

OPINION 6
GOOD TO FOCUS
ON SKILL

WORLD 8
KREMLIN CRITIC TO BE KEPT IN
CUSTODY FOR 30 DAYS: LAWYER

SPORT 12
MESSI SEES RED IN
BARCA'S DEFEAT

Published From
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

*Late City Vol. 31 Issue 18
*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

NEW DELHI, TUESDAY JANUARY 19, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3



the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

LET'S BREAK
PATRIARCHY:
KAJAL
11 VIVACITY



China builds village in Arunachal

Satellite images show village of 120 homes 5 km inside Indian territory

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid the ongoing talks to defuse tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, China has added fuel to fire by building a village inside the disputed territory in Arunachal Pradesh. India says it has taken note of the construction along the border there and has ramped up its infrastructure development projects.

The latest development has rung alarm bells in the security establishment in India. It is apprehended that China wants to maintain the pressure on India by opening several fronts along the 4,000-km LAC stretching from Ladakh in the west to Arunachal Pradesh in the east.

The fresh construction detected by satellite images by Planet Labs shows that China has built a new village of about 120 homes. The village is about five km inside the Indian ter-



territory. China has all along disputed the claim, sources said here on Monday. Giving details about the new construction, they said the village is on the banks of Tsari Chu river in the Upper Subansiri district. Incidentally, the Chinese troops in 1959 had fired on an Indian post there. "We have seen recent reports of China undertaking construction work along the border area with India. China has undertaken such con-

struction activity in the past several years," the MEA said, adding, "The Government remains committed to the objective of creating infrastructure along the border areas for the improvement of livelihood of its citizens, including in Arunachal Pradesh."

The latest satellite images pertain to November last year. The image dated a little more than a year before that — August 26, 2019 — does not show any construction activity. So, the village was set up last year. This was the same area where the Chinese army last year detained five locals.

The stand-offs now in Ladakh are due to the Chinese alarmed over rapid infrastructure development all along the LAC by India on its own side. However, sources said India has not built any roads or infrastructure development close to the new Chinese village.

They also said the maps of the Surveyor General of India

earmark that the new construction for the Chinese village is in the Indian zone.

Reports said the new village is a Chinese military post and it was first detected by satellites, including Google Earth, about ten years back. The new pictures of November clearly indicate the post is vastly upgraded, thereby posing a challenge to the Indian security forces.

The Indian security establishment maintains that the coming up of this village is a violation of several agreements between the two countries. The pacts clearly say both countries to "safeguard due interests of their settled populations in the border areas" and decree that pending an ultimate settlement of the boundary question, the two sides should strictly respect and observe the Line of Actual Control and work together to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas.

SC leaves it to cops to take call on tractor rally



Farmers during their ongoing protest against new farm laws at Singhu Border in New Delhi on Monday

PTI

'Delhi Police has all the power to decide on march on Republic Day'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court told the Centre on Monday that the proposed tractor rally on the Republic Day by farmers protesting against the new farm laws is a "law and order" matter and the Delhi Police is the first authority to decide who should be allowed to enter the national Capital.

A bench headed by Chief Justice SA Bobde, while hearing the Centre's application seeking an injunction against the proposed tractor or trolley march or any other kind of protest which seeks to disrupt the gathering and celebrations on January 26, said that the Delhi Police has all the authority to deal with the matter. "Does the SC say as to what are the powers of police and how they will exercise them? We are not going to tell you

what to do," said the bench, also comprising Justices LN Rao and Vinet Saran.

The SC told Attorney General KK Venugopal that it will take up the matter for hearing on January 20.

"The question of entering into Delhi is a law and order matter and will be determined by the police," the bench said, adding, "Mr Attorney General, we are adjourning the matter and you have all the authority to deal with this matter."

Continued on Page 2

Unions: Farmers have constitutional right to take out tractor rally

New Delhi: Protesting union leaders on Monday said farmers have a constitutional right to take out their tractor rally peacefully and asserted that thousands of people will participate in the proposed event on January 26. The reaction came after the SC said the Delhi Police is the first authority to decide the entry of protesting farmers into Delhi.

Day after jab, man dies in UP; vaccine did not cause death, says Govt

Dip in vaccination turnout in Delhi, only 8 get shots at AIIMS on Mon

PNS/AGENCY ■ MORADABAD/LUCKNOW/NEW DELHI

After a 46-year-old health worker died in Uttar Pradesh's Moradabad district a day after receiving the coronavirus vaccination, the family blamed his death on vaccination on Monday. However, the autopsy report attributing the death to "cardio-pulmonary disease", officials said on Monday. Meanwhile, nearly 3,600

healthcare workers received the Covid-19 vaccine shots in Delhi on Monday, a further dip in the figures compared to that on opening day of the immunisation drive, with sources saying just eight medical staff got the jabs at AIIMS. The family of Mahipal, who was working as ward boy in State-run Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Hospital in Moradabad, said he was not suffering from any ailment other than fever and cough, and blamed his death on vaccination. However, the UP Government said the man died due to septicemic shock and cardiac arrest and the death was not related to the Covid-19 vaccination.

Continued on Page 2

Mamata to take on Suwendu on his home turf

Adhikari: I'll defeat her by 50K votes in Nandigram or I will quit politics forever

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ NANDIGRAM/KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has once again looked up to Nandigram for a slice of political luck and as an apparent strategy to blunt the impact of the defection of her erstwhile spearhead, Suwendu Adhikari, a powerful mass leader of the region.

Mamata on Monday told a huge rally at the "ground zero" of what they call Trinamool's "farm revolution" that she was more than eager to contest from the place as this was a lucky ground for her. "I will fight from



Nandigram... Rather I will fight both from Nandigram and Bhawanipore... My soul has told me that this place is lucky for me... it is a holy place... and that I should fight from Nandigram... I have always started my campaign for the Assembly polls from this place," Mamata said once again attacking the "turncoats" who quit the TMC before elections and vowing once again not to let the BJP capture Bengal. "You may win many elections, you may become all powerful, you may be the Prime Minister of India and you may rule the world but I vow from this holy land of Nandigram that I will never allow the BJP to enter Bengal,"

Mamata said, adding how some people were quitting the party as "all these years they have earned huge black money which they want to save."

Mamata's sharp attack received an equally high-decibel reply from Adhikari, who led a road-show down SP Mukherjee Road, past Banerjee's Kalighat residence. He at once took up the challenge welcoming the TMC supremo at Nandigram and pre-declared the result: a "hands down" defeat for the Chief Minister.

"I welcome her to Nandigram... which catapulted her to power and which she remembered after five years... Let her contest from Nandigram and if I am fielded by my party there I take a vow today that if I cannot defeat her by a margin of half-a-lakh votes then I will quit politics," Adhikari said.

Continued on Page 2



Balloons, flowers, sanitisers and smiling faces welcomed Class 10 and 12 students in schools in the national Capital on Monday as they returned to campuses after over 10 months. The students who were elated to be able to attend the first offline class of the academic session wore masks and queued up outside schools maintaining social distance. (In photo) Students come out of school after attending their first class after over 10 months

CAPSULE

RAFALE TO FEATURE IN REPUBLIC DAY PARADE

New Delhi: The newly inducted Rafale fighter aircraft will feature in India's Republic Day parade on January 26 and culminate the flypast by carrying out the 'Vertical Charlie' formation — the aircraft flies at low altitude, pulls up vertically and conducts rolls before stabilising at higher altitude — the Indian Air Force said on Monday.

3 KILLED IN J&K IN DEC WERE MILITANTS: IGP Srinagar

The three youths killed in a gunfight with security forces in Lawaypora last month were involved in militancy, Inspector General of Police-Kashmir Vijay Kumar said on Monday and added that police will soon convince their parents of it with concrete evidence.

Tandav makers apologise unconditionally

Reaction comes after I&B Ministry notice and FIR against web series for hurting religious sentiments

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW

The makers of the Amazon Prime Video series Tandav on Monday apologised unconditionally after complaints that one of its episodes had hurt "Hindu sentiments".

The apology came after a case was registered against the makers of the web series in Lucknow and the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting sought the view of the Amazon Prime on a flood of grievances against the



series. The statement from the cast and crew of Tandav said, "We have been closely monitoring viewer reactions to the web series Tandav and today during a discussion, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting informed us regarding a large number of grievances and petitions received on various facets of the web series with serious concerns and apprehensions regarding its content hurting the sentiments of the people. "Tandav is a work of fiction and any resemblance to acts

and persons and events is purely coincidental. The cast and crew did not have any intention to offend the sentiments of any individual, caste, community, race, religion or religious beliefs or insult or outrage any institution, political party or person, living or dead. "The cast and crew of Tandav take cognisance of the concerns expressed by the peo-

ple and unconditionally apologise if it has unintentionally hurt anybody's sentiments," the statement said. A complaint filed by an Uttar Pradesh policeman said that 17 minutes into the first episode, "people dressed up in a very bad manner to represent Hindu gods and goddesses... shown to speak in a very uncalled for language... that

House panel summons FB, Twitter officials over citizens' rights

This would be the agenda of the committee's next meeting. The sitting will be held from 4 pm onwards on January 21, it said.

The 31-member parliamentary standing committee on IT is headed by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor. **Continued on Page 2**

Don't join WhatsApp if not accepting new policy, says Delhi HC

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Monday said accepting the new privacy policy of social messaging app WhatsApp was a "voluntary" thing and one can choose not to use or join that platform if one did not agree with its terms and conditions. "It is a private app. Don't join it. It is a voluntary thing, don't accept it. Use some other app," Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva said.

105 tigers die in 2020, 60% in protected zones

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

After dropping to 95 in 2019, the number of tiger deaths breached 100-figure mark again in 2020. At least 60 per cent of these deaths have taken place in the protected zones for big cats in the country, as per the data from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).

The tiger mortality, which stood at 101, 110 and 121 in the three consecutive years before 2019, is now 105 deaths. Analysis of the data shows that last year every month more than 5 tigers were killed except in March when the number was at 4. The reason for the mortality varies from natural deaths, human-animal conflict, includ-

ing electrocution, and poaching. Developmental pressure has been already taking its toll on their habitats.

India is home to about 70 per cent of the global tiger population. Today, India has 50 reserves having 2,967 tigers.

Of the 105 deaths in 2020, one has been categorised as seizure and another poaching. As per the NTCA, the country's nodal body working on welfare and protection of tigers, in seizures, a big cat is presumed dead on the basis of the body parts seized by authorities.

In 103 cases, the exact cause of the deaths is yet to be verified and investigation details are awaited. Madhya Pradesh topped the list of mortalities with 26 tigers followed by Maharashtra



17. Kerala reported 10 deaths, closely trailed by Karnataka with 9 mortalities. It is the sixth year in a row that Madhya Pradesh has topped the list of States with the highest number of tiger deaths in the country. Month-wise, April proved to be lethal for the tigers when the highest number of mortalities was reported with the country losing 15 tigers during the period. At least 60 per cent tigers died inside the tiger reserves, suggesting territorial infighting among the predators for space. Though the data available from the NTCA does not specify the cause of death in 103 cases, experts feel that it may be due to poisoning and electrocution due to man-animal conflicts. Forty per cent of the total mortalities were reported from outside the tiger habitats, which the wildlife experts have termed as a cause of worry. They said that this indicates that either the big cats were in search of food or were forced to move out in the fringes of the reserves due to the loss of their territories to the younger ones. This leaves them vulnerable, the experts said. The total cases of tiger deaths in four years (2015-2018) are 418 which means on an average eight tigers died every month for the past four years.

Snags in Co-WIN, only 41% of target number inoculated in G'gram

Gurugram: Gurugram reported Co-WIN application glitches in all its 45 vaccine session sites on the second day of the inoculation drive on Monday, resulting in only 41 per cent of the healthcare workers getting the vaccine jabs, which was

less than the targeted numbers, health officials said. The officials involved in the drive claimed that they have faced difficulties in operating the Covid Vaccine Intelligence Network (Co-WIN) application due to the technical snags.

The app was developed by the Centre to monitor and track the vaccination programme.

"We had sent SMSes to alert the healthcare workers in advance but on Monday the application was not working properly and sometimes it was slow, so we could not upload the details of the beneficiaries and due to this we could not achieve a 100 per cent target on

Monday," Virender Yadav, Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Gurugram told IANS.

The health officials said that at the vaccination centres they have faced some technical issues while uploading the data on the app about beneficiaries receiving the vaccine, as the application was reported to have slowed down or some time it showed network errors. According to the official

data, out of 4,836 healthcare workers only 2,881 were administered the Covid-19 vaccine shots on Monday.

During the second phase of the vaccination, four private session sites have been selected where Covaxin was given to the health workers and Covishield been administered at 14 government and 27 private facilities, on Monday," a health official said.

As per the plan the jabs will be given on Monday, Thursday and Saturday for the next four weeks. In Gurugram, a total of 37,427 recipients will get vaccinated over the next four weeks.

The private facilities claimed that they were prepared for the vaccine drive like government facilities.

"Our doctors and staff has done a commendable job

working round-the-clock not only to serve covid patients but also stayed in touch with their family members through all the possible modes of communication updating them about recovery from the disease," said Suraj Bhan, Medical Superintendent, Medeor Hospital Manesar.

Bhan further added, "To ensure seamless vaccination process, all preparation

such as training of the staff, demarcation and sanitization of the designated area were done in advance. Response from our staff member was very encouraging and we have vaccinated over 65 healthcare workers.

All the staff members who have received the doses were comfortable and have not reported any adverse reaction post-inoculation." IANS

PM: Vaccines being developed, manufactured in India will help humanity at large against Covid

New Delhi: Indian scientists and health warriors have risen to the occasion and the vaccines being manufactured in India will help our people as well as humanity at large in escaping from the COVID-19 pandemic, PM Modi said in a message to Maldivian President Ibrahim Solih on Monday.

He conveyed this to Solih on Twitter while responding to the latter's congratulatory message over India's landmark programme "to vaccinate Indian population against COVID-19."

and that we are finally seeing an end to the COVID-19 scourge," he said.

Responding to Solih's message, Prime Minister Modi tweeted Monday, "Thank you, President @ibusolih. Our scientists and health-warriors have risen to the occasion."

"The vaccines being developed and manufactured in India will help our people as well as humanity at large in escaping from the pandemic," Modi said.

Bhutan Prime Minister Lotay Tshering and Sri Lankan premier Mahinda Rajapaksa had also congratulated Modi earlier for the landmark launch of the world's largest COVID-19 vaccination drive, hoping it would mitigate the sufferings endured by the people due to the pandemic.

PTI



Media trial can affect Sushant case probe, says HC

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a significant verdict on a bunch of PILs cases relating to the Sushant Singh Rajput death cases, the Bombay High Court on Monday told the media houses "not to step out of their boundaries too and thereby enter the grey area beyond the proverbial Lakshman Rekha".

Taking a strong exception to the questionable manner in which the media depicted the deceased and accused and in the process created an atmosphere of "prejudice for both", and tried to influence the investigations, a HC division bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice G. S. Kulkarni directed the media "to exercise restraint and refrain from printing/displaying any news item and/or initiating any discussion/debate/interview of the

nature".

In his ruling on a bunch of public interest litigations filed by a group of IPS officers and activists vis-à-vis the case relating to the high-voltage coverage on the circumstances leading to the death of act Sushant in June 2020, the HC indirectly pulled up the media houses from holding "trials" and trying to influence the ongoing investigations.

Among other things, the petitioners had sought the court's intervention to frame guidelines to regulate the electronic media for reporting ongoing criminal investigations while safeguarding media freedom.

The HC bench prefaced its directive to the press and electronic media with the following observation: "The measures we would thus propose to remedy

the ills that have so long remained unchecked for the lack of strict enforcement of the regulatory control mechanism, in whatever manner it is available on paper, as well as lack of proper understanding of the law of contempt of court and the procedures governing the criminal justice system, are intended to safeguard the dignity of an individual and his liberty - the basic philosophy of our Constitution".

"We would do so, conscious of our own limitations of not crossing the boundaries, while urging the media houses, not to step out of their boundaries too and thereby enter the grey area beyond the proverbial Lakshman Rekha," the HC bench said.

Among the directives that the HC bench gave to the media --- while reporting on the death

by suicide to refrain from depicting the deceased as one having a weak character or intruding in any manner on the privacy of the deceased.

The Court asked the media to refrain prejudicing an ongoing inquiry/investigation by among other things: referring to the character of the accused/victim and creating an atmosphere of prejudice for both, holding interviews with the victim, the witnesses and/or any of their family members and displaying it on screen and analyzing versions of witnesses, whose evidence could be vital at the stage of trial.

The HC bench also directed the media to refrain from publishing a confession allegedly made to a police officer by an accused and trying to make the public believe that the same is a piece of evidence which is

admissible before a Court and there is no reason for the Court not to act upon it, without letting the public know the nitty-gritty of the Evidence Act, 1872.

The other directives given to the media were to reform printing photographs of an accused and thereby facilitating his identification, criticizing the investigative agency based on half-baked information without proper research; pronouncing on the merits of the case, including pre-judging the guilt or innocence qua an accused or an individual not yet wanted in a case, as the case may be; recreating/reconstructing a crime scene and depicting how the accused committed the crime, predicting the proposed/future course of action including steps that ought to be taken in a particular direction to complete the investigation; and leaking sen-

sitive and confidential information from materials collected by the investigating agency.

The judges also advised the electronic media not to act in any manner so as to violate the provisions of the Programme Code as prescribed under section 5 of the CTVN Act read with rule 6 of the CTVN Rules and thereby inviting contempt of court; and d. Indulging in character assassination of any individual and thereby mar his reputation.

"These are not intended to be exhaustive but indicative, and any report carried by the print media or a programme telecast by a TV channel, live or recorded, ought to be such so as to conform to the Programme Code, the norms of journalistic standards and the Code of Ethics and Broadcasting Regulations," the judges said.

NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
 Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida G.B. Nagar, (U.P.)
 Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-Tenders Notice

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firms for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & <https://etender.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these website for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

Fresh-Tender Work

(A) The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 01.02.2021 upto 5.00 PM. shall be opened/downloaded on dated 02.02.2021 at 11.00 AM.

S.No.	Job No.	Name of Work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)
1.	173/GM/S.M./E-III/2020-21	Providing Path Lighting arrangement in Smirti Park & C-block park sector-72, Noida	31.72
2.	174/GM/S.M./E/III/2020-21	Maint. of Street Light (Repairing of 63 KVA Transformer) installed for street Light different location & main road of sector-49, 50, 51, 71, 72, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 112, 115, 117, 119, 120 & Noida Extension road and FNG Road, Noida.	41.07
3.	121/GM/S.M./E/III/2020-21/ET	D/O Village's (Providing street light in Main road various T-Junctions/crossing in front of village Bishanpura Noida.	33.48

Re-Tender Work

(B) The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 25.01.2021 upto 5.00 PM. shall be opened/downloaded on dated 27.01.2021 at 11.00 AM.

S.No.	Job No.	Name of Work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)
4.	105/GM/S.M./E/III/2020-21/ET	Renovation of 04 Nos. Fountain at crossing 55/57/54/22 & Two years Operation & Maintenance, Noida	42.65
5.	107/GM/S.M./E/III/2020-21/ET	Beautification of Fountain (S/F of New RGB/RGBW Flood light with controlling system) and Renovation of Fountain in Noida Stadium, Sector-21A, Noida.	30.80
6.	108/GM/S.M./E/III/2020-21/ET	Beautification of Fountain (S/F of New RGB/RGBW Flood light with Controlling system) and Renovation of Fountain and waterfall in Sector-14A, Noida.	33.23
7.	109/GM/S.M./E/III/2020-21/ET	Renovation of musical, Gyser Jet, Water fall and Butterfly dome fountain at D-Park, sector-62, Noida	74.44

Chief General Manager, Noida
CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Day after job, man dies...

From Page 1
 "An adverse event following immunisation (AEFI) committee probed the death of the man in Moradabad. The cause of death was septicemic shock and cardiac arrest and it has nothing to do with the vaccination," the State's Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Amit Mohan Prasad told reporters in Lucknow.

He said some persons were spreading false news regarding the vaccine and vaccinations, and people should not trust them. "The two vaccines (Covishield and Covaxin) used in the country are safe," Prasad added.

A total of 20,076 healthcare workers got their first jabs in UP on Saturday as Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a country-wide vaccination drive against the pandemic.

After Mahipal died on Sunday night, Moradabad District Magistrate Rakesh Singh said a high-level medical inquiry would be held.

"The case of Mahipal is exceptional and a high-level medical inquiry will be ordered," he said while asserting that the vaccines are fully safe and no major side effects have been reported among others vaccinated.

Chief Medical Officer Milind Chandra Garg said the cause of death was a cardiac problem.

"Deceased Mahipal's heart was found enlarged and it had blood clots, according to the postmortem report," he said. The report of the postmortem, conducted by three doctors, stated that the death was caused by "cardio-pulmonary disease" and there was "no relation with corona vaccine", the CMO said.

He said some employees were suffering from fever after taking the shots. "They were facing general problems but not like Mahipal," he said.

Mahipal's son Vishal said his father called him to the hospital as he was having breathing difficulty.

"My father was suffering from cough, but after vaccination he had a fever and felt a heaviness in breathing. On Sunday, he was admitted in the Government hospital where he expired at night," he said.

Mahipal's family members claimed that he never had any cardiac problem and was "quite healthy except for the fever and cough". "My father did not suffer from corona even when he performed his duty properly during the pandemic," his son said.

Under the nationwide mega vaccination drive launched on Saturday, a total of 4,319 (53 per cent) health workers against a target of 8,117 were administered the vaccines at 81 centres across the city.

The sharp fall comes after one severe and 50 minor cases were reported, following the vaccination drive on Saturday. Various reasons are being attributed to the low turnout, including some technical issues and fears related to adverse events.

SC leaves it...

From Page 1
 The Centre, in an application filed through Delhi Police, has said that any proposed march or protest which seeks to disrupt and disturb the Republic Day celebrations will cause an "embarrassment to the nation".

During the hearing conducted through video-conferencing, the bench said who should be allowed to enter Delhi and who should not be allowed has to be dealt with by the police as the court is not the "first authority". The bench told Venugopal that the apex court is seized of the issue of farm laws and "we have not said anything on police powers". The SC then asked, "Are farmers unions appearing today?". Senior advocate Dushyant Dave said he was representing some farmer unions in the matter.

Advocate A P Singh, representing one of the farmers' body,

told the bench about the affidavit filed by them requesting the top court to remove the remaining three members of the court-appointed committee to resolve the issue of farm laws and select people who can do the job "on the basis of mutual harmony".

"We will hear everyone on that day (next date of hearing)," the bench said, adding, "We will hear you in the same combination of bench". On January 12, the top court had stayed the implementation of the contentious new farm laws till further orders and constituted the four-member committee to make recommendations to resolve the impasse over them between the Centre and farmers' unions protesting at borders. The members of the court-appointed committee were -- Bhopinder Singh Mann, National President of Bhartiya Kisan Union, All India Kisan Coordination Committee; Parmod Kumar Joshi, Director for South Asia, International

Food Policy Research Institute; Ashok Gulati, agricultural economist and former chairman of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, and Anil Ghanwat, President of Shetkari Sanghatana.

Later, Mann had recused himself from the court-appointed committee. The top court had on January 12 said it would hear the pleas against the farm laws after eight weeks when the committee would give its suggestions to resolve the impasse after talking to the protesters and the government. Farmers, mainly from Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh, are protesting at various border points of Delhi for over a month now against the three laws -- the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, and the Farmers Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act.

