Vendor Park is planned to be established under PPP mode or Private sector by Mega Automobile Manufacturing Units. Ambitious policy announcements are critical in stimulating the e-vehicle rollout in major markets. The Government of Jharkhand intends to steer its policy to enable e-vehicle and spare part and ancillary unit manufacturing in the state and provide a robust institutional landscape to invite e-vehicle manufacturers to the state.

### ADITYAPUR ELECTRONIC MANUFACTURING CLUSTER



### Govt. Talks



The government of Jharkhand will support the investors throughout the process and stand by them to actualize their investments into returns and foster growth.

**Sukhdev Singh Chief Secretary (IAS)**



Through the new policy, we are trying to maximize the incentives available to investors and ensure they enjoy a business-friendly ecosystem in Jharkhand.

**Pooja Singhal (IAS) Secretary (Dept. of Industries)**

### SINGLE WINDOW POLICY IS READY: INDUSTRIES SECRETARY



Industries Secretary Smt Pooja Singhal says the Single Window Policy of Jharkhand is ready. The government has already created a land bank of 1,000 acres and is also ready with Single Window Clearance Policy to attract investments in the state, the industries secretary said.

## ELECTRONICS SYSTEM DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING (ESDM)

Electronic Manufacturing Cluster at Adityapur in Jamshedpur boasts state-of-the-art facilities. Developed under the Jharkhand ESDM Policy 2016 it spreads over on 82.49 acres of land. Out of this, 49 acres of land is set to be used by units for production of electronic products. Apart from this, infrastructure work has been done on 33.61 acres of land for the convenience of all the units. So far,

about 22 acres of land has been allotted to 30 units in the allocated land. In addition to the plot, JIADA has developed the future ready buildings on 5 acres of land, which is named "Flatted Factory". In which a total of 92 units can start their production at micro scale immediately. There is a possibility of investment of about Rs.400 crores and about direct employment generation of 10000 people.

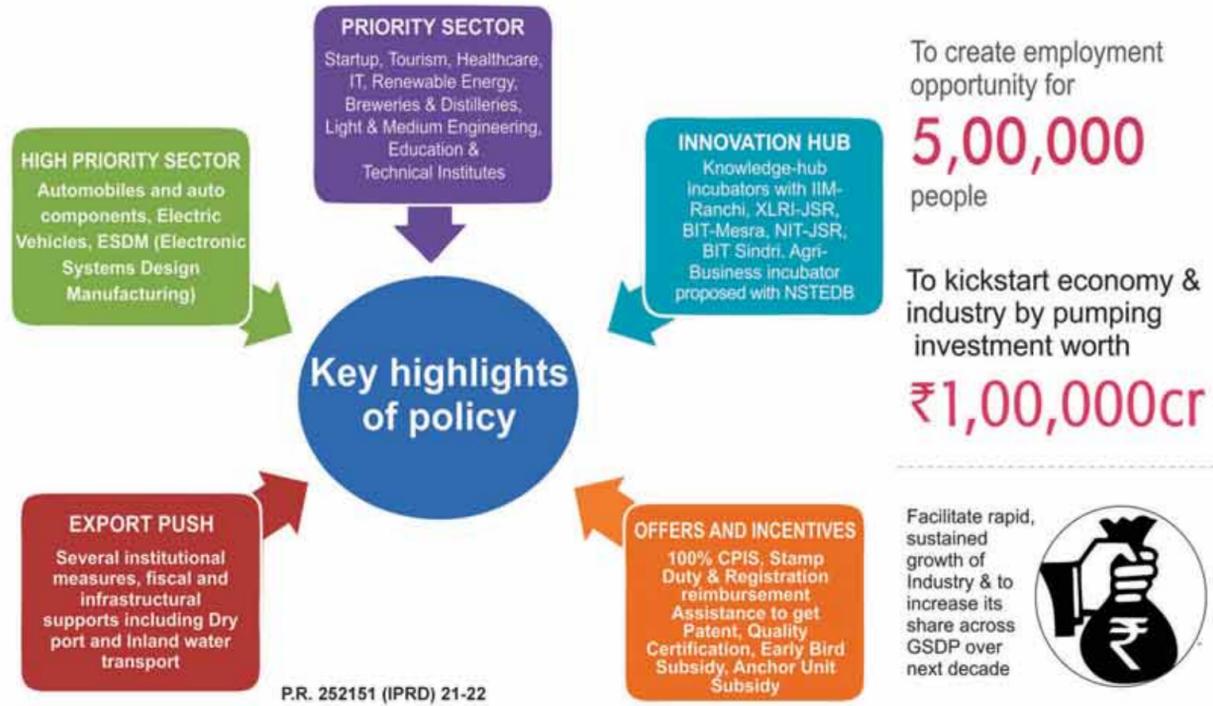


### Automobile, Kick Start to Economy

Globally the focus is now on reducing Carbon footprint and technology advances mainly in the battery pack manufacturing sector, have increased the scope for adoption of e-vehicles. Jharkhand has been the home to the automobile manufacturing of commercial vehicles started in the early 1950s at Jamshedpur by the Tata group. More than 600 auto ancillary industries have been subsequently set up at Adityapur in Jamshedpur to cater to the needs of automobile companies. The aim is to establish Jharkhand as an automobile hub in India. Adityapur Auto-Cluster has been made operational at Jamshedpur to extend common facilities, such as testing centre, design lab, tool rooms, calibration plants, IT Training Centre, effluent treatment plant, etc.



An Automobile Vendor Park is planned to be established under PPP mode or Private sector by Mega Automobile Manufacturing Units. Ambitious policy announcements are critical in stimulating the e-vehicle rollout in major markets. Jharkhand government intends to steer its policy to enable e-vehicle and spare part and ancillary unit manufacturing in the state and provide a robust institutional landscape to invite e-vehicle manufacturers to the state. Based on the demand from the industry, the Government is also planning on allocating an EV Cluster in the state on the lines of the already existing auto cluster at Jamshedpur.



# ROBINSON BLOWS AWAY INDIA

PTI ■ LEEDS

Pacer Ollie Robinson engineered a middle-order collapse with the second new ball as England completed a facile innings and 76 run victory against India on the fourth day of the third Test, here on Saturday.

All the good work on Friday, when India reached 215 for two at stumps, was completely undone as Robinson (5/26) and James Anderson (1/26) hit the right lengths and got movement off-the-pitch to wrap up the Indian innings in a jiffy. India were all out for 278 in the morning session.

It was a match that England won by executing their strategies to perfection with an idea of opposition's soft underbellies.

It was Robinson's second five-for in the series and the tall seamer after a difficult initiation to Test cricket due to off-field controversies is proving to be an asset for this team.

Robinson had served an unconditional apology after his racist tweets surfaced on the day of his Test debut against New Zealand in June.

India had lost the match on the first day itself when they were bowled out for 78 as it meant that they were always playing a catching up game in this Test match.

## ENGLAND WIN BY INNINGS AND 76 RUNS



India skipper Virat Kohli said it was high quality bowling from England that forced mistakes from the visiting batsmen.

"It's quite bizarre, it can happen in this country, batting collapses. We thought the pitch was good to bat on, coming on nicely. But the discipline forced mistakes and the

pressure was relentless. Difficult to cope when you're not scoring runs. That caused the batting order to crumble," he said.

A huge first innings lead of 354 taken by England only increased the worry with three days of batting needed to save the game.

Kohli acknowledged the

"scoreboard pressure."

"Always up against it when you get out for under 80, and the opposition puts up such a big score. But we did well to stay in the game yesterday, fight back as much as we could, and gave ourselves a chance.

"But the pressure today was outstanding from the England

bowlers and eventually they got the results they wanted," he said.

It was an improbable task to bat out three days in conditions which can change rapidly to make batting difficult. Playing out time isn't a virtue that many in this team, save likes of Rohit Sharma and Cheteshwar Pujara, possess.

The middle-order which looked solid yesterday was completely rattled on penultimate morning under bright sunshine as most of the batsmen didn't know where there off-stump was which was pretty baffling if one takes the third day's performance into consideration.

India lost eight wickets for addition of only 63 runs and the memories of a morning collapse in Adelaide once again became fresh as good balls found their way either into the gloves or hands of slip fielders.

It started with Cheteshwar Pujara (91) misjudging the length of Robinson's in-cutter which he perhaps thought would fly over the stumps as he decided not to offer a shot. A good review taken by Joe Root saw India number three's back but there was still hope for a fight as skipper Virat Kohli clipped Anderson for two boundaries en route his first fifty of the series.

However unlike third evening, the Indian skipper again looked circumspect as he played and

missed a few and survived a caught behind chance.

But Robinson then decisively tilted the game with a nicely pitched up delivery that was slightly angled in and Kohli jabbed at it and the result was the fifth consecutive time in this series that he was gobbled up either by wicketkeeper or the slip cordon.

Saturday was slip's turn where his opposite number Joe Root was standing.

Ajinkya Rahane (10) got a couple of boundaries but it was another similar manner of dismissal for the Test vice-captain as Anderson got one to straighten from length which took the outside edge into keeper Buttler's gloves. Rishabh Pant (1), who is no longer allowed to stand good three feet out of his crease, again played in a manner which only he knows — giving pacers the charge down the track without any tangible results.

He lasted mere seven balls as he pushed at a Robinson delivery without any footwork, a replica of his first innings dismissal as Craig Overton at third slip took a regulation catch.

From 215 for 2, it was 239 for six and then it was a matter of formality. Ravindra Jadeja (30) added some more runs in Test kitty before Craig Overton (3/47) ended India's nightmare.



## Learnt wobble seam delivery from Jimmy: Robinson

PTI ■ LEEDS

England pacer Ollie Robinson on Saturday said his legendary teammate James Anderson helped him in tweaking his wobble grip ball technique and it gave him a perfect result in the third Test against India.

Robinson exploited the second new ball on the fourth morning en route splendid bowling figures of 26-6-65-5 as England drew level in the five match series with an innings and 76 runs win.

"I noticed Jimmy holding his wobble grip slightly differently. I was holding it from the other side so I spoke to him and just tried to practice it in the nets," Robinson told reporters after his man-of-the-match performance.

"It went quite nicely, so I tried it in the game and it worked quite well. It's something I need to practice a bit more. This learning opportunity is invaluable for me at this stage in my career and luckily it came off today."

"Obviously, it's great to open the bowling with Jimmy and build pressure on both ends. I enjoyed it and hopefully I can continue."

India collapsed from 215 for two to 278 all out.

England began the proceedings with the second new ball and it all began with Robinson dismissing Cheteshwar Pujara on his overnight score of 91.

Out-of-form India skipper Virat Kohli got to his first fifty of the series but only to be dismissed by Robinson that triggered a stunning collapse.

"It feels like a very special day, I don't quite feel like it's settled in yet. For me, it's one of the great days in my cricket career, to get my first Test win is really special." On taking the prized scalp of Kohli, he said: "It is an amazing feeling. The crowds here were unbelievable. The noise when we got Kohli out was deafening, just an unbelievable experience and feeling to get that wicket."

