

OPINION 6
100 DAYS OF REVOLT, &
STILL RARING TO GO

WORLD 8
MYANMAR SECURITY FORCES
KILL 2 ANTI-COUP PROTESTERS

SPORT 12
INDIA EVES TO FACE
ENGLAND IN TEST

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UPROAR IN HOUSES OVER FUEL PRICE

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
The first day of the second part of the Budget Session of Parliament was virtually washed out due to the uproar created by the Opposition over fuel price.
In the Rajya Sabha, while the Congress wanted a discussion right away on the issue, Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu did not allow and said the matter could be raised during debate on the appropriation Bill in the coming days.
In the Lok Sabha, members of the Congress, the Shiv Sena, the Indian Union Muslim League gave adjournment motion notices over the continuous rise in petrol, diesel and LPG prices. After Speaker Om Birla rejected notices of adjournment motion moved by Opposition members over the issue, they started raising slogans.
Birla appealed to protesting members several times to let the House function so that women members can raise their issues on International Women's Day, but as the din continued around 5.15 pm, he adjourned the Lok Sabha till 7 pm.
The Congress made its intentions clear on disrupting the proceedings as soon as the Rajya Sabha met for the first day of the second half of the Budget Session. The newly-elected Leader of Opposition and senior Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge raised the issue and sought a discussion on the "burning issue."
"This is very important issue and it is a burning subject. Throughout the country, people are agitated," Kharge said. Petrol prices touched nearly ₹100 a litre while diesel rates were more than ₹80 per litre and LPG prices also increased, he said adding the Government had collected ₹21 lakh crore by putting excess duty and cess on petroleum products.
He said farmers and people were suffering because of rise in prices but the Chairman did not allow his notice under



Opposition leaders stage a protest over rise in fuel prices, in the Rajya Sabha during the Budget Session of Parliament in New Delhi on Monday. PTI



Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge, Deshpande Singh Hooda and others during a media interaction at Vijay Chowk in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

Rule 267 to suspend business for the day and discuss the issue. Naidu reiterated that the

First day of second part of Budget Session a washout

members will get ample opportunity to put the Government on the mat on the issue during the forthcoming debates.
He also said the Chair did not want to take drastic action on the first day of the session and asked the agitated members to let the House run.
The Opposition, however, did not oblige him and started shouting slogans forcing the Chairman to adjourn the House till 11 am. Similar scenes were witnessed when the House reassembled with Kharge again seeking a discussion.
When Deputy Chairman Harvansh clarified that Naidu's ruling was final and the Opposition could raise the issue later, the senior Congress leader said it was important to discuss the matter immediately as people were suffering due to the frequent increase in fuel prices.
As the Chair decided to continue with the legislative business, Opposition members started shouting slogans forcing the Deputy Chairman to adjourn the House till 1 pm.

WOMEN'S DAY House acknowledges women power Sita Soren runs House for 40 minutes, Amba rides horse

ROSHAN KUMAR ■ RANCHI

On the occasion of International Women's Day, women legislators of the State were on the driving seat. While someone donned the Speaker's chair, some preferred to reach Assembly riding a horse showcasing women strength.
Amba Prasad, the Barkaganj MLA surprised everyone as she reached the Assembly riding a horse. Amba, whose father (Yogendra Sao) and mother (Nirmala Devi) had represented Barkaganj as the third member from the Sao family to represent Barkaganj Assembly seat. As the Congress legislator reached the Assembly riding a horse people rushed to click her pictures.
Amba, who on earlier occasions had reached the Assembly riding cycle didn't disappoint media persons. She said, "On the occasion of International Women's Day I congratulate all fellow women. We should all work in removing gender discrimination from society". Amba, the first time legislator, also announced that her NGO is working to strengthen widows financially.
However, the star attraction of the day was Jamma Sita Soren, who sat on the Speaker's post for 40 minutes. Though it is a normal practice that when Speaker is not in his chair he assigns any MLAs to preside house functioning.



Jama constituency MLA Sita Soren presided over the House proceeding on the occasion of International Women's Day, during the ongoing Budget Session, in Ranchi on Monday. TV Photo



MLA from Barkaganj Amba Prasad rides on a horse to mark International Women's Day as she arrives at Jharkhand Assembly during ongoing Budget Session, in Ranchi on Monday. Vinay Murtu / Pioneer

Sita Soren comes from one of the strongest political families in the State as her brother-in-law is chief minister (Hemant Soren) and another brother-in-law (Basant Soren) represents Barhhat in the Assembly. When Sita was in chair BJP MLA Randhir Kumar Singh was speaking and discussion of cut motion on agriculture and animal husbandry department was going on. Followed by BJP legislator speech, Congress MLA from Khajri Rajesh Kachhap also raised a public interest issue during the chairmanship of Sita Soren in the House.
Not only women legislators, on the occasion of International Women's Day fellow lawmakers too raised the issue of greater participation of fair sex in educational institutions and government jobs. AJP MLA Lambodar Mahto raising the issue demanded 33 per cent reservation for women in educational institutions and Government jobs. A BJP MLA requesting anonymity said, "A lot has to be done for women emancipation in Jharkhand. In Bihar women get reservation in panchayat and police services, but in Jharkhand we have still to enact law for women emancipation." In 81 members of House on the occasion of International Women's Day, which is around 12.5 per cent of total house strength. The Hemant Soren Cabinet too has only one woman minister.

Session likely to be cut short, to end before State polls start

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Budget Session of Parliament is likely to be cut short and may conclude before the first phase of elections on March 27, while the two Houses will resume their normal timing of 11 am onwards from Tuesday, sources said.
Several parties had requested that the session, which was originally scheduled to continue till April 8, be curtailed due to the Assembly elections in four States and one Union Territory being held between March 27 and April 29.
While Rajya Sabha



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman greets Congress MP Anand Sharma at Parliament on Monday. PTI

Chairperson M Venkaiah Naidu announced the new timings for the Upper House this morning on the first day of the second part of the Budget Session, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla made a similar announcement in the Lower House. Birla said Lok Sabha members would also sit in galleries, apparently to maintain distancing norms.
Keeping in mind the social distancing norms due to the Covid-19 pandemic, both Houses were meeting in two shifts since the Monsoon Session, with Rajya Sabha meeting in the first half of the day and Lok Sabha in the second half. There was no Winter Session of Parliament due to the pandemic.
Some Rajya Sabha members were sitting in Lok Sabha chambers to adhere to distancing norms.

Jharkhand's daughters to make own identity. CM 'GOVT COMMITTED TO WOMEN EMPOWERMENT'



Chief Minister Hemant Soren felicitates a woman on the occasion of International Women's Day organised by Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) at SDC Hall in Ranchi on Monday. Ratan Lal / Pioneer

PNS ■ RANCHI

The women of Jharkhand are reaching their milestone with their confidence and style of work. I wish you all the best. Continually move towards the goal and determination with which you want to move forward. Work of self-reliance and empowerment of women is taking place in Jharkhand. It is necessary, if women are strong, then the coming generation also gets strengthened. The role, participation of urban and rural women towards society in various corners of the country is commendable," said Chief Minister Hemant Soren during an event on the occasion of International Women's Day here on Monday.
"For the last one year, we all have been struggling with epidemics. Change is the law of creation. If we don't want to change, then time changes.