PUBLIC NOTICE
 I, Ranbir Sehgal Son of Shri Amir Chand Sehgal resident of MG flat no. E-1482, Naraina Vihar, New Delhi hereby informed to all that I am the bonafide ALLOTTEE/lessee/CPA holder of property no. MG flat no. E-1482, Naraina Vihar, New Delhi vide file no. F.14(16)99/HB has applied for conversion from lease hold to free hold in DDA and the original deed and letter. Possession letter, site possession and NOC for water and electric connection of the above said property/flat have been lost/misplaced. An NCFTR to this effect has been lost in Delhi vide no. 46155/2021 dated 16.01.2021. If any one found same may please contact me within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, the person institution / government Authority claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property can personally inform or write of Dy. Director (MIS), 3rd floor, D-Block, Vikas Sarani, INA, New Delhi-110023.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-1, DELHI
 4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING,
 PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI- 110001

NDN/1426/2019 (OA)
 Bank of India Applicant
 Versus
 Ms. Bipakshi Kashyap & Ors..... Defendants

To,
 (i) Ms. Bipakshi Kashyap D/o Sh. Anant Kumar Haloi Flat No. 191C, Janta Flat-A-1, Maa Shakti Apartments, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063.
 Also at
 (ii) Ms. Bipakshi Kashyap D/o Sh. Anant Kumar Haloi Flat No. 157-D, Ekta Apartment, Paschim Vihar, Delhi- 110063.
 Also at
 (iii) Ms. Bipakshi Kashyap D/o Sh. Anant Kumar Haloi C/o AON Services Pvt. Ltd. Plot No. 6 Tower-A, Sector-127, The Boulevard, Noida-201304 (U.P.)
 Also at
 (iv) Ms. Bipakshi Kashyap D/o Sh. Anant Kumar Haloi Sat Lake, Sector V, 15, West Bengal- 700091

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 23,81,731.06/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lacs Eighty One Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty One & Six Paise Only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before Ld. Registrar on 03.05.2021 at 10.30 A.M. (for further details kindly visit DRT website www.drtbun1.gov.in, Phone Number: 011-23748473).

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Due to ongoing Pandemic Situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:-

(i) All the advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application/Software;
 (ii) "Meeting ID" and "Password" for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by "Registrar/Recovery Officer-I and Recovery Officer-II shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. "drt.gov.in" under the Public Notice Head.
 (iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/ Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 011-23748473.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 15th January of 2021

Respondent may contact under mention Ph. No. for further enquiry
 Mr. Amit K. Dar, Ld. Registrar
 DRT-1, New Delhi,
 Phone No.: 011-23748473
 Email : drt1delhi-dfs@nic.in

By Order of this Tribunal
 For Registrar

House...

From Page 1
 The panel had earlier too summoned representatives of these social platforms in the backdrop of allegations that they were showing partiality towards a set of political leaders in reference to 'hate comments'. The Congress and the BJP leaders had a verbal clash on the issue when the controversy broke out subsequent to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi quoting a foreign daily that social media gave more space to BJP and RSS leaders. The BJP had then alleged that comments of its leaders were often deleted in social media.

CLARIFICATION

It refers to "J&K calm but can burst with rage any time: N Command" published on January 16, 2021. As per the PIB press release, the statement made by the Army Commander, Northern Command, was: "The internal situation in J&K is stable and under control but has the propensity to flare up at any time". The phrase "has the propensity to flare up any time" was condensed to an equivalent phrase "can burst with rage". However, there is concern about the word "rage" that in local connotation may mean "stone-pelting, etc". Therefore, the same has been changed in the web edition with headline "J&K calm but has propensity to flare up any time: N Command".

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I Bharat Bhushan Ahlawat
 S/o Late Shri Sohan LAL R/o 234/96 Type-II, Mir Dard Lane, M.A.M.C. Campus, New Delhi-110002 have changed my Name Bharat Bhushan to Bharat Bhushan Ahlawat for all purpose.
 PD(8889)C

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004
 Tender Notice No.- PCE/BLW(ET)/E-Shell/2020-21/11 Dated:14.01.2021

E-Tender
 Dy. Chief Engineer, Banaras Locomotive Works, Varanasi on behalf of the President of India invites "Open" Tender through E-Tendering from the contractors. S.No.: 1. Tender No.: BLW-WAT-ET-006RT-20-21. Name of Work: Repairing/Raising of floor of West Hospital etc. under SSE/WWT, Repairing/ Renovation Civil office, MOD cell, Corridor, TOT meeting Room with Toilet and renovation of Toilet T-8 etc under SSE/WAT. Repairing of Heavy duty flooring in TMS workshop under SSE/WWS (north in BLW Varanasi). Tender Cost (Rs.): 6505350.40. Earnest Money (Rs.): Rs. 130100/- . Time of completion : 9 month, Closing date of tender: 05.02.2021 at 15.00 pm. Date of opening of tender: 05.02.2021 at 15.30 pm. Special Notice: Details, terms and conditions can be seen on website <http://www.irops.gov.in> and tender can fill up on the same website. PRO/BLWC-11 Dy. Chief Engineer

<https://t.me/banaraslocomotive> Website:- www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in

MODERN COACH FACTORY, RAEBARELI

Open tender based on Single packet system Tender Notice No. - MCF/RBL/Tender/ Shell Assembly for LSLRD/2020-21/C463 Dt. 14.01.2021 is invited by Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer / Shell, MCF/RBL through IREPS portal www.irops.gov.in for and on behalf of president of India for the following work:-

Description of work	Approx. Value (₹)	EMD (₹)
Shell assembly activities for LSLRD (stage-I, II & IV) excluding skin tensioning as per scope of work	51,24,000.00	1,02,500.00
Cost of Tender document = ₹ 5,000.00 only Quantity of work - 150 Shell. Completion period of work:- 12 Months or earlier		

• Period of submission of tender document:- From 21.01.2021 to 04.02.2021. • Date & time of closing of Tender:- 04.02.2021 at 15.00 hrs. • Date & time of opening of Tender:- 04.02.2021 at 15.15 hrs. • Detailed Tender Notice, Eligibility criteria, Terms & conditions are available at IREPS website: www.irops.gov.in in tender document.
 Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/Shell

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Increase Delhi's share in taxes in Budget: Sisodia to Centre

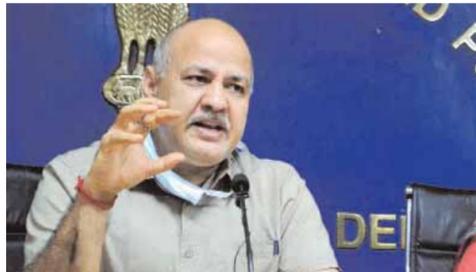
STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Monday urged the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharam to treat Delhi at par with the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir in regards to providing share from Central Taxes and Central Assistance to Union Territories, and the Disaster Response Fund.

During the pre-budget meeting with the finance ministers of all States, and the

Union Territories, Sisodia also pointed out that the share in capital taxes for Delhi has remained stagnant at Rs 325 crores for two decades now, since 2001-02.

"Being the capital of the country, and one of the fastest growing metropolises, the Delhi Govt. needs to maintain an infrastructure that meets the world standard. We want to improve the supply of civic amenities to meet the demands of the burgeoning population that expects a quality standard of living to lead a wholesome



life in the capital. Moreover, the Delhi Govt. needs funds to make huge investments in cru-

cial departments like education, health, social, food securities, transports, roads and hospitals

among others," said Manish Sisodia. Sisodia also appealed to the Union Finance Minister that Delhi deserves its legitimate share in central taxes to finance the developmental needs of the city, and accordingly requires enhanced allocation of at least Rs 8,150 crore in RE 2020-21, and Rs 8,555 crore in BE 2021-22.

Sisodia also said that the three municipal corporations of Delhi are under extreme financial crunch, and merit the same consideration from the

Central Government in receiving proper financial assistance as do other states.

"Delhi had to also devolve funds to the local bodies at 12.5 per cent of its net tax proceeds on the basis of recommendations of the Delhi Finance Commission. The Fourteenth Finance Commission allocated Grant-in-Aid of Rs 2,87,436 crore for the local bodies for the award period 2015-20 which works out to be Rs 488 per capita per annum," he said.

Sisodia said that Delhi with

a population of approx. 193.86 lakh people should at least be provided Rs 1,150 crore, along with an appropriate annual enhancement grant to the Delhi Govt. for its local bodies. Considering the dire financial situation of the MCDs, Manish Sisodia also requested a one time grant of Rs 12,000 crore which is the legitimate share of the Municipal Corporations of Delhi over the last 10 years.

Sisodia also drew the attention of the Union Finance Minister to receiving financial

assistance from the Central Govt. In 2000-01, Delhi received Rs 370 crore as central assistance but has only been provided with Rs 626 crore in 2020-21.

Sisodia urged the Centre to treat Delhi at par with the rest of the country in providing Disaster Response Fund. "The Central Government released Rs 11,092 crore to all the state governments towards Disaster Response Fund in April, 2020 but Delhi did not receive any such support," said Manish Sisodia

Ex-CEO of National Spot Exchange held for duping investors

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police has arrested former CEO of National Spot Exchange Ltd Anjani Sinha for allegedly duping the investors by assuring fixed returns on fictitious trading.

The accused has been identified as Anjani Sinha. Police said that he was arrested on Sunday from Mumbai.

According to Dr O P Mishra, the Joint Commissioner of Police, EOW, the complainants alleged that the brokerage firm M/s Integrated Commodity Trades Pvt Ltd, Barakhamba Road, Delhi, through its directors has cheated them by inducement and misrepresentation regarding commodity trading on the platform of National Spot Exchange Ltd (NSEL).

"The complainants were induced by the directors to invest in commodity market which is undertaken by them as trading and clearing member of NSEL, presenting it to be completely safe, as being regulated by the government authorities," said the Joint CP.

"Being the member of the exchange, the alleged broker was to ensure that at the time of issuing the delivery order, the seller of the commodity satisfies his clearing member that he owns and holds adequate stocks of the required commodity," he said.

"The trading cum clearing member has to ensure that the commodities purchased by the clients or investors through contracts were delivered to the NSEL certified warehouses. The warehouse receipts were to be delivered by the member to its clients at the time of the set-

tlement of the contracts," said the Joint CP.

"The alleged broker in collusion and conspiracy with the exchange (NSEL) and the sellers (trading members) did not collect the delivery orders and the warehouse receipts whereas the transactions were done on behalf of the complainants," said the Joint CP.

"It was alleged that fictitious stocks were traded on the exchange as a result of which the settlement of contracts was not done on the day of maturity, causing loss to the complainants. The alleged broker had represented to the complainants that NSEL is a national level electronic, transparent and institutionalised spot market which provides counter party guarantee in respect of all trades and which was regulated by Forward Markets Commission (FMC)," said the

Joint CP.

"Complainants alleged Integrated Commodity Traders Pvt Ltd, NSEL, its CMD Jignesh Shah, CEO Anjani Sinha and others for cheating, criminal misappropriation and use of forged invoices. During investigation, it was found that the alleged persons represented to the complainants that their business method was unique and has all the approval of the Forward Markets Commission (FMC)," he said.

"The accused caused wrongful loss of Rs 7.5 crore to three victims through complainant company and misappropriated the funds for its own use. The NSEL has caused a gross total fraud of Rs 5,600 crore to 13,000 victims. The NSEL platform for spot trading was designed by the management of the exchange with assured return investment

All the activities were illegal, unauthorised and nothing more than that a Ponzi scheme in the form of money circulation scheme. During investigation, a team was sent to Mumbai and accused Sinha was arrested.

schemes. It was also evident that the officials of the NSEL were engaged in alluring and inducing the clients, brokers and public at large to invest in commodity market through NSEL being a fixed assured return platform," said the Joint CP.

"All the activities were illegal, unauthorised and nothing more than that a ponzi scheme in the form of money circulation scheme. During investigation, a team was sent to

Mumbai and accused Sinha was arrested," said the Joint CP.

"During interrogation, accused has disclosed that he used to report to Jignesh Shah who was the group MD and Chairman. Shah was very desperate to generate profit in the subsidiary companies. He devised introduction of new business concept in the NSEL even violating conditions of licence of NSEL given by Ministry of Consumer Affairs," he said.

BJP criticises AAP's new excise policy

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday criticised the Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP's) new excise policy claiming the policy is against the youth and promotes crime.

State BJP President Adesh Gupta said that, Excise Minister Manish Sisodia reduced the drinking age from 25 years to 21 years and has allowed to open liquor shops till late night, will prove to be fatal for people of the civil society.

Gupta also said that, due to the excise policy of the Kejriwal government, not only will incidents of violence and accidents relating to road rage increase, the tendency of people to drink alcohol will increase, which can lead many families to the brink of

destruction.

He said that, the Delhi government could not provide clean water to the people, could not improve the standard of education in schools, could not open new schools-colleges and hospitals, but has engaged itself in making people drink liquor and opening new liquor shops. With this their intention is clear as to in which direction they want to take the people of Delhi.

Gupta said that, the Kejriwal government should immediately change the new anti-social excise policy and not reduce the drinking age. If the government does not change this anti-people policy, then the workers of the Bharatiya Janata Party will be forced to come on roads and protest against the said policy.

Youth kills man to steal his rickshaw, ₹60; held

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested accused persons for allegedly killing a 55-year-old rickshaw puller to steal his vehicle and Rs 60 from his wallet.

The accused have been identified as Dilip Haldar (20), a resident of Extension Ashok Nagar, and Chhotan Singh (24), a resident of New Ashok Nagar.

According to Deepak Yadav, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), East district, on Friday, police received information regarding an unidentified body of a man in the bushes near Dashmesh Public School, Vashundhra Enclave.

"The throat of the man was slit by a sharp weapon and head of dead body was hit by stone. On Saturday, the deceased was identified as Jiban Mazumdar, who was a rickshaw puller. His rickshaw was also missing," said the DCP.

"During investigation, police analysed the CCTV footage and located the robbed rickshaw. Later, police apprehended Singh on Monday. On his instance, Haldar was also nabbed," said the DCP.

"Interrogation revealed that the deceased was known to Singh. On Thursday, they invited Mazumdar for a party and took him to a ground near Dashmesh Public School," said the DCP.

"The accused killed him with the intention to rob money and rickshaw. One knife, rickshaw and victim's wallet were recovered from his possession," he further added.

Covid-19 vaccination drive: Number falls on Day 2

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government on Monday gave Covid-19 vaccines to more medical staff at various hospitals, after administering shots to over 4,300 healthcare workers on the opening day.

According to officials, the vaccination drive started at the Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital at 10 am. The immunisation drive in Delhi was formally kicked off on Saturday by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal from the LNJP Hospital, the state-run facility

which offered yeoman service during the pandemic last year.

The exercise was carried out at 81 sites, with nearly an even split of government and private hospitals, including six central government facilities - AIIMS, Safdarjung Hospital, RML Hospital, Kalawati Saran

Children Hospital and two ESI hospitals.

The rest 75 centres, spanning all 11 districts of Delhi, include Delhi government-run facilities, such as LNJP Hospital, GTB Hospital, Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital, DDU Hospital, BSA Hospital, Delhi State Cancer Institute, ILBS Hospital; and private facilities, such as Max Hospital, Fortis Hospital, Apollo Hospital and Sir Ganga Ram Hospital.

In Delhi, a total of 4,319 healthcare workers -- 53.3 per cent of those registered -- got the vaccine shots on the first day of the COVID-19 vaccination drive, Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain said on Sunday.

Some people did not turn up for coronavirus vaccination at the last moment, he said, adding that the government

cannot ask anyone to compulsorily take the job.

He also said that the number of vaccination centres in Delhi will be increased from 81 to 175 soon. Jain noted that a similar trend was observed across the country, with around 50 per cent of those registered getting the jobs on the first day.

The vaccine will be administered on four scheduled days of the week -- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. It will not be given on Sunday, and two others days of the week, when other regular vaccination work will be carried out. So, January 18 is the first working day of the week, since the mega exercise was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi across the country.

The Oxford COVID-19 vaccine Covishield is being administered at 75 centres,

while Bharat Biotech-made Covaxin doses given at the remaining six facilities.

The city government has received in total 2.74 lakh doses of the vaccine so far from the Centre, which would be sufficient to cater to 1.2 lakh healthcare workers, Kejriwal had earlier said.

One "severe" and 51 "minor" cases of AEFI (adverse events following immunisation) were reported among health workers who were administered the coronavirus vaccine in Delhi on Saturday, according to official figures.

An AIIMS security guard had developed an allergic reaction after receiving the vaccine. He was kept under observation of doctors, an official had said on Saturday. "His current status is not known... 51 others were discharged after some time," Jain said.

Chadha distributes masks, hand sanitiser to students, teachers

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader and MLA from Rajinder Nagar, Raghav Chadha on Monday visited schools in his constituency and distributed N-95 masks as well as hand sanitiser bottles to students and teachers. About 90 students of Class 10 and 12 attended school for the first time after March 2020.

According to Chadha, coming back to school post-lockdown will be observed with all safety measures.

"Students and teachers have been provided with high-quality N-95 masks and hand sanitisers. We must make every effort to ensure that teaching and learning doesn't stop," he said.

During his interaction with the students, the Rajinder Nagar MLA motivated everyone to observe COVID-19 safety mea-



sure such as the proper wearing of masks, maintaining apt physical distance at all times, and ensuring regular hand hygiene. Chadha said, "The Board exams are an extremely important exam for students of Class 10 and 12. They're at that stage, where they'll need the right kind of guidance before sitting for such an exam. Students are coming to school for the first time since March last year. In fact, the entire year has been extremely tough on everyone. As such, I'm happy that students could make it to school, and I'm certain

everyone's efforts will bear fruit."

Talking about the absolute importance of maintaining safety norms, Chadha said, "As I have always maintained, the first line of defence against COVID-19 is the proper wearing of masks, maintaining apt physical distance and regular hand hygiene. By observing these small steps, we can go a long way in protecting not just ourselves, but also those in our vicinity."

Schools in Delhi had been shut in March 2020, so as to contain the spread of COVID-19. As a result, all teaching and learning had shifted to online classrooms, to ensure the continuance of education. Although schools have been reopened for students of Class 10 and 12, physical attendance is not compulsory, and students will attend school only with the consent of their parents.

AAP: HC came down heavily on MCDs for 'cheating' pensioners

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The senior Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader and spokesperson Saurabh Bhardwaj on Monday said the Delhi High Court has approved the allegations made by AAP that Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) ruled Municipal Corporation Delhi (MCD) has collected Rs 221 crores from the retired employees in the name of cashless insurance in private hospitals but did not pay a single penny to the private hospitals.

Bhardwaj said that Delhi High Court bench of Chief Justice BN Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh has come down heavily on the BJP ruled MCD saying that this is a criminal breach of trust.

He said that the Delhi High Court observed that the BJP ruled MCD has not yet registered any of the hospitals under this scheme this means that the BJP ruled MCD has taken the money from the employees but in reality has not initiated the process of the scheme.

Bhardwaj said that this shameful act of the BJP has created havoc among the 34,000 retired employees of the North MCD and

they are not getting any medical assistance. "On one side they take and waste money of the Arvind Kejriwal government and on the other side they are doing corruption with the money of their own employees; the situation so bad that the BJP's own Central Government also doesn't believe the MCD," he said.

Bhardwaj said, "Some months back the AAP raised an issue that the retired employees of the BJP ruled MCD are facing a lot of problems related to medical assistance. The retired employees of BJP ruled MCD had opted cashless insurance scheme under the BJP-ruled MCD and now they are suffering. The scheme is that while retirement the employee will pay certain money to the MCD by which they will ensure a free treatment in any hospital of Delhi.



wasim Akram, Deputy Director-Special Projects, Wildlife SOS, said, "The stork is under medical observation and will take time to recover from the ordeal."

Following the rescue of the painted stork, the Wildlife SOS Rapid Response Unit rushed to the aid of a bat that had taken shelter in the decline in their natural habitats and further their invasion. It is reassuring to see that more and more people are taking the right steps by reporting such incidents to our wildlife rescue hotline."

Wildlife SOS works towards changing this attitude and sensitising the public to the presence of urban wildlife.

Painted Stork rescued from dogs under medical observation

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A painted stork that was being chased by feral dogs in a Mehrauli park and a bat that had taken up shelter in a temple in Janakpuri were rescued and kept under medical observation.

Two rescuers from an NGO rushed with the required equipment to bring the stork to safety. Medical examination by veterinary doctors revealed that the bird was suffering from dehydration and weakness and is currently under observation.

"Juvenile painted storks have a brownish plumage while the adults have a white plumage with black

striped markings on the wings and bright pink markings on the wing tips," they said.

These birds reside near water bodies such as wetlands, marshes and agricultural fields. They breed in colonies, and are often sighted nesting on the western bank of the Yamuna river, an activist said.

Colonies of wild storks have also been recorded nesting inside The Delhi Zoological park, since decades.

Afroz Alam, the concerned citizen who called Wildlife SOS said, "While sitting in the park, I noticed a bird that was struggling to fly being chased by feral dogs. It looked quite weak and scared, so I tried to chase



away the dogs and called the Wildlife SOS hotline for help."

Kartick Satyanarayan, co-founder and CEO, Wildlife SOS said, "The Painted Stork (Mycteria leucocephala) is a near-threatened species, which is found across the large marshes of the sub-continent. Human-induced factors have led to the decline in their natural habitats and further their invasion. It is reassuring to see that more and more people are taking the right steps by reporting such incidents to our wildlife rescue hotline."

Wildlife SOS works towards changing this attitude and sensitising the public to the presence of urban wildlife.

the number we are collecting information about the absconding truck driver. The body of the victim has been handed over to the family after an autopsy on Monday," said Sandeep Kumar, station house officer (SHO) of Bajghera police station.

The victim was originally from Ambala. The pilot was living in Gurugram along with his wife and two months old son for the last few months. Anmol had joined the Merchant Navy as an engineer and later became a pilot.

A case of rash driving under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) has been registered at Bajghera police station against the absconding driver, the police said.

10TH ROUND OF TALKS TOMORROW Agri Min bats for farm reforms, defends laws

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, on Monday said that the previous Governments could not introduce these reforms because of pressure tactics.

"These reforms will go a long way in elevating the living standard of farmers. Whenever any reform is introduced, impediments are bound to come in the way," Tomar said.

The tenth round of talks between the Centre and 41 protesting farmers' unions is scheduled for Wednesday at 12 noon at Vigyan Bhawan in the heart of the national Capital. Separately, a Supreme Court-appointed panel to resolve the crisis is also scheduled to hold its first meeting on Tuesday. The previous rounds of talks between the Government and farmers have failed to reach any concrete results, as protesting unions have stuck to their main demand for repealing the new laws, but the Government has refused to do so.

"Misinformation is being spread across the country that MSP (minimum support price) is being discontinued



but the government has made it clear that the MSP will continue. Procurement on MSP has also been increased. Pulses-oilseeds have also been included in the MSP. These laws were expected earlier but the previous government could not implement because of pressure. It was the Modi government that took a bold step and brought these laws passed in Parliament... Whenever a good thing happens, there are obstacles," Tomar said while addressing a national conference on recent agriculture reforms, Myths vs Facts organized by Confederation of NGOs of rural India.

The statement is being seen as a reiteration of the government's stand that it was only willing to discuss the laws

clause by clause and amend them suitably - something that has been rejected by farmers, who called the last round of talks "120 per cent failure". The minister added that the laws were made after extensive discussions between experts, scientists and farmer unions based on recommendations of a panel led by Professor MS Swaminathan, the father of India's Green Revolution.

He also cited agriculture budget figures for this fiscal against those in 2013-14 when the PM Modi-led government first came to power to showcase the government's commitment towards farmers' welfare. "There will be a five-fold increase in the agriculture budget," he added.

On eve of the tenth round of meeting, a delegation of farmers representing over 270 farmer producer organizations from Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh and Odisha met Minister of State for Agriculture Parshottam Rupala and appealed not to repeal the laws. Minister of State for Agriculture Kailash Choudhury was also present in the meeting.

Cold wave warning extended till Jan 22 in north India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

North India will continue to reel under the grip of an intense cold wave for a few more days. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday extended the cold wave warning in north India till January 22.

According to the IMD, change in wind direction from easterly to westerly/north-westerly is likely to bring down minimum temperature by 2 to 4 degree Celsius during the next three days and after that rise by 2-4 degree Celsius over the northwest India.

RK Jenamani, the senior scientist, IMD, said that the warning for the cold wave in North India has been extended till January 22. Earlier, the IMD had issued a cold wave warning for January 13-15 and then extended it till January 18. A few days back, the weather bureau had issued a cold wave warning for 13-15 January and then extended it till 18 January. A cold day is when the minimum temperature is less than 10 degrees Celsius and the maximum is at least 4.5 degrees Celsius below normal.