Not long ago, the Sussex pacer had doubts over his fate in England cricket as he was suspended for offensive old racist tweets following his spectacular Test debut against New Zealand in June.

After his apology, the Sussex seamer earned a recall for the Trent Bridge Test where he grabbed his maiden fiver.

"It's off the back of quite a few hard years, I've had to work hard to get here and do a lot of extra to get here so to get the rewards in the last four four Test matches has been very pleasing," the 27-year-old said.

"When you are performing obviously the scrutiny is off you a little bit. It (the racist tweet episode) is still quite fresh in my memory and I'm trying to work on becoming a better person."

## Root: Living my boyhood dream



PTI ■ LEEDS

He has become the most successful England Test captain after trampling India in the third Test but Joe Root won't own the feat alone, saying the contribution of his teammates and coaching staff is equally important in his achievement.

England crushed India by an innings and 76 runs in the third Test and that gave Root his 27th win as captain in 55 games. He surpassed the likes of Michael Vaughan (26), Andrew Strauss (24) and Alastair Cook (24) in terms of most number of wins by an England Test captain.

"As I mentioned before the game, I'm living my boyhood dream of captaining England. It's something that I dreamt of doing from being really small," Root said after England levelled the five-match series 1-1.

"I couldn't be more proud to have gone past Vaughan but you don't do that on your own as a captain, it's down to the group of players and the coaching staff as well."

There have been many ups and downs and challenges to deal with their rotation policy in view of the bubble life as it invited criticism from all quarters.

"It's been a very challenging period throughout my tenure as captain, there has been a lot to contend with, a lot around the games, and not necessarily all the full focus has been on the field," he said.

"But that's part and parcel of the job. I haven't put a time limit on it. As long as I am enjoying it, as long as we feel like we are moving in the right direction and that I am the right man for it in my own mind, I am more than happy to keep doing it."

England came into the contest after suffering an embarrassing defeat at the Lord's in the second Test that was marred by some ugly on-the-field exchanges.

But they bounced back strongly with James Anderson blowing away the top-order after Virat Kohli opted to bat as India were dismissed for 78.

In reply, England had a 135-opening partnership, before the skipper's classy 121 — his third in three matches and sixth in the year — steered them to 432.

## India crumbled due to relentless pressure from England, first-innings collapse was bizarre: Kohli

PTI ■ LEEDS

India's meek surrender in the first innings of the third Test was "bizarre" for skipper Virat Kohli, who said they crumbled in the face of relentless pressure created by the England bowlers.

India lost the Leeds Test by an innings and 76 runs as England levelled the five-match series 1-1.

Kohli admitted after being all out for 78, they were always playing a catch-up game.

"Basically down to scoreboard pressure... Always up against it when you get out for under 80, and the opposition puts up such a big score," Kohli said at the post-match presentation. "But we did well to stay in the game yesterday, fight back as much as we could, and gave ourselves a chance. But the pressure today was outstanding from the England bowlers and eventually they got the results they wanted," he said.

The India captain said the batting collapse they suffered in the first innings was "quite bizarre" after their stupendous show in the Lord's Test.

"It can happen in this country, batting collapses. We thought the pitch was good to bat on, coming on nicely. But the discipline forced mistakes and the pressure was relentless. Difficult to cope when you're not scoring runs. That caused the batting order to crumble," he said.



answering the questions, Kohli dismissed the idea of playing an extra batsman, something that the great Sunil Gavaskar has been constantly advocating on air. "You are talking about a pure batsman?" he countered when asked if he would play a sixth specialist batsman.

## Don't believe extra batsman gives balance: Kohli

Leeds: Indian captain Virat Kohli on Saturday vowed to continue with five specialist bowlers despite their big defeat against England in the third Test but hinted at a rejig in attack for the fourth game by factoring in the workload of speed merchants.

In a combative mood while

## We will give Pant all the space he needs

Leeds: India skipper Virat Kohli on Saturday backed under-fire wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant, saying the team management will give him all the space that he needs in the remainder of the five-Test series against England.

The 23-year-old Pant, who has played in all the three Tests so far in the ongoing England series, hasn't been able to get going with the bat, managing 25 at Nottingham, 37 and 22 at Lord's, and 2 and 1 at Leeds for a total of only 87 runs.

"Well again, as I said, with

one loss I cannot assess that or I cannot start analysing that as a captain. Definitely the management is not going to start analysing that because we are not failing as a team.

"Consistently we are not losing, this is what I mean, when I say that, we failed this game as team definitely and we take responsibility for that," Kohli said at the virtual post-match press conference when asked whether Pant's lack of runs was creating problems for the lower middle-order.

PTI

## Sharma T-22, Chawrasia misses cut at European Masters

PTI ■ CRANS MONTANA (SWITZERLAND)

Indian golfer Shubhankar Sharma carded a second successive two-under 68 to make the cut at the Omega European Masters but SSP Chawrasia missed the weekend action.

Sharma, who is coming off two good starts, had four birdies against two bogeys around the turn to get to 4-under and was T-22 at the halfway stage.

Chawrasia however missed

the cut with identical scores of 71-71. Sharma, who was T-9 at the Cazoo Classic, bogeyed the 11th but holed birdies on 14th and 18th to turn in 1-under. On his second nine, he birdied first and second and dropped a late bogey on eighth.

Dean Burmester holds a one shot lead going into the weekend after adding a bogey free round of 65 to his opening 64. The two-time European Tour winner got to 11 under par at Golf Club Crans-sur-Sierre,

edging ahead of England's Andy Sullivan and Thomas Detry of Belgium, as he goes in search of his second win of the season following his Tenerife Open triumph. The South African notched up six victories on the Sunshine Tour before securing his first European Tour trophy at the co-sanctioned Tshwane Open in 2017, and he has more silverware in his sights after recording four Top-10s this season in addition to his win in the Canary Islands in May.

## Vani T-18, Aditi is T-26 after opening round in Sweden

Fiskebackskil (Sweden): Indian women golfers Vani Kapoor and Aditi Ashok carded two-over 71 and three-over 72 respectively to lie tied 18th and tied 26th after the opening round of the Didriksons Skafto Open here.

Swedish amateur Beatrice Wallin leads the field alongside Magdalena Simmermacher after both players shot an opening round of 67 in Bohuslan.

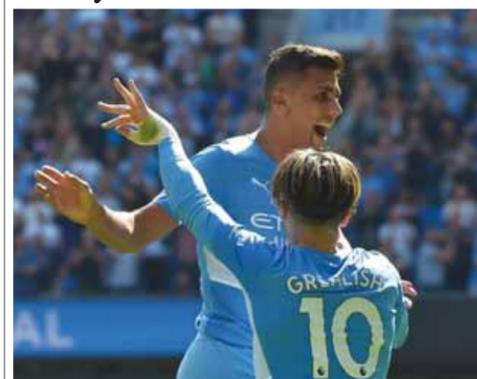
The 22-year-old made the most of her familiar

surroundings in Skafto, as she kept her composure amid gusty conditions to share the lead after 18 holes played.

Hedwall sits alongside compatriots Linda Wessberg, Annelie Sjolholm and amateur Ingrid Lindblad on one shot under-par, as well as England's Gemma Clews and French starlet Pauline Roussin Bouchard with the top eight players separated by a single shot heading into the weekend.

PTI

## Arsenal humiliated 5-0 by City in worst start in its history



AP ■ MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

Crestfallen Arsenal players Cbeing humiliated in the Premier League has become all-too familiar in recent years. But it's never been this bad. Not in the 128 years since the club started playing in the English leagues.

A 5-0 collapse at Manchester City on Saturday left Arsenal with three losses without scoring at the start of the season for the first time in its history.

Arsenal's calamitous performance shouldn't detract from the ruthless efficiency of City.

There were two goals and an assist from Ferran Torres, and goals from Ilkay Gundogan, Gabriel Jesus and Rodri.

"You have to take risks and you have to be brave on the ball and we didn't," Arsenal forward Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang said. "This is not enough and everyone has to look in the mirror and work as a team and stick together."

Perhaps losing was expected, if not in this manner. This was Arsenal's ninth successive league loss to City, stretching back into Arsene Wenger's reign.

Unai Emery and, now Mikel Arteta, have been brought in to try to revive Arsenal's fortunes. But the Gunners look further than ever from getting back into the Champions League, let alone winning the title for the first time since 2004.

## Messi prepares for first appearance for French giants

AP ■ PARIS

Lionel Messi trained on Saturday ahead of his highly anticipated debut for French giants Paris St-Germain.

The six-time Ballon d'Or winner did not feature in the first three games of the Ligue 1 campaign after being given time to settle in the French capital and build up his fitness, but he is expected to play against Reims on Sunday.

Messi's ex-Barcelona team-mate Neymar, who has so far been rested following international duty, is also due to make his first appearance of the season.

"Really disappointed with the things that happened on the pitch," Arteta said. "Obviously the summary after three games and losing the three of them, it doesn't make it any easier."

Arteta has had 20 months in the job since being hired away from City where he was Pep Guardiola's assistant.

"They trust a lot in Mikel because they spend money to reinforce the team, to do it better," Guardiola said. "Why you don't give a little more time to the teams to build what you want to build. The people want success immediately."

## 2 Afghan athletes arrive in Tokyo

AP ■ TOKYO

Two athletes from Afghanistan have arrived in Tokyo to compete in the Paralympics, the International Paralympic Committee said Saturday.

The two-person team of Zakia Khudadadi and Hossain Rasouli had flown from Kabul to Paris before continuing on to Tokyo, the IPC said.

Khudadadi will be Afghanistan's first female athlete to compete at the Paralympics since Athens 2004. She will challenge in the women's 44-49-kilogram weight category in taekwondo on Thursday, and her team-mate will line up in the heats of the men's 400 meters T47 event on Friday. The Paralympics close on Sept. 5. The IPC said the two were met in Tokyo at the Paralympic Village by IPC president Andrew Parsons.

## We are focussed on ODI World Cup, Australia tour is good preparation: Mithali and Powar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian women's ODI team captain Mithali Raj and coach Ramesh Powar on Saturday said the side is currently focussed on next year's World Cup and the tour of Australia will serve as ideal preparation for the mega event.

The Indian team is leaving for Australia on Wednesday to play three ODIs, a day-night Test and three T20Is.

"We need to understand that we are playing three ODIs first and we are focussing right now on the World Cup preparation," Powar said during a pre-departure press conference, even as questions revolved around the Pink ball Test against Australia. "Regarding the one-off Test match we have to carry our one-day confidence into Test match. We don't have to pre-



pare separately as we back our players in all formats. We try to inculcate how we should approach every format."

The Australia tour will begin with the ODI series, starting with the first game at the North Sydney Oval on September 19, followed by the second and third matches at the Junction Oval on September 22 and 24 respectively.