Corona infection is indicative of a similar situation. All of us have seen this state of war overcoming the infection battle over a period of time. In a State like Jharkhand, the role of women has been important during this epidemic. The women employed in each field played an important role as the Corona warriors. Today, I am proud to honour women like Corona warriors during the pandemic period," said the CM.
Two days before International Women's Day, the CM said during the Stakeholders Meet held in Delhi, to tie investors about the new industrial policy of the state, "The jacket I have worn has been made by the women of our State." He was referring to the 'Bandi' prepared from Mayurakshi silk operated in Dumka district of the State. The jacket was presented to him by the women there during his visit to Dumka. A few months ago, the Chief Minister had also invited the adolescent girls rescued from human trafficking to the Chief Minister's residence with due respect and assured them of their future.
Soren has said the vision of a healthy society or State will be successful only when the women of the State are healthy. The government is soon going to run a special campaign to eradicate anaemia from the State. Under which there is a preparation to make the state free of anaemia in 1,000 days. A few days ago on March 3, the State Government has also made several announcements for the women of the state in the budget of 2021-22.
Among them, it was announced to provide a ₹449 crore cyclical fund, community investment fund and a credit linkage of ₹50 crore for the Sakhi mandals of the State. The government has set a budget of ₹500.00 (five hundred crore) for Anganwadi centres. It will be used for nutritious food for pregnant women, midwives and infants visiting Anganwadi centres. Apart from this, the Government has announced a provision of 250 crore for the Bari scheme.
About 15,063 women have been added in the last four months through the Phooljhano blessing campaign. They are now associated with other means of employment with respect except for the sale of Hadiya Daru. This is a major step by the state government towards empowering women.

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CCL celebrates International Women's Day with fervour

PNS ■ RANCHI

International Women's Day was celebrated across Central Coalfields Limited with enthusiasm and fervour here on Monday. A plethora of activities were organised at CCL, HQ Ranchi and the various operational units of the company.

The theme of the celebration was "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in Covid-19 world. Women in Public Sector (WIPS) organized a program at the convention centre HQ, Vimala Prasad was the chief guest on the occasion. The guests of honour were Archana Srivastava and Bindu Singh. The programme was also attended by CCL Dr Archana Bhatti, Arundhati Panda, Director (Fin), H.E.C and Dr Kamini Kumar, Vice Chancellor, Ranchi University. Women employees from different departments and operational units also attended the program.



Director (Per) Vinay Ranjan and CVO SKSinha also graced the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Prasad wished everybody on the women's day and said that they should all challenge the gender prejudice in the society. He saluted the women employees of the company and further expressed his acknowledgment for their contribution.

Director (Personal) Vinay Ranjan said that that day is not distant when women will break every glass ceiling of the society. He further added that people should not be scared of failure and be ready to challenge themselves. Director (FIN) N.K Agarwal and Director technical (Operations) V.K Srivastava also wished everybody on the occasion.

women are holding top leadership positions in various walks of life.

Col Dr Archana Bhatti wished everybody on the occasion. She said it's a matter of pride that women today are working alongside men in all the fields. She further added that there is no dearth of inspiring women who have overcome difficult odds to prove themselves.

Earlier in the day four sanitary pad vending machines were inaugurated by Vimala Prasad and also with link of Internal Committee under sexual harassment act was launched by CMD, CCL. Ten women employees were felicitated during the programme. Cultural programmes were performed by the women employees of the company, and a short film on women's empowerment was also shown. Rashmi Dayal, Co-ordinator (WIPS)/General Manager (Recruitment/Sambhali), Col Dr Archana Bhatti, Senior Vice-Chief Manager (Pers), Rekha Pandey, Senior Manager (Pers) along with other members of WIPS played an important part in the programme. The programme was held at the auditorium of Ranchi University. The programme was held on the occasion of International Women's Day.

Third private centre for vaccination in Daltonganj

PNS ■ DALTONGANJ

Dr Jain Sewa Sadan Daltonganj has been made a vaccination session site, taking the total number of the private nursing homes to three in the town.

Civil surgeon Palamu John F Kennedy was present at the inaugural shot of the vaccine on Monday at the Sewa Sadan here. Several of the civil surgeon even administered the shot to one visitor aged sixty above.

There was joy and confidence at the Sewa Sadan where the sixty and plus age people looked eager to have the jab on cash. The Sewa Sadan has made elaborate arrangements for the Coronavirus vaccination jab. Secretary of this health hub Suresh Jain said their institution is committed to go for the vaccination on a large scale. Jain said Sewa Sadan has bought hundred doses of Covishield vaccine which will be given at the rate of 250 rupees per dose. He said Sewa Sadan plans to go for multi-fold achievement of the vaccination. Kennedy said the vaccination site will be functional from 9 to 5 in the day and in the event of recipients found sitting for the vaccination, the centre will be open on call. Jain said the Sewa Sadan has a big cold chain with it.

TSAF joins hands with FIT India to launch Himalayan Expedition

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Tata Steel Adventure Foundation (TSAF) is organising a unique expedition to the Himalayas.

Women's Trans Himalayan Expedition '21 in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, under the FIT India banner. The expedition is also being supported by Tata Motors and Tata Sports Club as drive and fitness partners respectively. The expedition will be led by Bachendri Pal, a recipient of Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri, legendary mountaineer and the first Indian woman to scale Mt. Everest, and will have participants aged 50 and above from October this year. The team members are drawn from across India comprising retired professionals and home-makers. The 10-member team also comprises three Women Everest Summiters. The five-month long expedition involves traversing the Himalaya range from Arunachal to Karakoram range (East to West) covering around 4,500 kms and crossing about 40 mountain passes. The expedition is expected to begin in the first week of May and will conclude in the second week of October this year.

Bachendri Pal said: "The expedition aims to address the mind set of our society and highlight the need to keep fit and demonstrate that age and gender is no barrier for a fit and healthy lifestyle. It will also signify women empowerment, leadership, decision making, lifestyle and the importance of fitness for our entire community. What makes this expedition more tough is the long duration of 5 months combined with multiple challenges including emotional, social, mental factors, physical fitness and weather constraints, and the support together make Fit@50+ women's Trans Himalayan expedition a unique one."

INBRIEF

RAILWAY ANNOUNCES INTEGRATED HELPLINE 139

To overcome the inconvenience over multiple helpline numbers for grievances and enquiry during railway travel, Indian Railway has integrated all railway helplines into single number: 139 (Rail Madad Helpline) for quick grievance redressal and enquiry during the journey. As the new helpline number 139 will take over all the existing helpline numbers, it will be easy for the passengers to remember this number and connect with Railways for all their needs during the travel. Various Railway grievances helplines were discontinued last year. Now, Helpline no. 182 would also be discontinued from 1.4.21, and merged into 139. The Helpline 139 will be available in twelve languages. Passengers can opt for IVRS (Interactive Voice Response System), or directly connect to call-centre executives by pressing * (asterisk). There is no need for a smart phone to call on 139, thus, providing easy access to all mobile users.