However, Jenamani said that the dense fog spread across northern plains in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand will begin lifting



Vehicles ply in New Delhi in thick fog

Ranjana Dimri | Pioneer

from Tuesday. Dense fog will begin lifting from Tuesday over northern plains in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. This will lead to hotter days and colder nights.

"A fresh Western Disturbance is likely to affect Western Himalayan Region from 22nd January. Under the influence of its interaction with low level easterlies from 23rd January; scattered to widespread rain/snow likely over Western Himalayan Region during 22nd-24th January," the IMD said in a tweet.

"Under the influence of lower level wind reversal from easterly to westerly/north-westerly, Cold Wave conditions likely in isolated pockets over East Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi during 18th-20th and West Uttar Pradesh and north Rajasthan during 19th-21st

January, 2021," the IMD said.

In Rajasthan, the night temperatures dipped to near-zero, and Pilani recorded a temperature of 0.4 degrees Celsius, followed by Churu, which witnessed a temperature of 1.9 degrees Celsius. Meanwhile, dense fog could be witnessed in parts of Uttar Pradesh as major cities such as Agra, Kanpur and Jhansi recorded below six degrees Celsius temperatures, significantly below season's normal. Moderate fog is expected over isolated places in the state over Tuesday and Wednesday. In Punjab and Haryana too, the temperatures remained below normal levels. Bathinda recorded 3.4 degrees Celsius, while Gurdaspur and Faridkot witnessed 7 and 5.5 degrees Celsius respectively. Chandigarh recorded a low temperature of 8.3 degrees Celsius.

Avian influenza confirmed in 14 States: Centre

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday said that avian influenza has been confirmed in 14 States across the country so far. Of them, avian influenza has been confirmed in five states in poultry birds while in nine States it is confirmed in crow/migratory and wild birds.

"Further, avian influenza has been confirmed in samples of the dead heron from Tis Hazari, and in crow from Red Fort, Delhi and advisory in this regard has been issued to Delhi for taking necessary action," it said.

According to the ministry of animal husbandry, culling and sanitization operations have been completed in the epicenters of Latur district in Village Kendrewadi, Ahmedpur, Village Sukani, and Village Tondar (Vajrawadi) in Udgir taluk and village Kurdwadi in AUSA taluk.

Further, in Madhya Pradesh (Districts of Harda and Mandasaur) and Chhattisgarh (District Balod), rapid response teams have been deployed for the culling of poultry birds around one km radius of epi-

centers of the outbreak in poultry. Culling operation of poultry is continuing in the epicenters of Haryana (District Panchkula).

"In Maharashtra, rapid response teams has been deployed and culling of poultry birds is underway in all the affected epicenters," it said.

According to the CRISIL's analysis that rated 87 poultry companies comprising nearly 30 percent of the industry's revenue, the bird flu has chopped around 30 percent off broiler chicken volume, bringing down daily chicken demand in the country from 100 lakh kg in December 2020 to an estimated 70 lakh kg in January 2021.

Apart from this, the rating agency added that wholesale prices of broiler chicken have crashed 20-30 percent from Rs 105-110 per kg in December to Rs 80 per kg. Following this, the overall revenue could decline 30-40 percent in January 2021 due to a fall in realizations and volume.

It noted that as wholesale prices usually correct sharply following such outbreaks, the fall in prices tends to be temporary.

COVID-19 Need to invest in health, funding to WHO: Health Min

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the need to invest in health, and the call for sustainable funding to the World Health Organisation (WHO) so that the global body can fully respond to public health needs, Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan said on Monday.

He pointed out that any proposed increase in budget needs to also consider the global economic impact of the disease.

The Minister, who chaired the 148th session of WHO Executive Board through video conference, said the poorest and most vulnerable are the hardest hit by COVID-19 as the impact of the crisis will reverse hard-won development gains and hamper progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

Stressing the need to ensure fair and equitable distribution of coronavirus vaccines, Dr Harshvardhan said the pandemic has presented an opportunity whereby "health" has been placed on the global agenda of Governments, partners and donors.

He thanked the medical professionals, scientists and researchers as well as other

essential workers around the world who continue working under difficult and challenging circumstances to deal with the pandemic. He also offered his condolences to the families whose dear ones died due to the disease, according to a statement by the health ministry.

"We all know how difficult the year 2020 has been for the whole world... how humanity has battled this crisis with all its might, but it has also been a year in which the wisdom and evidence of science was judiciously adopted. I call the year 2020 as the 'year of science' and a 'year of incredible scientific achievement'.

"In less than 12 months, researchers have characterised a novel illness, sequenced a new virus' genome, developed diagnostics, produced treatment protocols, and established the efficacy of drugs and vaccines in randomised controlled trials," Vardhan was quoted as saying by the ministry.

The Union minister also expressed optimism that in the current year, the unprecedented crisis caused by the pandemic shall be mitigated and successfully reversed through committed political leadership and sustained global cooperation and solidarity.

Avoid alcohol, immunosuppressants before, after receiving vaccine: Docs

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Doctors have warned that people should avoid drinking alcohol or taking immunosuppressant drugs in the days before and after receiving the Covid-19 vaccine to ensure that it works properly.

"People will have to observe extra precautions during the 28 days gap between the two doses for the vaccine to become effective. The beneficiaries should also refrain from visiting crowded places, wear face masks, use sanitizers, minimise contacts and refrain from consuming alcohol or immunosuppressant drugs," said Dr Jugal Kishore Director Professor and Head, Department of Community Medicine, VMMC and Safdarjung Hospital in the national Capital.

"It's a strain on the body. If we want to stay healthy and have a strong immune response, don't drink alcohol," he said.

Dr Ramesh Keshav, Head Cardiac Anesthesia Department at the RML Hospital in the national Capital, who took the first shot on the first day of the roll out of the vaccine drive agreed saying that heavy drinking and drug abuse should in other times otherwise also has to be avoided as they compromise with the body immunity.



He cited the Union Health Ministry's guideline that said that protective levels of antibodies are generally developed two weeks after receiving the second dose of vaccines.

Dr Kishore explained that alcohol consumption, intake of steroids and tobacco may lead to impaired liver function in a person who has been vaccinated and the person's immune response may be compromised. "In such a case, the person may not develop adequate immunogenicity and the purpose of vaccination is defeated," he said.

In fact, existing scientific literature on alcohol and the immune system shows that excess alcohol is an immunosuppressant so people who drink a lot are more susceptible to infections, a view supported by the doctors world over.

"Heavy drinkers have many problems and poor immune function is one of them," immunologist Eleanor Riley at the University of

Edinburgh, UK said. Heavy alcohol use is also associated with a number of other health problems, including an increased risk of heart disease, cancer, and liver disease.

While alcohol should be avoided, a team of researchers in their study has suggested that health behaviours and depression, stress, or loneliness also have been known to alter the body's ability to develop an immune response to vaccines including the new Covid-19 vaccines.

The international organization Association for Psychological Science (APS) said that simple interventions, however, may maximise the vaccine's initial effectiveness. It quoted the study which recommends exercising and getting a good night's sleep in the 24 hours before vaccination. The report has been accepted for publication in the journal Perspectives on Psychological Science.

Health experts say that while vaccination programmes are being rolled out in various countries, not everyone will gain the full benefit immediately. "Environmental factors, as well as an individual's genetics and physical and mental health, can weaken the body's immune system, slowing the response to a vaccine," as per the APS.

CBI arrests NFR officials in ₹1 crore bribery case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has arrested a Chief Administrative Officer of North East Frontier Railway (NFR), Maligaon (Assam), a Deputy Chief Engineer, an Assistant Executive Engineer of NFR, an employee of private company based at Guwahati (Assam) and a private person (relative of the arrested CAO) in a case related to alleged bribery of ₹1 crore.

The agency recovered ₹2.39 crore in cash during searches at 26 locations, including Delhi, Uttarakhand, Assam, Tripura and West Bengal, linked to the five accused persons.

The arrested accused are the CAO Mahendra Singh Chauhan, Deputy Chief Engineer Hem Chand Borah, Assistant Executive Engineer (AEN) Lamxi Kant Verma, an employee of ABCI Infrastructures Pvt. Ltd. Bhupendra Rawat and private person Indra Singh.

"The total amount of ₹2.39 crore was recovered. The searches includes an alleged bribe of ₹1 crore, which exchanged hands on Sunday. During searches, a sum of ₹18.5 lakh and ₹6.5 lakh have been recovered from the premises of Deputy Chief Engineer and Assistant Executive Engineer (AEN) respectively. In addition, ₹60 lakh was recovered from Dehradun and ₹54 lakh from Guwahati premises of CAO, on



It was alleged that the accused were abusing their official position for obtaining illegal gratification. It was further alleged that the arrested director of the private company was in contact with the CAO in various on-going projects in the NFR region

Sunday. Besides this, there has been recovery of jewellery and documents related to property from these locations," the CBI said in a statement.

Earlier, the CBI had registered a case against the accused persons and unknown others under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and Prevention of Corruption Act.

It was alleged that the accused were abusing their

official position for obtaining illegal gratification. It was further alleged that the arrested director of the private company was in contact with the CAO in various on-going projects in the NFR region. It was also alleged that on his demand, the said Director, through his employee, delivered a bribe of Rs.1 crore to the relative of said CAO at his residence in Dehradun. "The accused allegedly exchanging bribe money were caught yesterday. The alleged bribe of Rs One crore was recovered," it said.

The agency had on Sunday busted a major corruption racket. It was alleged that some senior public functionaries of NFR were involved in corrupt practices with private contractors for the on-going projects under the division. The contractors were allegedly being facilitated in awarding the contracts, processing of subsequent bills and release of payments by the public functionaries in lieu of bribe, it further said adding investigation and searches are continuing.

580 adverse events following immunisation

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Out of total of 3,81,305 beneficiaries, who have so far been vaccinated for coronavirus since the rollout of the anti-Covid jab drive on Sunday, at least 580 adverse events following immunization (AEFI) have been reported in the country. The Union Health Ministry said that seven were hospitalised but none of them was serious.

It also said that the death of two persons soon after taking Covid-19 vaccine in Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka was not related to the jab.

Manohar Agnani, Additional Secretary in the Union Health Ministry, while addressing a Press briefing

On Monday, till 5 pm, 1,48,266 beneficiaries were vaccinated across 25 States and Union Territories, taking the total number of the vaccinated people to 3,81,305

here on Monday said that they died due to heart related ailments. Agnani said "a cumulative 580 adverse events following immunization (AEFIs) and seven hospitalizations have

so far been reported in the country since the nationwide COVID inoculation drive which began on January 16. Majority complained fever, headache and nausea, according to the provisional data of ongoing vaccination drive.

He said that of the two deaths reported, death of the 52 year male from Moradabad, UP (who was vaccinated on Sunday and died next day is not related to vaccination as per the post mortem report. Death was caused due to cardiopulmonary disease.

Similarly, he said that the second death which was of a male (43), a resident of Bellary, Karnataka was vaccinated on Saturday and died Monday. "The cause of death is anti-

or wall infarction with Cardiopulmonary failure. The post mortem is being conducted," he said.

The Government however hasn't given any details about the adverse reactions happened for which particular vaccine.

On Monday, till 5 pm, 1,48,266 beneficiaries were vaccinated across 25 states and Union territories, taking the total tall of the vaccinated people to 3,81,305. On the first day ie Saturday around 2 lakh people were inoculated, said Agnani.

Of the 1,48,266 beneficiaries who were administered the vaccine on Monday, 8,656 were from Bihar, 1,822 from Assam, 36,888 from Karnataka, 7,070 from Kerala, 6,665 from

Madhya Pradesh, 7,628 from Tamil Nadu, 10,352 from Telangana, 11,588 from West Bengal and 311 were from Delhi.

In Delhi, three hospitalizations were reported, out of which, two have been discharged, and one with fainting is under observation at Max Hospital, Patparganj.

In Uttarakhand, one of the beneficiaries is stable and under observation at AIIMS Rishikesh, the official stated. In Chhattisgarh, one beneficiary is under observation, while in Karnataka, two cases of hospitalizations were reported, he said. "No case of serious/severe AEFI attributable to vaccination till date," the additional secretary added.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurates Road Safety Month

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, on Monday, inaugurated Road Safety Month where he highlighted the central Government's commitment towards safety.

"Till now, we have been observing National Road Safety Week. But from today, we will observe National Road Safety Month. 70% of deaths are in the age group of 18-45 years," Nitin Gadkari said.

Gadkari also said that there is a need to save lives in the country where 415 people are dying every day due to road accidents.

"If we wait till 2030, 6-7 lakhs more people will die. So, we've made a commitment that before 2025, road accidents and deaths due to it will be brought down by 50% with help of people's participation," Gadkari added.

In 2020, the Central Government had participated in a conference in Sweden, where a vision was conceptu-



Gadkari said that there is a need to save lives in the country where 415 people are dying every day due to road accidents

alised - to have zero road fatalities in India by 2030, he said.

"We had promised to reduce such fatalities by 50%. Tamil Nadu has done it, with a success rate of 53%," Gadkari stated.

Providing details of his ministry about an increased target of per day roads construction, Gadkari said, "We have achieved the target of constructing 30 kilometres of road, I believe that by the end of March, perhaps we will achieve the target of constructing 40 kilometres of road per day."

"World Bank and ADB (Asian Development Bank) approved two projects worth ₹7,000 crore each. We'll receive approval from finance ministry

soon. So, we'll spend ₹14,000 crore to improve black spots - death traps - on roads," the Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways added.

The event at Vigyan Bhawan was also attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union minister VK Singh and chief executive officer (CEO) of Niti Aayog Amitabh Kant.

Globally India is one of the worst-hit nations when it comes to road accidents. India accounts for about 5 lakh road accidents annually, one of the highest in the world, in which about 1.5 lakh people die and another 3 lakh become crippled.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM					
SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD CORP./AUTH	OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	UHBVN	NIT NO. 296/P&D/ 2020-21(BID NO. B-637)	SYSTEM STRENGTHENING OF 11 KV LINES WITH BIFURCATION/TRIFURCATION OF OVERLOADED FEEDERS UNDER OPERATION CIRCLE UHBVN, PANIPAT ON TURNKEY BASIS. CLOSING DATED: 27.01.2021 OPENING DATE: 28.01.2021	www.uhbvn.org.in	01723019143 xendd2@uhbvn.org.in
2	UHBVN	NIT NO. 297/P&D/ 2020-21(BID NO. B-638)	SYSTEM STRENGTHENING OF 11 KV LINES WITH BIFURCATION/TRIFURCATION OF OVERLOADED FEEDERS AND INSTALLATION OF NEW DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS UNDER OPERATION CIRCLE UHBVN, HAZIAR ON TURNKEY BASIS. CLOSING DATE: 27.01.2021 OPENING DATE: 28.01.2021	www.uhbvn.org.in	01723019143 xendd2@uhbvn.org.in
3	UHBVN	NIT NO. 298/P&D/ 2020-21(BID NO. B-639)	SYSTEM STRENGTHENING OF 11 KV LINES WITH BIFURCATION/TRIFURCATION OF OVERLOADED FEEDERS AND INSTALLATION OF NEW DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS UNDER OPERATION CIRCLE UHBVN, KURUKSHETRA ON TURNKEY BASIS. CLOSING DATE: 27.01.2021 OPENING DATE: 28.01.2021	www.uhbvn.org.in	01723019143 xendd2@uhbvn.org.in
4	UHBVN	NIT NO. 299/P&D/ 2020-21(BID NO. B-640)	SYSTEM STRENGTHENING OF 11 KV LINES WITH BIFURCATION/TRIFURCATION OF OVERLOADED FEEDERS AND INSTALLATION OF NEW DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS UNDER OPERATION CIRCLE UHBVN, YAMUNANAGAR ON TURNKEY BASIS. CLOSING DATE: 27.01.2021 OPENING DATE: 28.01.2021	www.uhbvn.org.in	01723019143 xendd2@uhbvn.org.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in RO NO. 1457

Terrorists desperate to disturb communal harmony: J&K DGP

3 killed in Lawaypora last month involved in militancy, says IGP

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Ahead of the Republic Day celebrations in Jammu & Kashmir, Director General of Police Dilbagh Singh on Monday claimed there are reports that the terrorists are keen to carry out some mischief as they are desperate to disturb communal harmony, peace and order in the region.

Chairing a high level security

review meeting of the senior officers of Police, Army, BSE, CRPF and Intelligence agencies here in the police headquarters the DGP said that the year 2021 will have its own challenges as new strategies have been adopted by Pakistan with new terrorist operatives emerging on ground which need to be countered.

Last week, a tunnel was detected along the International border in the

Samba sector by the BSF jawans.

The security agencies are still investigating whether the same was recently used to push armed infiltrators inside the Indian territory or not. On the occasion DGP also directed that the deployments for republic day may be beefed up and the QRTs, escorts, guards will have to be alert.

He directed that all arrangements be made so that 26th January celebrations are held peacefully. He said that there are inputs that the terrorists are keen to carry out some mischief as they are desperate to disturb communal harmony, peace and order. He directed the officers to take care of vulnerable persons and places to thwart the nefarious designs of enemies. He said that well coordinated surveillance systems must be ensured to undo nefarious plans of the enemies.

The high level security review meeting was attended by COS 16 Corps Major General Sharad Kapoor, IGP Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh, IGP CRPF Jammu P. S. Ranpise, DIG Udhampur Reasi Range Sujit Kumar, DIG Doda Kistwar Ramban Range Abdul

Jabbar, DIG BSF Jammu S. K. Singh, SSP Jammu Shreedhar Patil, SSP CIV PHQ Rajesh Bali, SSP CID CI Jammu Tahir Sajad Bhat, SSP CID SB Jammu Rohit Baskotra and other senior officers.

Meanwhile, in Srinagar Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir range, Vijay Kumar said that the three youth killed in Lawaypora gunfight were involved in militancy and that the police will soon present 'concrete evidence' to their parents.

He said that the bodies of slain militants aren't being handed over to families in

view of the Covid-19 pandemic as people would assemble in funerals and break the Covid protocol.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a road safety week function in Srinagar, the IGP said: "We have collected 60 per cent evidence and in next days, we will collect more evidence including the technical one and will first convince the parents of slain trio that their sons were involved in militancy and were providing logistic support to militants."

IGP Kumar while replying to a query that the father of one of the slain youth has demanded the body of his son, said that because of the Covid-19 pandemic, bodies of slain militants aren't being handed over to their families. "If we have to hand over the bodies, people will assemble for funerals and break the covid protocol, which would endanger the lives of people. The bodies of slain militants are being buried in the presence of their family members."

The families of the slain youth have demanded a probe into their killings, saying they were innocent and were killed in a staged gunfight. Several political parties have also demanded a fair probe into the

8 cows mowed down by train, 6 injured

Etawah (Uttar Pradesh): Eight cows were killed and six were injured after speeding Rajdhani Express mowed them down near Tamera Ki Madaiya village on Delhi-Howrah route in Jaswantnagar area of Etawah district.

The incident took place on Sunday, between Jaswantnagar and Balrai railway stations.

According to the villagers, a herd of cattle was grazing near the tracks when 14 of them were mowed down by the Rajdhani Express.

Eight cows died on the spot, while six suffered critical

injuries.

The gateman and villagers alerted the district officials including SDM Jaswantnagar Jyotsana Bandhu, who rushed to the spot. The SDM supervised the rescue operation and shifted the six injured animals to a nearby gaushala for treatment, said the police.

"We have shifted the injured cows to a nearby 'gaushala' for treatment. It appears that the incident occurred due to heavy fog in the area. Further investigations are underway in this regard," said the SDM. **PTI**

BJP, TMC clash at Suvendu rally

Kolkata: In a grim reminder for the Election Commission of India that coming Assembly elections in the State could be splattered in blood, supporters of Trinamool Congress and the BJP clashed at three places with rods and bricks during a three-km saffron rally led by Suvendu Adhikari and Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh in South Kolkata.

The incident tended to mimic the December 10 attack on NJP president JP Nadda's convoy at Diamond Harbour with a group of Trinamool supporters captured on camera throwing bricks at the BJP rally passing down the SP Mukherjee Road some two km away from Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's Kalighat residence.

The initial attack by the TMC men sparked the clash when the BJP men counter attacked, sources said. "The BJP workers then chased them right inside their mohalla (locality) and beat them up," sources said adding the clashes took place near Charu Market, a few hundred yards away from the Tipu Sultan Mosque. The police rushed to the spot and controlled the crowd, sources said.

Subsequently the TMC men too gathered at different places and attacked the BJP men who were returning from the rally. A number of people were injured in the skirmish, sources said adding motorbikes and some shops were

also vandalized.

Reacting to Monday's incident Adhikari a former Bengal Minister said "we had obtained the necessary police permission for this rally but still they made a scanty police bandobast making room for some TMC men to mount the attack... it was a pre-planned attack as a few men were seen pelting stones before disappearing inside the lanes... But these tactics will not work because people of Bengal are with us and they want a change."

Bengal Minister Arup Biswas however blamed the BJP workers "who came from outside and attacked our men who were just fixing party flags for future political programmes." **PNS**

NCB nabs drug peddler, extracts cocaine pellets from his abdomen

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

A Nigerian drug peddler's effort to befool the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) sleuths fell flat on his flat, as the NCB - though the doctors' intervention --had a dozen of Cocaine pellets extracted from abdominal cavity where they had reached after he had gulped seeing the agency officials come to arrest him.

The NCB said here on Monday that the incident took place on January 14 when its officials zeroed in on the accused Nigerian Ifeanyi Chukwu Pius moving around a five-star hotel at Juhu to deliver pellets containing Cocaine.

At that time, Pius had concealed Cocaine pellets in his mouth. Seeing the NCB officials rush towards him, the accused peddler

gulped a dozen pellets - containing 1 gram each of Cocaine and the Cocaine pellets landed in his stomach.

Without losing any time, the NCB officials rushed him to JJ Hospital, where an x-ray and CT scan examination confirmed that the pellets were lodged in his abdominal cavity. The doctors extracted the dozen pellets from his abdomen. The retrieved cocaine pellets were handed over to the NCB officials.

"Accused Nigerian drug peddler was discharged from the hospital today. We are trying to ascertain his antecedents and also who are his associates in Mumbai," NCB's Zonal Director Sameer Wankhede said.

This is the first instance where a peddler was carrying drugs in his mouth and distributing them to the customers.

K'taka's anti-cow slaughter law comes into effect from Monday

Bengaluru: The anti-cow slaughter ordinance came into effect in Karnataka on Monday, with provisions of up to seven years in jail and (or) a fine of up to Rs 10 lakh for those 'illegally' involved in cow slaughtering, smuggling or selling of beef in the State.

"All provisions of the Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Ordinance, 2020 to come into force from January 18," the Karnataka government has said in an order.

The new amended law bans transportation of cattle within Karnataka or to other states. The transportation is allowed only with due permission from the competent authority and against the payment of fee, if the purpose is to use cattle only for the agricultural or animal husbandry activities.

The Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Act, 2020, which envisages a ban on all forms of cattle slaughter and stringent punishment for offenders, is a revised version of a Bill that was passed in 2010 when the BJP was in power.

Subsequently in 2013, Congress came to power and the BJP's 2010 contentious Bill was shelved. The Congress had reverted to the less stringent Karnataka Prevention of Cow Slaughter and Preservation of Animals Act, 1964, which allows cow slaughter with certain restrictions.

While the 1964 law banned the killing of "any cow or calf of she-buffalo", it allowed the slaughter of bullock, buffalo-male or female if it was certified by a competent authority to be above the age of 12 years or incapacitated for breeding or deemed sick.

Due to lack of majority in the Upper House, the ruling BJP was unable to move this Bill there and decided to take an Ordinance route and promulgated the Ordinance on December 28.

After the state Cabinet passed it, the Ordinance was sent for the approval of the Governor Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala. The Ordinance was formally approved on January 5 and it is coming into effect in the state from Monday onwards.

According to the order, three to seven years imprisonment and a fine starting from Rs 50,000 to Rs 5 lakh can be imposed under this law and subsequent repeat offences can invite fines up to Rs 10 lakh. **IANS**

MAHA PANCHAYAT POLLS MVA Govt wrests power in majority of gram panchayats

BJP CLAIMS IT HAS EMERGED AS NUMBER ONE PARTY

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) partners - Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress - wrested power in a majority of the Gram Panchayats in Maharashtra on Monday, amid claims by the Opposition BJP that it had emerged number one party in the elections.