The women's 50-over World Cup is slated to be held in New Zealand in March-April next year.

Skipper Mithali said, "We know the areas we needed to improve and we worked and addressed those issues during the preparatory camp in Bangalore. "Whatever results are there in Australia we still have few months for the World Cup. Australia tour is good for us because we are playing against the best, we will also get an idea about the team combination before the World Cup. So Australia tour is a good game plan before the World Cup."

## Paralympics: Indian javelin thrower Bhati misfires in all six attempts, out of final

PTI ■ TOKYO

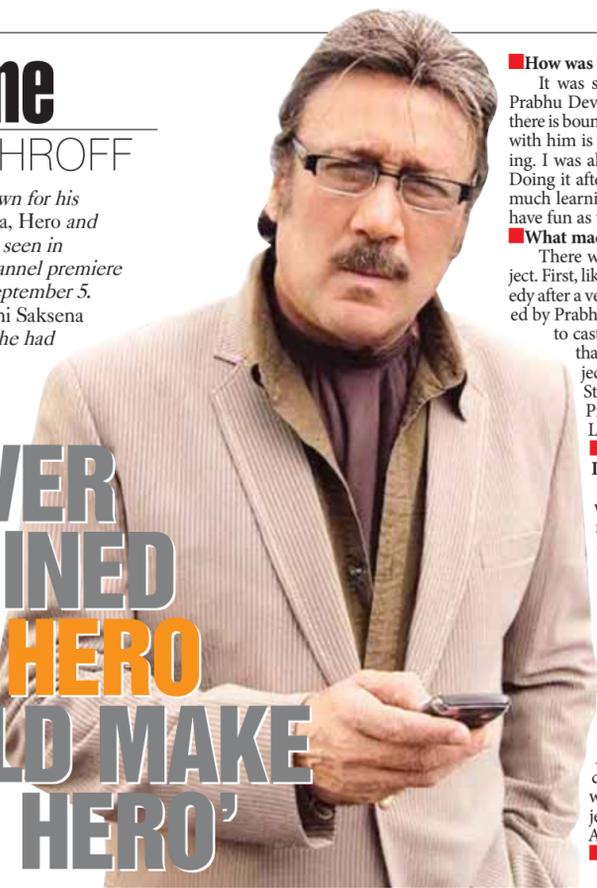
India's javelinist Ranjeet Bhati bowled out of Paralympics after failing to register even a single valid throw in his six attempts in the men's class P57 final, here on Saturday. The 24-year-old from Faridabad had finished fourth at the Moroccan Grand Prix in 2019 and qualified for the Paralympics after winning gold medals in the state-level tournament in Gurugram and the national competition in Bengaluru this year. Earlier in the day, Bhavinaben Patel assured India of a silver medal after she became the first Indian to enter the final of a table tennis event in the Paralympics with a hard-fought 3-2 win over China's Miao Zhang in a class 4 semi-final.

**talktime**

JACKIE SHROFF

The actor who is known for his films like Swami Dada, Hero and Ram Lakhan was last seen in Radhe, making its channel premiere on Zee Cinema on September 5. He speaks with Shalini Sakseena about how much fun he had during the shooting among other things

**'I NEVER IMAGINED THAT HERO WOULD MAKE ME A HERO'**



**■ How was your experience shooting for Radhe?**  
It was so much fun. When there are people like Prabhu Deva who dance, choreograph, direct and act, there is bound to be fun on the sets. I had a blast. Working with him is always fun. I learnt a lot during the shooting. I was also doing a comedy film after a long time. Doing it after a gap is always a pleasure. There was so much learning involved; if I enjoyed it, the rest had to have fun as well.

**■ What made you say yes to the role?**  
There were a couple of reasons for doing this project. First, like I mentioned, I got the chance to do a comedy after a very long time. Second, it was a project directed by Prabhu Deva. Also, Salman (Khan) always wants to cast me in his films. There are so many things that come into play when you agree to do a project — it has a great production house (Zee Studios Salman Khan Films Sohail Khan Productions Reel Life Production Private Limited) as well.

**■ What is your upcoming movie The Interview: Night of 26/11 about?**  
The film is about a veteran correspondent who covers war stories. He likes to cover stories about war soldiers. He doesn't like to cover stars. But suddenly he is forced to interview/cover a star. When he goes to interview the celebrity — a super star — how the interview turns out to be an intrigue, is what the movie is about. It is a film that spans one night.

**■ What made you say yes to this movie?**  
The movie is a remake of a Dutch film, The Interview. It has been directed by Laurens C Postma. He has casted a brilliant actor Malcolm McDowell, McDowell's movie *Exit* was directed by Postm. When he can cast such a great actor like McDowell, there was no way that I was going to turn this project down when he came to me with the story. And it is such a great story — *sirf ek raat ki*.

**■ Did you think that movie Hero would**



THE FILM IS ABOUT A VETERAN CORRESPONDENT WHO COVERS WAR STORIES. HE LIKES TO COVER STORIES ABOUT WAR SOLDIERS. HE DOESN'T LIKE TO COVER STARS. BUT THEN HE IS FORCED TO INTERVIEW A STAR. WHEN HE GOES TO INTERVIEW THE CELEBRITY — A SUPER STAR — HOW THE INTERVIEW TURNS INTO AN INTRIGUE, IS WHAT THE MOVIE IS ABOUT. IT IS A FILM THAT SPANS ONE NIGHT



**remain a cult among the fans even now?**  
When you are doing your debut movie, you don't think of anything but the project that you have in hand. You don't know whether the movie will be a hit or not. I only knew one thing — this movie made me a hero. It lifted me literally from the street and made me a star overnight. I never knew that this film would still be remembered 37-38 years down the line. I just know that *Hero* made me a hero. How can one think of such things when you are just a newcomer in the industry?

**■ Why doesn't Bollywood make movies like Hero anymore?**  
It is not as if people don't make these kind of films anymore. There are a few people in the industry who do so. It is not possible to make a film on the same topic time and again. One needs variety otherwise people will get bored. Take an example: It is not possible to eat *daal-chawal* every day. We need variety in food. Similarly, there is a need for movies on different topics. People back then liked to watch a certain genre of films and that has continued even today. It is difficult for them to get that out of their mind.

**■ Is there any role you said yes to but later hated?**  
I have risen from the streets and come to this industry. I have a lower middle-class mindset. There has never been a time when I felt the need to turn down a character. I took up whatever came my way as will of God.

**■ Do you think cinema would be limited to only OTT platforms now?**  
People had a similar thought when TV came. When OTT came, people said the same thing. *Chadar par dekhna alag baat hai, rumaal par alag baat hai*. There is a difference in watching a movie on a 70 mm screen. To see it on the small screen is a different experience.

**■ What are your upcoming projects?**  
Besides *The Interview: The Night of 26/11*, I have four more projects that are slated to release. These are: *Atithi Bhoote Bhava* that has been directed by Hardik Gajjar, *Sooryavanshi* which has been directed by Rohit Shetty and *Phone Bhoote* directed by Gurmmeet Singh. These three films are there. And then there is *Om* that I am working on. In all four upcoming films.

**Bolly World**

**New high for Kanika Dhillon**

There is a reason why people call Kanika Dhillon a complete game-changer. Touted as one of the most progressive storytellers of today's time, Kanika has become the first-ever writer to get on the cover of an International Bollywood Magazine. The German Magazine ISHQ is celebrating the phenomenal filmography of Kanika in their latest issue. The ace writer-producer looks a pure vision to behold in white dress paired with silver jewellery as she turns a cover-girl for the esteemed publication.

Kanika, who has always been vocal for writers and their rights, dedicated the glory to her tribe. Sharing the exciting news on social media, she wrote, "Onward and upward — with gratitude, love and light! when a screenwriter makes it to a cover of an international Bollywood magazine — it's a great time for content creators and writers! Cheers to my tribe and may we all go from strength to strength!"

Well, it is not the first time that Kanika has earned a first. Recently, she also became the first writer to bag top billing for the trailer of *Haseen Dillruba* by Netflix.

**Producers take a leap of faith**

Filmmaking is a risky and rewarding business at the same time and no one knows that better than the passionate producers who finance film projects. At a time when most States still have the shutters down on theatres including the biggest box office generator — Maharashtra; Akshay Kumar with *Bellbottom* and Anand Pandit and Amitabh Bachchan with *Chehre* decided to release their big budget films in theatres. These producers knew fully well that the move could go either ways.

Veteran producer Anand Pandit says, "Cinema is a passion. The past year has been a challenging one. The whole world has suffered losses and so has the film industry. But we felt that we must find the silver lining. Hope is eternal and we must infuse that feeling so that the industry rises together like the proverbial phoenix."

Be it the release of the espionage thriller *Bellbottom* or the Amitabh Bachchan edge-of-the-seat suspense drama *Chehre*, audiences and the industry is welcoming this move with anticipation and excitement.

Film trade is seeing the sentiment picking up and this is likely to encourage many to follow suit. Kudos to these producers for taking a leap of faith to propel others to follow.

**Masterstroke**

Weather is unpredictable these days but the biggest problem is how to maintain your look? Prepping the skin using an ice cube right before the makeup will help to keep your makeup in place for hours. Moisturising the skin with a water-based moisturiser is the foremost important factor for dry and patchy skin during the season.



Moisturiser followed by a matte finish- lightweight primer will help keep the makeup longer. It's best to go for more powder products and go light on cream-based products in humid weather to avoid patches and a cakey finish on the skin.

Waterproof liner and mascara are more than just the need for rainy days! Ditch cream-based lipstick and glosses and instead invest in matte lipsticks for the windy and rainy days. Setting the makeup with a makeup spray is the need of the hour during monsoon and you are good to go!

— Courtesy Damini Mehta, make-up artist

**NatureTalk**

The delicate curled leaves that unfurl into long, lacy fronds look pretty. Go into the forest and you will find ferns carpeting the floor. They also make a great houseplant. They can grow in any kind of pot — clay to hanging baskets to ceramic and don't require full sun to thrive.

But Indian weather is different. A plant that may live happily in any other environment needs a lot of care here. They love moisture. During rainy season make sure you don't overwater the plant or the roots will rot. You can even spray water on the leaves to lock the moisture in. You can keep this plant in the bathroom or even the kitchen.



**INNERGISE YOURSELF**

The present pandemic has made us conscious of what we eat. Today, it is all about eating healthy foods that boost our immunity. The Chambers at Taj Mansingh in the Capital offers a ray of dishes that are filled with vital nutrients, says SHALINI SAKSENA

The COVID-19 has instilled in us fear, anxiety and stress. We are also extremely careful of what we eat and where we are eating. Foods that are high on nutrients and Vitamins are high on our list of must eat. So, for many of us eating in a restaurant is a no-no. We don't want to end up eating the wrong kind of food however tasty and mouth-watering they may look. But what if there is a restaurant that is offering you just that — a meal that is full of Vitamins and minerals. What if the restaurant is offering you veggies that boost the immunity? What if they energise you and help you fight the virus? All this and much more is possible at Albero-The Chambers, Taj Mansingh in the Capital.