CMHO CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

NTPC Coal Mining Headquarters organised a Workshop through MS Team online for all members of Swayamsidha ladies club. The faculty for the workshop was Arunima Patra, Former HR practitioner & advisor of IBM India Pvt Ltd. The workshop was organised under the leadership and guidance of Shikha Keshyap, President, Swayamsidha Ladies Club, CMHO. She in her address conveyed good wishes to members on Women's Day and emphasized on organisation of such programs. Malanika Mathew, GM (HR), CMHO in her address opined that Women's Day should be practised every day in letter and spirit. The workshop was made interesting with anecdotes from Indian mythology. The workshop was also attended by B. Vaishali, Saonguri Dutta, Aparna Asthana, Sandhya Das, Reshma Behera, Shevya Shastri, Archita Mishra, Pratika V and other members. At the end of the program Vote of Thanks was delivered by Archana Mukherjee, AGM (IT).

WIPS, CMPDI CELEBRATES WOMEN'S DAY

On the occasion of international women's day, WIPS CMPDI organised an "Awareness Session" for the women residents of Kadru Village of Baridih Panchayat, Barakana camp with a view to encourage leadership and participation of rural women in well being of the society and rural communities and also handled over protein-rich nutrition packet to them along with distribution of old cloths to needy villagers. Around 20 WIPS members of CMPDI HO and RI-II were present to support the initiative. GM (P&A)/WIPS controller, Sumita Mehta and CM (Geo)/WIPS secretary, Zeba Imam, addressed the assemblage and made them aware of their rights and duties and the role they play in shaping the future of the children, families and the society. The head of the village panchayat, Pathvi Devi, was also present on the occasion and provided important information related to the condition of rural women in the village. The programme was attended by around 60 rural women of Kadru Village, Baridih Panchayat.

WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATED AT CCL'S ARGADA AREA

On the occasion of International Women's Day 2021, CCL's Argada Area organised an event to celebrate the achievement of women. Keerthi Shree G, SDO Ramghar was the Chief Guest of the program and first Lady of the area, Gitanjali Singh was guest of honour. During the programme all the women achievers of the area were felicitated including employees and female students acknowledging their exemplary performance. The program was conducted by Girish Chandra, Staff Officer Personnel, Sanjeev Kumar, Dy. Manager-Personnel, Pankaj Jha, Dy. Manager (E&M), Suchitra Mukherjee, Asst. Manager Personnel.

JPPC CELEBRATES INTL WOMEN'S DAY

A mental health review camp was organized on International Women's Day by Ranchi Metropolitan Professional Congress and Nerve and Mind, JPPC president Aditya Khilari was present on the occasion. Pink Auto women drivers were honoured on the International Women's Day at the camp. On this occasion, Jaishal said that women will be imparted training by the Professional Congress for self-protection. He said that a better society can be built only with respect to women.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT RRD

Various programmes were organized on Ranchi Rail Division on the occasion of International Women's Day on Monday. The programmes included cross country race for women personnel of the Railway Protection Force, seminar on women empowerment and safety, felicitation of 14 women employees, exhibition women's hockey match etc. On the occasion, all the work was conducted by women workers at Ranchi railway station. All the works of Ranchi railway station were executed by 78 women railway personnel of various departments. DHM Neeraj Ambastha, ADHM (Operations) BM Ranchi, ADHM (Infra) Sanku Kumar, Chief Medical Superintendent (G. Harinaran, Sr. DE (Construction) Anil Kancharan, Sr. DOM cum PRO Neeraj Kumar, Sr. DCM Avinash, Sr. DEE (Tractor) AR Das, Sr. DPO Manik Shankar, Sr. DSTES, ORO and other officers and employees were present. Chairperson of Serwan Ranchi, Rubi Ambastha and other members were present in the programmes.

CIL approves record 32 mining projects at ₹47,000 crore

PNS ■ RANCHI

Scripting a record high, Coal India Limited (CIL) has approved 32 coal mining projects in the current fiscal till January 21, which indicate an estimated incremental capital of around Rs. 47,300 Crores. While 24 of the 32 are extension of the existing projects, the rest 8 are new greenfield projects. The combined incremental peak capacity of these projects is projected at 19.2 Million Tonnes/Year (MTY). This is in addition to the already sanctioned capacity of 303.5 MTY. The approval of the projects enables coal companies of CIL to escalate their production in the ensuing years. CIL Board and Boards of the respective subsidiary companies have given their nod for the move. The incremental production by FY'24 from the approved 32 expansion and the new greenfield projects would be to the tune of around 81 MTY. "Such high number of extension projects of capacity addition, has not been cleared in a single financial year so far" said a senior official of the company. CIL is striving to replace the coal imports through its own coal and any increase in domestic production would play a catalytic role in this effort.

Govt. of Jharkhand OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER Field Survey Division, Advance Planning, Road Construction Department, Nirupam Bhawan, 4th floor, 56-Set Chowk, Doranda, Ranchi-834002. e-mail: eercdaps@rediffmail.com

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PLANNING AND INVESTIGATION DIVISION ROAD CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT (RCDD), Ranchi-834002. Nirupam Bhawan, 3rd Floor, Room No. 401-56, Set Chowk, Doranda, Ranchi-834002. e-Procurement (Very Short Tender Notice) Letter of Invitation (LOI) No.-22/2020-21

Indian Cricket: In the Pink of health?

The Indian team in the pink of health? In both the tests, England suffered an embarrassing defeat in the first one ending in a matter of two days which must have given them the shock followed by a sinking feeling and the second one a natural denouement of the psychological trauma wreaked on them during the first Motera match with Axar and Ashwin the spinning duo making sure that the innings defeat will continue to harass the visitors in their nightmares exposing them to the horrors of the innocuous looking but deceitful spin. India created history by making the English team look like sitting ducks - concluding last two test matches in a matter of 5 days and winning the series 3-1. It is to be seen how the Western media will extricate the English team from the harrowing Ahmedabad experience and what euphemism they use to protect their ears from the name of course, with this win India has secured their smooth entry into the World Cup Test Cricket Finals. The way India has beaten the so-called world beater (Australia in England), we can predict the Indian team will continue to crush its opponents like a juggernaut in future as well.

After the crushing defeat in the first test in Australia in the recent test series played in Australia during December 2020, and the resulting low morale of the team, and temporary exit or absence of star players like Virat Kohli and others in the following tests, the way the team rebounded under Ajinkya Rahane and took the series away from Australia scaling new heights. The Indians completely swept the Aussies in their own ground much to the chagrin of the complacent hosts. How this change has come about? With the numero uno Virat Kohli back as captain in the India-England series and the new talents added to the already existing pool of performers, India is at the pinnacle of World cricket. Having beaten and humbled the English team and awaiting the ODI's and T 20s, India feels confident because today there is no dearth of talent and skill in the country.

Let us examine what are the hall-marks of this transformation: (a) The team is now jelling and coming up to the challenges that are being faced. The team synergy is showing. (b) There is a change in the psyche of the cricketers. The young Rishabh Pant dared to hit a six to get to his hundred in the last test shows the utter disregard for the "World Class English" bowlers. The manner in which Washington Sundar battered the unbeaten 96 and the ease with which he negotiated the bouncers hurled at him, coming later in the batting line-up, shows the spirit of new India.