Given that the Gram Panchayat elections are not fought on party symbols, there was no official data on the poll outcome. However, unconfirmed reports indicated that the ruling MVA had collectively captured power in a maximum number of Gram Panchayats in the elections to 14,234 local self-bodies that went to polls.

However, as per the election results available till late in the evening suggested that of the total gram panchayats that went to polls, the candidates in elections in 1,523 local bodies were elected unopposed.

From the results trends available, the ruling Shiv Sena had emerged as single largest party with 1,900 gram panchayats in its kitty already, while its alliance partner NCP had also captured power 1,507 gram panchayats and the Congress had walked away with 1,365 gram panchayats. On its, the BJP competing neck and neck with the Shiv Sena by winning little below or around 1900 gram panchayats.

On his part, Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee Chairman and State Revenue Minister Balasaheb Thorat claimed that the MVA partners had won 80 per cent of the 14,000-odd gram panchayats that went to polls and that the Congress had won a majority in 4000 gram panchayats across the state.

"With these results, it is clear that the people of the state have shown their faith in the work done by the

Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi government in the last one year. The BJP has suffered a crushing defeat in the state and the BJP leaders should accept the defeat with open heart instead of misleading the people by giving false figures," Thorat said.

In a related development, former chief minister and senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnis claimed that the BJP had emerged as the number one party in the Gram Panchayat elections. "In Vidarbha, we have scored a phenomenal victory. In Konkan we are getting good results. Especially in Sindhudurg where Rane family and Ravindra Chavamn worked, we have won 80 per cent of the Grampanchayats," Fadnis said.

Disputing the claims of a victory by Fadnis, Thoart said that the people of the state had shown great faith in the MVA government and the results of today's Gram Panchayat elections have further validated their trust. "In Kolhapur, Nandurbar, Latur, Nanded, Amravati, Yavatmal, Nagpur, Wardha, Chandrapur, Osmanabad, Washim and Buldhana districts, Congress has emerged as the No. 1 party. The people have shown faith in the candidates of Congress, NCP and Shiv Sena by defeating BJP in these elections as well just like they did in the recent legislative council elections," he said.

Thorat said that in the Vidarbha region, the Congress party has achieved great success and has won more than 50 per cent of the Gram Panchayats. The people of Vidarbha have helped Congress gain unprecedented success in these elections. Thorat also expressed confidence that the Congress would emerge as the number one party in Marathwada. The voting percentage and seats of the Congress had increased in Marathwada.

BJP candidates file nomination for UP Vidhan Parishad

Lucknow: All ten BJP candidates for the biennial elections to the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council on Monday filed their nomination papers. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath was present when the candidates filed their nomination papers.

Among the candidates are state BJP chief Swatantra Dev Singh, Deputy Chief Minister Dinesh Sharma, former bureaucrat Arvind Sharma, Laxman Prasad Acharya, Salil Bishnoi, Govind Shukla, Kunwar Manvendra Singh, Ashwini Tyagi, Dharamvir Prajapati and Surendra Chaudhary.

Earlier, all the candidates reached the BJP's state headquarters where they were given a warm welcome by party workers to the beating of dhols. The candidates offered prayers at a temple and then went together to the Vidhan Bhawan, located across the road, to file the nomination papers. **IANS**

Kerala reports 3,346 new Covid cases

Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala on Monday reported 3,346 new Covid-19 cases, said state's Health Minister K.K. Shailaja, adding that the test positivity rate now stands at 10.11 per cent.

As many as 68,399 people are under treatment in various facilities across the state. Ernakulam has the highest number with 574 cases, while Kasargod with the least numbers with 574 infections.

As many as 2,965 positive cases are through contacts. At least 17 fatalities were reported on Monday, pushing the toll in the state to 3,480. 53 health workers have tested positive for the coronavirus on Monday.

2,09,786 people are under observation at various places in the state. Of this 1,98,681 are under institutional quarantine, while 11,105 under observation at various hospitals in the state. **IANS**

SPECIAL TRAINS

In order to clear extra rush of passengers, Railways have decided to run the following fully reserved Special Trains as per details given below:-

02196/02195 Hazrat Nizamuddin - Jabalpur - Hazrat Nizamuddin Mahakoshal Special Express (Daily)					
Train No. 02196		STATIONS		Train No. 02195	
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.
--	14:33	Hazrat Nizamuddin		11.10	--
07:55	--	Jabalpur		--	18:10

Days of Run: 02196 Ex Hazrat Nizamuddin from 22.01.2021 on (Daily) and 02195 Ex Jabalpur from 21.01.2021 on (Daily) to till further advise.

Accommodation: First AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Reserved 2nd seating

Stoppages: Faridabad, Ballabgarh, Palwal, Kosi Kalan, Mathura Jn., Raja ki Mandi, Agra Cantt., Dhaulpur, Morena, Gwalior, Dabra, Datia, Jhansi Jn., Mau Ranipur, Harpalpur, Belatal, Mahoba, Banda Jn., Atarra, Chitrakot, Majhagawan, Jaitwar, Satna, Maihar, Katni and Sihora Road stations.

09269/09270 Porbandar - Muzaffarpur Jn. - Porbandar Special Train (Bi-Weekly)

Train No. 09269		STATIONS		Train No. 09270	
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.
--	19:40	Porbandar		13:45	--
20:10	20:35	Delhi Jn.		12:50	13:05
18:09	--	Muzaffarpur Jn.		--	15:15

Days of Run: 09269 Ex Porbandar from 21.01.2021 on (Thur & Fri) to till further advise and 09270 Ex Muzaffarpur Jn. from 24.01.2021 on (Sun & Mon) to till further advise.

Accommodation: AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Reserved 2nd seating

Stoppages: Jamnagar, Hapa, Rajkot Jn., Wankaner Jn., Surendranagar, Viramgam Jn., Ambli Road, Palanpur Jn., Abu Road., Marwar Jn., Beawar, Ajmer, Jaipur, Bandikui, Alwar Jn., Rewari, Gurgaon, Delhi Cantt., Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Delhi Jn., Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Lucknow, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Siswa Bazar, Bagaha, Narkatiaganj Jn., Bettiah, Sagauli Jn., Bapudham Motihari, Chakia and Mehsi stations.

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

Note: For any kind of information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

Beware of Touts

Always Buy Train Tickets from Railway Counters/ Authorised Railway Travel Agents only

Security Helpline No.

182

Integrated Helpline No.

139

Please join us on

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Always at your service

Visit us at : www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

135/2021

Serving Customers with a Smile

Kerala's Padma Sree awardee does not have a house to stay!

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

It's time for Republic Day and celebrities in Kerala are agog to know who are all those who have made it to the list of this year's list of civilian awards viz Padma Sri, Padma Bhushan etc.

People in Kerala are obsessed with the titles of Padma Sree and other Padma awards. The year 2010 saw film director Ranjith making "Pranchiyettan the Saint", a movie that set the box office on fire. The film is about a businessman in Thrissur who was duped Rs 1.5 crore by a con-man promising the former a Padma Sree award.

The craze for these awards is visible only in Kerala though the titles come with a lot of do and don'ts issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The winner is accorded State honours during his/her final rites with police band playing the Last Post and gun salute. The winner is not expected to display the honorifics anywhere including his/her visiting card.



There are no cash incentives too. But there were reports about a celebrity in the State spending Rs four crore for this title.

Perumbavoor, a small town in Ernakulam district city has a Padma Sree awardee who does not have a house to stay. Acharya Kunhol, a Sanskrit scholar who works round-the-clock for the upliftment of Harijans in the State was awarded Padma Sree last year. But he stays in a thatched shed even one year after the title was conferred on him by the President of India.

Though it is customary on

the part of the State administration to congratulate the awardee, nobody from the Kerala Government had extended that courtesy to him till date. "Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan issued a statement condemning the Centre for not awarding the titles to at least one person in the list of nearly 50 persons that was submitted by Kerala Government. No need to specify that all the names in the list were strong critics of Narendra Modi. But Vijayan failed to congratulate Acharya Kunhol," said K K Sudhakaran, secretary, Tapasya and a close associate of the Acharya.

Last year, The Pioneer had reported about the pathetic situation of the hut in which the Acharya stays. He had expressed his helplessness in offering a cup of black coffee when a group of media persons had called on him. "I have no complaints against anybody and am content with whatever the God has given me," said the Acharya who keeps himself busy by teaching Sanskrit to the poor children around. Though he has contacts with all the leading politicians in the State, the Acharya has not approached any one of them with requests for help.

His children are all named after persons who revolutionized the world through selfless services. Ambedkar, Golda Meir, Martin Luther King, Sai Lakshmi, Devadas and Amritanandamayi!

Bobby Chemmannur, a business baron from Kerala's Thrissur has said that he was approached by people in the government with the offer of a Padma Sree. "But when they demanded Rs 50 lakh to meet the initial expenses, I backed out. Later I heard a Kerala entrepreneur who paid Rs 4.5 crore was honored with a Padma Sree," said Chemmannur who is known for his friendship with late Diego Maradona. He refused to divulge details about the persons and the year of the incident.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

Rakhi

General Public is hereby informed that one girl **Namely: Rakhi, D/o: Chotte Lal, R/o: H.No. 577, Lal Flat, Sector 3, DSIIDC, Bawana, Delhi**, has been missing/kidnapped since **18.12.2020** at 09:00 am from the area of P.S. Bawana, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 47A dated 20.12.2020** has been lodged at P.S. Bawana, Delhi. The description of the missing girl are as under: **Age:** 19 years, **Sex:** Female, **Height:** 5'3", **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Brown colour shirt, red colour sweater & legging and black colour shoes in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639 **SHO**
DP/695/ON/2020 **P.S. Bawana, Delhi**
Ph.: 011-27752534, 7065036321

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Pappu@Sonu, S/o Dula Ram, R/o: Ps. Ghad, Village Ram Nagar, Tehsil Devli, Distt. Tonk, Rajasthan** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 261/2011 U/s 454/380/411/341 IPC**, registered at P.S. Maurya Enclave, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued (unexecuted), stating that the said **Pappu@Sonu** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Pappu@Sonu** has absconded (or is concealing him self to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proceeding u/s 82 Cr.P.C. has been initiated in this case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Mohit** accused of **FIR No. 261/2011 U/s 454/380/411/341 IPC**, P.S. Maurya Enclave, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer said complaint on or before **03.03.2021**.

By Order
Sh. Babru Bhan
Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate,
(North West) Room No. 101
1st Floor, Rohini Courts, New Delhi
DP/602/NW/2021

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Krishna

General Public is hereby informed that a boy namely **Krishna, S/o Santosh Ram, R/o Batasho Wali Gali Bawana, Delhi, Age:** 10 years, **Height:** 4', **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built:** Thin, **Face:** Long, **Hair:** Black, **Wearing:** Red colour Jacket and Red colour Pajama, Hawaii Chappal in his feet drowned in Bawana Canal since **19.12.2020**. In this regard a vide **DD No. 63A dated 19.12.2020** has been registered at **P.S. Bawana, Delhi**.

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

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.nic.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 **SHO**
Fax : 011-24368639 **P.S. Bawana, Delhi**
DP/704/ON/2020 **Ph. :** 011-27752534 / 7065036321

Diaspora power

First the United Kingdom, now in the United States. Members of the Indian diaspora are rising to power



It is said about the Indian diaspora in the Western world, whether they are first-generation immigrants or third or even fourth-generation immigrants, that they have a humongous amount of influence compared to the size of the 'Indian' community in those countries. In Kamala Harris, a half-Jamaican, half-Tamilian woman, a person of partial Indian ethnicity (Harris identifies as 'Black' despite being raised by her Tamilian mother) is rising to one of the most powerful offices in the United States (US) and many openly predict that this role is an audition for a potential run as President very soon. Harris also speaks fluent Sanskrit and Tamil and is believed to be a distant cousin of India's Foreign Minister S Jaishankar.

Along with Harris, we are now informed that over 20 Indian-origin members of the Biden-Harris Administration will start their jobs on January 20, and in doing so this administration has come a long way from the lily-White Trump Administration and even the Obama Administration where actor Kalpen Modi (stage name 'Kal Penn') was the most notable American of Indian origin. Harris however, is not the first Indian in a major office of state in a western nation, that would be the Indian-origin ministers in Boris Johnson's Cabinet, Chancellor Rishi Sunak and Home Secretary Priti Patel. While we in India should feel proud of the achievements of our brethren on foreign shores, many of whom have overcome institutional racism to rise to the top, we must not forget a couple of things. While many of these people might be proud of their Indian heritage, none of them owe anything to the country of their origin. Indeed, if any of them come from lower down the social ladder in India, they might even have an antithetical view and might be hostile towards India.

In fact, it is very likely that Indian-origin politicians and bureaucrats in power in the West, might use that power to put a squeeze on Indian policymaking, indeed some like US Representative Pramila Jayapal have tried doing just that. That said, global realpolitik and the western world's need to position India as a bulwark against China might make all this posturing a moot point. The Quad alliance between Australia, Japan, the US and India is a reality that will not go away. But, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's miscalculation in supporting US President Donald Trump during his 2019 visit to Houston and Trump's visit to India last year, might have potential after-effects for Indian policymakers going forward. And while celebrating the success of Indians in the US we must not forget a few realities that we tend to ignore. Many Indians tend to "ghettoise" when they go to the West, something clearly visible in cities like San Jose, California and Edison, New Jersey, it would be remiss of us in India to ignore this fact. It is also true that a vast majority of Indians in the western world are not just upper caste immigrants but also extremely insular. Indeed social caste mobility in India is easier than in communities who have immigrated to the West as their social outlook is stuck in the past while India has progressed.

OTT Tandav

Though the saffron brigade might be trying to derive mileage, but OTT content does need to be cleaned up



The ongoing controversy over Amazon Prime's new web series 'Tandav' is not something new to the country and similar contentious debates took place at the time of the release of movies like the Deepika Padukone-starrer *Padmaavat* and Aamir Khan's *PK*. The political drama, in which Saif Ali Khan, Dimple Kapadia and Mohammed Zeeshan Ayyub have played lead roles was released on the Over-the-Top (OTT) media platform on January 15. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders have taken umbrage at a scene in which Ayyub performs a play as Lord Shiva. With Maharashtra BJP MLA Ram Kadam filing a police complaint at Mumbai's Ghatkopar Police Station and seeking the boycott of the series, it becomes amply clear that the row is politically-motivated and the saffron brigade will leave no stone unturned to derive maximum mileage out of the issue. Particularly in view of the forthcoming West Bengal elections, as the saffron party portray's itself as the "protector" of the faith. That Kadam is refusing to budge from his demand of a boycott of the series despite the cast and crew issuing an "unconditional" apology on Monday evening, clarifying that they did not intend to offend religious beliefs or sentiments, is a clear indication of this. They also referred to parts of a disclaimer that is an industry standard and said 'Tandav' was a "work of fiction" and that "any resemblance to acts and persons and events is purely coincidental." Kadam has now gone one step ahead and asked all Hindus to shun Amazon's shopping site and content platform. So obviously he is spoiling for a fight. Fortunately, an online series rules out the possibility of aggressive Hindu fringe elements threatening the audience and burning movie theatres.

Another BJP leader Manoj Kotak, the MP from Mumbai North-East, wrote to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) expressing strong objections to the web series. He too, demanded an immediate ban on the streaming of the show. With the BJP being in power at the Centre, the I&B Ministry has reportedly sought a response from Amazon Prime officials. The Government recently brought OTT platforms such as Netflix, Amazon Prime Video and Disney+ Hotstar, besides other online news and current affairs content, under the ambit of the I&B Ministry, giving it powers to regulate policies and rules for the digital space. The advocates of free speech have always underscored that the right to freedom of speech and expression cannot be curtailed and the Indian Constitution guarantees it. Though one agrees with this sentiment, and the fact that the right to expression is sacrosanct, it doesn't give anyone a licence to hurt the religious sentiments of any community by insulting their gods and goddess or by portraying them in a bad light. But that said, one cannot but help wonder how is it that "Hindu sentiments" were never as fragile as they are today. Has not India always been a country that has been proud of its tolerant nature and the fact that we follow the Gandhians principles of "ahimsa." Are we now a nation that is deeply divided and intolerance towards even an imagined slight is the new normal? How then, are we any different from those who waged a war against Charlie Hebdo? Needless to say, the controversy surrounding 'Tandav' and the slight, real or imagined, has provided more fodder to fringe elements who thrive on disturbing communal harmony and targeting minorities. As a result of this, two FIRs have been registered against the makers of the show, one in Mumbai and the other in Lucknow. Reportedly, the charges include promoting enmity between different religious groups, race, destruction, damage or defilement of a place of worship or an object held sacred. Things are definitely going to be tough for the makers of 'Tandav'. But one wonders why the upholders of Indian culture and values don't raise a hue and cry over the kind of content that we see on the OTT platform, which is saturated with violence, nudity, abuses, derogatory gestures and remarks. It would be wonderful to clean up the content overall, instead of just focusing on religion.

Another BJP leader Manoj Kotak, the MP from Mumbai North-East, wrote to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) expressing strong objections to the web series. He too, demanded an immediate ban on the streaming of the show. With the BJP being in power at the Centre, the I&B Ministry has reportedly sought a response from Amazon Prime officials. The Government recently brought OTT platforms such as Netflix, Amazon Prime Video and Disney+ Hotstar, besides other online news and current affairs content, under the ambit of the I&B Ministry, giving it powers to regulate policies and rules for the digital space. The advocates of free speech have always underscored that the right to freedom of speech and expression cannot be curtailed and the Indian Constitution guarantees it. Though one agrees with this sentiment, and the fact that the right to expression is sacrosanct, it doesn't give anyone a licence to hurt the religious sentiments of any community by insulting their gods and goddess or by portraying them in a bad light. But that said, one cannot but help wonder how is it that "Hindu sentiments" were never as fragile as they are today. Has not India always been a country that has been proud of its tolerant nature and the fact that we follow the Gandhians principles of "ahimsa." Are we now a nation that is deeply divided and intolerance towards even an imagined slight is the new normal? How then, are we any different from those who waged a war against Charlie Hebdo? Needless to say, the controversy surrounding 'Tandav' and the slight, real or imagined, has provided more fodder to fringe elements who thrive on disturbing communal harmony and targeting minorities. As a result of this, two FIRs have been registered against the makers of the show, one in Mumbai and the other in Lucknow. Reportedly, the charges include promoting enmity between different religious groups, race, destruction, damage or defilement of a place of worship or an object held sacred. Things are definitely going to be tough for the makers of 'Tandav'. But one wonders why the upholders of Indian culture and values don't raise a hue and cry over the kind of content that we see on the OTT platform, which is saturated with violence, nudity, abuses, derogatory gestures and remarks. It would be wonderful to clean up the content overall, instead of just focusing on religion.

Good to focus on skill

The NEP is more in tune with national priorities and contemporary realities. It pays attention to areas that had been neglected for long



A SURYA PRAKASH

After decades of intransigence, the Union Government and policymakers in the education sector have come up with a National Education Policy (NEP) which is more in tune with national priorities and contemporary realities. This is so because the new policy pays special attention to three very important areas that have been neglected for long — holistic and multidisciplinary education, vocational education and impartation of skills and equalisation of opportunity for digital education.

The Centre has drafted education policies in the past. However, like many things which were thought of earlier, these plans have fallen by the wayside for the lack of foresight, funds and commitment. Eventually they just ended up as a string of shibboleths — high sounding but vacuous prose — just meant for the printer contracted by the Government to make a killing!

But, this time it is different because it seeks to diagnose and confront the real problems that we face in the field of education, be it early childhood care and learning, curriculum and pedagogy in schools, language education, holistic and integrated learning, vocational education and promotion of Indian languages, art and culture. It is difficult in a single column to cover all aspects of this policy, so better limit the attention to just a few aspects like holistic, multidisciplinary and vocational education.

The NEP talks about the multidisciplinary approach of universities like Takshashila and Nalanda where good education meant good knowledge of 64 "kalaas" or arts which included singing, painting, chemistry, mathematics, medicine, engineering and vocational subjects such as carpentry, cloth-making and soft skills such as communication and debating. In other words, it was holistic knowledge — complete, comprehensive education that gave an individual more than rudimentary understanding of various disciplines of learning and equipped him/her for life's challenges. The NEP says: "The very idea that all branches of creative human endeavour, including mathematics, science, vocational subjects, professional subjects and soft skills should be considered arts has distinctly Indian origins." Therefore, this ancient understanding of education "must be brought back to Indian education, as it is exactly the kind of education that will be required for the 21st century."

All those responsible for this short-sighted policy must be identified and asked why they subjected millions of Indian students to such mindless compartmentalisation. The second issue is vocational training. Since Independence, Indians were told that blue-collar jobs like running a lathe machine or being a fitter or turner in a factory; operating a bulldozer or heavy earth-moving equipment; carpentry, plumbing, basic electrical work and so on were meant for the less educated or those who passed out of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). Good middle



This statement of intent in the NEP, if implemented with utmost commitment, will revolutionise higher education in the country, which fell into the rut of clearly separating the arts and the sciences for decades as if these disciplines were enemies of one another. This policy was pursued with such ferocity that even students who acquired Masters' and Ph.D degrees felt a sense of incompleteness to their education and understanding of the world, and consequently lost out to their peers in the western world who were blessed with holistic education.

It is indeed sad that our politicians, bureaucrats and educationists persisted with such a policy that segmented knowledge, put students into a strait jacket and virtually prohibited them from venturing into areas outside their syllabus.

All those responsible for this short-sighted policy must be identified and asked why they subjected millions of Indian students to such mindless compartmentalisation. The second issue is vocational training. Since Independence, Indians were told that blue-collar jobs like running a lathe machine or being a fitter or turner in a factory; operating a bulldozer or heavy earth-moving equipment; carpentry, plumbing, basic electrical work and so on were meant for the less educated or those who passed out of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). Good middle

THE CENTRE HAS DRAFTED EDUCATION POLICIES IN THE PAST. HOWEVER, LIKE MANY THINGS WHICH WERE THOUGHT OF EARLIER, THESE PLANS HAVE FALLEN BY THE WAYSIDE FOR THE LACK OF FORESIGHT, FUNDS AND COMMITMENT

class boys would go to college, acquire their degrees (with very little skills) and become "boxwallahs" or private sector executives or teachers. The less fortunate among them would become Government clerks, whereas the smarter ones would take civil service exams and become babus. Further, "safe" Government jobs became the ultimate dream for the youth. The system did not ignite the entrepreneurial instincts of students or challenge

them to explore new avenues. Thus, persons with passable language skills and a smattering of English were the smart guys with good incomes, whereas the ones with real skills — the lathe operators, the electricians and so on, who ran our industries and the manufacturing sector, who kept the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rising — belonged to a lower grade, the working class.

This anomaly persisted for decades because the Indian middle class declared that a degree certificate was a must to enter its precincts and to be in its marriage market. This could have been easily set right by awarding degrees after three-year training at an ITI to those passing out. Finally, the new NEP recognises this lacuna and seeks to remedy it.

It is indeed a shame that this convoluted middle class habit of honouring skill-less education was allowed to persist for over 70 years after Independence.

This has cost us dearly, because the 12th Five-Year Plan estimated that only five per cent of the Indian workforce in the age group of 19-24 years received formal vocational education, whereas it was 52 per cent in the US, 75 per cent in Germany and 96 per cent in South Korea. That means the most advanced nations have a high percentage of youth with vocational education, something that the Indian middle class and policymakers scoffed

at. This happened because vocational education was focused largely on grade eighth dropouts or students in class 11 and 12 who opted for vocational training.

As a result "vocational education is perceived to be inferior to mainstream education and is meant largely for students who are unable to cope with the latter", says the NEP. It also seeks to overcome the social status hierarchy associated with vocational education.

So, now, the plan is that 50 per cent of students through school and higher education should have vocational education by 2025. It will also be possible for students with vocational skills to get Bachelor's degrees. Alternately, students in undergraduate courses can join four-year multidisciplinary programmes and walk out with worthwhile skills apart from their degrees. In short, the apartheid created by the education system separating the skilled and qualified certificate holders from the unskilled but "packaged degreewallahs" will come to an end. The day we see the skilled workers getting their due, India will take a big leap forward.