Kala chana and mint shikhampuri, and broccoli and singara ki gilawat



Orange quinoa kheer

The Chambers, itself is an exclusive place only for its members but the restaurant is open to all patrons and the food that it serves will definitely revitalise you; it is a shot of an elixir and heaven in the mouth. Whoever said that health and taste don't go hand-in-hand need to visit this place to be proved wrong.

There is a bit of a downer with this menu. It is all about boosting your immunity therefore, all the dishes on the fixed menu that comes in a *thali* are vegetarian. Of course, this doesn't mean that the restaurant doesn't serve non-vegetarian food. It is just that it is not part of the set menu. In case you are a diehard non-vegetarian, one can order as a separate dish. But Executive Sous Chef B Rajesh Kumar Singh recommends that you stick to the fixed menu to enjoy all the dishes that it has to offer.

He tells you that the idea to introduce this menu was always on the cards

but COVID-19 just pushed it up a bit early. People, he tells you have become particular about what they eat. It is all about eating healthy food. But they also think that healthy and tasty don't mix well. We are here to prove this wrong," Singh says.

And he is not wrong. It begins with pumpkin cappuccino with sunflower seed dust. Pumpkin one is told has Vitamin A, promotes weight loss and has potassium and full of anti-oxidant. One can call this soup as well. There are many people who are not fans of pumpkin but this cappuccino will change their mind forever. The frothy drink will whet your appetite.

There are two options; either one can go for the set menu or one can even order *al carte*. A *thali* with a set menu is a better idea since one can get a taste



of all the things.

The appetiser begins with *kala chana* and mint *shikhampuri*; *kala chana* is a rich source of protein and regulates the blood sugar, stimulates weight loss and heals jaundice. Looking at the fixed menu, each dish will tell you what the benefits are. This way when you dig into the deliciousness, one will not feel guilty.

The broccoli and *singara ki gilawat* is perhaps the best part of the entire menu. These melt in your mouth *kebabs* make for a must eat. Though they look very appetising as the original *galouti kebabs* are, they sure give them a run for their money. The *rajma* and *badam ki seekh* and *morel cholia* are just as good, not only in taste but also because of their powerful nutrients and anti-oxidant properties. The huge silver coloured *thali* that

**TO END THINGS ON A SWEET NOTE, THERE IS ORANGE QUINOA KHEER. IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THAT IT WAS QUINOA, IT WOULD TASTE LIKE YOU WERE EATING CHAWAL KI KHEER. THE ORANGE ZEST ADDS A BURST OF FRESHNESS**

comes has *nadru anjeer kofta*, *arhar poi dal*, chickpea and brown rice *pulao*, *amla* and honey *chutney*, dry fruit *chaat*, *mandua roti* and *bajra ki missi*. The helpings are huge and after eating all the appetisers, it is a bit difficult to wade through all this food. But whatever taste that you can make, it is worth every bite. It is definitely a heaven-sent food for the vegetarians. For the non-vegetarians, it is an eye-opener that veg food can be tasty. The adage: Health *bhi*, taste *bhi* aptly applies here.

To end things on a sweet note, there is orange quinoa *kheer*. If you didn't know what that it was quinoa, it would taste like you were eating *chawal ki kheer*. The orange zest adds a burst of freshness.

With perfect sweetness, it is the best healthy dessert that you would have eaten. Quinoa, the chef tells you is rich in amino acid and a great source of fibre. It is the perfect sweet dish for those who are gluten intolerant. The *khajur laddu* strengthens the bones.

SAMREEN KAUR, who has done several music videos, speaks with SHALINI SAKSENA about how she got into acting and experience of working with Badshah

**'Important to bring variety in your work'**

**■ How did you get into acting?**  
It was an impromptu decision. It was not as if I had planned to be an actor. Things just fell into place. I was 17 when I was selected as Miss India from J&K. Back then, I was still studying and there were no plans to join the industry. But once I became Miss India J&K, I started getting a lot of modelling assignments. From here on, it was just a shift from modelling to acting. I took a lot of acting classes. I trained under Mukesh Chhabra. Since then, I have tried to make sure that I excel here as well by learning what I can.

**■ What was your parents reaction to your choice of profession?**  
It was a gradual change. When I took up modelling assignments I told them that I loved being in front of the camera. When the word 'action' is

shouted I feel an adrenaline rush; something that has never before. Even when I would get good grades or got into a good college, I never felt joy. I was frank with my father that I wanted to give this industry a shot and see what happens. They have seen my progress and they have been extremely supportive.

**■ How did you come on board for Nail Polish?**  
This happened during the first lockdown last year. There was so much confusion back then. During this time, I got the audition script for this project. I recorded it and sent the self tape. The director Bugs Bhargava Krishna really liked what he saw and invited me for the shoot. I loved the project since it was something that was up my ally.

**■ You have done music videos. How did that happen?**  
I started doing music videos two years back. When



I did my first video, people liked it and since then, I keep getting work through word of mouth. I love the vibe that comes with working in the music videos.

**■ Can you tell us about your new song Baawla?**  
I am glad that people are liking the song and the video. It is a folk-fusion and it is tricky when you do such songs.

**■ How was the experience working with Badshah and how did you come on board for this song?**  
He always does a great job of bringing the rural music to the fore. Working with him and the team was such a pleasure. There was so much energy on the sets; it was amazing.

**■ What is the biggest challenge faced as an actor?**  
Whenever a script comes to you, there is a pressure to out do yourself. It is important to keep bringing variety to your work.

**Sound of music**

*Music is the best medicine. Here are the top 10 songs of the week that will lift up your weekend mood*

- BOLLYWOOD VIBES**
- Raataan Lambiyan (Tanishk Bagchi, Jubin Nautiyal, Asees Kaur)
  - Baarish Ki Jaaye (BPraak)
  - Ranjha (BPraak, Jasleen Royal)
  - Sakhiyan 2.0 (Maninder Buttar, Zara Khan)
  - Jannat Ve (Darshan Raval)

- ENGLISH VINGLISH**
- Stay (Justin Bieber)
  - Jalebi Baby (Teshher)
  - Butter (BTS)
  - Positions (Ariana Grande)
  - Willow (Taylor Swift)

# the pioneer agenda



**Krishna's grace**  
All starts from him and ends in him. As we celebrate Janmashtami, let's rejoice Krishna in our hearts

2



4

**Address mental infirmities**  
The way human beings perceive, is how they act upon, react or respond in life

The great gift of human beings is that we have the power of empathy  
— Meryl Streep



# CLIMATE CHANGE: OBSTRUCTING THE PATH TO A LIVEABLE TOMORROW?

It is about time we realise that something that seemed “a little off” has grown into a full-blown calamity with casualties more than just the environment and the lush green covers. However, there are still amends we can make as a community and lessen the blow, writes DR. JP GUPTA

**W**e have been accustomed to sitting in our rooms while discussing how it is time to switch to a bigger apartment, a better job or confining ourselves to our rooms with our air conditioners on their maximum cooling temperature. Enjoying the rain while we shoot up our laptops seems like a regular day in our routine lives. However, what we fail to notice is the fact that a bigger apartment is costing deforestation, the air conditioner emitting carbon footprint and the untimely monsoons — a sign showing the catastrophic consequences of our actions. Climate change has been impacting the nations across the globe and reaching an irremediable state by the passing day. With temperatures rising, glaciers melting and floods causing destruction by sudden advances in the shore or connected regions, the concern only seems to be amplifying.

It's time to realise that something that seemed “a little off” has grown into a full-blown calamity with casualties more than just the environment and the lush green covers. Most of the people are not acknowledging the concern, tagging it as a side-issue as they turn a blind eye; however, the truth lies far away from it.

**CLIMATE CHANGE: A REAL THREAT?**  
Climate change has been growing evident every day and causing the temperatures to fluctuate. From scorching heat and pollution playing a role in the air quality index deteriorating and causing breathing health issues, the concerns are on a rise. One of the major factors playing an evident lead in the entire problem is the increase in greenhouse gases contributing to greenhouse effect that is growing intense. The effect is making the heat of the sun get trapped in the earth's atmosphere and skyrocketing the temperatures to a whole new level. The change is hitting India along with others as well and resulting in tragic consequences with flora and fauna, businesses, economy and more playing a part as the collateral damage of the anthropogenic activities. Our country is blessed by numerous environmental covers and terrains including glaciers, high mountains, long coastlines as well as massive semi-arid regions thus, making it a hotspot for climate change. There is no doubt that global warming is adversely affecting the Indian ecology, as backed by many surveys. In fact, India has already made it to the top 10 most affected countries in the Global Climate Risk Index 2021 as per a report published by Germanwatch. The report further states how vulnerable people in developing countries suffered the most from extreme weather events like storms, floods and heat waves, while the impacts of climate change are visible around the globe. The threat of climate change is as real as it gets and is seen moving gradually towards the D-day.

**FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE**  
We, as a society, have been ignoring the signs of global warming warnings over three decades, which has further led to this adversity brewing on an exponential scale. Human interference has been one

of the major factors contributing to the global challenge of confining the effects of global warming and minimising its impact. Other factors include:

- fuel emissions due to exploiting natural gases
- overusing resources that take hundreds and thousands of years to get renewed
- excessive residue of carbon footprints
- the agricultural practices using both commercial and organic fertilisers along with increase in livestock farming and others

These combined with an inexhaustible list of other factors are bringing an age of disruption and adding to global warming. The factors are not only a result of human initiations and interruptions but are further being triggered intensely to cause more havoc by the day.

**HOW IS IT IMPACTING THE WORLD?**

Human intervention has resulted in putting the entire ecosystem and the life forms sustaining in it in a tough spot. Our activities have led to the temperatures shooting up and the ocean and the land along with our atmosphere to get affected. The cryosphere, the water bodies and the environmental covers are depleting due to the increase in anthropogenic activities with the impact growing irreversible if not interrupted with an emergent series of action. Climate change is giving rise to several issues such as ice sheets turning to water, marine heat waves, heavy precipitation, floods, tropical cyclones, permafrost and ecological droughts becoming more frequent than ever.

Turning away from the consequences of our activities in the past millennia is setting into motion a series of catastrophic events such as intensifying the global water cycle and the severity of wet and dry events. The conspicuous effects are becoming more evident and thus requiring us to take significant steps to curb the problems.