Ensemble Valhalla 2021 concludes on a thrilling note

JAMSHEDPUR: Ensemble Valhalla, XLR18 annual cultural, sports, and management festival, organised day three of the 3-day extravaganza that is Ensemble Valhalla 2021. The theme of the fest for this year is "Escapade" - A New Journey Awaits. It encourages people to overcome the monotony of life and daringly take off on a journey of adventure and thrill. The last day witnessed the massive participation of different student teams in various FLAGSHIP Competitions like Strategion, Bid it like Beckham, Genesis, Bamboozled, Circus Maximus, and War of Wits. The fest also hosted students participating in MUN and cultural competitions like Raagaalya, meme contest, Memebazzi, and quizting events like Back to the Roots and the Getz Quiz, followed by the final round of The Next Gen Leader, EVCTS flag-

श्रम, नियोजन प्रशिक्षण एवं कौशल विकास विभाग जिला नियोजनालय सरायकेला कैम्पस, सरायकेला List of Employers with Vacancy सर्ती की तिथि- 10.03.2021

Indian Navy deploys 4 women officers on warships

PNB ■ NEW DELHI

With the objective to give more representation to women, the Indian Navy, in a major step, has deployed four women officers on board its warships for the first time after many years. So far, officers were serving only on shore-based assignments.

The demand for deploying women officers on board warships was pending for the past many years. However, the Navy was reluctant to do so due to various practical issues including separate washrooms and living quarters on the ships.

So far, women officers in the Navy were deployed in land-based assignments. Some of them were also flying helicopters. However, a stint on the warship came about recently. They were deployed on ships about 23 years back and then it was discontinued due to logistical and related issues.

Giving details of the path-breaking step on the International Women's Day, Navy officials said here on Monday four women officers were recently posted on warships. Two of them were now serving on the aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya while two others are deployed on the tanker ship INS Shakti.

It was for the first time since 1998 that women officers will be posted on warships. Back then, women officers started getting deployed onboard warships but the decision was changed soon after due to certain logistical and other issues.

In the latest development, women officers deployed

Rajya Sabha members push for one-third reservation for women in Parl, Assemblies

PNB ■ NEW DELHI

Several Rajya Sabha members on International Women's Day on Monday pushed for at least one-third reservation for women in Parliament and State Assemblies, saying this will ensure they get adequate representation. The demand comes in the backdrop of a Bill which sought to give 33 per cent reservation to women in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies lapsing a few years ago.

Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu on the occasion appreciated the services rendered by women members of the House for the country's development and prosperity. "We need to ensure an environment that allows women to express themselves to the full potential in the form of both words and deeds," Naidu said and wished them more strength and power. The chairman also acknowledged the contribution of women citizens to the development of the nation.

Congress member Chhaya Verma recalled that the Government of former Prime



On the occasion of International Women's Day on Monday, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla met women parliamentarians and women journalists in the Parliament House Complex. A first of its kind initiative, the event was also attended by Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman and Smriti Zubin Irani. Noting that women have led from the front while holding important positions like President, Prime Minister and Speaker among others, Birla reminded that the present Lok Sabha has the highest number of women parliamentarians. *Photo: PNB*

Minister Rajiv Gandhi had given reservation to women in local bodies. Similar provisions should be made for women in State Assemblies, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, she said. Nominated member Sonal Mansingh made a case of celebrating 'international men's day' on the line of women's day.

Shiv Sena member Priyanka Chaturvedi was of the opinion that as women form 50 per cent of the country's population, their representation in Parliament and state assemblies too should be in the same proportion, and

not merely 33 per cent. Naidu earlier appreciated that women across the world and in our country have been at the forefront of tackling the covid pandemic, be it as doctors, health care workers, bureaucrats, scientists, innovators, community organisers or caregivers at home.

Referring to the history of India freedom struggle and active participation of women in all walks of life, Naidu said that the women of our country have been active participants in shaping the history and contemporary times.

6.5% of the overall officer cadre. To mark Women's Day, the Navy on Monday released a video about INS Shakti with messages from the two

All-women crew fly maiden commercial passenger flight from Delhi to Bareilly

PNB ■ NEW DELHI

To mark International Women's Day, the first commercial passenger flight to Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh operated by an all-women crew was flagged off from the Delhi airport by Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Monday.

In a tweet, Puri said Indian carriers employ close to 12.4% women pilots. "India tops in the proportion of women pilots than any other nation. Indian carriers employ close to 12.4% women pilots, which is much higher than the world average of 5.4%," Puri tweeted. In another tweet, the aviation minister said: "Women power is high. 210 women pilots including 103 captains are a part of the Air India family.

AAI is efficiently women-ed by 507 women Air Traffic Controllers."

The percentage of female pilots in India is twice as high as in most Western countries, including the United States and Australia. Globally, less than 5 per cent of pilots are women, according to the International Society of Women Airline Pilots.

Meanwhile, in a statement, the civil aviation ministry said that the Bareilly airport has been upgraded for commercial flight operations under the regional connectivity scheme - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) of the Government of India.

The all-women crew operated Alliance Air's Delhi-Bareilly maiden flight on International Women's Day, it said.

women officers posted on the tanker.

"They say women can't have it all. But I would say dare to be different. The Indian Navy gave me the opportunity to fly high. 210 women pilots, said one of two women officers.

Over the years, the Navy inducted women officers in different assignments. Last September, two women officers were selected for the helicopter stream. They were first women in the navy's history to operate from flight decks of warships and stay on board the vessels. The two women officers, Sub-Lieutenants Kumudini

[Yagi and Riti Singh, were among the 17 officers who were awarded wings on graduating as observers at a ceremony held in Kochi.

As observers, the two women have been trained for a variety of roles including navigation, flying procedures, tactics employed in air warfare, anti-submarine warfare and airborne avionics systems. They are likely to be posted on warships by the year-end, officials said.

These women officers will be posted onboard maritime reconnaissance and anti-submarine warfare helicopters of

States, UTs get ₹200 cr to ensure women's safety across country

PNB ■ NEW DELHI

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Union Home Ministry on Monday listed out initiatives through the Nirbhaya Fund to enhance the safety and security of women in the country. For his part, Union Home Minister Amit Shah also said that women empowerment has always been the focal point of the policies of the Narendra Modi Government.

The MHA said ₹200 crore has been sanctioned to States and Union Territories (UTs) to set up women help desks in police stations and to strengthen anti-human trafficking units in all districts of the country.

A separate women safety division has also been set up in

the home ministry to sensitise states and UTs on women safety related issues including timely completion of investigation of sexual assault cases, it said.

"The Government has sanctioned ₹200 crore to States and UTs to set up Women Help Desks in police stations, and to set up or strengthen Anti Human Trafficking Units in all districts of the country as also on vulnerable borders," the statement said.

The home ministry said the Bureau of Police Research and Development has distributed 14,950 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection kits to states and UTs and these SAEC kits will facilitate the efficient handling and storage of forensic evidence in cases of sexual assault.

the navy.

In order to overcome the issue of separate washrooms and living quarters on board, the Navy some years back started building separate cabins and toilets for women officers on its warships.