We must now keep the pressure on the Government and policymakers to see that the NEP is implemented with utmost honesty and diligence.

(The writer is an author specialising in democracy studies. The views expressed are personal).

SOUNDBITE

Today, India is taking major decisions with confidence. It is not only doing things bigger but also better.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi

To protect the lives and health of the people I will get the situation back to normal as soon as possible. What is important is to provide necessary medical services.



Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga

Apart from nepotism and the movie mafia, the most awful thing about being an actor is night shifts. When the Sun rises you go to sleep.



Actor Kangana Ranaut

The boy has become a man on this tour. Siraj, leader of the attack in his first Test series and he has led from the front.



Former cricketer Virender Sehwag

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SC leaves Govt in a tizzy

Sir — It is said that the Supreme Court on Monday refused to pass any order on the farmers' proposed tractor rally which seeks to disrupt Republic Day (R-Day) celebrations on January 26 in the Capital. The apex court Bench headed by the Chief Justice of India (CJI) said that the proposed tractor rally by the farmers protesting on the borders comes under the category of "law and order" and Delhi Police is the first authority to decide who should be allowed to enter the Capital and it was not the job of the Supreme Court. CJI Bobde's order came as a great setback to the Centre. Now, the chances of violence on R-Day have increased manifold as the police might deal with the farmers in a high-handed manner which will in turn instigate the cultivators to retaliate with force. Further, if any rally or protest by the farmers disrupts the R-Day parade, it will be an embarrassment to the country as it is associated with the nation's pride. With this the Centre and the Delhi Police are in fix as they have no clue what to do now. **Bhagwan Thadani** Mumbai

Inoculation is a turning point in the COVID war

The nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive launched on January 16 has put the country in immunisation mode and marked a turning point in the fight against the pandemic. It was, literally and figuratively, a shot in the arm. In this pandemic time the vaccines are the best thing to happen to us. Vaccines are lifesavers and constitute an effective pharmacological intervention for providing immunity against the Coronavirus that has caused a global health emergency. They will result in great gains in public health as time goes by. It is true that vaccination is yet to pick up pace in many parts of the country. While the plan is to inoculate 100 people in each centre daily it may not always be possible to reach the set target. With time, the picture will become less hazy. People should have confidence in the vaccines. They must shed their inhibitions and turn up at the vaccination sessions. Apart from logistics and practicalities, people need to have trust in the safety and effectiveness of vaccines and realise the importance of immunisation to make the drive a success. It is important to allay fears and uncertainties. In this context, dissemination of information assumes



added importance.

The country's top political executives should consider taking the job to inspire confidence, as was done by Joe Biden and many other world leaders. The Government must also consider leaving the choice of the vaccine to the recipients. It should give the country's impoverished citizens the vaccine for free. **G David Milton** Tamil Nadu

Why hurt feelings?

Sir — Taking cognisance of complaints that Hindu gods and goddesses have been ridiculed in the web series 'Tandav', the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting sought an explanation from the online streaming platform Amazon Prime Video. In the end the series has proved to be one more case of controversial cinema. It is quite clear that such shows are produced only to create controversies and get the eyeballs. It seems that the makers of the web series have deliberately mocked Hindu gods and disrespected Hindu religious sentiments for their own selfish gains. The show clearly reveals a lackadaisical attempt at portraying India's diverse polity. India is the land of peace, harmony and tolerance. Nobody has the right to hurt the sentiments of a religious community just for the sake of entertainment. So, it is in the interest of everyone that such films should be outrightly banned. **Krishnan Ramani** Coimbatore

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Leading from the front

During the Coronavirus pandemic the SCR showed the country how to turn an adversity into an opportunity



RAM ACHARYA

The COVID-19 pandemic may have severely impacted the Indian economy but the South Central Railway (SCR) rose to the occasion by running scores of Shramik Special trains for ferrying thousands of migrant labourers out of Hyderabad to cities and towns in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Odisha. Sensing the growing and urgent nationwide clamour for immigrant labourers to be allowed to head home by train — as opposed to them being forced to trek kilometres (km) on foot, with many of the workers dying in the process — the SCR was first off the mark. It took the initiative of helping out the hungry, impoverished and tired workers who had reached a breaking point. The SCR began an immigrant labour special train from Lingampally near Hyderabad to Hatia in Jharkhand as early as May 1, 2020, followed by 242 special trains from its stations located in Telangana, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh to various stations in North and North-West India. During the next two months, the SCR transported over 3,13,500 passengers and reportedly at the peak of the operations, 43 Shramik Specials were rolled out in a short span of 12 hours.

In the midst of the raging Coronavirus pandemic, the SCR created a safe environment for the labourers who were heading back to their hometowns and villages. The SCR ensured social distancing, repeated sanitising of all trains, use of hand sanitisers by all, contactless thermal scanning and ticket checking through cameras by the ticket checking staff. Plus, the employees deputed at stations wore Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) suits, gloves and facial shields, in order to ensure that they and the passengers remained safe from the virus. They also made sure that the passengers wore masks and followed other COVID protocols. If they had not done so, the consequences for the people returning home and the towns and villages would have been disastrous. Special arrangements for food at specified intervals were made for originating trains as well as those that were passing through, with the support of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and several Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). As though the COVID-19 contagion was not enough of a crisis for the nation to deal with, disaster struck on May 5 when a major gas leak was reported at Vizag. Consequently, the movement of all trains, including the Shramik Specials had to be halted through the city, and they had to be diverted on alternative routes after a short delay.

However, the shutting down of passenger trains was an opportunity for the SCR to run more of freight and special parcel trains, allowing it to earn revenue when general economic activity was on the decline, nationwide. Weekly special parcel trains were run from the New Kacheguda goods shed near Hyderabad to New Guwahati, carrying fish, dry fish, eggs, lemon, oil, ghee and so on. The COVID-19 outbreak offered the Railways an opportunity to capture new freight, too and it began loading industrial salt from the Kakina Sea Ports Limited; rice from Nagireddipalli; pulses from Kadapa; onions from Nagarj; dry chillies from Reddyapalem and last but not the least turmeric from Nizamabad, all destined for Bangladesh.

The all-India rail traffic having been reduced to less than half of its peak levels enabled the SCR to carry out a major overhaul of the iconic bridge over the mighty Godavari River. Built in 1977, the bridge was in need of repair and a major overhaul, but it was almost impossible to shut it down for extended periods on such a busy route. Due to the pandemic, the repair work was undertaken after a gap of almost 43 years, including track renewal over the entire length of the three-km-long bridge, by ensuring a 36-hour complete shutdown of traffic. Track replacement work was carried out with the aid of Plasser Quick Relaying System (QRS) machines after carrying out deep screening work over all the six spans, while the road traffic continued on the lower deck. Similarly, scissors crossovers that had been laid way back in 1970 in Kazipet with wooden sleepers, could now be replaced with Pre-Stressed Concrete (PSC) sleepers, thanks to the possibility of shutting down traffic for 72 hours, which was unthinkable before the pandemic hit the country. Similarly, the Vijayawada yard, a major facility for the North-South and East Coast freight movement had wooden sleepers on its north and south end turnouts. These were replaced with PSC ones during the lockdown period. In all, 8,257 km of track was patrolled on foot and the sidings were completed. Thanks to the steep decline in passenger traffic, 44 km of track between Akola and Akot of the vital North-South link of Akola-Khandwa was converted from metre to broad gauge and 149 km of existing single-line track was doubled.

With five major hospitals and 44 health units spread over its network, the SCR could play a key role in providing critically needed facilities such as quarantine centres, in which 1,017 beds were set up in a short span of three weeks. The SCR's premier and oldest workshop belonging to the era of the Nizam State Railways also rose to the occasion by building automatic hand sanitiser dispensers, foot-operated taps and water coolers. These were located at public places such as canteens and main gates, keeping the SCR staff and the passengers safe and earning the SCR tonnes of goodwill. During the pandemic the SCR showed the country how to turn any adversity into an opportunity.

(The writer is former member, Railway Board. The views expressed are personal.)

BRINGING KARNATAKA'S MARATHI-SPEAKING AND CULTURAL REGION INTO MAHARASHTRA WILL BE A TRIBUTE TO SOLDIERS MARTYRED IN THE BORDER WAR.

—MAHARASHTRA CHIEF MINISTER
 UDDHAV THACKERAY

POINT COUNTERPOINT



REGIONALISM AND TALK OF LINGUISTICS ARE DETRIMENTAL TO THE UNITY OF THE COUNTRY. I CONDEMN THIS.

—KARNATAKA CHIEF MINISTER
 BS YEDIYURAPPA

India must stand its ground

All objections raised by the USTR on the DST levied by India on foreign tech firms are baseless. The Govt must not yield to the pressure tactics of the US administration by withdrawing the tax



UTTAM GUPTA

In its findings on the Section 301 probe conducted under the US Trade Act, 1974, the US Trade Representative (USTR) has *inter alia* concluded that India's digital services taxes (DST) or the so-called equalisation levy (EL) at the rate of two per cent, unfairly targets US companies. The USTR raised three aspects that, it alleges, are inconsistent with global tax principles: First, the levy on US companies has extra-territorial application; second, DST is a tax on the firm's revenue, not its income; and third, it subjects US companies to double taxation.

The above findings could lead to the US imposing duties on Indian goods; restrictions on import of goods and services; restrictions/denial on issuance of service sector authorisations; asking India for compensatory trade benefits and taking binding commitments from New Delhi to phase out the levy.

The stance taken by the US Administration is untenable and totally unjustified. At the outset, let us take a close look at the DST and the reason why India had to introduce it.

The operations of multinational corporations (MNCs) are transnational, with entities located in several countries involving a high-level of interdependence and cross-border flow of goods and services between them, as also direct supplies to retailers and consumers. For firms such as Google, Facebook and Amazon, who do business in digital mode, physical boundaries get blurred. They structure their investment arms through a maze of subsidiaries held outside India in low-tax jurisdictions such as Singapore, Mauritius and Ireland among others.

These technology giants invoice Indian customers through these offshore entities despite having significant revenue, users or paying customers in the country, even as their Indian entity is crafted more like a service company or commission agent to the parent company located abroad. This helps them in booking an overwhelming share of revenues in the parent company (registered in a tax haven) while a very small portion of service/commission revenue and income is reported in the entity registered in India.

In short, these firms make money from their operations in India but don't pay taxes to the Government. On the other hand, India-based e-commerce operators are subject to taxes in the country for revenue generated from the Indian market.

To address this anomaly, in 2016, the Narendra Modi Government introduced EL with an intent to tax Business to Business (B2B) and e-commerce/digital transactions. This tax is levied at six per cent on the payment made by a resident firm to foreign e-commerce companies for online advertisements run on the latter's platform. While making a payment, the resident firm has to deduct tax from the consideration payable and deposit it to the department.

Through an amendment to the Finance Act, 2020, the scope of EL was extended to all sales, gross receipts or turnover of non-residents not having a Permanent Establishment (PE) in a fixed place of business normally located in the territory of the source country, who is providing the online sale of goods or provision of services or both to a person residing in India or a non-resident in specific circumstances, such as the sale of advertisement targeted to the Indian market or sale of data collected from it. This levy is at two per cent on the sum received or receivable by an e-commerce oper-

“IT IS IRONICAL THAT DIGITAL GIANTS FIRST USE A DISINGENUOUS ARCHITECTURE TO SHOW REVENUE GENERATED FROM INDIAN OPERATIONS AS HAPPENING IN FOREIGN JURISDICTIONS AND THEN, CLAIM THAT THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NO RIGHT TO TAX THEIR PROFITS. BUT, THEY AND THE US ADMINISTRATION CAN'T GET AWAY FROM THE FACT THAT THEY ARE MAKING PROFIT FROM THEIR OPERATIONS ON INDIAN SOIL. HENCE, THEY ARE LIABLE TO TAX HERE



ator and is payable directly to the Central Government on a quarterly basis.

Though the USTR has objected to the two per cent DST, it is silent on the six per cent EL on online advertising revenue. All the aforementioned objections raised by it are untenable. At the outset, the levy does not discriminate against any US company as it applies equally to all non-resident e-commerce operators, irrespective of their country of residence. Just because out of the 119 companies likely to be taxed, 72 per cent happen to be American, does not mean that the latter alone have been targeted.

Second, contrary to what is claimed by the USTR, the levy is applied only on sales occurring in the territory of India through digital means. Consequently, the charge that it has extra-territorial application is baseless.

It is ironical that the digital giants first use a disingenuous architecture to show revenue generated from Indian operations as happening in foreign jurisdictions and then, claim that the Indian Government has no right to tax their profits. But, they and the US administration can't get away from the fact that they are making profit from their operations on Indian soil. Hence, they are liable to tax here. In the normal course, for a foreign firm having a PE from where it conducts transactions — including sales made in India — and maintains accounts, receipts, expenditure, profit and so on for local operations, the tax department has a smooth sail. But technological giants don't have a PE on Indian soil. To overcome this hurdle, in 2018, a committee set up by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) had mooted the concept of digital permanent establishment (DPE). The Income-Tax Act pro-

vides for levy of tax on the profit attributed to the Indian operations of such offshore enterprises in the country. The committee proposed tax at the rate of 30-40 per cent, depending on the user base and revenues (only firms with a user base over 2,00,000 would be considered).

As a follow up, in the Finance Act 2018, the Government proposed that “such offshore firms should be taxed in India if they have a market presence above a threshold to be defined in terms of their customer base and revenue.” But this needs an amendment to India's tax treaties with all its trade and investment partners. Till that is done (a time-consuming process) the Government has levied tax on the amount received or receivable by an e-commerce operator.

This brings us to the third charge levied by the USTR: “The DST taxes a company's revenue, not its income.” Ideally, the profits (or income) made by the foreign entity from its operations in India should be taxed. However, in view of the digital giants not having a PE here and the concept of DPE yet to get incorporated in tax treaties with India's trade and investment partners or till such time an agreement at the international level which is acceptable to all is reached, a levy on the revenue is the only logical way forward. However, efforts are already being made under the aegis of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to arrive at a so-called base erosion profit shifting (BEPS) framework agreement. The OECD had released a draft report on “taxing digital companies” on October 9, 2019, however, progress got stalled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As for the accusation of US companies being subject to double taxation, it

is for them to sort out with the country where it is incorporated (or country of residence). Merely because they pay tax in the country of residence resulting in double taxation, it can't be a valid basis for denying tax to a jurisdiction where it is legitimately due (India). Even so, several countries of residence happen to be low or nil tax jurisdictions or they provide set-off for taxes paid by MNCs in the country of operation, effectively ensuring nil tax.

India's right to collect tax is also in sync with the stance taken by the OECD under the BEPS framework agreement. It states: “Profits of MNCs should be available for taxation in the country where their customers are, irrespective of any physical presence in that market, and that a formula should be evolved for such taxation.”

To conclude, all objections raised by the USTR on the two per cent DST levied by the Indian Government on foreign technology companies are baseless and unsubstantiated. India must not yield to the pressure tactics of the US administration by withdrawing the tax.

At the same time, India should work for early finalisation of the BEPS framework agreement at the OECD. It should evolve a consensus on acceptance of the DPE concept and also get ready with a criteria for treating a foreign company as a DPE. The criteria should give appropriate weight to three crucial parameters i.e. the number of users, paying customers or annual revenue. The tax rate on such companies — treated as DPE — should be equal to the rate applicable to domestic companies to ensure fair play and non-discrimination.

(The writer is a New Delhi-based policy analyst. The views expressed are personal.)

Lady Luck has been very kind to Biden

Joe's years in office will be enlivened by a Republican civil war, quite likely ending in a permanent split of the American Right



GWYNNE DYER

US President-elect Joe Biden is thrice-blessed. Not only did he win the Democratic nomination and then the presidential election but as a result of the events of January 6 — when supporters of outgoing President Donald Trump attacked Capitol Hill — he takes office when the Republican Opposition is in utter disarray and likely to stay that way for a long time. None of that was foreordained, or even very likely.

“Just days ago the media and the pundits had declared this candidacy dead,” Biden marvelled almost exactly a year ago after winning the

South Carolina primary election by a landslide. It had been dead, too, until African-American voters in South Carolina gave him their overwhelming support.

It was the first primary he had won, and it put him back in the race. Two days later Biden won 10 out of 14 States on “Super Tuesday” and practically wrapped the nomination up. But if South Carolina had scheduled its primary even a few days later, he would have gone into “Super Tuesday” as a loser and probably been written off.

So he got lucky once but it was a bad year for a Democrat to be running for the presidency. Donald Trump was mocked and loathed by the rest of the world and by almost exactly half the US population but Trump's “base” didn't care and the US economy was in excellent shape.

The US media were doing their best to make the presidential race look exciting, because that's what they were going to have to talk and write about through most of 2020. But the fact is that incumbent US

presidents running for re-election when the economy is good almost always win.

Biden's second stroke of luck came just 10 days before he won the South Carolina primary, when the first case of COVID-19 showed up in America. By March it was running wild, but Trump, aware that his re-election depended on a booming economy, avoiding taking any public health measures that would slow it down. Other populist leaders did the same. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has been a week or two late on every pandemic-related decision and Britain's per capita COVID death toll is even worse than America's. President Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil downplayed the COVID threat, as did Prime Minister Viktor Orban in Hungary and their people paid a high price, too. But none of them were running for re-election in 2020.

Trump's refusal to back anti-COVID measures like using masks, social distancing and a countrywide lockdown were driven more by



electoral concerns than ideology. Stall the economy and he could lose the election. But of course mass death will also stall the economy in the end, so he couldn't win. He ended up with a crashed economy, 4,00,000 COVID deaths and a lost election, too.

And then, incredibly, he gave Biden another gift: The assault on the Capitol Hill by his followers two weeks ago. In fact, Trump had wanted to join the thousands of hardcore followers who assembled

at Capitol Hill and had told aides in the days leading up to the rally that he planned to accompany them to demonstrate his ire at Congress as it moved to certify Biden's November election victory. But the Secret Service kept warning him that agents could not guarantee his safety if he went ahead. Trump relented and instead hunkered down at the White House to watch television images of the mob rioting he is accused of triggering.

Before that attack on Capitol

Hill, Biden was facing a grim time in office, with at least 70 per cent of Republican voters and a majority of Republicans in the House of Representatives seduced by Trump's “big lie” that he really won the election by a landslide and that the Democrats had somehow “stolen” it. It was Adolf Hitler, not Joseph Goebbels, who gave the technique that name, but it still works.

“In the big lie there is always a certain force of credibility,” Hitler wrote in ‘Mein Kampf (My Struggle)’: “Because...in the primitive simplicity of their minds (the great masses) more readily fall victim to the big lie than the small lie, since they themselves often tell small lies in little matters but would be ashamed to resort to large-scale falsehoods.”

“It would never come into their heads to fabricate colossal untruths, and they would not believe that others could have the impudence to distort the truth so infamously. Even though the facts which prove this to be so may be brought clearly to their minds, they will still doubt and

waver and will continue to think that there may be some other explanation.”

That is what Biden faced only two weeks ago: A nightmare time in office with the “big lie” rampant and Trump its proud purveyor. And then suddenly Trump, in his manic determination to hold onto power, sent his mob off to try a foredoomed coup in the “Temple of Democracy”, as American commentators call it. End of game. Trump is discredited even with a modest but significant proportion of his own base and a growing number of Republican office-holders are in rebellion against the party's subservience to the “Tangerine Tyrant.” Biden's years in office will be enlivened by a vicious Republican civil war, quite likely ending in a permanent split of the American Right. This will give Lucky Joe time to do some useful work.

(Gwynne Dyer's new book is ‘Growing Pains: The Future of Democracy and Work.’ The views expressed are personal.)

AHEAD OF BIDEN'S INAUGURATION US capital converted into garrison city



National Guard walk outside the US Capitol early Monday morning

Washington: Ahead of the inauguration of President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris on Wednesday, the American capital has been virtually turned into a garrison city, amidst multiple reports of threats and more armed violence by pro-Trump supporters to disrupt the events.

In the aftermath of last week's Capitol riots, Washington DC is preparing for the scaled down inauguration of the 46th US President with extreme security measures - closing roads, erecting barbed wire fences and deploying more than 25,000 National Guards along with thousands of local police personnel and those from other security agencies.

The area in and around Capitol Hill, a large part of Pennsylvania Avenue and the White House has been made

out of bounds for the general public with eight-foot high iron barricades being erected.

US Marshals are deploying 4,000 officers to Washington DC. Major parts of the majestic National Mall, which during the inauguration is usually thronged by thousands of people, have been closed off.

The entire city is on high-alert as authorities are receiving multiple reports of violent threats from various groups at the level of the incident that happened on January 6 -- when hundreds of supporters of outgoing President Donald Trump stormed Capitol Hill, disrupting the constitutional process of certification of electoral college votes.

The unprecedented violence forced hundreds of lawmakers to take shelter at safe locations within the iconic building amidst vandalism by

the mob. At least five people, including a police officer, died in the incident.

Despite the heightened security concerns, Biden plans to go ahead with the inauguration ceremony in its traditional location.

In addition to converting downtown Washington D.C. into a fortress, security in and around 50 State Capitols has also been put on high alert to ensure a peaceful transition of power.

"I think this will be an inauguration unlike any other. It was already destined to be, given Covid concerns and some of the limited seating and public access. But having our fellow Americans storm the Capitol in an attempt to overthrow the government certainly warrants heightened security," Mayor of Washington DC, Muriel Bowser, told NBC News. **PTI**

Harris prepares for central role in Biden's WH

Washington: Kamala Harris will make history on Wednesday when she becomes the nation's first female vice president — and the first Black woman and the first woman of South Asian descent to hold that office.

But that's only where her boundary-breaking role begins. With the confluence of crises confronting Joe Biden's administration — and an evenly divided Senate in which she would deliver the tie-breaking vote — Harris is shaping up to be a central player in addressing everything from the coronavirus pandemic to criminal justice reform.

Symone Sanders, Harris' chief spokeswoman, said that while the vice president-elect's portfolio hasn't been fully defined yet, she has a hand in all aspects of Biden's agenda. "There are pieces that



Biden may specifically ask her to champion, but outside of that she is at the table for everything, involved in everything, and giving input and feedback and being a supportive partner to him on all pieces," she said. People working closely with Harris on the transition resist the idea of siloing her into any specific issue early on, because the sheer number of challenges the Biden administration faces means it will be "all hands on deck" during their early months. **PTI**

Kremlin critic to be kept in custody for 30 days: Lawyer

Moscow: A judge on Monday ordered Alexei Navalny to be remanded in custody for 30 days, the Russian opposition leader's spokeswoman Kira Yarmysh said on Twitter.

The ruling concluded an hours-long court hearing set up at a police precinct where the politician was held since his arrest at a Moscow airport Sunday. Navalny flew to Russia from Germany, where he had spent five months recovering from nerve agent poisoning that he blames on the Kremlin. He was detained at passport control at Sheremetyevo airport after flying in Sunday evening from Berlin, where he was treated following the poisoning in August.

Navalny's arrest prompted a wave of criticism from US and European officials, adding to existing tension between Russia and West.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas noted that Navalny had returned of his own volition and said "it is completely

incomprehensible that he was detained by Russian authorities immediately after his arrival."

"Russia is bound by its own constitution and by international commitments to the principle of the rule of law and the protection of civil rights," Maas added.

"These principles must of course also be applied to Alexei Navalny. He should be released immediately."

The politician's allies said Monday he was being held at a police precinct outside Moscow and has been refused access to his lawyer.

The court hearing into whether Navalny should remain in custody was hastily set up at the precinct itself, and the politician's lawyers said they were notified minutes before.

"It is impossible what is happening over here," Navalny said in video from the improvised court room, posted on his page in the messaging app Telegram.

"It is lawlessness of the

highest degree." Calls for Navalny's immediate release have come from European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab and top officials of other EU nations.

US President-elect Joe Biden's pick for national security adviser called on Russian authorities to free Navalny.

"Mr Navalny should be immediately released, and the perpetrators of the outrageous attack on his life must be held accountable," Sullivan tweeted.