**THE UNPOPULAR FACT**

One of the lesser-known aspects of climate change is that it impacts us physiologically, eventually affecting our psyche as a by-product and causing more damage than we, as a community, realise. The rise in global temperature reflects upon the fact that people's bodies, as suggested scientifically, cannot handle heat beyond wet bulb temperatures; a



ONE OF THE LESSER-KNOWN ASPECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IS THAT IT IMPACTS US PHYSIOLOGICALLY, EVENTUALLY AFFECTING OUR PSYCHE AS A BY-PRODUCT AND CAUSING MORE DAMAGE THAN WE, AS A COMMUNITY, REALISE. THE RISE IN GLOBAL TEMPERATURE REFLECTS UPON THE FACT THAT PEOPLE'S BODIES, AS SUGGESTED SCIENTIFICALLY, CANNOT HANDLE HEAT BEYOND WET BULB TEMPERATURES; A COMBINED MEASURE OF HEAT AND HUMIDITY — OF AROUND 35 DEGREE CELSIUS, OR ABOUT 95 DEGREE FAHRENHEIT



combined measure of heat and humidity — of around 35° Celsius, or about 95° Fahrenheit. Researchers across the globe have worked relentlessly to draw evidence that shows when heat taxes people's bodies, their performance on various tasks, as well as overall coping mechanisms, suffer.

This further accelerates negative traits, including fuelling aggression, lower cognitive ability and plummeting productivity. The global weather station data also portrays how the human survivability limit has been briefly surpassed at least a dozen times in the last four decades at sites along the Persian Gulf and especially in the Indus River Valley in India. These facts give us all the more reason to act urgently and bring a reform to immediate effect. The need of the hour is to serve as devout environmentalists and not only acknowledge the threat to our planet but also resolve it tout de suite.

**THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CLIMATE FINANCE**

Climate finance revolves around the fact that there is a need for strategic planning when working on minimising the impact of global warming. It helps the nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions such as by funding renewable power like wind, solar or hydrogen. Furthermore, it enables the people of the affected regions to adapt to the situation such as droughts while allowing them to earn and produce food via effective methods etc. Climate finance is responsible for strengthening their communities and providing them a little bit of stability amidst the chaos.

Public and private finance in this area also plays a critical part as it helps the countries set a green economy while making them have an inclination towards workable systems built on renewable sources, meanwhile eliminating exploitation of the exhaustible ones. The fact that as a country we have a long way to go, only makes climate finance more important at the moment. India has been working on making it to the list of developing green economies, but the road to that passes through a hydrogen-led ecological system.

Utilising green hydrogen to curb the carbon footprint and holding summits such as India's

Climate Summit to educate people about the problem and discuss effective strategies

and possible solutions, is the way ahead.

**INDIA RECOMMENDED TO ADAPT A HYDROGEN-LED ECONOMY**

There has been an evident increase in the global energy consumption and thus the dire need to harness alternative energy sources that are not just green, but also renewable and plentiful. One such source with a substantially higher energy output per unit mass is hydrogen.

Hydrogen, used as a fuel in the production, transport and energy storage. It has the potential to play a crucial cross-cutting role in the future low carbon economy, with applications across the industrial, transport, and power sectors. There has been a growing appreciation that complete electrification of our current energy systems could be prohibitively expensive and technologically challenging, given the important storage, flexibility, chemical, and heating attributes of current fossil fuels. Based on this, the experts have predicted that the hydrogen demand could increase five-fold by 2050, with use in the industry sector being the major driver. In power, hydrogen could be a cost-effective way of providing inter-seasonal storage in a highly variable renewable electricity system from 2040. Scaling up the use of domestically produced hydrogen can significantly reduce energy imports.

Hydrogen development is at its nascent stage and there's a lot of uncertainty surrounding its safety. Therefore, it's imperative to understand the legal and regulatory requirements, investment cases, financing structures, operational requirements, revenue stream, sharing and other elements that need to be considered to formulate an effective acceptable commercialisation model. A gradual transition with adequate policy and safety standards will help build confidence among stakeholders and provide a conducive environment for a Hydrogen based economy. To accelerate the adoption of hydrogen technologies in India, a step-change in government policy and business actions is required.

**PLANNING AHEAD**

Forming a blueprint and administering the implementation of robust strategies to eliminate the challenges of climate change, is becoming imperative for a developing country like ours. The emphasis should switch from “what's wrong” to “how to make it right with immediate effect.” With India planning to take a step towards a green hydrogen economy, setting other initiatives in motion along with climate panels hosting summits and creating awareness will lead to a better tomorrow. Climate change might be obstructing our path to a liveable tomorrow, but there are still amends we can make as a community and lessen the blow. All we need is the determination to make things better and the realisation of the fact that, Richard Branson (Entrepreneur, Adventurer and Environmentalist), put forth: “There is no planet B. We have to take care of the one we have.”

The writer is The Summit Chair, Chairman Environment Committee, PHDCCI; Managing Director, Geenstat Hydrogen India Pvt Ltd, a distinguished Scientist and a speaker at the 'International Climate Summit 2021'



# KRISHNA'S GRACE

All starts from him and ends in him. As we celebrate Janmashtami, let's rejoice Krishna in our hearts, writes RADHANATH SWAMI

Krishna was born on the eighth day (*Ashtami*) of the Krishna *Paksha* (dark fortnight) in *Shravana* or *Bhadrapada*, which overlaps with August or September of the Gregorian calendar. Krishna entered this world as *Paramatma*.

The planetary system was automatically readjusted so that everything became auspicious. Rivers, lakes trees, and nature, everything was extremely pleasant. To welcome the supreme personality of Godhead, the waning moon became full moon in jubilation. There was celebration everywhere.

The *asuras* or people having *asura* mentality think of the lord as a common man who was born and who died, but it would be ignorance to think so. Firstly, the lord was not afraid to be born in the prison of Kamsa. Second, although the lord is all-pervading, he had appeared from the womb of Devaki. Third, he was born with all gems well decorated. Fourth, Vasudeva's worshipable deity was born as his son. In this transcendental jubilation, Vasudeva mentally collected ten thousand cows and distributed them amongst the brahmanas as a transcendental festival.

Krishna was born in the jail of Mathura. There was complete terror and chaos during his birth. He was appearing as the son of Devaki and Vasudeva to fulfil their desire. The Lord then decided to leave the residence of Vasudeva and Devaki, in the prison house of Kamsa. Yogmaya, took birth as the daughter of Yashoda. By her grace, the guards fell asleep, the prison doors flung open and Vasudeva was able to leave the prison house and save the child from the hands of Kamsa.

In those time, Kamsa's atrocities had crossed all limits. Because of Kamsa's disturbances, the vedic ritualistic ceremonies had almost stopped. But on occasion of the lord's birth the Brahmanas were very happy and pleased to perform their rituals with peaceful minds.

When Lord is all powerful then why do bad practices still exist in this world? Why are wrong doers not punished immediately? Many such questions comes in our mind. "Why do bad things happen to good people?" To answer all this, let us go to the dungeon of Kamsa where he had incarcerated Devaki and Vasudeva under the most atrocious conditions.

Their marriage was such a joyous occasion until that ominous voice from the sky announced that the eighth child of Devaki would be the cause of Kamsa's death. Heaven dramatically changed to Hell! Kamsa had his sword at Devaki's throat but Vasudeva intervened with the assurance that every child of Devaki would be handed over to him, unconditionally. Kamsa



relented. When Vasudeva faithfully presented his first son, Kirtiman, to Kamsa the tyrant king returned the infant saying that he was mainly concerned about the eighth child.

All was well on the home front, till the sage Narada planted the seed of mistrust in Kamsa's heart by warning him not to trust that hidden heavenly voice because any child of Devaki could be his killer. The enraged tyrant lost all traces of reason and consideration. He

ordered his soldiers to arrest Devaki and Vasudeva and brutally murdered their first born innocent child.

Devaki and her husband remained completely undaunted. They had every reason to default. Instead, with unshakable faith and determination they decided to perform their sacred duty of producing more offspring under the most harrowing conditions of Kamsa's dungeon.

People seldom talk about the

untold miseries of pregnant women. It is not uncommon to suffer from pre and postnatal depression. Who could ever imagine Devaki's horrific anxiety, moment by moment, as she advanced in each of her pregnancies. She dreaded that moment when her demonic brother would come and dash her new born helpless son to death on the dungeon walls. Kamsa paid no heed to her pleading nor could Vasudeva's intervention prevail upon him.

Contrary to all expectations, this divine couple never complained. Neither did they question God nor blame Him for their deplorable predicament. Vasudeva stood by Devaki's side like a pillar of fortitude, constantly enkindling hope within her heart whilst reminding her of their unconditional commitment to the will of divine Providence.

Devaki conceived for the seventh time — it was Sankarshan (another name of Balarama). However, one night, Devaki was shocked to notice that there was no embryo in her womb. Kamsa thought it was a miscarriage. But, in reality, Krishna had arranged (through His all powerful '*yogamaya shakti*') for Sankarshan to be mysteriously transferred to Rohini's womb. It was indeed a transcendental miscarriage. So far, Vasudeva and Devaki's marital track record looked like a tragedy — six sons slaughtered by Kamsa and a seventh miscarriage. The odds were overwhelming but this staunch couple did not permit fear or superstition to get the better of them. Their hearts were sold out to that precious eighth child who must be born, and conceive they did.

On the eighth night of the waning moon, a son appeared at midnight. It was Krishna, who was fully attired and ornamented and more effulgent than innumerable suns. Devaki's and Vasudeva's joy knew no bounds!

Then came another severe test! Krishna desired to be taken to Gokula and exchanged with the daughter of Nanda and Yashoda. His heart torn with grief, Vasudeva executed that instruction, too, without hesitation or delay.

Also to clear some pending *Karmas* of past birth and to nullify them in the current birth, a human being goes through the so-called ups and downs of life. If one surrenders to Lord Krishna, one will experience the ease of going through the testing time and in this way, they will pay back their bad *karma* and come out of the bad situations of their life. In conclusion, when bad things happen to good people they clear their pending past birth *karma* and also it brings out the best in them so that wonders happen.

Let us pause for a moment and ponder upon the selfless sacrifice and surrender of that incomparable couple, Vasudeva and Devaki, on this most auspicious occasion of Shri Krishna Janmashtami.