The force also recently deployed a lady officer as the first woman defence attaché posted abroad. The lady officer is Lieutenant Commander

Karabi Gogoi who is posted at Mascab as naval attaché.

The IAF had opened the coveted fighter stream for women in 2015 by selecting lady officers by MIG-21s. The Army is yet to induct women officers in combat arms including the infantry, artillery and armoured corps. As of now, there are nearly 9,120 women currently serving the army, navy and air force.

Covid, attendant factors may cause 10 mn more child marriages by 2030: UNICEF

PNB ■ NEW DELHI

Covid-19 is profoundly affecting the lives of girls as they face pandemic-related travel restrictions and physical distancing restricting their access to the health care, social services and community support that protect them from child marriage, unwanted pregnancy and gender-based violence, UNICEF has pointed out.

On the occasion of International Women's Day, in its analysis, "Covid-19: A threat to progress against child marriage", the world child body has warned that 10

million additional child marriages may occur before the end of the decade, threatening years of progress in reducing the practice.

More so as schools remain closed, girls are more likely to drop out of education and not return while job losses and increased economic insecurity may also force families to marry their daughters to ease financial burdens.

As per the report, India is among five countries in the world which account for about half of the total child brides worldwide, an estimated 650 million girls and women alive today were married in

childhood, with about half of those occurring in Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, India and Nigeria, according to the analysis.

To offset the impacts of COVID-19 and end the practice by 2030 - the target set in the Sustainable Development Goals - progress must be significantly accelerated, it said.

One year into the pandemic, immediate action is needed to mitigate the toll on girls and their families. By reopening schools, implementing effective laws and policies, ensuring access to health and social services - including sexual and reproductive health services - and providing comprehensive social protection measures for families, we can significantly reduce a girl's risk of having her childhood stolen through child marriage," said UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore.

Naidu exhorts MPs to come to Parl to enrich their knowledge

PNB ■ NEW DELHI

Peever over some Elders not attending the proceedings even when they are in the national capital. He, however, made it clear that he was not referring to any particular member or any party. "I appeal to all the members, please make it a point to be in the House and then observe debates, enrich your knowledge," he said.

The Parliament Library is completing 100 years this year. It has a huge collection of about 14 lakh books including hundreds of journals in all languages. I am told that the footfall of Members of Parliament in this source of information and knowledge is

not very encouraging," Naidu said, stressing that sufficient homework is required on the part of members to make quality contribution to debates and interventions.

Naidu also gave an account of the examination of the Demands for Grants for 2021-22 of various ministries undertaken by the eight Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committees of the Rajya Sabha during the three-week recess after the first part of the ongoing Budget session of Parliament. He referred to several positives that emerged during the Budget scrutiny by the Committees of Rajya Sabha and some concerns as well.

As dissidence grows, U'khand CM Rawat meets BJP Central leadership

PNB ■ NEW DELHI

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat on Monday met the BJP Central leadership amid reports that he will be replaced following dissidence against him over his style of functioning.

Rawat met BJP President JP Nadda, who in turn discussed the political situation of the hill State with Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

Talk of a leadership rift in Uttarakhand ahead of elections next year as Rawat, 60, completes his four years at the helm. On Saturday, the central

leadership rushed two central party observers, Raman Singh and Dushyant Gautam, to Dehradun to oversee the situation.

The BJP leaders met with MLAs, ministers and also with the Chief Minister and the RSS functionaries and submitted a report to Nadda.

Uttarakhand BJP head Banwarilal Khatri has, however, denied any move to replace the incumbent Chief Minister. According to dissident MLAs, continuation of Rawat may not cost the party in the 2022 assembly polls with anti-incumbency against him being "on the rise", they said.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

30-Elect-32-T2020-21-E3
Name of work with its location: Electrical work in connection with improvement to circulating area (development of the existing parking, toilets, entry/exit & passenger amenities) work at Old Railway Station

Approx. cost of the work in ₹: Rs. 38.57 Lacs

Address of the office in: Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi

Earnest Money: Rs. 00.00

Date & time of submission of tender: 01.04.2021, 12.00 Hrs

Opening of tender: 01.04.2021, 12.00 Hrs

Website & notice board: www.reps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi

92772021

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

UJVN Ltd.
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)
H.O. "UJVNL" Mahatma Singh, GSC Road, Dehra Dun-241006
CIN No. U40119UP201001500232866 Website: www.ujvn.com

RO No. 193 "e" Procurement Notice Date: 08.03.2021

Office of the Executive Engineer (Test), Gangwa Valley, UJVNL, Haridwar invites tenders from experienced firms as per following details:-

Tender Specification No. 06/UJVNL/EE/Test/GV/2020-21
Name of Work: Supply Installation Testing and Commissioning of Fixed Type On Line DC Insulation Monitoring System for Chilla Power House

Estimated Cost - 78,40,698.00 + GST

Date of availability of Tender document on website - 10.03.2021 (11:00 Hrs)

Last Date for Receipt of bid on website - 30.03.2021 upto 17:00 Hrs

For all details, bidders are advised to see e-procurement portal - uktdenders.gov.in. Executive Engineer (Test) "AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL

General Public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted the photo) namedly Madhu D/o Surender R/o Jangider Ka Makan, Gali No. 1, Lokhram Park, Tikri Kalan, Delhi Aged-14 Years has been reported missing/kidnapped since 12.03.2021 from the area of P.S. Mundka, Delhi vide FIR No. 95/21 UC 162 IPC Dated 12.02.2021 registered at Police Station Mundka, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Wheatish, **Height:** 5'0", **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Green coloured suit-salwar, purple coloured sweater and slipper in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped girl, may inform SHO, Mundka, Delhi at E-mail: clc@cbi.gov.in or website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Sd/-
Mr. 011-24368638 or 24368641
SHO, Mundka, Delhi
FAX No. 011-24368639
Tel. 011-24362010
DP/69/OD/2021 28352011

Bumper yield to keep potato, onion prices in check this yr

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The production of two main kitchen staples - potato and onion - is estimated to be higher than last year, as per the Ministry of Agriculture. However, in case of tomatoes, the production is pegged slightly lower to 20.14 million tonne this year from 21.17 million tonne last year and this may hit the common man less from 11.17 MT last year.

With 326.58 MT horticulture crops production in 2020-21, the first advance estimate of horticulture crops for the year 2020-21, the Ministry has estimated that onion production is likely to be 26.29 Million Tons (MT) as against 26.09 MT in 2019-20 and potato production is estimated to be 50.19 MT against production of 48.56 MT last year. The tomato production is expected to grow from 21.17 MT last year to 20.14 MT in 2020-21.

Nevertheless, retail onion and tomato prices are running between ₹35-60 a kg for the past two months due to lower supply in the mandis across



the country. Onion prices across the country, particularly in primary agricultural markets near the growing regions, have crashed between 30 per cent and 40 per cent over the last 10 days as the late kharif crop has begun to flood the markets. Traders and exporters fear further fall in the bulbs prices as the rabi crop is all set to hit the markets any time after March 15.