The outgoing US secretary of state, Mike Pompeo, said the US "strongly condemns" the decision to arrest Navalny.

Nevertheless, the judge ordered that Navalny be remanded in custody until Feb 15, Yarmysh said on Twitter. Navalny's lawyer Vadim Kobzev told the Interfax news agency that the defense plans to appeal the ruling. **AP**

Uganda cops surround offices of Bobi Wine's Opposition party

Kampala: The opposition party of Ugandan presidential challenger Bobi Wine said on Monday that police have prevented top officials from going to their headquarters in the capital, Kampala, as they prepare to launch a legal challenge to Wine's house arrest.

Police swooped in at dawn at the offices of Wine's National Unity Platform, diverted traffic, and stopped people from entering, party spokesman Joel Senyonyi, told The Associated

Press. Wine, whose real name is Kyagulanyi Ssentamu, was the main opposition challenger in presidential elections last week that electoral authorities say long-time leader Yoweri Museveni won with 58 per cent of the vote.

Wine, who took 34 per cent of the vote, has rejected the official outcome as fraudulent and insists he will use all legal means to protest the "cooked-up" results. **AP**

12 workers trapped week ago in China mine blast are alive

Beijing: Chinese state media say 12 out of 22 workers trapped for a week by an explosion in a gold mine are alive, as hundreds of rescuers seek to bring them to safety. The Xinhua News Agency said on Monday a note passed through a rescue shaft Sunday night reported the fate of the other 10 remains unknown. The note said 4 of the workers were injured and that the condition of others was deteriorating because of a lack of fresh air and an influx of water. **AP**

Around the Globe

Bangui: Central African Republic's constitutional court on Monday upheld President Faustin Archange Touadera re-election, raising the spectre of more violence days after rebels attempted to overtake the capital.

Kathmandu: Nepal has detected its first case of the new coronavirus variant that was found in the UK last month, the Ministry of Health and Population said on Monday.

Istanbul: Germany's foreign minister is scheduled to meet his Turkish counterpart in the Turkish capital, following a tumultuous year in Turkish-European relations.

Moscow: Moscow is ready for a quick deal with the incoming administration of US President-elect Joe Biden to extend the last remaining arms control pact, which expires in just over two weeks, Russia's top diplomat said Monday. Months of talks between Russia and President Donald Trump's administration on the possible extension of the New START treaty have failed to narrow their differences. The pact is set to expire on Feb. 5.

London: Trucks owned by British shellfish firms descended Monday on Parliament in London to protest the Brexit-related red tape they claim is suffocating their businesses.

Tel Aviv (Israel): Israel's education minister is banning groups that call Israel an "apartheid state" from lecturing at schools — a move that targets one of the country's leading human rights groups after it began describing both Israel and its control of the Palestinian territories as a single "apartheid" system.

Dramatic drop in Saudi executions after laws changed in 2020

Dubai: Saudi Arabia, for years one of the world's most prolific executioners, dramatically reduced the number of people put to death last year, following changes halting executions for non-violent drug-related crimes, according to the government's tally and independent observers. The Saudi government's Human Rights Commission said Monday it documented 27 executions in 2020.

That's compared to an all-time high of 184 executions the year before as documented by Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch. The change represents an 85 per cent reduction in the number of people put to death last year. Compared to 2019.

"The sharp decrease was brought about in part by a moratorium on death penalties for drug-related offenses," the

Saudi rights commission said.

When asked by The Associated Press, the commission said the new law ordering a stop to such executions came into effect sometime last year. The new directive for judges does not appear to have been published publicly and it was not immediately clear whether the law was changed by royal decree, as is typically the case.

The AP previously reported that Saudi Arabia last year also ordered an end to the death penalty for crimes committed by minors and ordered judges to end the controversial practice of public flogging, replacing it with jail time, fines or community service.

The force behind these changes is 34-year-old Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who has the backing of his father, King Salman. **AP**

Not right to vaccinate young before old: WHO

Geneva: The World Health Organisation chief on Monday lambasted drugmakers' profits and vaccine inequalities, saying it's "not right" that younger, healthier adults in wealthy countries get vaccinated against COVID-19 before older people or health care workers in poorer countries and charging that most vaccine makers have targeted locations where "profits are highest."

Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus kicked off WHO's week-long executive board meeting — virtually from its headquarters in Geneva — by lamenting that one poor country received a mere 25 vaccine doses while over 39 million doses have been administered

in nearly 50 richer nations.

"Just 25 doses have been given in one lowest income country — not 25 million, not 25,000 — just 25. I need to be blunt: The world is on the brink of a catastrophic moral failure," Tedros said. He did not specify the country, but a WHO spokeswoman identified it as Guinea.

"It's right that all Governments want to prioritize vaccinating their own health workers and older people first," he said.

"But it's not right that younger, healthier adults in rich countries are vaccinated before health workers and older people in poorer countries," he added. **AP**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is notified for the information of rail passengers that the timings of following Special Train will be revised as under :-

Train No. & Name	Station	Existing Timings	Revised Time	Date (from originating station)
02618 Hazrat Nizamuddin - Ernakulam Jn. Special Express	Kalyan Jn.	06:12/06:15	05:12/05:15	from 19.01.2021 (Tuesday)
	Panvel	07:05/07:10	06:35/06:40	

Note :- The time-table of the other stations of the above special train will hold good.

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

For any kind information such as detailed Time-Table and stations enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

Security Helpline No. 182

Integrated Helpline No. 139

Please join us on **NORTHERN RAILWAY**
Visit us at: www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Soni D/o Yogesh Gour R/o H.No. C-5/254, JJ Colony Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 20.12.2020 from the area of P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 687/20 dated 21.12.2020 has been registered at P.S. Bhalswa, Dairy, Delhi. The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under :

Name : Soni, **Father's Name :** Yogesh Gour, **Age :** 16 years, **Height :** 4'5", **Face :** Round, **Complexion :** Fair, **Wearing :** Pink T-Shirt, Black Pant and Black & Red Colour Jacket with Grey Colour slipper in feet. **ID Mark:** A mole on lip. If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/693/ON/2020

SHO P.S., Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27811933
27811934

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No-23, Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Ashutosh Verma/ Namrata Verma LBGUR00002094732	A 063, 6 Th Floor, Tower A, India Bulls, Enigma Sector 110, Gurgaon Haryana, Gurgaon 122001/ January 15, 2021	October 31, 2015 / Rs. 1,27,88,424/-	Delhi/ Ncr

The above-mentioned borrower(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : January 19, 2021 Place: Delhi/ NCR Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

E TENDER NOTICE YEAR 2020-2021

Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd.
GANDHINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Multi Storied Building, B-Block, First Floor, Sector-11, Gandhinagar

Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd., is inviting tenders for the work given below. Bids are invited for the e-tendering rates from the reputable agencies.

Tender No.	Name of Work	Tender Fee	E.M.D.
GSCDL-ICT-02-2020/21	"Selection of system integrator for implementation of ICC components (Adaptive traffic controlling system, Traffic Enforcement system, General surveillance) and Geographical Information system in extended area of Gandhinagar municipal corporation	25000/-	60,00,000/-

The tender form can be filled online by downloading from website: www.nprocure.com from Dt.19/01/2021 to Dt.23/02/2021 up to 17.00 hours. Pre Bid Meeting will be Scheduled on date Dt.03/02/2021

Any documents for the necessary support of tender bid must be scanned in the electronic format and submitted online on www.nprocure.com. The technical bids and the amount of tender fees and the Demand Draft of EMD shall be submitted in hard copy in name of CEO, Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd. upto Dt.01/03/2021 by registered post or speed post till 17.00 hours. Only those offers will be opened.

Online Technical Bid Opening Dt. 02/03/2021 at 11.00 hrs.

Place:- Gandhinagar Sd/-
Date:- 19/01/2021 Municipal Commissioner, Gandhinagar and
No/INF/VPN/2021/G/1774 Chairman Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that this person **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** 32-35 Years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Built:** Strong, **Injury Mark:** Head Injuries & Face Damage, **Wearing:** Red Colour Check Shirt & Black Pant has been found dead between KM Pole No. 1527/29831 Railway Track Near Okhla Railway Station, New Delhi on dated 13.01.2021 at 00:20AM.

In this regard a DD No. 1A, dated 13.01.2021 has been registered at P.S. Hazrat Nizamuddin, New Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/44/RLY/2021

SHO P.S. Hazrat Nizamuddin, New Delhi
Ph.: 011-24356743, 024358593

SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON

General public is here by informed that one male **Namely:** Rati Ram, **S/o** Girdhari, **R/o** B-221, Ph-I, Ashok Vihar, Delhi. **Age:** 45 years, **Height:** 5'5", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Black Colour Jacket & Pant and Red Chappal has been missing since 28.12.2020 at 15:18.

In this regard a DD No. 43A, dated 29.12.2020 has been lodged at P.S. Ashok Vihar, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this male but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this male kindly inform to the following.

Website : <http://cbi.gov.in>
E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO P.S. Ashok Vihar, Delhi
Ph. 011-27243066, 8750870221
DP/591/NW/2021

SEARCH OF MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one lady (depicted in the photo), **Namely:** Rani Devi, **W/o:** Sh. Prem Kumar, **R/o:** A-208, Shakurpur, Delhi **Aged:** 26 years, has been missing since 23.12.2020 from her house in the area of PS Subhash Place, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 38A, Dated 25.12.2020, has been lodged at P.S. Subhash Place, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:

Height: 5'1" Feet, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Clothing:** Red Colour Suit, Black Colour Salwar and Black Colour Hawai Chappal in feet. Any person is having any information/clue about this missing lady, may inform SHO, Subhash Place, Delhi. at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in or website : <http://cbi.nic.in> Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641

SHO P.S. Subhash Place, Delhi
DP/605/NW/2021. Ph.: 011-27356336, 27353014, 8750870224

Appeal for Identification

General public is hereby informed that one person **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** 25-26 Yrs., **Height:** 5'5", **Sex:** Male, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Injury Marks:** In train accident hand and neck were found separated from the body near the shoulder, **Wearing:** Red Colour Jacket, Black Colour T-Shirt, Light Green Colour Pant, Black Baniyan, Mochoo name underwear & Black Colour Sports Shoes in Feet, **Place of Recovery:** Found dead on 15.01.2021 at KM Pole No. 15/15-15/17 UP Line Siraspur, Delhi

In this regard DD No. 2A, U/s 174 CrPC, Dated 15.01.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Subzi Mandi Railway Station, Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/45/RLY/2021

SHO P.S. Subzi Mandi Railway Station, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23692455, 8800154439

Sensex slumps for second day as bears tighten grip

HDFC Bank shines after Q3 show

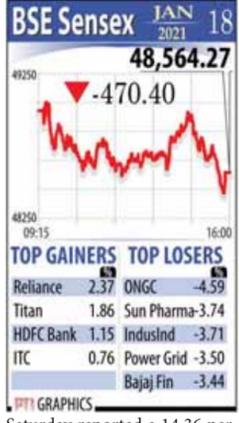


Table with columns for Top Gainers and Top Losers for BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty.

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmarks wilted under selling pressure for the second consecutive session on Monday as investors stayed on the back foot amid lacklustre global cues.

A sharp drop in the rupee further sapped risk appetite, though gains in market heavyweights RIL and HDFC Bank cushioned the fall.

After a choppy session, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 470.40 points or 0.96 per cent lower at 48,564.27.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty tumbled 152.40 points or 1.06 per cent to 14,281.30.

ONGC was the top loser in the Sensex pack, slumping 4.59 per cent, followed by Sun Pharma, IndusInd Bank, PowerGrid, Bajaj Finance, Bajaj Finserv, SBI and NTPC.

Only four index stocks closed in the green — Reliance Industries, Titan, HDFC Bank and ITC, climbing up to 2.37 per cent.

HDFC Bank spurred 1.15 per cent after the country's largest private sector lender on

Saturday reported a 14.36 per cent jump in consolidated net profit to ₹8,760 crore for the December quarter, driven by a surge in core income.

Global markets retreated as rising Covid-19 cases clouded optimism over economic recovery, even as Chinese shares rose after positive GDP data.

"Domestic equities witnessed a pullback for second consecutive day as weak global cues continued to weigh on investors' sentiments... While underlying strength of markets remains intact considering rebound in key economic data,

sustained growth in corporate earnings in 3Q FY21 with upbeat managements' commentaries and commencement of vaccination process.

"Additionally, favourable monetary policies of global central bankers, weak dollar and large fiscal stimulus in the US are expected to ensure sustained FPIs flow in domestic equities. However, for the week market is expected to be volatile ahead of some crucial global events. Further, as Union Budget is just two weeks away, rotational trading might be visible in the market," said Binod Modi, Head - Strategy at Reliance Securities.

WITHDRAWAL OF MONEY FROM PMC BANK — Exceptions can be carved out for emergencies of depositors: HC to RBI

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Monday said that according to the Supreme Court's decision on withdrawal of money by depositors of scam-hit PMC bank for exigencies, exceptions can be carved out for urgent medical and educational requirements.

A Bench of Chief Justice DN Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh asked the depositors, whose needs have been highlighted before the court in a PIL, to once again approach the RBI-appointed administrator of PMC bank giving details of

their financial needs along for medical or educational reasons within three weeks.

The Bench asked the administrator to look into the applications by the depositors and take a decision within a further period of two weeks and communicate the same to the court before the next date of hearing on February 26.

During the hearing, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) told the court that the apex court asked it to consider the educational and medical requirements of depositors as per directives issued by the top bank.

provide for considering medical emergencies and not educational emergencies which everyone would have.

The Bench, however, said the apex court has clearly mentioned both medical and educational emergencies and it was going to go by that.

The court was hearing an application by consumer rights activist Bejon Kumar Misra seeking directions to the RBI to consider other needs of PMC Bank depositors such as education, weddings and dire financial position, not just serious medical emergencies as being done at present.



The 201st board meeting of the Noida Authority held in the meeting room of the Noida Authority's main administrative building, in Noida Sector-6 on Monday

IN BRIEF

DEFENCE SECY INAUGURATES SWACHHATA PAKHWADA



New Delhi: Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar inaugurated the Swachhata Pakhwada at India Gate on Monday. The inaugural ceremony included a welcome address by a cadet, followed by a poem recital and sharing of experience by a cadet on the importance of adopting Swachhata in daily life to avoid diseases/Covid. Thereafter, the NCC cadets highlighted the significance of accepting Swachhata as a lifestyle through a well performed Nukkad Natak and finally the ceremony culminated with the flagging off of a Plug Run by the Defence Secretary.

GOVT PLANS WILL MAKE BAGHPAT HAPPY: DM

Baghpat: Baghpat IAS Rajkamal Yadav of 2013 bench took charge as the 29th District Magistrate of Baghpat district. After taking official charge, the new District Magistrate Rajkamal Yadav made it clear that there is no effort left to reach the public's plans in the district. 'Will not be left. Talking to the media, District Magistrate Rajkamal Yadav said that work will be done to promote the services related to the Gram Panchayat and Health Department in the district. People will not be allowed to be deprived of the Government's scheme in Baghpat district. DM Rajkamal Yadav said that he is a resident of neighboring Ghaziabad district and has been posted in Lucknow, Ayush Department in the past. He assured that he will be ready at all times in the service of the public to make Baghpat district happy and efficient.

DTC AWARDED FOR LOWEST ACCIDENT RECORD

New Delhi: DTC has been conferred the Transport Minister's Road Safety Award for State Transport Undertakings (STUs) for the year 2019-20 & 2020-21 in the "Urban Operations" category for lowest rate of accidents. Rajnath Singh, Minister of Defence, Nitin Gadkari, Minister (RT&H), Gen.(Dr.) Vijay Kumar Singh, Minister of State (RT&H), Government of India, has given the award to Vijay Kumar Bihudi, MD, DTC in a function held at Plenary Hall, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on Monday.

ITEL'S PREMIUM AFFORDABLE VISION 1 PRO SMARTPHONE

New Delhi: itel, India's one of the best budget smartphone brands, announced the launch of yet another innovative and nextGen smartphone christened "Vision 1 PRO" with bigger screen 6.52 inch HD+ Waterdrop display bundled with trendy features like Triple AI Camera, multi-functional fingerprint sensor and face unlock for its discerning customers in India. Priced at ₹6,599, Vision 1 PRO is equipped with 16.56 cm (6.52 inch) HD+ IPS Waterdrop In-cell Display with 20:9 aspect ratio, 4,000mAh Li-Polymer battery and 2GB RAM + 32GB ROM for customers.

CARRERA ORGANISES CYCLOTHON FOR MASSES TO STAY FIT

New Delhi: With an aim to ignite passion among the masses to stay fit by cycling, Carrera, the flagship brand from the house of Safilo, conducted 26 km cyclothon — three riding groups: speedsters (experienced cyclists), midsters (cyclists with medium pace) and funsters (riders enjoying cycling as fun activity) — in New Delhi. "This event extends Carrera's philosophy of promoting a sustainable way of living," said Ashutosh Vaidya, MD & country head, Safilo India.

World shares retreat despite strong growth data from China

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Tokyo: Markets got off to a slow start for the week despite news that the Chinese economy grew 2.3% in 2020 after a sharp contraction early in the year. Shares fell in Paris, London and Tokyo but advanced in Hong Kong and Shanghai. Most US Markets are closed Monday for a national holiday.

Investors appear to have grown increasingly wary over the deepening economic devastation from the pandemic despite hopes that Covid-19 vaccines and fresh aid for the U.S. Economy might hasten a global recovery.

Germany's DAX edged 0.1% lower to 13,769.97 and the CAC 40 in Paris shed 0.4% to 5,588.28. In Britain, the FTSE 100 lost less than 0.1% to 6,731.23. The futures for the S&P 500 and the Dow industrials both were down 0.3%. China was the first country to suffer outbreaks of the new coronavirus and the first major economy to begin recovering as meanwhile US, Europe and Japan are struggling with outbreaks.

₹ drops by 21p to 1-week low on \$ demand

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee plunged by 21 paise to settle at a week's low of 73.28 against the US dollar on Monday, tracking weak domestic equities and a rebound in the American currency.

At the interbank forex market, the domestic unit opened at 73.21 against the greenback and swung between a low of 73.30 and a high of 73.18 during the session.

It finally settled down by 21 paise at 73.28, the lowest closing level since January 11. On Friday, the rupee had settled at 73.07 against the American currency. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.15 per cent to 90.91.

"Indian rupee depreciated amid strong dollar and risk aversion in the domestic markets," said Saif Mukadam, Research Analyst, Sharekhan by BNP Paribas.

Demand for the US dollar increased on worries over rising coronavirus cases across the globe and decline in stock markets.

Nirmala holds pre-Budget meeting with State FMs

New Delhi: As part of pre-Budget deliberations, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday held a meeting with State Finance Ministers who suggested steps to revive growth and boost revenue collection against the backdrop of Covid-19 crisis.

The Finance Ministry in a statement said the meeting was held through video conference and was attended by Chief Ministers, deputy Chief Ministers, Finance Ministers, Ministers and senior officers from the States and Union Territories and the Union Government.

Sitharaman highlighted the importance of this meeting as a sign of cooperative federalism and indicated the manner in which the Union Government was strongly supportive of States/Union Territories (with Legislature) fight against the pandemic.

PTI

Finance Ministry releases weekly instalment of ₹6K cr to States to meet GST compensation shortfall

New Delhi: The Finance Ministry on Monday released the 12th instalment of ₹6,000 crore to States to meet the GST compensation shortfall, taking the total amount released so far under this window to ₹72,000 crore.

The Centre had set up a special borrowing window in October 2020 to meet the estimated shortfall of ₹1.10 lakh crore in revenue arising on account of implementation of

GST. The ministry in a statement said it has released the 12th weekly instalment of ₹6,000 crore to the states to meet the GST compensation shortfall. Out of this, an amount of ₹5,516.60 crore has been released to 23 States and ₹483.40 crore has been released to the 3 Union Territories (UT) with Legislative Assembly (Delhi, J&K & Puducherry), who are members of the GST Council.

PTI

Forex intervention by RBI to touch \$93 bn by March: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to spend at least \$20 billion more to support the rupee and increase the forex kitty through the remainder of the financial year, taking its overall forex intervention to \$93 billion, according to a report.

The report by the Wall Street brokerage Bank of America Securities also expects the central bank to raise banks' HTM (held-to-maturity) limits of excess government securities by 2 per cent of their books to fund the fiscal deficit if high forex intervention limits its open market operations (OMOs).

PUBLIC NOTICE: Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mrs. Santosh Devi who Mr. Hari Singh who is the owner of the Property Plot No. 11 & 12, area measuring 7 Marla i.e., 213 Sq. Yds., out of Khewat/Khata No. 1352, 1353, Mu No. 254, Kila No. 21 (B-0), Municipal Council Ward No. 8, Sohna, Gurgaon, Haryana vide Sale Deed dated 08.05.2019 Registered as Doc No. 1120 and mortgaging against the financial assistance from Urmind Housing Finance Pvt. Ltd. That entire Khata addressing 20 kanal was purchased by 5 people in 2014 but further one of the purchaser transfer his share to her husband in 2015. To comply the requirements of bank/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 10 days from the date of this notice at below address.

In the court of Sh. Shirish Aggarwal: Administrative Civil Judge-cum-ARC (Central) Delhi-10054. SC-13/2021 N.D.O.H. 15.02.2021 Gulshan Kumar Bharti Vs. Dipika Nayyar & Ors.

FOR SUCCESSION CERTIFICATE UNDER INDIAN SUCCESSION ACT, 1925. To: All Concerned Whereas in the above noted petition the applicant/petitioner has applied for Succession Certificate to the Hon'ble Court Under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 in respect of the debt and securities amount of Rs xxx. As per record to be standing in the name of Late Sh. Gobind Parkash deceased.

Whereas the 15.02.2021 at 10' o'clock in the forenoon has been fixed for hearing on the application notice is hereby given to this concerned. Given under my hand and the seal of the court on this 15.01.2021.

Sd/ (Shirish Aggarwal) ACI/ARC(Central) Delhi

बिहार सरकार जल संसाधन विभाग कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय बाढ़ नियंत्रण एवं जल निस्सरण प्रमंडल, लालगंज. E-mail - eefloodanddrainagedivlalganj@gmail.com/mobile-7463889918. कार्यपालक अभियंता बाढ़ नियंत्रण एवं जल निस्सरण प्रमंडल, लालगंज. PR. No. 011319 (WRD) 2020-21. नौवल कोलेज के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं सहयोग हेतु टोल फ्री नं. 104 पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL. General public is hereby informed that this girl namely Shanti D/o Naresh Rai R/o H.No. A-441, J.J. Colony, Bawana, Delhi Age : 18 years, Height : 5'2", Face : Long, Build : Medium, Complexion : Shallow, wearing blue colour suit-salwar, white colour jacket and grey colour jutti in feet, has been missing since 22.12.2020 at about 02:00 P.M. from her house. In this regard DD No. 37A dated 23.12.2020 has been lodged at P.S. Narela Industrial Area, Outer North Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about this missing/kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following. SHO : P.S. Narela Industrial Area Delhi Ph. : 011-27787592, 27787593

PNIT NO: ePT37/EE/RD/KCP/DIV/2020-21 DATED-14.01.2021 The Executive Engineer, R.D Kanchanpur Division, invites tender from eligible bidders up to 11.00 AM on 05.02.2021 for 01 (One) No. construction project. For details visit https://tripuratenders.gov.in. Sd/ Executive Engineer RD Kanchanpur Division ICAC-2833/2020-21 Kanchanpur, North Tripura

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE. The Dy. Chief Engineer/TMCL/Line, S.E. Road, New Delhi, for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:- 1. Name of work and location: Annual Maintenance Contract for Servicing, Repairing, Maintenance, Overhauling & Supply of Spares for 09 (Nine) Nos. OEM M/s Phooltas Transrail Ltd., Patna make UTV Track Machines working over Northern Railway for a period of one financial year 2020-21. 2. Completion period of the work: One Financial year 2020-21. 3. Approx. Cost of work: Rs. 26.61 Lakhs. 4. Cost of Tender Document: Nil. 5. Earnest Money amount (to be deposited Online): Rs. 53,200/-.