The writer is a spiritual guru at International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)

IF ONE SURRENDERS TO LORD KRISHNA, ONE WILL EXPERIENCE THE EASE OF GOING THROUGH THE TESTING TIME AND IN THIS WAY, THEY WILL PAY BACK THEIR BAD KARMA AND COME OUT OF THE BAD SITUATIONS OF THEIR LIFE



HIDDENSOULS PRAMOD PATHAK



## Lessons from Bhagavad Gita

Krishna Janmashtami is being celebrated for the second year in succession under the threat of Corona. To make things worse the possibility of a third wave still haunts us. The birthday celebrations of Lord Krishna, then, is again going to be a low-key affair. Same Precautions, and same Corona protocols need to be observed. But should that dampen our spirits? Remember Lord Krishna's central message to Arjuna. Fight the battle. Pandava Prince was in a dilemma, reluctant to pick up his bow and arrow. Lord Krishna then chose to recite the Gita to arouse the fighting spirit of the Kshatriya Prince. The message was clear. Fight, not flight. Life is a Kurukshetra where you face challenges in the form of Kauravas. The pandemic also is like a battle of Kurukshetra for the entire humanity. A battle that must be fought. The initial response to avoid and escape took a heavy toll while we tried to live with one shut down after another. Doubts and depression got the better of us. But we now realise that wishing coronavirus away was not the best strategy. It is time to brace for the fight. With all our resources and all our might. This is the lesson that Lord Krishna delivered to Arjuna who was in complete distress seeing the famed warriors of the enemy camp. Let us recapitulate the lessons of Gita. In this war of attrition, we all are like Arjuna, full of doubts and anxieties. Let us take clues from the eternal wisdom and prepare to take the battle to the enemy's camp. We need to muster courage, sharpen our wit and garner our resources to fight the Corona. That is what Lord Krishna exhorted. Gita offers the most practical lessons for facing life. Life is full of challenges and we can face those only with the grace of God. But to get that we must believe in him and have full faith. Initially, Arjun was in doubt and this made him avoid the fight. The Gita lesson begins from this. Lord tries to enlighten him that running away is not the answer. Doubts make people shy away from challenges but they are not aware that by not fighting you are losing the battle even before it has begun. So, fight you must, not thinking of the outcome that is not in your hands. During the pandemic we saw many people give up the fight even before it started. The outcome was disastrous. Lord Krishna says do your karma and dedicate it to Me. The rest will be taken care by Him. Thinking of the outcome weakens the resolve. We need to fight and leave the result to the Lord. But we must understand that Lord Krishna has never said that fight without preparation. This is the misconception that many nurse. Being brave doesn't mean throwing caution to the winds. That is foolhardiness. Fighting with full preparedness is needed. This is what we must do while facing the challenge of Corona. Many thought that following Corona protocol was a sign of weakness. Certainly not. Bravery is making full use of your arsenal and face the attacks of the enemy. It is an objective assessment of the challenge. Focus on the strengths but don't let the weaknesses come in the way. All battles are strategic challenges to be met with grit and wit. The battle against Corona is no different. Let us revisit the Gita and face the threat that Corona has posed.

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## Virtual love-work balance

Both being online, it's not easy to manage the two simultaneously, says ANAMIKA YADUVANSHI, as shares tips to sail the two boats

The Covid-19 pandemic has become an opportunity in adversity for online businesses. Multiple new online start-ups have mushroomed during this critical time. Same is true of online relationships. People have found their soulmates through different online dating apps. However, in these two new ventures of love and work, it's not easy to manage the affairs simultaneously. Both being online, there is no limit on working hours. Balancing these two could be overwhelming. Here are few tips to sail these two boats:

- **Establish boundaries:** With time being the limiting constraint, you need to set boundaries in a manner that your online work hours do not clash with your online relationship. It is well established statistically now that an online love relationship might fall prey to oblivion gradually if one doesn't practice basic tenets of a real physical relationship in order to spice up the virtual relationship. Same is not true of a business relationship in modern virtual world. Both require commitment. Allowing an overlap on a regular basis would neither be good for either of them.
- **Set clear goals:** Every relationship that is meant to last must have a foundation that can weather all storms and yet flourish. Same is true of an online business as also an online love relation. For committing to them you need to have a clear



objective. Just as the former's growth is measured by growing amount to the credit part of the Balance Sheet, the latter's growth is measured by the amount of trust and faith. Just as a clear vision empowers the idea of growth in an online business venture, the idea of meeting definitive goals to improve your online love relationship empowers it. Both can't be achieved unless there is a goal.

- **Don't expect result soon:** Every profit requires an invest-

ment. Nothing can be rated as a sustained growth if it happens overnight. Even the richest of the Treasuries in world would end up emptying its coffers if there is no revenue generation. Just as you maintain patience before yielding profits in a business, must you also maintain patience in an online love relation. Spice it up by texting, writing letters, saying random 'I Love You's, meet physically as often as possible and showing commitment. That is the best

one can do before giving the relationship time to yield results. It sure will turn out to be a formidable one in time.

- **Set commitment levels for both:** All of us have prior commitments as we live in a society. With the world on digital platform unified by the Internet and bogged down by the Pandemic, this line of maintaining a balance between commitments is fast becoming obliterated. Such is the gravity of obliteration that one may not even realise the actual cost one may pay eventually! Do not keep wondering as to what hit you. For either of the relationship might be sacrificed at the altar of this obliteration. So, one must have commitment levels for both in a manner that one's commitment doesn't cost the others.

- **Take care of your health:** If one were to wonder how keeping healthy will assist you in balancing your online work with online romance then pause and ponder — doesn't the same principle apply when you are conducting your work physically and also living together physically? If you are to respond in affirmative, then you must appreciate that same principle applies to the e-world. Well, you neglect your health and you will not be good for either an online business or an online love relationship. Please know that your relationships are only as good as is your health.

The writer is a life coach and motivational speaker

Only those who take the shelter of God are able to transcend the worldly *maya*, writes AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

Lord Krishna states in the Gita that this world appears upside down to a casual onlooker. (15.1-4) What it means is that this world is illusory, that is what attracts us is not good for us, and what repels is beneficial for us. A few examples will clarify. Let us take food items. To what are we attracted? The answer is: what is tasty, which may not necessarily be nutritious. And we stuff ourselves with such food articles and even become obese. What do we wish to see? What titillates and even scares us. Such programmes have the highest viewership. Even children are guilty of indulging in such pleasures. What do we wish to hear and talk about most? Gossip is the most common pastime for many. I can go on but the message is quite clear. We suffer from illusion in a big way.

Obviously, we are forever making mistakes, big ones, and suffer greatly as a result. What will you say to a person glorifying drinking, even producing so-called scientific evidence to support what he indulges in without restraint. This lusty behaviour is not limited to only drinking but extends to eating harmful foods, watching consciousness lowering programmes, engaging in illicit affairs, etc. It is no wonder that Lord Krishna has repeatedly warned us in the Gita about this very dangerous enemy — lust. In the verse no. 16.21, He specifically mentions that lust is a door to hell; it causes ruination of the soul.

Anger is a close second. In the verses 2.62 and 63, the Lord states, "Due to non-fulfillment of lust, anger results; from anger foolishness (closed mind) results; from foolishness bewilderment (inability to take right discussion based upon experience) results; from bewilderment loss of intelligence occurs; and by the loss of intelligence a person is doomed. In spite of such clear warning, we get angry and do not even try to restrain ourselves.



## World upside down

The third door to hell is greed. This enemy in limitless. Even very wealthy persons fall prey to this weakness and even end up in jail. Haven't we been told that need is limited only but greed has no limits.

What are we seeing these days in a highly developed Western country? The country is divided in two due to hate being fanned for political reasons. And what does such hate do? The hatemongers may end up in demonic species. (16.19) Yes, it is easier to unite the masses by hate than by love, but why don't we see the consequences of such attempts. All these by themselves are horrible, but when we are smitten by *ahamkar* (ego) we leave ourselves no chances of redemption. On top of it, we, small souls,

consider ourselves big. What can explain endless thinking on any matter? Why don't we seek help, which is available. Others don't see our problems the same way as we do; they are likely to be more objective about them.

But the real solution is in taking shelter of God. Because this illusion (*maya*) of seeing the world upside down is very difficult to overcome. (7.14) But it is not impossible to protect ourselves from being hopelessly illuded. God can help. Those who take His shelter are able to transcend this *maya*. (7.12) Wise persons, therefore, take shelter of God, and are able to transcend this *maya*.

Bishnoi is a spiritual writer and can be reached at spiritual@ajitbishnoi.com

# China in Afghanistan: The secret game plan

China is in Taliban's Afghanistan. President Xi Jinping is all out to make a deal with the mullahs. And it seems China is rejoicing the exit of the American and its allied forces from the Afghan soil. For China, it is a new ground to advance a unique model of foreign relations backed by crude economic interests with the Islamists in Kabul. But in Beijing's objectives, there is no agenda to help bring back normalcy in Afghanistan wherein women, minorities and other vulnerable groups face threat to survival. It is clear that China's goal in Afghanistan is its economic exploitation.

Now, the US withdrawal may mean many things. One, by moving away from one of the costliest wars, America will be able to focus on India-Pacific and most particularly on China's growing aggression and expansion. Second, it has indirectly emboldened the Taliban, the Frankenstein America once created to take on its cold war arch rival and later fought with them fiercely to uproot the shelter of anti-US terror forces after 9/11. Third, the gap left by the US can be a new and ready ground to be filled by the Communists in Beijing. China under Xi has been desperately waiting for such opportunity, both to display their new world leadership and crude diplomacy.

However, the moot point is what China is expecting from war-ravaged Afghanistan. Truly speaking, it is really difficult to know how Chinese leaders are evaluating the fast-changing situation in this deadly country replete with rival tribal warlords and splinter terror groups from all around the world. Interestingly, the tribal warlords still hold sway over their redoubts. And all are waiting for their turn to come. The aim is to create more war fields and keep their frustrated cadre engaged.

Sources say that China aims to grab nearly \$1 trillion worth value of mineral reserves still lying untapped across Afghanistan. It has been clearly outlined by a former colonel of the People's Liberation Army, named Zhou Bo, in an article published in the *New York Times* last weekend. He wrote: "With the US withdrawal,

Beijing can offer what Kabul needs most: political impartiality and economic investment. Afghanistan in turn has what China most prizes: opportunities in infrastructure and industry building, areas in which China's capabilities are unmatched and access to \$1 trillion in untapped mineral deposits."

What a wonderful proposition to a deadly Islamic hardliner leadership that does not trust anyone, except probably the Pakistan Army and its intelligence. Xi and other Chinese decision-makers probably need to give it a second thought after analysing over two decades of America's abortive trial and error methods to bring peace in Afghanistan.

It seems Beijing expects the Taliban will allow an inclusive government in Kabul for elusive peace to come and stay. It desires that the Taliban will form an inclusive government with the rival warlords, by allowing a basic minimum level of rights for women and minorities in the country. Besides, China claims that it wants the Islamists to keep in check all the terror groups that target the US, China, India and any other nation. These are all lofty dreams Beijing is floating to grab the economic opportunities in Afghanistan. But this would not be an easy game as it thinks. In fact, four decades of war in that country, really made any economic venture impossible for the natives as well as for outsiders. First the war started with the Soviet Army, the feuds between the tribal chiefs and finally the longest war was launched by the America and its allies in 2001 till date. All these conflicts have absolutely drained out the patience of the common Afghans who are now fully aware what is going to follow.

Kabul and Beijing are now partners in trouble. This week both the countries have established their first diplomatic contacts, as described by a Chinese official as "unimpeded and effective communication". However, this partnership can be troublesome looking at the past events and record of the group.

The Taliban took over Afghanistan by ousting the



In this July 28, 2021, file photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, Taliban co-founder Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, left, and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi pose for a photo during their meeting in Tianjin, China. Xinhua via AP

democratically elected Government of Ashraf Ghani on August 15. Ironically, the Islamists did not even wait for the formal withdrawal of American forces from their country that was supposed to come on August 31.