"Onion prices had topped ₹4,000 a quintal in Nashik in the third week of February, but the last year as arrivals levels of ₹2,500 as late kharif crop arrivals have increased since the last 4-5 days," said a trader.

Potato prices have crashed by about 80 per cent in various primary agricultural markets in major produce States from a peak of ₹2,750-2,900 a quintal seen in November last year as arrivals have begun to flood the mar-

Protest against rise in fuel prices will continue: Congress

PNB ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday said it would continue to protest against rising inflation and high prices of petroleum products, and would demand a discussion on the issue in Parliament. The first day of the second part of the Budget Session of Parliament in Rajya Sabha was virtually washed out due to the uproar created by the Congress.

Congress has alleged the Modi Government has carried at least ₹21 lakh crore in the last over six years by raising prices of petrol, diesel and LPG.

Talking to media outside the Parliament, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha

Mallikarjun Kharge said he had given a notice to the chairman under rule 267 for a discussion on rising prices against rising inflation and high prices of petroleum products, and would demand a discussion on the issue in Parliament. The first day of the second part of the Budget Session of Parliament in Rajya Sabha was virtually washed out due to the uproar created by the Congress.

Kharge said when the Congress raises such issues, it is not given time to raise them in Parliament.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Name of Work Item	Quantity	Unit	Approximate Value (₹)	Closing Date	Time	Remarks
1	ROAD WORKS	CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD WORKS IN THE VILLAGE OF...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	ROAD WORKS	CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD WORKS IN THE VILLAGE OF...	...	...	...	...	...	...

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaproject.com or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one person Name(s): Satyanarayan / Saiya Narayan, S/o: Kanhiya, R/O: H.No. 385, F-Block, J.J. Colony, Bawana, Delhi, Age: 50 Years, Height: 5'4", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Wearing: White Shirt-Black Pant and Black Chappale in Feet has been missing/kidnapped since 11.11.2020 from the area of P.S. Mundka, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 57-A, Dated 13.02.2021, has been lodged at P.S. Mundka, Delhi.

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

Web-site: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-Mail ID: clc@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-23011334
DP/68/OD/2021

Sd/-
Mr. 011-28352010, 28352011
P.S. Mundka, Delhi
Ph: 011-28352010, 28352011

Explosives car near Antilia: NIA takes up investigation

PTI ■ NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has taken over the case of a vehicle laden with explosives found near top industrialist Mukesh Ambani's residence in Mumbai, an official spokesperson said on Monday.

NIA has received orders from MHA (Ministry of Home Affairs), GoI (Government of India) for investigation of case FIR No 35/2020 registered at Police Station Ganderdi on 25.02.2021. This case relates to recovery of explosives from a Mahindra Scorpio parked at Carmichael Road, Mumbai, the NIA said in a statement.

NIA is in the process of registering the case, it further said. The Scorpio, with 20 gelatin sticks inside, was found near Ambani's high-rise south Mumbai home on Monday, 25. According to the police, the vehicle was stolen from Airoli-Mulund Bridge on February 18.

In yet another twist, Hiren Mansukh, the purported owner of the vehicle, was found dead

in a creek in Thane on Friday. Meanwhile, Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Monday said the NIA taking over the case suggests 'explosives are fishy'.

Talking to reporters in Mumbai, Thackeray said governments come and go, but the official administrative machinery remains the same and one needs to trust it.

On Sunday, the Maharashtra Anti-terrorism Squad (ATS) registered the FIR against unidentified persons on the orders of the State Home Department under IPC Sections 302 (murder), 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence) and 120-B (criminal conspiracy).

Thackeray said, "We had handed over the case of the vehicle laden with explosives and the mysterious death of Hiren Deshmukh to the ATS. The NIA taking over the case shows something was fishy."

The ATS will continue to conduct its probe into Hiren's death, he said. He said the opposition does

not have faith in the state machinery and wanted to show it doesn't function.

"If that is so, why is it demanding that the state government reduce taxes on fuel?" the chief minister asked.

Thackeray also said the state police will conduct probe into the alleged suicide of Lok Sabha member Mohan Delkar and punish the guilty.

Delkar (58), a seven-term MP from the Dadra and Nagar Haveli Union Territory, was found dead at a hotel on Marine Drive in south Mumbai on February 22.

"A Union Territory is governed by the Centre. We will take the case to its logical end. I wonder how Opposition here is quiet on the issue of the seven-term MP ending his life", Thackeray said. On Monday, Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh said in the Assembly that the state police was capable of solving the case of auto parts dealer Mansukh Hiren's death and the recovery of the explosives-laden car near Ambani's residence.

PM's back-to-back rallies in March 3rd week in WB

PTI ■ KOLKATA

With Bengal coming in BJP's priority list in the upcoming March 12, his party sources said high-profile Nandigram sent on March 18 and 20 -- ahead of the first phase of elections on March 27. His first meeting will be at Purnia and the second at Contai the home-town of BJP's Nandigram campaigner Suvendu Adhikari, party sources said.

Modi attended a huge rally at Kolkata's historic Brigade Parade Ground on Sunday attacking the TMC regime. BJP star candidate Adhikari will lead the profficial outfall last year after quitting the Trinamool Congress will file his nomination against Chief

RSS 2-day annual meet from March 19 in B'luru

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Akhil Bharatiya Pratinidhi Sabha (ABPS), the highest decision-making body of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), will hold its two-day annual meet from March 19 to 20 in Bengaluru.

The meeting was earlier planned for Nagpur, but had to be relocated due to the active COVID-19 cases in Maharashtra.

According to sources, the meeting -- which will have in attendance about 500 to 550 RSS brass will be held on March 19 and 20. Election to the highest executive post of the organization, Sar Karyavah (general secretary), is expected to take place during the meeting.

Gender equality a distant dream in Western UP

PTI ■ ALIGARH

In West UP number of cases of female foeticide are notified. Also people are more worried about the male child instead of female child special in the rural areas.

In Aligarh rural areas and Muslim populated areas, slum girls are not getting nutritious food as compared to male child. Here 62% girls are suffering from under nutrition problem.

That is why there is higher death rate of female child with in two years of delivery. Though UP government has launched several projects/schemes but parents do not pay proper attention to improve girls health. Girls remaining alive being abandoned after birth are living under nutrition life.

MAHA BUDGET: 2021-22: MVA Govt proposes hikes in excise duty, VAT on liquor

PTI ■ RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The Shiv Sena-led MVA Government on Monday proposed hikes in the State Excise Duty and Value Added Tax (VAT) on the sale of liquor through which it hoped to mobilise an additional revenue of Rs 1,800, while it announced one per cent concession on the transfer of house or registration of sale deed in the name of a woman or women.

In his first budget presented after the break-out of Covid-19 in Maharashtra in March last year, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar announced three farmer-friendly measures -- zero per cent interest crop loans up to a borrowing limit of Rs 3 lakh, Rs 2000 crore scheme for strengthening Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs) and 33 per cent concession on farmers' electricity bills.

Adding to additional revenue generation by hike in the State Excise Duty and VAT on liquor, Pawar -- who holds the State Finance portfolio -- announced the state government's decision to raise country liquor into two separate categories as branded and non-branded country liquor. The two separate categorisation of branded and non-branded country liquor involved an increase of State Excise Duty to Rs. 220 percent of manufacturing cost or Rs. 187 per proof litre whichever is high on branded country liquor only.