Re-Notice for Request for Proposal. No: RMSA/TL99/1307/2020/112 Dated: 18-01-2021 In inviting a reference to RFP No: RMSA/ATL/1304/2020/76 Dated: 17/12/2020, Samagra Shiksha (RMSA&SSA) Assam re-invites proposal affixing court fee stamp of minimum value Rs 8.25/- containing (a) Qualification expression, (b) Technical Proposal, (c) Commercial Proposal in separate file/folder from reputed Organizations for the supply of equipment and gadget of Tinkering Lab and training to students and teachers to implement Tinkering Lab in 99 Government/Provincialised High and Higher Secondary Schools in Assam. Detailed RFP may be seen at "https://assamtenders.gov.in/" for eligibility, scope of work, terms and conditions etc. The tender document can be downloaded from "https://assamtenders.gov.in/" up to 27/01/2021 and making payment of non-refundable Tender Fee of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees five thousand) only. RFP are to be uploaded on the prescribed tender form along with (a) bid security or earnest money deposit (EMD) for an amount of Rs. 20,00,000/- (Rupees twenty lakhs) only, valid for a period of 90 days from the date of submission, in the form of Demand Draft in favor of Mission Director, RMSA, Assam, Guwahati payable at Guwahati. The RFP will be received upto 1:30 pm on 27/01/2021 and will be opened on same day at 2:30 pm at the Office of the Mission Director, SS (RMSA & SSA), Kahlipara, Guwahati-19, Assam. Samagra Shiksha (RMSA), Assam reserves the right to amend or cancel the RFP without assigning any notice or reason thereof. Moreover, in case of non-availability of sufficient bidder (or less than three bidder), authority has to right to take decision without prior notice. Sd/-Executive Director, Samagra Shiksha (RMSA & SSA), Assam Kahlipara, Guwahati-19

Aro granite industries Ltd. Regd. Office : 1001, 10th Floor, DLF Tower A, Jasola, New Delhi - 110025. Ph. : 011-41686169. Fax : 011-26941984, Email : investorgreanite@arogite.com, Website : www.arogite.com. Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Regulations 29 & 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015, a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Friday, the 29th January, 2021 inter-alia to approve the Audited Financial Results for the Third Quarter and Nine Month period ending 31.12.2020. The above details of the said meeting are also available on the website of the Company www.arogite.com and also at the website of the Stock Exchanges www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com. For Aro granite industries Ltd. Sd/ Sabyasachi Panigrahi Company Secretary & Compliance Officer.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE. ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005. Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

HEALTH

Shocking Truth

The post mortem report of a 46-year-old Government hospital employee in Moradabad, who died on Sunday evening, 24 hours after receiving a Covid vaccine shot, has found that the immediate cause of death was 'cardiogenic shock/septicemic shock' due to 'cardiopulmonary disease'



PLATE FULL OF HEALTH



Unlike popular belief, hemp does not have psychotropic effects. In fact, its seed has many healthy benefits, says ROHIT SHAH

According to Grand View Research's Market Analysis Report of Industrial Hemp 2020-2027, the global industrial hemp market size is expected to register a revenue-based CAGR of 15.8 per cent over the forecast period, a sharp rise from USD 4.71 billion in 2019.

The expanding market of industrial hemp is driven by the growing demand for hemp oil and fibres in food and beverage, automotive, construction, textile industries and personal care. Additionally, low prices of crop encourage farmers to diversify their crop options, subsequently, increasing the number of producers. Further, increasing awareness regarding the dietary advantages of its oil, coupled with the growing demand from the personal care and cosmetics industries is expected to drive the market growth.

Unlike popular belief, hemp does not have psychotropic effects on the human body. In fact, its seed has many healthy benefits and is actually 33 per cent protein. The small, brown seeds are rich in fibre, protein, and healthful fatty acids, including omega-6 and omega-3s. Their antioxidant properties may reduce symptoms of numerous ailments in addition to improving the health of the heart. The nutritional power and hardness of hemp seed could significantly address the global protein needs and starvation problems.

Raw hemp seeds are one of the richest sources of complete protein as it is packed with 33-37 per cent pure digestible protein. Only algae such as marine phytoplankton, AFA blue-green algae and spirulina exceed hemp in protein. Additionally, 47 per cent of a hemp seed is composed of good fats, a vital composition of omega-3 and omega-6. Here are a few benefits of hemp seeds:

May control the risk of heart disease

Hemp seeds contain good amounts of the amino acid arginine, which produces nitric oxide in the body. It is a gas molecule that makes blood vessels relax and dilate, which leads to controlled blood pressure and a reduced risk of heart disease. According to Pub Med, increased arginine intake coupled with decreased levels of C-reactive protein (CRP) and high levels of CRP is linked to heart disease in the majority of people.

Helpful in skin disorders

A balance of omega-6 and omega-3 fatty acids in the human body are significant to the immune system and hemp seeds are a good source of these fatty acids with about a 3:1 ratio of omega-6 to omega-3. Hemp seed oil relieves people from dry skin, itchiness, inflammation and thus, reduces the need for skin medication.

A source of plant based protein

Plants often lack the amino acid lysine which is why complete protein sources are rare in the plant kingdom. Hemp seeds are considered a complete protein source as they provide all the essential amino acids and contain high levels of arginine and glutamic acid.

Helps control stress and anxiety

Cannabidiol or CBD is considered a cannabinoid which is leaf extract of the cannabis plant. CBD is known to have benefits on stress, seizure disorders, anxiety and pain relief.

The writer is Director, Hemp Horizon

INBRIEF

In India, *chai* is not just a hot beverage, it's an emotion, slowly picking pace with the developing tastes of India! With the upcoming winter chill, VAHDAM India, the digitally native consumer brand shipping India's finest teas and superfoods to over 104 countries has launched Instant Tea Chai Premixes.

With a massive shift to wellness and immunity boosting products across the globe, Vahdam has upgraded the daily chai routine by infusing these ready-to-drink premixes with the goodness of healing spices and superfoods like Turmeric, Matcha, Ashwagandha, Ginger, and blending it with real black tea and sugarless whole milk powder.

A one-of-a-kind chai premix, these contain only 35 calories per serving and are sweetened by less than two grams of organic cane sugar per serving with Stevia.

"Convenience is the key for the modern consumer today. Celebrating India's love for tea and addressing the need for daily doses of immunity, we have forayed into the market of instant tea chai premixes," said Bala Sarda, Founder, VAHDAM India.

Turmeric Ginger for energy: A cup of wellness with turmeric and ginger for immunity, fatigue and improved digestion.

Ashwagandha Cinnamon for rejuvenation: An earthy cup with ayurvedic adaptogenic *ashwagandha* and cinnamon for stress reduction, better sleep and powerful antibacterial benefits.

Matcha Lemongrass for focus: A cup fortified with the superfood benefits for mindfulness, powerful antioxidant benefits and improved overall health.

The writer is Ayurveda Expert, Research & Development, The Himalaya Drug Company



DOUBLE ATTACK

We are still fighting the COVID-19 when news of Bird Flu threw a curve ball yet again. DR MAHENDRA DADKE lists things one should keep in mind

As we enter the New Year with the hope of things returning to normal in the days to come, our country might need to brace itself for yet another virus attack.

Currently, the country with more than one billion population is facing a double whammy with coronavirus and avian flu looming large. The Covid-19 pandemic has already brought our lives to a screeching halt in the past eleven months and to add to this, bird flu or avian flu has knocked on the doors yet again.

With the country going through a tough time facing two major diseases at the same time, people are bombarded with so much information that they can't seem to contemplate the difference between the diseases.

To address the dilemma, let us figure out the differences between the two:

What Is Avian Flu?
Bird flu or Avian influenza is caused by the H5N1 influenza virus, which occasionally infects humans. These viruses are found worldwide among wild aquatic birds and can infect domestic poultry and other bird and animal species.

According to the WHO, avian flu is not normally known to infect humans, however, sporadic human infections have occurred in the past. Since the first case of human infection in 1997, nearly 60 per cent of the people who have been infected with H5N1 have been killed.

What Is COVID-19?
COVID-19 is caused by a

newly discovered coronavirus that affects the respiratory system and brings about many illnesses, including the common cold and flu. The disease is likely to take a severe turn in elderly and people with co-morbidities. Most people infected with COVID-19 virus experience mild to moderate respiratory illness, and may recover soon, says the WHO.

Both bird flu and COVID-19 being flu-like illnesses present with overlapping features and it can be difficult to differentiate between the two.

According to experts, the two illnesses present with symptoms including fever, cough, cold, body ache and breathlessness. In addition, patients with bird flu are likely to develop encephalopathy (damage to the brain) and confusion. Covid-19 patients on the other hand, often present with diarrhoea and loss of sense of smell and taste.

While avian influenza rarely spreads from one human to another, Covid-19, on the contrary is highly contagious and spreads rapidly between human. The Coronavirus has a low mortality rate — around 1-3 per cent globally which is the opposite of avian flu that has a high mortality rate.

Today, people are having a lot of questions or doubts about consuming meat during this bird flu epidemic and also what precautions needs to be taken. People should not panic and tackle this situation calmly. The most commonly consumed poultry products are chicken, eggs or ducks in India.

ACCORDING TO THE UN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION IF THE MEAT IS COOKED PROPERLY THEN IT WOULD BE SAFE TO CONSUME IT. HOWEVER, ONE NEEDS TO MAKE SURE THAT THE COOKING TEMPERATURE IS ABOVE 70 DEGREE CELSIUS AND DURING THIS PROCESS NO PART OF THE MEAT SHOULD BE LEFT UNCOOKED, HALF COOKED OR RAW

According to the UN food and agriculture organisation if the meat is cooked properly then it would be safe to consume it. The precautions one must take is throughout the cooking process of chicken or any meat one needs to make sure that the boiling temperature or cooking temperature is above 70 degree Celsius and during this cooking process no part of the meat should be left uncooked, half cooked or raw. Any poultry product cooked above 70 degree Celsius would be safe and non-infected to consume.

People who have habit of eating raw eggs or raw meat especially raw eggs should be strictly avoided. Also poultry workers should wear protective gear while working in the farm or touching any infected animal.

If you see any kind of symptoms or infection in your body immediately consult a doctor. Till date we have not found any case of a patient who have cooked the meat properly and has been infected with the bird flu therefore, no need to panic.

Coronavirus is still an active outbreak and with the onset of avian flu, it's all the more important to take steps to reduce both your chance of contracting it and spread of disease if you do fall ill. Therefore, do not forget to practice social distancing, wear a mask where necessary, and wash your hands frequently with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water. Also, seek timely medical care if you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing.

The writer is Consultant Physician, Jupiter Hospital, Pune

DadiKaKehna

Headaches are common, more so if you don't prefer to cover your head during the chilly winters. ROSHANI DEVI shares remedies that can help relieve the pain



The cold breeze is sure to give many a headache if they don't prefer to cover their head with a scarf or cap.

As painful as it can be, it is just as annoying. Here are a few remedies that can help clear up a head cold.

First, keep yourself hydrated. Drink plenty of water. It will help clear out the mucus and promote nasal drainage thereby relieving the pain caused by cold.

Second, try warm compress. Moisten a washcloth with warm water and apply it to your face a few times a

day. This will help relieve the pain. Third, try a decongestant. Over-the-counter decongestants can help decrease swelling and congestion by opening up your nasal passages and decreasing the pain and pressure.

Fourth, take help of hot water bag. Place a hot water bag on your chest or back for five-10 minutes. The heat will help relieve the pain caused by cold.

Fifth, take steam. Cover your face with a towel and inhale the steam for about 10-15 minutes. Steam can help release the mucus and hence, eliminate the pain.



DOCYARD

DR DEEPAK DEWAN

MD, DM (Nephrology), Director Renal Sciences REGENCY SUPERSPECIALITY HOSPITAL



Drink water, flush toxins



When you have Diabetes, it's pivotal to take care of your kidneys as they perform an important job of filtering waste and removing it from your blood, maintaining water balance, taking care of bone health, synthesis of vitamin D & erythropoietin a substance which maintains level of hemoglobin. But Diabetes can damage the kidneys and can result in progressive loss of its function. This becomes the leading cause of kidney failure globally. People with advance kidney failure need either dialysis or a kidney transplant. However, one can slow down the progression of kidney damage and keep it from getting worse by making certain modifications in their lifestyle, diet and being vigilant towards their health, besides seeking consultation from a Nephrologist.

Also, care during winters is especially essential for Diabetes patients. As the days shorten, we experience less of the sun, which can be a real mental challenge. The lack of sunlight means increased levels of stress and tiredness. Excess winters stresses and strains the body. This stress often releases hormones such as adrenalin and cortisol. These survival hormones cause the liver to release more glucose for energy, which can result in higher-than-normal blood sugar levels.

Diabetes can damage the kidneys and can result in progressive loss of its function. This becomes the leading cause of kidney failure globally. However, one can slow down the progression of kidney damage by making certain modifications in their lifestyle, diet and being vigilant towards their health

Similarly, the cold weather can predispose to clotting as the blood become thicker in this season, coupled with diminished physical activity in winter months. Such conditions can pose serious threats to the lives of Diabetic patients, who also tend to have increased blood pressure.

Besides the temperature and weather conditions, blood sugar depends upon hydration, exercise, and the food you eat, but hydration is probably the single most important element to help us stay healthy outdoors. People suffering from Diabetes are prone to dehydration, which can become dangerous if left unchecked because it can lead to Diabetic ketoacidosis. At the same time, dehydration can cause confusion, which may make a person unaware of low blood sugar. Therefore it's essential for Diabetes patients to remain well hydrated in winters and should test their blood sugar more frequently.

Taking care of kidneys

Control your blood pressure. High BP is more likely to cause kidney damage. It becomes essential to keep a check on BP for cardiovascular and renal health. If BP increases, it can potentially lead to kidney damage. Keeping recommended cholesterol levels is also essential for patients with Hypertension.

Good diet. Avoid eating junk foods. They contain lot of salt as preservative. And salt intake is directly related to Hypertension. Your diet shouldn't have too much sugar as it produces an excess of toxins in your body. A diet based on fruits, vegetables, cereals, grains, and a high amount of fiber is the best way to take care of these vital organs.

Keep yourself well hydrated. Adequate hydration helps our kidneys dissolve and eliminate toxins and waste products from our body. Literally speaking our kidneys and other organs might dry out if we don't drink enough water. This means that they'll re-absorb or will be able to filter less toxins which will then accumulate in the body.

WARMFOODS

JAGGERY: Also known as *gur*, jaggery makes for the best companion for winters. It is not only better than white sugar, but it also offers several health benefits.

It prevents constipation by aiding digestion. It activates the digestive enzymes in our body, thus helps in proper digestion of food. That's why many people prefer eating jaggery after a meal.

It acts as a detox, as it helps cleanse the liver by flushing out nasty toxins from the body.

Jaggery is also loaded with antioxidants and minerals like zinc and selenium, which help prevent free-radicals;

responsible for early ageing. It helps boost resistance against infections, hence building stronger immunity.

Eating a piece of jaggery daily can help women combat PMS symptoms including mood swings, menstrual cramps and abdominal pain.



Trend Slazer

Let's break patriarchy: Kajal

Actor **KAJAL AGGARWAL** treated fans to a candid question-answer session on social media.

The actor who got married recently was asked if she would continue acting. Kajal replied saying it is time to break such notions of patriarchy.

"Will you continue to do films? Please don't stop doing films," a user asked on her question-answer session on Instagram Stories.

"Of course, I will! Let's break patriarchy, high time?" said she.

A fan asked her about her resolution for 2021.

"Balance between home and work. Advancement in every aspect of life," she said.



'Desmond Tutu once said: When the missionaries came to Africa, they had the Bible and we had the land. They said, 'let us pray.' We close our eyes. When we opened them, we had the Bible and they had the land. Likewise, when social networking came, they had the WhatsApp and Facebook and we had the freedom. They said it's free. We close our eyes. When we opened them, we had WhatsApp and Facebook and they had our freedom. When anything is free, your freedom is the price.'

—Juhi Chawla

AKSHAY OBEROI agrees that the acting profession is difficult and can knock down people multiple times.



Talking about the industry being a brutal place, as it defines an actor on the basis of hits and misses, Akshay said, "It is brutal but that is the industry world over. It's not just Bollywood. In any cinematic industry, this is the way it works. It is an art made for commerce. So, if your part is not done well you don't have any takers."

Justin welcomes his second child

Singer-actor **JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** and his wife, actress **Jessica Biel**, welcomed their second child in 2020. Timberlake has finally confirmed the news now. They have named their second child, a son, Phineas.

The singer opened up about being a father of two during a virtual appearance on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*.

"He's awesome and so cute. Nobody's sleeping," Timberlake joked, adding, "But we're thrilled and couldn't be happier. Very grateful."

The couple, who got married in 2012, welcomed their first child, son Silas, in April 2015.

Timberlake shared that she was among the few "outside of the immediate family" who knew about Biel's pregnancy.



The pandemic has changed Indians' outlook on health as 70 per cent Indians says they will prioritise dietary and lifestyle changes in 2021 to manage both emotional and physical health, according to a survey.

It added that 60 per cent Indians say that they will de-prioritise going to a gym. For 73 per cent Indians, taste reigns supreme in their decision to buy food products and poor taste of health products is an obstacle to making the right dietary choices, said the finding by Habbit.

A majority of Indians — 71 per cent, felt that their health is worse off today than pre COVID-19 due to broken eating and fitness habits. There are a number of reasons cited as barriers to better health. These are lack of time, poor taste of healthy products, and confusing technical details of healthy products exaggerated by the inability to make a choice among the various options. 72 per cent of survey respondents cite lack of time

Changing attitudes

A survey reveals that 70 per cent Indians prioritise dietary changes over going to the gym

while 66 per cent cite the poor taste of healthy items to be their biggest obstacle.

The survey respondents (100 per cent) correctly identified the difference between healthy and junk foods indicating high awareness about the ill effects of unhealthy options. However, a bulk — 73 per cent, highlighted that they would still consume unhealthy options since they are tasty, convenient and part of their daily lifestyle. Taste, thus reigns supreme in the decision to buy food and a majority still prefers tasty foods that also have nutritional benefits over healthy foods.

As per the survey, 70 per cent respondents show a higher incli-



nation than before towards improving their health through dietary changes, whereas nearly one in four, 26 per cent would also like to make meditation a higher priority. 65 per cent indicate their increased reliance on medical and nutritional experts to help achieve their goals. More than 60 per cent of Indians have a reduced priority than earlier towards traditional gyms and fitness centres, owing to social distancing and avoidance of communal areas in COVID-19, and would prefer to exercise at home or do alternate physical activities like running, cycling or aerobics.

"The survey highlights that the myth that diet is secondary to exercise in the health journey, is beginning to crumble, with respondents realising the importance of nutrition and prioritising changes in diet over exercise to achieve better physical and mental health. This is the new normal," said Dhruv Bhusan, Cofounder & CEO, Habbit. He added, "As the pandem-

ic continues to shift consumer habits towards being more health-conscious, there is an opportunity for food and nutrition companies to win on taste and fuel healthier lifestyles."

"Good nutrition is vital to a healthy life and is one of the most singularly important factors in overall health. The food we eat literally becomes who we are, and influences our physical, mental and even emotional well-being. Complemented with physical activity, it helps to maintain discipline of the body as well as the mind. If the body feels good, the mind will feel good. The pandemic has brought the importance of this balance to the centre," says nutritionist and wellness coach Avni Kaul.

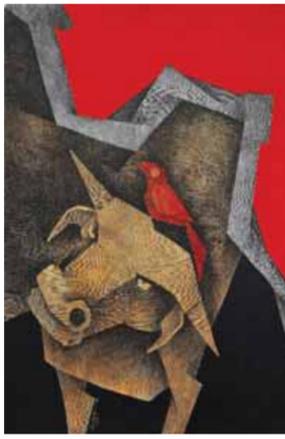
The online survey was conducted in the last quarter of 2020 with 2,428 adults across metros in India. All respondents are in the age group of 22-56 years and have an annual household income of more than ₹ 10 lakh. —IANS

Time and the connoisseur

Art, for **VIRENDER KUMAR**, was about an expressive vision and depth. With his passing, India lost a passionate art patron and collector, says **UMA NAIR**

Last month, Delhi lost one of its finest collectors and gallery directors in the world of art — Virender Kumar of the prestigious Kumar Gallery. For almost 60 years, Virender had been collecting everything from miniatures to antiquity and specialised in contemporary Indian art, especially the Progressives as well as Bengal School Masters. Among his prodigious collections, he was one of the main patrons of great Indian artists like the Progressives as well as Gopal Ghose and Sohan Qadri. In fact, it is commonly said that he would pay sums of money to them each month for a work of art. With galleries in New York and Delhi, his knowledge of both antiquities and contemporary art was likened to being a collector with an epicurean eye. In the 1990s, most of Francis Newton Souza's solo shows in Delhi were held at the Kumar Gallery. In fact, when Tyeb Mehta moved to Delhi from London, it was Virender who gave him a small place to stay in exchange for a work of art every month.

Over the years, the artist with whom he became closest was Francis Newton Souza. In the 1990s, Souza would come and stay at Yatri Niwas for a month and Kumar Gallery would keep his suite replenished with canvases, paints and paper. Souza preferred to come to Delhi during winter. Two important Souza retrospec-



SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo), Namely : **MADHU** D/o : Shiv Nath R/o : Plot No. 13, Kh. No. 48/3, Gali No. 4, near Pani ki tanki, Mandir Mohalla, Samaypur, Delhi has been missing since 16.12.2020 from her house. In this regard a case vide DD No. 48A dated 26.12.2020 has been lodged at Police Station Samaypur Badli, Delhi.

Her physical description is as under :-
Age: 19 Years, **Height:** 5'2", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Mehru colour suit and Red colour salwar.
 Any person having any information/Clue about this Missing girl, may inform SHO, Samaypur Badli, Delhi at E-mail id — cic@cbi.gov.in or Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

SHO
P.S. Samaypur Badli, Delhi
Outer North Distt., Delhi
Ph. No. 01127854757, 27854799

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice
 The Dy. Chief Engineer/Const-I, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India invites open e-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:-

Name of work and location	Balance work of Additional holding line between Anand Vihar & Chandernagar station in c/w Development of new coaching terminal at Anand Vihar Railway Station (Phase-II) (Fifth call).
Completion period of the work	06 (Six) months from the date of issue of acceptance letter.
Approx. cost of work	Rs. 58.25 Lakh (Rupees Fifty eight lakh & twenty five thousand only)
Earnest money amount (to be deposited Online)	Rs. 1,16,500.00 (Rupees One lakh sixteen thousand five hundred only)
Date, Time for submission of e-tender and opening of tender	Tenders may be uploaded upto 11.30 hrs. on 10.02.2021 on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in . The bidders can only participate in the e-tender, the tender will be opened at 11.30 hrs. on 10.02.2021
Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document	The detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway web site i.e. www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in . Above tenders document will be available on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 20.01.2021 to 10.02.2021. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office.

No: 220-Acs/1/1168/Holding Line Date : 18.01.2021 134/2021
 Serving Customers With A Smile

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one boy namely **Lakhan Lal S/o Som Dutt Tiwari** R/o. T-52 Gali No. 1 Moolchand Colony, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi permanent address VPO - Rampur, P.S. Kodiya Bazar, Distt. Ghonda, U.P. has been missing/kidnapped from the area of P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi since 02.08.2018. In this regard, a case **FIR No. 319/18 u/s 363 IPC Dated 05.08.2018** has been registered at **P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi**. The description of the missing boy is as under.

Age: 15 Years, **Complexion:** Fair, **Height:** 5' 5", **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** N/A. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing/kidnapped boy then please inform P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi at following Tel No./ e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>.

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

Sd/- S.H.O.
P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi
Ph: 011-2763 2501



BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, DELHI. 4TH FLOOR JEEVAN TARA BUILDING PARLIAMENT STREET NEW DELHI - 110001.