What then is the strength of the Taliban? The strength of the Taliban is that they can regroup at any cost. The way the group was devastated in 2001, no one could imagine that one fine day, these radicals will strike back. And this time

it has done with both tact and diplomacy. They have learnt good lessons from the past debacles.

Unfortunately, the Americans have hardly learnt anything from this chaos and the war theatres from Iraq. Their big and powerful military have drawn a blank in both these countries. More particularly, their leadership has not shown maturity while dealing with the Taliban. So there is a lot for Washington to learn from the mess in Afghanistan.

The August 26 fidayeen attacks carried out by the Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP) outside Kabul Airport reflect a deadly combination of the Taliban and the dreaded ISIS in the country. One must not forget that while signing the peace deal in Doha in 2020, the Taliban committed to the US that the Afghan soil will not be allowed to be used by any other terror group. But then what the world has just witnessed is simply the proliferation of those evil and radi-

cal networks under the very nose of the Taliban in Kabul. The ISKP after conducting the ghastly attack aired that its fidayeen singled out the "translators and collaborators with the American Army" in the fatal operation. It clearly shows how the anti-American vengeance runs deep down among these Islamists.

However, experts say that the ISKP is an adversary of the Taliban, and they stand for different teachings of strict Sunni beliefs in their ideology. For

now, it seems the group is all out to oppose any alliance between the Taliban and the US forces in Afghanistan. Their record of unleashing carnage in the past hints that any active economic engagement by foreign powers in the country may invite more trouble both for Kabul and Beijing.

Can the world trust the Taliban? Of course not and should not. The road ahead for war-torn Afghanistan seems bleak for now. Its people are simply afraid of the past and current brutalities demonstrated by the Taliban. The locals know them as fierce war mongers who could do anything to grab power to establish a brutal Islamist rule.

Beijing's opportunism in Afghanistan will not take it further. It is better not to do business with the Taliban at least for now unless the radicals show some signals to respect international law and order. But Beijing too does not care for international laws if those are in conflict with its interest. It is absolutely unlikely that Beijing will be able to make any fruitful security commitment to this war-ravaged nation.

However, the early bird Xi Administration will be able to further diplomatic communication with Kabul. For now, the Taliban leaders are desperately looking for global recognition and ties with some vital nations like the US, China, etc. Therefore, it is not an extraordinary development that the new rulers in Afghanistan are looking out for global engagements. Simply put, unlike the past when they took over amid bloodbath in 1996, this time the Taliban insurgents have displayed a little restraint so far. The symbiotic expectations may have given Beijing a renewed hope for the economic exploitation of Afghanistan.

(Dr Makhan Saikia has taught political science and international relations for over a decade in institutions of national and international reputation after specialisation in globalisation and governance from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. He is the chief editor of the *Journal of Global Studies*, an international research journal)

**The Taliban leaders are desperately looking for global recognition and ties with world powers, while China under Xi aims to exploit the war-ravaged country for its economic interests. Therefore, the China-Taliban relationship seems symbiotic. However, looking at the Taliban's past, the future of this new-found bonhomie looks bleak**



MAKHAN SAIKIA

## PERSPECTIVE

# Taliban's success to embolden terror groups

A few days after the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, a convoy of militants drove through the city of Idlib in northwestern Syria in cars bearing the group's white-and-black flags, honking horns and firing their guns in the air.

The celebrations by an al-Qaida affiliate in a remote corner of war-torn Syria were an expression of the triumph felt by radical Islamic groups from the Gaza Strip to Pakistan and West Africa who see America's violence-marred exit from Afghanistan an opportunity to reassert their presence.

For such groups, the chaotic US departure following the collapse of security forces it had trained for two decades is a gift, underlining their message that Washington eventually abandons its allies, and that defeating powerful armies is possible with enough patience.

"The success of the Taliban opens the way for radical groups to step up their recruitment operations globally. It is much easier for them now, and there is more receptivity," said Hassan Abu Haniyeh, an expert on Islamic militants based in Amman, Jordan.

Despite the billions of dollars spent by the US and NATO over nearly 20 years to build up Afghan security forces, the Taliban seized nearly all of Afghanistan in just over a week

amid the US troop pullout. The fundamentalist group swept into Kabul on August 15 after the Government collapsed and embattled President Ashraf Ghani fled the country.

Since then, tens of thousands of people desperate to escape a country governed by the Taliban have been trying to flee or already have been evacuated in a mammoth Western airlift.

"The events unfolding in Afghanistan have given jihadi groups and US adversaries reason to celebrate, and America's allies in the region reason to feel anxious," said Abu Haniyeh. "They now feel that America might drop them one day, same as it did the Government of Ashraf Ghani."

There are concerns that Afghanistan will once again become a base for militants to plot against the West, much like the September 11, 2001, attacks that triggered the US invasion.

"This is the story that is going to impact and influence jihadi fighters around the globe for the next decade, the same way as the victory over the Soviets in Afghanistan in the '80s inspired the jihadis around the world during the whole 1990s and even afterwards," said Elie Tenenbaum, director of security studies centre at the French Institute of International Relations.

In a twist, the Taliban victory also boosted the fortunes of their rivals in Afghanistan — a local branch of the Islamic State network. On Thursday, the affiliate claimed responsibility for the suicide attack that killed scores of people outside Kabul's airport, including 13 US service members.

The Taliban now must contend with an emboldened ISIS, which is challenging their rule with militants that are far more radical. The group's ranks have been bolstered after the Taliban freed prisoners during an advance through Afghanistan.

An editorial in the Islamic State group's newsletter last week derided the Taliban, accusing them of collaborating with the US.

"America actually did it. They finally raised a 'Mullah Bradley,' the editorial said, using a name it has coined for the Taliban in an apparent reference to the US fighting vehicle. The group also promised a new phase in its "blessed jihad" against the West.

Analysts say the Taliban's success and the US withdrawal galvanises and gives a motivational boost to America's adversaries and jihadi groups around the world.

Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the leader of Lebanon's Shia militant group Hezbollah, said



An Afghan woman tries to identify a dead body at a hospital in Kabul on August 27, a day after deadly attacks outside the airport. AP

in a speech on August 27 that what is unfolding in Afghanistan "is a portrayal of America's full defeat and the US demise and failure in the

region." In northern Syria, a statement by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, the al-Qaida affiliate there, said the Taliban victory proved

no occupation can last forever. The leader of the radical Palestinian Islamic Hamas movement, which rules the Gaza Strip, congratulated the

Taliban's leader on the "demise of the US occupation."

In Pakistan, the leader of Jaish-e-Mohammad, Mohammad Azhar, used the group's publication to cheer the Taliban victory, saying it will inspire mujahideen, or holy warriors, "the world over to continue their struggle for Islam." The group's fighters took credit for the 2019 attack in Kashmir that killed 40 Indian soldiers and brought the nuclear-armed neighbours to the brink of war.

Amir Rana, executive director of the Islamabad-based Pakistan Institute of Peace Studies, said the events in Afghanistan could inspire hard-line Sunni groups who are waging sectarian battles against Shia. The anti-Shia groups Lashkar-e-Janghvi and Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan have championed the Taliban victory, raising fears they could restart their deadly activities.

Heni Nsaibia, a senior Sahel researcher at the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project, said the Taliban takeover would be a motivational boost for extremists in West Africa, showing that patience and perseverance can pay off.

The biggest danger, according to the analysts, is in unstable countries with a weak Central Government and a

history of insurgency, such as Iraq, Syria, Yemen and Libya.

There are echoes of 2014, when the ISIS group sprang from the chaos of conflicts in Iraq and Syria, seized a giant stretch of territory straddling both countries, and declared a "caliphate" after US-trained Iraqi forces collapsed. Terrorist attacks in Europe and beyond followed before ISIS was defeated in 2017, but attempts to regroup have been seen in the past two years, with new attacks in Iraq and Syria.

A report to the UN Security Council last week said the threat to international security from the ISIS is rising, pointing to an "alarming" expansion of its affiliates in Africa and its focus on a comeback in Syria and Iraq.

The report said ISIS and other terrorist groups have taken advantage of "the disruption, grievances and development setbacks" caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Abu Haniyeh, the analyst in Amman, said the perceived defeat of US forces in Afghanistan by a radical group is reverberating among frustrated individuals around the world and will have widespread ramifications in the coming years.

"It gives hope for extremist groups the world over," he said. AP



**YOUR  
WEEK  
AHEAD**

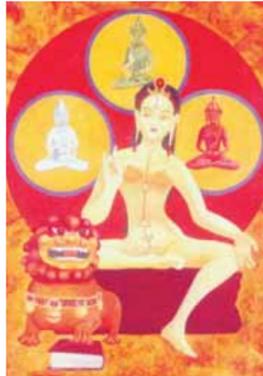
MADHU KOTIYA



**ARIES** March 21-April 19

This week finances, awareness of personal value and worth etc. are the core issues that will draw your attention. Good news from feminine sources is indicated. You will be conscious of your health and may visit a doctor for medical check-ups. On the work front, new ideas will enable you to make better decisions like whether to invest time or money in a new enterprise. You will be financially secure with strong investments. On the relationship front, money will be spent on love and entertainment, and you shall be in a romantic state of mind. Grooming yourself, going to the spa or saloon for relaxation is on the card. Stay away from possessiveness and an overly cautious approach to life.

**Lucky number 10**  
**Lucky colour White**  
**Lucky day Sunday**



**LEO** July 23-Aug 22

The week you will chase your dreams. You will enjoy the journey of achieving your dreams and get fruitful results. At the starting of the week, you will have sudden earnings and profits, making you financially stable. A person of the opposite gender will help promote your professional work. The initial days will be dedicated to all your work and most likely you will meet with success. In the mid week, a marriage proposal or strengthening of a bond with someone you love is indicated. With this, the focus will shift from creative ventures to romantic interests. Love is on the rise, but don't flirt with too many, as you may end up in trouble. There are chances of staying near the river or seaside. Overall, the week is favourable.

**Lucky number 11**  
**Lucky colour Silver**  
**Lucky day Tuesday**



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22-Dec 21

This week all your efforts and hard work will pay off. You have toiled a lot, now is the time to reap the fruits. You will experience the power and authority in your thoughts and actions. On the work front, promotion or assigning an important task is on the cards. For those who are in the field of politics, this is the time to act selflessly and speak the truth. Your image as an influential business person or as a high profile officer will make a mark. On the personal front, you will see the results of your previous Karmas or deeds. Due to your misdeeds that will be scrutinised, the possibility of a negative situation arising is likely. So, mind your action and don't do anything for which you might regret later.