The deputy chief minister

said that owing to the State Excise Duty and VAT on liquor, the state government was expected to net an additional revenue of Rs. 800 crore.

Pawar proposed to increase the rate of Value Added Tax (VAT) on the sale of liquor as prescribed in Schedule B of Value Added Tax Act from the existing 60 percent to 65 percent. He also proposed to increase the rate of Value Added Tax (VAT) on the sale of liquor as prescribed in Section 41 (5) of Value Added Tax Act from the existing 35 percent to 40 percent.

Pawar said that owing to the VAT, the state government was expected to get additional revenue of Rs 1000 crore.

In a tax concession measure announced on the occasion of International Women's Day, the Deputy Chief Minister proposed a concession of one per cent in the Stamp Duty on the prevailing rate exclusively to Women, "provided the transfer of house property or residential plot in urban areas, is in the name of woman or women only".

Pawar said that owing to the proposed tax concession, there will be an additional revenue of around Rs 1000 Crore to the State Exchequer.

In a couple of several health infrastructure measures announced in the wake of the continuing Covid-19 crisis in the state, Pawar said that a Rs 7500 crore project involving the construction and upgradation of health institutions would be completed in the next four years, while Rs. 5000 crore will

be provided by the government in the next 5 years for quality health services in the Municipal Councils and Nagar Panchayats. Of the total allocation, Rs 800 crore would be spent during the current year.

He also announced a cancer Diagnosis Facility in 150 hospitals and establishment of new Government Medical Colleges at Sindhubur, Osmanabad, Nashik, Raigad and Satara. He said that medical colleges would also be set up at Parbhani and Amravati.

Pawar said that 11 seven government nursing schools affiliated to government medical colleges in the state will be converted into nursing colleges, while physiotherapy and occupational therapy colleges will be established in all 17 government medical colleges, in a phased manner.

"Post Covid Counseling and Treatment Centers will be set up at every district hospital and 0 government medical colleges in urban areas," the deputy chief minister said.

Dwelling upon the concession in the pending electricity bills, the Finance Minister said "33 percent concession has been given to farmers of pending electricity bills and if the farmers pay 50 per cent of the remaining amount by March 2022, additional 50 per cent of the remaining amount will be waived off. In all, Rs 30,411 crore will be waived off by MVA government which amounts to 66 per cent of the original pending bills of 44.37 lakh farmers".

Salma Ansari names 2.5-yr-old girl after her mother, Zehra Kazmi

PTI ■ PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

Salma Ansari, wife of former Vice President Hamid Ansari, named her two-and-a-half-year-old girl after her mother Zehra Kazmi. Recently, four needy children were brought to Madrasa Chacha Nehru from Bihar, whose education and responsibility has been taken by Salma Ansari.

Relatives of the children have taken the responsibility of their upbringing to the Alnoor Charitable Society in writing. She is a two-and-a-half-year-old girl from Bihar, whose mother is deceased. The child's maternal grandfather handed her over to the madrasa. She is named after the mother of Salma Ansari.

₹1500 CR CUSTOMISED SOFTWARE SCAM

PTI ■ ED arrests Deepak Agarwal and Ajayush Goyal

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrested Deepak Agarwal and Ajayush Goyal for their involvement in a trade-based money laundering scam in which funds to the tune of Rs 1500 crore were sent outside India in the guise of payment for 'customised software'. Both the accused were remanded to judicial custody.

However, the Metropolitan Sessions Judge, Visakhapatnam, has granted conditional bail to the investment director of Deepak Agarwal to ED for three days beginning March 6.

The ED has also sought arrest of Ajayush Goyal.

The ED had initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Andhra Pradesh Police against Vaddi Mahesh and others in the complaint of Income Tax Department. PWS

15-year-old raped by nine people over eight days in Rajasthan's Jhalawar

PTI ■ KOTA (RAJ)

A 15-year-old girl was allegedly raped at separate places by at least nine people over eight days in Rajasthan's Jhalawar, police said on Monday. Two of the accused are minors.

The girl somehow managed to reach her home on Friday after which a complaint was lodged. Four of the accused, including the two minors, have been held, police said.

Suker DSP Manjeet Singh said the girl alleged that her friend Bulbul and another youth, Chothmal, on February 25 took her to Jhalawar City on the pretext of buying a schoolbag for her.

He, however, said the girl is a school dropout. She alleged that two to three other people joined them at a park where she was drugged and raped by them. She alleged that at least nine people at different times and separate places in Jhalawar raped her over eight days.

The DSP said a medical examination of the girl was conducted immediately and four of the accused were held. Two of them are minor and attempts are under way to arrest the rest, he said. PTI

UP: 13-year-old rape survivor gives birth

PTI ■ DEORIA (UP)

A 13-year-old girl, who was allegedly raped in Uttar Pradesh's Deoria district, has given birth to a child, police said on Monday. A man has been arrested on charge of raping the girl, they said.

Circle Officer (CO) Ambika Ram said her mother alleged in the complaint that the minor was raped at her house in a village in Rudrapur area by a neighbour eight months ago when she was alone.

The accused also threatened her of dire consequences due to which she did not narrate her ordeal to the family members, the CO said.

The accused has been arrested and sent to jail, police said, adding a detailed probe is on into the matter. PTI

Rajasthan Police SI suspended on rape charge

PTI ■ JAIPUR

A police sub-inspector was suspended on Monday on the charge of raping a 26-year-old woman in Rajasthan's Alwar district, an official said.

A case of rape under Indian Penal Code (IPC) section 376 was registered against police sub-inspector Bharat Lal (52) on a complaint lodged by the woman, Alwar SP Tejaswini Gautam said.

The SP said the accused was arrested and suspended on Monday.

The woman had gone to police station to lodge a case against her husband as he wanted a divorce. The woman wanted police to stop him from getting a divorce.

According to the woman's complaint, the accused SI raped her for three days at a quarter inside police station, the SP said. PTI

Wijayan Govt mulling options to silence Central probe agencies

PTI ■ KOCHI

The diatribe by the CPI(M) leaders against the Customs officials in Kochi has taken a new turn as the Pinarayi Vijayan-led Left Democratic Front Government is considering options to silence the Central agencies. This follows the announcement by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan that the demand by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan to put on hold all probes by the Central agencies into cases like gold smuggling scam, reverse haul operations from India to West Asia and the CBI investigation into the LIFE Mission, the flagship programme of the State administration.

According to sources, the Secretary, the State administration was taken aback by the affidavit filed in Kerala High Court by Sumith Kumar, a Customs Preventive Commissioner stating that the dollar hauls and other operations had the patronage of top leaders of the CPI(M).

Northwest parts of India to welcome rain over next 4 days

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The northwestern parts of India are set to experience widespread rain over a brief dry spell. The latest forecasts said that two western disturbances will impact the Western Himalayan Region and adjoining northwest India this week. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday said a Western Disturbance (WD) prevails over north Pakistan on Monday and an induced cyclonic circulation lies over Punjab and the neighbourhood region. Owing to the rough weather conditions, the IMD has issued an orange alert over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand for Wednesday and Thursday. Uttarakhand will continue to remain under the same advisory for Friday as well. The advisory instructs residents to be prepared for the rough weather conditions.