OA. No. 815/19 **DATE: 14.01.2021**
CANARA BANK **APPLICANT**

VERSUS

MR. SACHIN SHARMA & ORS. **...RESPONDENT**

DEFENDANT

- MR. SACHIN SHARMA S/O SH. DINESH SHARMA**
 R/O A-95 GRAM SABHA HOUSES SEWAK PARK DELHI - 59
 ALSO AT: M/S AP GRAPHICS (PROPRIETOR)
 B-6 MILAP NAGAR UTTAM NAGAR DELHI - 59
- MRS. ANNUPAMA SHARMA W/O MR. DINESH SHARMA**
 R/O A-95 GRAM SABHA HOUSES SEWAK PARK DELHI - 59
 ALSO AT: SAPNA FASHIONS (PROPRIETOR)
 WZ-24 SHOP NO. 2 PREM NAGAR UTTAM NAGAR DELHI - 59
- M/S SUPERCITY DEVELOPERS PVT. LTD.**
 THROUGH ITS DIRECTOR
 6 (BHARATI COLONY) 1ST FLOOR PREET VIHAR OPP. METRO PILLAR NO. 73 VIKAS MARG DELHI - 92
 ALSO AT: MAYFAIR RESIDENCY
 PLOT NO. GH-07B SECT.-TECHZONE-IV GREATER NOIDA UP

Whereas the above named applicant (s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 33,01,110/- (RUPEE THIRTY THREE LAKH ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED AND TEN ONLY) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 25.03.2021 AT 10.30 A.M.

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL,
FOR REGISTRAR, DRT-II, DELHI

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mr. Deveshish Bhattacharjee and Mrs. Indrani Bhattacharjee are joint owners of Upper Ground Floor, Front Side, Rights Side, without roof rights, measuring 100 sq. Yds., 'said roof' of property No. C-14-5, Plot No. 4 & 5, Situated at Sanjay Enclave, in Block C-1, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi. Vide a Sale Deed dated 18.05.2019, Registration No. 18601, who is taking home loan from Fullerton India Home Finance Company Ltd. has lost / misplaced SMC certificate stating legal heirs of late Mr. Sukhbir Singh. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing document. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)
 200, 1st Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Wazirpur, New Delhi-16
 Ph: 61-4112327-28 kumarassociatesadvocates@gmail.com

NORTHERN RAILWAY

First Corrigendum
 Sub: 1st corrigendum against Tender Notice No. 178-Sig/CW/32/96/PT-II Dated: 15.01.2021 to be opened on 10.02.2021 invited by Dy. CSTE/CW/NDLS for and on behalf of president of India for the work of "S&T work for alteration of PI at Kathua and Madhopur Punjab stations and associated telecom work at adjoining stations in c/w doubling across Ravi Bridge section over Firouzpur Division of Northern Railway" May now be read with following correction.

1. Earnest money may be read as NIL instead of Rs. 1,32,700/- Bid security deposit in lieu of Earnest money need to be submitted. Detailed tender schedule may be checked on IREPS Portal. No.: 178-Sig/CW/32/96/PT-II Dated: 18.01.2021 137/2021
 Serving Customers with a Smile

DHFL DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED (DHFL)

DEMAND NOTICE
(THE NOTICE U/S 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (THE SARFAESI ACT) READ WITH RULES 3(1) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002)
 The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. ("DHFL") issued notice dated 22.12.2020, U/s 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act to below mentioned Borrowers, Guarantors, Pledgers and Mortgagees who have availed loans under loan account no. 00003186 from New Delhi Branch of DHFL and have failed to pay Pre Equated Monthly Instalments/Equated Monthly Instalments (Pre-EMIs/EMIs) of their loans to DHFL. Their loan account has been classified as Non-performing Assets (NPAs) as per the guidelines issued by the National Housing Bank. The Borrowers, Guarantors and Mortgagees have provided security of the immovable property/properties (Secured Assets) to DHFL, the details of which are described herein below. The details of the amount outstanding and payable by these Borrowers, Guarantors, Pledgers and Mortgagees to DHFL are also indicated herein below. The Borrowers, Guarantors and Mortgagees as well as the public, in general are hereby informed that the undersigned has initiated action against the following Borrowers, Guarantors, Pledgers and Mortgagees under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act. If the following Borrowers, Guarantors and mortgagees fail to repay the outstanding dues indicated herein below within 60 days from the date of the notice, the undersigned will be constrained to exercise any of the powers conferred u/s 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act and initiate any or all of the measures stipulated under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act to recover the amount due and payable by them as mentioned hereunder, with further interest, cost till the date of full repayment. The public in general is advised not to deal with the property/properties described herein below.

Date and other details of Notice issued u/s 13(2) of SARFAESI Act in loan Code No.00003186

Rs.17,19,04,850/- (Rupees Seventeen Crore Nineteen Lacs Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty) payable as on 22/12/2020 along with further interest, non-compliance charges, incidental expenses, costs, and any other charges etc. on 22/12/2020 till the date of repayment, as per notice dated 22/12/2020.

- Mr. Amit Arvind Trehan** - D-293, Defence Colony, New Delhi - 110024. (Mortgagor/Borrower)
- Mr. Arvind Trehan** - D-293, Defence Colony, New Delhi - 110024. (Guarantor)
- Carnival Films Entertainment Pvt. Ltd.** (Earstwhile HDIL Entertainment Pvt. Ltd.) - 9, HDIL Towers, AnantKaneekar Marg, Bandra East, Mumbai - 400051. (Guarantor/Mortgagor)

Details of secured assets:
 Plot No.1, admeasuring 3200 Sq.Mtrs. alongwith the present and future structure thereon Block B, Phase III, Sector 58, Noida, Gautambudh Nagar (U.P.), and bounded as under:

Towards North: Village Abadi	Towards East: Plot No. B-2
Towards South: 24 Meters wide road	Towards West: Plot for Electric Sub-station

(Please Note that the property for which DHFL has issued NOCs for sale/lease, may be excluded from the list mentioned in 13(2) Notice, on production of copies of the NOCs of DHFL along with proofs in respect of payment made to DHFL and compliances of all other terms and conditions stipulated therein.)
 The details of the abovementioned mortgaged properties and its receivables hypothecated with DHFL are more particularly described in Schedule of the 13(2) SARFAESI Act of the Borrowers, Guarantors and Mortgagees are barred from transferring and/or dealing with any of the Secured Asset(s) described above by way of sale, lease or otherwise, without obtaining our prior written consent of DHFL and non-compliance of the said provisions of the SARFAESI Act is an offence punishable under Section 29 of the SARFAESI Act. This notice is issued without prejudice to DHFL's rights and remedies available to it under all other Acts and the same shall not be construed as waiver of any of them. DHFL also reserves its right to raise further demands for the sums found due and payable by the Borrowers, Guarantors, Pledgers and Mortgagees to DHFL.
 All correspondence pertaining to this notice must be addressed to The Authorised Officer, Wholesale Lending Division, Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited, HDIL Towers, Ground Floor, Anant Kaneekar Marg, Station Road, Bandra (E), Mumbai-400051.
Sd/-
Place : Noida
Date : 19.01.2021
Authorised Officer
Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.

Cracking series finale in store

India need 324 more runs on final day to secure historic win at Gabba



SUCCESSFUL RUN-CHASE AT GABBA			
Score	Team	Opponent	Season
236-7	Australia	West Indies	1951-52
219-2	Australia	West Indies	1975-76
190-3	Australia	England	1982-83

Faisal Features

4th Test, Day 5
Live from 5:00am IST
SONY TEN 1, 3 & SIX

for no loss with Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill at the crease.

The highest target chased at Brisbane is 236 and that was seven decades ago which is an indicator why this Australian ground can be equated with Fort Knox. The home team hasn't lost a game here since 1988.

Thakur's dream Test match also got better with figures of 4/61 and a match haul of seven wickets. The most poignant moment was his apparent joy when he took the catch to help Siraj pip him to the coveted five-for landmark.

As Siraj showed that scuffed red kookaburra acknowledging the 957 people in the stands on the first working day of the week, the most generous applause came from his partner in crime, who walked a foot behind him clapping with gusto.

It was the kind of day that Test aficionados wait eagerly — ebbs and flows keeping everyone on the edge of their seats.

The possibility of rain adds to the excitement and the changing weather did affect the contours of Australia skipper Tim Paine's facial expressions which exhibited relief and despair in equal measures.

Among the two captains, Paine is supposed to be the enforcer but this Indian team hasn't stopped surprising its detractors with a spirit, which has made this series one of the

Drawn series will be worse than 2018-19 loss: Ponting

PTI ■ BRISBANE

Former Australian captain Ricky Ponting feels a drawn Test series against a severely depleted India will be a worse result for the hosts than the loss they suffered at home in the Border Gavaskar Trophy two years ago.

The injury-ravaged Indian team has shown great resilience and grit throughout the current tour of Australia. In the ongoing fourth and final Test, the tourists are without their premier fast bowlers, skipper Virat Kohli and a few specialist batsmen. "I think a drawn series will be worse than the loss a couple of years ago," Ponting told *crick-*

et.Com.Au.

"That's the way I look at it, considering how hard India have found it going through 20 players in a series, (Australia) having (David) Warner back for the last couple of games, (Steve) Smith back for all them that they didn't have last time around.

"A draw would not only feel like a loss to them but be a worse result than last series," he added.

The series is locked 1-1 at the moment. India need 324 runs with all 10 wickets in hand on the final day to pull off a historic win at the Gabba, while a draw will also see them retain the trophy.

finest played in recent times.

If Weather Gods don't decide to play the boss, there will be an official winner but certainly not a "loser".

This is the first Indian team which has earned well-wishers in exponential numbers for soldiering on manfully without any complaints.

A bowling attack with less than four-Test experience (if Thakur's debut is discounted)

got 20 wickets without being over-expensive.

Yes, a Mohammed Shami or Jasprit Bumrah's experience would have been invaluable but their absence showed that in terms of temperament, India's next batch of pacers are game-ready.

Yes, they would make mistakes but their predecessors also made plenty on their way to glory.

Cracks on Gabba strip will play on batsman's mind: Siraj

PTI ■ BRISBANE

An emotional Mohammed Siraj struggled to describe his maiden five-wicket haul in words but sounded a word of caution about the cracks on the Gabba surface creating confusion in the Indian batsmen's minds on the final day of fourth Test.

Playing in his maiden Test series, Siraj grabbed 5 for 73 in the Australian second innings on Monday.

He believed that there are a few spots on the surface, from where the ball might rear up awkwardly when his team sets out to chase a record target of 328 on Tuesday to win the four-match series against Australia.

"When they bowl, obviously there will be some confusion in the mind of the batsmen that there are cracks on the pitch but our batsmen are prepared for this. We will come to know only tomorrow," Siraj said at a virtual press conference.

When he was asked if he would be required in pursuit of the total, he replied: "If I get opportunity, then I will bat."

our aim is to win this series, especially after so many injuries, despite which our team fought hard in the first innings," he said.

The short ball to get rid of Steve Smith was his favourite among the 13 wickets in the series, along with the dismissal of Marnus Labuschagne.

"In the whole series, I feel it would be Steve Smith's wicket, there was extra bounce from the area where I thought I will get it. He is the best batsmen in the world and it gave me a lot of confidence, also the wicket of Labuschagne, it boosted my confidence."

The 26-year-old Hyderabad pacer thanked skipper Ajinkya Rahane for his constant support and encouragement.

"Also the kind of opportunities that the youngsters got, whether it is Natarajan or Washington, all have grabbed them, every one has performed."

"I will especially thank Ajinkya Rahane for trusting the youngsters and showing confidence in me, he was talking me all the time and it gave me a lot of confidence."



Mohammed Siraj celebrates with teammate Mayank Agarwal after taking his maiden five-wicket haul in Test cricket AP

PTI ■ BRISBANE

Indian pacers Mohammed Siraj and Shardul Thakur produced another inspirational effort in adverse circumstances but India were set a challenging target of 328 by Australia as the Border-Gavaskar Trophy headed

towards an exhilarating finale in the fourth Test here.

The target is a tricky one and the Indian batsmen would get a fair idea whether to go for it by lunch on the final day, which is Tuesday. This was after Siraj and Thakur combined to share nine wickets while dismissing Australia for

294 in their second innings.

Siraj (19.5-5-73-5) punched way above his weight with his maiden five-wicket haul but couldn't prevent Australia from posting an imposing target for his team in only 75.5 overs of the second innings batting.

At stumps, India were 4

Rain, thunderstorm in weather forecast for Day 5

AFP ■ BRISBANE

All eyes will be on the weather forecast for Brisbane as the fourth and final Test between India and Australia concludes at the Gabba on Tuesday.

It's been a hard-fought series with the score tied at 1-1 for now. And with Australia getting bowled-out in their second



ond innings late in the third session on Monday, we're left with promises to be an exciting fin-

ish to this India tour.

A win or draw will help India retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, while a win is imperative for Australia.

Rain has already had a big say in the fourth Test, with the entire third session of day two being washed out and play being called off early on day four as well.

As per *The Weather*

Channel, there is a possibility of heavy rain in Brisbane on Tuesday. There could be scattered thunderstorms, with a 50% chance of rain.

There are more worrying signs for Australia, who would be keen to get a full day's play, as *AccuWeather* has also predicted the possibility of thunderstorms in Brisbane on Tuesday.

Smith believes Oz are nicely placed

PTI ■ BRISBANE

Australian batsman Steve Smith reckons that with the Gabba track starting to play a few tricks, staying patient would be imperative for his team's bowlers when they defend an imposing 328 against a determined India on the last day of the fourth and final Test here.

India were 4/0 before the final session of the play was suspended early due to rain on the fourth day.

"I think the game is in a nice place for us. I think the wicket has started to play a few tricks today, couple of balls shot up," Smith said at the virtual post-day press conference.

"So, tomorrow it is just going to be about bowling (in) good areas and letting the natural variation of the day five wicket sort of do its work and hopefully we can hold on to all the chances," he added.

The rain factor is also going to be a crucial one on the final day but Smith would rather focus on controllables.



"Who knows? That is a tough question."

He said the Australian bowlers should remain patient and not go searching for too much. "The Indian players have obviously batted well. Obviously in Sydney, it was 130 (overs) or something, obviously it is a different wicket to that. But for us it is just being patient, not searching too much, bowling good areas and just letting it happen," the prolific batsman stressed.

"I think the more you sort of go searching for on these kind of tracks, then you prob-

'Starc will be good to go'

Brisbane: Leading pacer Mitchell Starc on Monday gave Australia an injury scare after he grabbed his hamstring but batting mainstay Steve Smith remained hopeful that he would pull through a decisive final day in the fourth Test against India here.

Starc looked uncomfortable during his only over of India's second innings, but Smith expressed optimism that the 30-year-old would be good to go on Tuesday.

"I'm sure he'll get assessed by the medical staff and one thing I know about Mitchell is he's tough and he's played through some injuries before and got the job done, so he will be hopefully good to go tomorrow," said Smith. PTI

ably don't get the reward. So, it is just about hitting good areas consistently and letting the natural variation of the wicket take its course," he reiterated.

PTI ■ SYDNEY

Skipper Virat Kohli will be back in action after a well-deserved paternity break while senior pacer Ishant Sharma will return after an injury layoff to headline the pace attack when the Indian team for the first two Test matches against England is picked on Tuesday.

Jasprit Bumrah and Ravichandran Ashwin, who could not play the Brisbane Test due to abdominal strain and back spasms respectively, are expected to be available after an extended period of rest before the four-Test series beginning in Chennai from February 5.

However, Mohammed Shami (fractured forearm), Ravindra Jadeja (fractured thumb), Umesh Yadav (calf muscle tear) and Hanuma Vihari (grade 2 muscle tear) will not be available for selection.

The new selection committee, led by

Chetan Sharma, aren't expected to spring too many surprises as most of the fit and available players currently in Australia are automatic picks.

The Indian squad will have to enter the bio-bubble on January 27 and with both Test matches in Chennai, the BCCI has decided to name a squad for the first two games (February 5-9 and 13-17) and the squad strength will be around 16-18 along with a few net bowlers.

Ishant, who was out with a side strain, had recently made comeback to competitive cricket with Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy and looked in good



rythm. Along with Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj, the three will man the pace attack with Shardul Thakur and T Natarajan as reserve pacers.

In the spin department, Jadeja's like for like replacement will be Shahbaz Nadeem, who had played a Test match against South Africa in 2019. With Ashwin likely to be available and Washington Sundar having a dream debut, the slow bowling department also looks settled with Kuldeep Yadav as the back-up wrist spinner.

The two wicketkeepers will be Rishabh Pant and Wriddhiman Saha while for the reserve batsman, M a y a n k

Agarwal and KL Rahul will be vying for a single slot. Agarwal is likely to get the nod as the selectors and team management might want KL Rahul, who had a wrist sprain, to play some Vijay Hazare Trophy and get ready for the white ball leg of the series in March.

LIKELY SELECTIONS

Openers (3): Shubman Gill, Rohit Sharma, Mayank Agarwal (reserve)
Middle-order (3): Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli (captain), Ajinkya Rahane (vc)
Wicketkeepers (2): Wriddhiman Saha, Rishabh Pant
All-rounder: Washington Sundar
Pacers (5): Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma, Shardul Thakur, Mohammed Siraj, T Natarajan
Spinners: Ravichandran Ashwin, Shahbaz Nadeem, Kuldeep Yadav.

Messi sees red in Barca's defeat

AFP ■ SEVILLE

Lionel Messi was sent off for the first time playing for Barcelona as Athletic Bilbao stunned the Catalans to win the Spanish Super Cup on Sunday, a dramatic final finishing 3-2 after extra-time.

Moments before Bilbao's momentous triumph was confirmed, Messi threw an arm at Asier Villalibre, who had earlier scored a 90th-minute equaliser in normal time to deny Barca victory.

Antoine Griezmann's double looked to have sealed the trophy but Villalibre intervened before Inaki Williams' fabulous strike three minutes into extra time proved decisive.

Messi shook off a thigh problem to start in Seville and was required to play all 120 minutes as Barcelona attempted to take the game to penalties.

Instead, the 33-year-old lost his temper at the end of a combative contest, reacting to a late challenge from Villalibre by swiping his hands across the back of his opponent.

It meant a first ever red card for Messi in 753 appearances for Barcelona, to go with his two reds for Argentina in 2005 and 2019.

"After so many years in football, Leo knows perfectly well when he is fit to play," said Barca coach Ronald Koeman.

"We talked and he said he was in a good place to start. He has survived the game, given the maximum, not-

ing more."

Messi's anger will take some of the limelight away from Bilbao, who had already denied the competition a Clasico final by beating Real Madrid in the semi on Thursday and now have completed the set.

It means a title and the perfect start for Marcelino Garcia Toral, who only took over as coach less than two weeks ago.

But there was praise too for his predecessor Gaizka Garitano, who oversaw this team reaching the Copa del Rey final last season, which earned qualification in the first place.

"This is for Gaizka Garitano and his coaching staff as well who brought us here," said Williams.

LENGTHY SUSPENSION

After losing the Spanish Super Cup final, Barcelona is also in danger of losing Lionel Messi for an extended period after he hit an opponent toward the end of the match.

Referee Gil Manzano said in his match report that Messi hit his opponent with "excessive force" while the ball was not near him.

The Spanish football federation's competitions committee will decide on the charges against Messi, and the player's eventual suspension could range from one to three matches or from four to 12 matches, depending on how severe the federation considers the incident.



England go 1-0 up with 7-wicket win

AP ■ GALLE

Jonny Bairstow and Dan Lawrence held their nerve in a 62-run unbroken stand to guide England to a seven-wicket win over Sri Lanka on Monday on the fifth and final morning of the series-opening Test. England ensured it didn't have any more hiccup in erasing the remaining 36 required on the last day after Sri Lanka had set up a tricky 74-run target on a turning wicket.

England had slumped to 14-3 late on the fourth evening, included a crucial run-out of its captain Joe Root for just 1, before Bairstow and Lawrence combined to usher the tourists to 76-3.

Bairstow remained unbeaten on 35 off 65 balls and Lawrence, who hit a gritty half century in the series 3-0 of debut, finished 21 not out.

The second Test of the two-match series will also be played at Galle, starting Friday. England swept the series 3-0 when it last toured Sri Lanka in 2018.

Inter beat Juventus to spice up Scudetto race

AFP ■ MILAN



Inter Milan defeated champions Juventus 2-0 to move level on points with Serie A leaders AC Milan on Sunday, boosting their hopes of a first league title since 2010.

Arturo Vidal got his head to a Nicolò Barella cross in the 12th minute for his first league goal for Inter Milan against his former club.

Barella added the second seven minutes after the break as

Inter claimed a first victory over Juventus since September 2016, ending a series of seven matches without a win.

"It was a bad defeat, we didn't expect it, we couldn't have put in a worse performance than this," said Juventus coach Andrea Pirlo after his second league defeat this season.

"Our attitude was wrong, right from the start. We were too passive, fearful, we only thought about the defensive phase."

Inter are equal on 40 points with local rivals Milan, who travel to Cagliari, with Juventus seven points behind the top two in fifth.

"To win against a team like Juve you have to touch perfection," said Inter coach Antonio Conte after his first win in four meetings against the club he led to the first three of their current run of nine consecutive league titles.

"I'm happy for the lads because these are games that give you self-esteem and make you understand that we're on the right path."

JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE HEADQUARTERS
Phone/Fax No.: 0194-2443031/2443032 (Sgr), 0191-2459029/2459255 (Jmu)
Website :- www.jkpolice.gov.in, E-mail :- phqj@jkpolice.gov.in

Clarifications/Amendment
In response to the queries raised by different firms under e-tender No 39 of 2020 dated 31.08.2020 floated for procurement of Medical Equipments for Trauma Centre PCR Srinagar, the necessary amendments as per Annexure "A" of this notice are issued for the information of intending bidders.

The intending bidders may visit JK Govt. e-tenders portal on www.jktenders.gov.in for comprehensive amendments/clarifications.

However, other terms and conditions of the eNIT shall remain the same.

Annexure "A" Technical parameter of MRI Machine.

Sr.	Actual Specification	Amendment requested	Amendment requested
1	2	3	4
4	RF System The system should be quoted with Dual RF Amplifier with latest B1 homogeneity compensation software like Multi drive/True shape/Multi Transmit software with small FOV imaging software like Zoom IT/Diffusion Zoom imaging or equivalent	The system should be capable of 30 KW or more peak power either through single or Dual RF Amplifier with latest B1 homogeneity compensation software like Multi Drive/True Form/Multi Transmit software with small FOV imaging software like Zoom IT/diffusion Zoom imaging or equivalent	Amended as requested in col 3
	It should support parallel acquisition techniques with a factor of upto 4 in 2D	Should allow parallel acquisition technique with a factor of upto 8 in 2D	Amended as requested in col 3
8.3	COIL SYSTEM Should be 46 Channel body for imaging in one FOV in combination of Spine Coil (30 elements single body coil to be quoted)	Body Imaging of at least 32 channel for the Z- Axis max FOV (50 cm) in combination with spine alongwith single or combination of anterior coils	Amended as requested in col 3

Technical Parameters of CT Scan Machine

Sr.	Actual Specification	Amendment desired	Amendment contents
1	2	3	4
1	X-Ray Tube The X-ray tube should be essentially dual focus with capacity of more than 5MHU	The X-ray tube should be essentially dual focus with capacity of 3.5 MHU or more	Amended as requested in col 3
16.3	Warranty and CMC System should incorporate all the features as per the December 2010 RSNA Standards/declaration	System should incorporate all the features as per December 2016 RSNA Standards/declaration	Amended as requested in col 3

BOQ i) Firms should quote the rate of complete solutions including consumables in relevant rows of BOQ.
ii) The AMC rates of MRI & CT Scan Machine may be quoted by the intending firms in the Miscellaneous row & II respectively of the BOQ.
iii) The rates need to be quoted by the firms in INR only.
iv) In order to examine the issues pertaining to site modifications, Civil and Electric work of OT and other equipments, PHQ has appointed a committee to examine such requirements to address issues separately.
v) Firms need to offer complete solutions as asked in the NIT any deficit items supplied by the firm will invite penal action and cancellation of contract with the approved supplier.
vi) Approved supplier shall be fully responsible for the proper functionality of supplied items during warranty period and under AMC on mutually agreed terms and conditions after expiry of warranty period.

No:DJ/PJ-10229/20
Dated: 18.01.2021

Sd/- Rayees Mohammad Bhat (IPS),
AIG (Provision & Transport),
For Director General of Police, J&K Jammu.