**Lucky number 19**  
**Lucky colour Navy Blue**  
**Lucky day Friday**



**TAURUS** April 20-May 20

This week your luck shall favour you in getting good opportunities and you may make more profits than you initially calculated. You will have an abundance of prosperity and growth in your health, wealth and happiness. Females will feel full of creativity and be productive. On the career front, your work will be acknowledged and recognised by the senior authority. Great success is indicated. Chances are there that your company may select you for a course or training. On the personal front, you are likely to feel stability and a sense of security on both mental and physical levels. The knowledge and the experience you possess are invaluable and will be best utilised this week. You are going to support and motivate others.

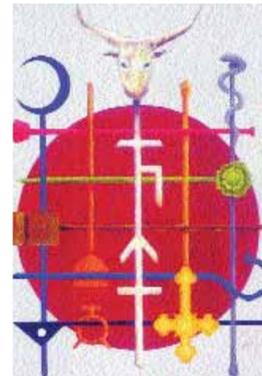
**Lucky number 3**  
**Lucky colour Peach**  
**Lucky day Wednesday**



**VIRGO** Aug 23-Sep 22

This week you will enjoy happiness and prosperity. Good news awaits you. You will experience contentment in the material and spiritual world and be enthusiastic about life. You will be full of energy and will enjoy good health. On the work front, you will have a healthy bond. Your colleague or a close friend will need your attention. By the end of the week, you may ponder over your accomplishments and bring some improvement to your schedule. On the personal front, settlement in a property, or support and encouragement from the spouse is indicated on the card. Singles, you need to be clear about what you want from a relationship before moving ahead.

**Lucky number 16**  
**Lucky colour Parrot Green**  
**Lucky day Thursday**



**CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

This week you are letting your sentiments and emotions rule your heart and mind. Initially, mind and thoughts are taking the charge, which is contradicting your personality. Surrender yourself to the higher wisdom, conquer material temptation and giving up something to gain something better is on the card. Workwise, your patience and endurance will be put to test. On the personal front, you are likely to help or make amends with your family. Irrespective of negotiation, one must stay in balance. There will be times when you need to spend time alone to re-evaluate your life and situation, the four-fold process that is experienced on all four levels of consciousness, mental, emotional, spiritual and physical.

**Lucky number 13**  
**Lucky colour Orange**  
**Lucky day Wednesday**



**GEMINI** May 21-June 20

This week your search for a mentor who opens the pathways to wisdom and insight comes to end. This person will provide you with the comfort and help, you require. You are likely to experience mental grief or agony. On the career front, trust yourself and follow the rules and regulations of the company. The dreams of the past will sink in and new ones will arise. Stay calm and quiet and allow things to take their own course without intervention or control. Those related to the transport business will have reasons to smile. On the personal front, you will put your family in focus. The conditions all around won't be at their best. Some help from a male friend or relative is indicated. You will experience high energy and vitality in your daily life.

**Lucky number 8**  
**Lucky colour Indigo**  
**Lucky day Saturday**



**LIBRA** Sep 23-Oct 22

This week you will prove the best of your capabilities and genius and creativity will be your forte. You will have the ability to manage multiple tasks at a time. You are versatile and your expertise will be acknowledged by the others. Workwise this week, you will be busy. There will be a time when you have to take important decisions related to your professional and personal life. This decision will activate you and you be able to handle many issues. In midweek, a new job opportunity will come your way. You will have a tempting job offer with a higher salary and perks. On the personal front, you will be high on emotions, and hence, making you almost a home bird. It is recommended to spend time in artistic pursuits.

**Lucky number 17**  
**Lucky colour Brown**  
**Lucky day Monday**



**AQUARIUS** Jan 20-Feb 18

This week the focus shall be on ways to increase wealth. Doors will open to new financial opportunities and money inflow will be good. Investing money in property is indicated. A new spiritual spark or guidance will boost your confidence. Work and business will keep you busy and the efforts you put in now will show in the time to come. Meditation, self-examination and re-evaluation of life's goal are also on the card. You are likely to be very choosy and calculative, in all the matters of life. It is important to restrict the finances and spend wisely. Money investment, getting a loan are all looking positive if you start the process this week. This week emotions have taken the back seat. You will be tough at heart and completely dedicated to your work.

**Lucky number 20**  
**Lucky colour Golden**  
**Lucky day Sunday**



**CANCER** June 21-July 22

This week you will enjoy good family life and happiness. Beginning of a happy relationship is indicated. Children bring happiness. You will feel positive throughout the week. Career-wise, a tough decision at work will demand your attention. You are bound to follow the company's system and discipline. By the end of the week, you must balance work and pleasure. Your passion, greed and desires will rise high making you just about lazy. There are chances of last-minute changes and as long as you are not caught off guard, you can handle everything. Opportunities to make quick money are indicated. It is likely that you may some misunderstanding with the elders. So, take efforts to keep away from conflicts.

**Lucky number 7**  
**Lucky colour Turquoise**  
**Lucky day Friday**



**SCORPIO** Oct 23-Nov 21

This week you will be in a state of confusion. You will have a tough time finding a solution to an unexpected problem. Your mind will be ruled by the two most powerful emotions — apprehension and fear and this will not allow you to sleep at night. This is a challenging situation for everyone in the family. Workload will keep you stressed. Your professional life will see you on the fiery side of your personality. It is very important to take time off from the busy schedule and have fun out with friends and family. Delegate your duties and try to strike a balance between work and emotions. As the week comes to an end, you will gain enough confidence to control over situations that were making you agitated. Couples may plan for relaxation and better bonding.

**Lucky number 22**  
**Lucky colour Yellow**  
**Lucky day Thursday**



**PISCES** Feb 19-March 20

A hyperactive nature in communication is not good for you. Due to your busy schedule, it may be difficult for you to spend time with your family. This is the time to take a break from your work and relax for some time to regain your energy and resources. Mid-week, a sudden change in the situation may surprise you. Using your wisdom and diplomacy, you will be able to solve the problem. Your knowledge will help you to face the challenging situation. Those who are facing a legal hassle will come out as a winner without any charges. This week you need to keep your emotions in check. Your mind will take charge of your heart to hold back many subtle feelings. You will gain a position of trust and authority. Avoid conflicts.

**Lucky number 14**  
**Lucky colour Sky Blue**  
**Lucky day Friday**

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**ASTROTURF**  
BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

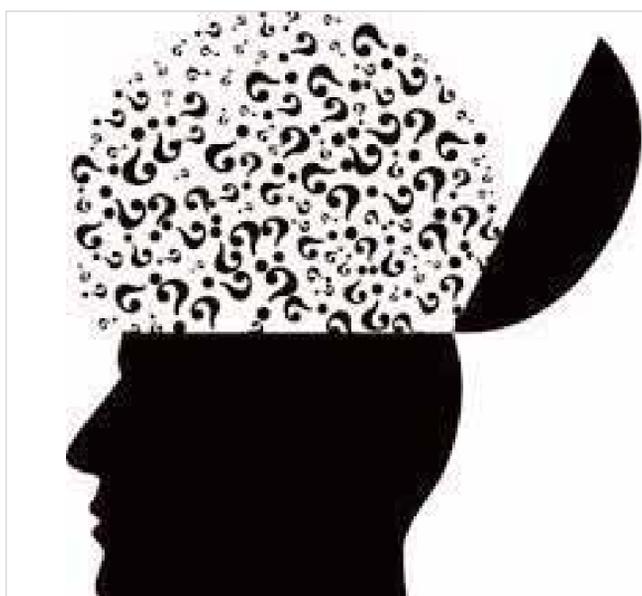
# Address mental infirmities

The 'Power of Knowing' facilitated by our mind enabled us to explore and deliberate upon various dimensions of the world process thus far. In fact, nothing moves in human life without mind coming into play. All doings on our part originate in mind and are processed there itself before being put into action. How we engage with the world, or the way we react or respond to external stimuli, is directed by the mind. It is again our mind, which carries forward the Karmic imprints from one life to another, and which sets the terms of one's unique character. Accordingly, mind defines the functional mandate of a being and then steers through the journey of life. Such an important functional organism of a being, in fact, the prime mover of every being in practical terms, deserves due attention.

The way human beings perceive, is how they act upon, react or respond in life. With what consequences — fruitful or frustrating — depends on how unitary mind is inherently framed. Mind keeps a baggage full of good and bad thought imprints that set the terms of how we usually conduct in life. The one who is able to make use of one's potential suc-

ceeds well in life. Those, who get caught up by the negative tendencies meet with failure and frustration. Ordinarily, mind keeps wandering with varied thoughts, something like a monkey, un mindfully jumping from one branch of a tree to the other. Mind keeps breeding thoughts every moment and continues flirting with them. Coming as it may with freedom of making choices, the probability of mind picking up right or wrong lead remains equal, and with obvious consequences.

To overcome the vulnerability, human mind is armed with discriminatory ability to analyse, evaluate and then make right choices. But discriminatory faculty doesn't come into play involuntarily. It needs to be consciously invoked and applied, which remains the prerogative of *ahamkara*, another faculty of mind, which is supposed to take the call. Often, *ahamkara* identifies itself with the inherent tendencies of mind, and assumes that it would be its end game. Also, it gets drawn towards tempting influence of the seeming world and sets it as its dream destination. In both cases, taking things on face value, it ignores invoking discriminatory faculty for due diligence, and with obvious consequences. Human



mind, therefore, turns out to be a double edged weapon. It can either lead you to success or could prove a trickster that may put you through pains and sufferings. That makes it incumbent upon us to watch our mind, identify and acknowledge our limitations, and address them sooner than later. The inherent potential will them bloom out in full unhindered, and naturally to your advantage.

The other day someone preparing for competitive examination, keen to figure out his prospects consulted me. Analysing the chart, it came out that he had the potential to successfully compete. A luminary Moon, free from any affliction, over the head implied that he could succeed well and come in public glare. All the more because the Sun was beautifully aligned to intellectually ordained Uranus, which meant that he was brilliant, armed with inventive and innovative abilities. Jupiter, well aligned with Mercury, further spoke of his high intelligence, good common-sensical judgment, and a good communicative ability. All put together, qualifies him to make it big in life, provided he could overcome his inherent weaknesses, that were no less.

The Sun placed in Virgo sign, identi-

fied with distribution of energies drawn out of food intake to various functional organs opposite Saturn. It, in the first place, implies that his confidence level would be low. Second, has low immunity, which makes him prone to frequent health issues, particularly improper digestion, leading to excessive air humor in the system. That would not allow him to put in his whole, nor would he be focused to his studies. Third, he carries a sense of inertia, putting off tasks in hand to later dates. Saturn conjunct Ketu, implies that he is an escapist, who may not take challenges head on, nor would acknowledge truth on its first appearance. Mars opposite Uranus makes him temperamental. Venus placed adverse to the Sun and Saturn, makes him too much touchy and sensitive who may get overexerted even on trivial issues. In the process, his priority preference may get compromised. Also, his work spirit will be low.

I wish, he addressed his infirmities following the methods suggested, and I am sure, he will come out with his best.

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