According to the IMD, the WD is mainly a weather phenomenon whose arrival is associated with snow and rain in the Himalayas and parts of northwest India. The ongoing system is expected to produce scattered rainfall or snowfall with isolated thunderstorms, lightning or hail over the Western Himalayan Region (WHR) on Tuesday.

Also possible features of very light rain or drizzle over Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi from March 8 to 10. PWS

Pregnant woman found hanging; in-laws booked

PTI ■ MUZAFFARGARH

A 30-year-old pregnant woman was found hanging at her home here, police said on Monday.

They said a case has been lodged against her in-laws for allegedly demanding dowry from her.

Tabasum Begum was found hanging at her marital home at Jolla village in Budhana town on Sunday, police said. She was married to Asfar for over an year and was allegedly being harassed by her in-laws for not bringing enough dowry with her, they said.

Woman dies after being beaten up by husband

PTI ■ MUZAFFARGARH (UP)

A 35-year-old woman was allegedly beaten up by her husband here, police said on Monday.

Kusum got seriously injured after her husband attacked her with an iron rod when she tried to prevent him from drinking. She was admitted to a hospital and succumbed to injuries on Sunday, police said.

The incident took place at Athai village in Jansambh tehsil on March 1, they added.

The woman's husband, Sanjay, was earlier booked for attempt to murder, which has been now changed to murder, Station House Officer Deepak Chaturvedi said.

The accused is absconding, he said. PTI

Hand gloves for voters, PPEs for Covid infected in TN polls

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Covid-19 infected voters would be given personal protective equipment (PPE) kits while others would be provided with thermometers for casting their votes in the elections to Tamil Nadu assembly next month as part of preventive measures in view of the pandemic, state Chief Electoral Officer Satyabrata Sahoo said on Monday.

On the day of polling, every voter would be given hand gloves before voting to ensure there was no cross transmission of infection through the Electronic Voting

Machine, he said. All other norms to help prevent COVID-19, including giving people with thermometers, would be followed during the polling on April 6, the official told a press conference at the Secretariat.

"People must go to polling stations wearing mask", he said, adding public should follow social distancing as well. If people had fever or in case of suspicion about coronavirus, they should be given medical certificate and allowed to vote during the last one hour.

In case of people infected with COVID-19 or suspected of being infected with the virus, they would be permitted to cast their votes wearing a PPE kit that would be provided by authorities, he said. Arrangements are in place to ensure availability of PPEs, he noted.

Both polling stations and personnel have been increased in view of the pandemic and as a result the total booths now stood at 88,937 as against 68,324 and would be manned by 4,79,892 personnel, the

CEO said. There are 76 counting centres in the state. While previously only the vulnerable and sensitive polling stations were monitored through web camera, for the first time now, a minimum of 50 per cent of polling booths shall be connected to the devices.

As many as 150 general-observers and 40 police observers have been deployed and they would all report in their respective assigned constituencies before March 19. PTI



Women workers collect sun-dried chillies at a farm in Shertha village on the outskirts of Ahmedabad on Monday

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PAPER WITH PASSION

Future perfect?

Is Tikait using the farmers' agitation to carve a place for himself in the Assembly or LS polls?

Riding the crest of farmers' protests, Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) leader Rakesh Tikait is putting in his best efforts to find a firm ground for his political future...



An overambitious leader who has had no political career might be used as a 'safety valve' by the Centre to defuse the farmers' anger.

manoeuvres including breaking down during a speech, threatening to hang himself if the farm laws weren't repealed and of marching to Parliament with 40 lakh tractors...

The political stint of Tikait — the son of legendary farmer leader Mahendra Singh Tikait who held sway over Jat farmers in western UP and founded the BKU and the Bahujan Kisan Dal — has been rather unsuccessful.

PICTALK



Himachal Pradesh Police's women officers celebrate International Women's Day, in Shimla

Institutionalised racism

What did Prince Harry Windsor and Meghan Markle's interview to Oprah Winfrey teach us?

Let us make no bones about it; the interview that Prince Harry Windsor and Meghan Markle, the now effectively excommunicated members of the British Royal Family...



to them about this, whether it was a family member or a member of the royal household bureaucracy, but this again highlights that even an evolved family or institution can remain horribly rooted in a racist past.

The British Royal Family might reign over a realm that is uniquely multi-racial and multi-ethnic, but racist undertones still exist in Britain.

100 days of revolt, & still raring to go

As the farmers' protest against farm laws enters the summer season, they brave high temperatures and the paucity of basic necessities



INDRA SHEKHAR SINGH

As an orange sun hung over the Tikri border; Rakesh Tikait along with other leaders was addressing the gathering of farmers on the 99th evening of the farmers' revolution.



But far from the maddening crowds, the revolution had got a new friend. Against public advice, he kept ramming into the yellow police barricades...

The advances in farm machinery and artificial insemination have made the indigenous bull redundant. Most farmers sell off the male calves at birth...

with foreign breeds, mainly Jersey and Holstein, that it's hard to tell what is indigenous anymore.

The more immediate challenge to the revolution is, of course, the increasing heat — political and physical. Temperature variations have already started affecting people's health.



WHILE ALL EYES ARE ON BENGAL, THE FARMER LEADERS ARE EXPANDING THEIR BASE TO THE STATES OF RAJASTHAN, MADHYA PRADESH AND UTTAR PRADESH. THE MORALE ON THE GROUND AT THE REVOLUTION SITES HAS NEVER BEEN HIGHER

The Ghazipur border is also going for a summer makeover. Much of the encampment at this border is on the Asian Highway2 (AH2).

The farmers' revolution has transformed from an agrarian movement into a united opposition to the totalitarian Government. The BJP has suffered electorally in Punjab and Haryana...

ers have stepped out of their region for the first time, yet they quickly learnt to work and endure suffering together.

Penance has been the path to spiritual awakening — Jesus on the cross or Buddha starving under the Bodhi tree — and the farmers are also suffering for the sins of our world.

(The author writes on agriculture and environment, and is the Director — Green India. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WOMEN SHOULD RISE AGAINST TORMENTORS

Sir — Each year, March 8 is celebrated as International Women's Day. It goes without saying that women have proved their worth in all spheres and their progress is beyond any doubt.

We have not achieved these things and the reality is very disappointing. Daughters are committing suicide daily in our country as they are forced by their husbands and in-laws to meet their demand for dowry.

The fair sex is rather treated unfairly in our country and working women in traditional domains of men are looked down upon by their peers.

Bal Govind | Noida

TAKE ALL SHOTS WITHIN STIPULATED TIME

Sir — As COVID-19 cases are again on the rise in India, it is time to accelerate our vaccination drive.

No cakewalk for Mamata



This refers to the editorial 'Risky resolve' (March 8). Mamata choosing to contest from Nadimgram shows her nervousness and the Trinamool Congress (TMC) not giving tickets to many sitting MLAs and Ministers shows that Didi no more has confidence over her old guards.

a door-to-door vaccination drive should be conducted not only in big cities but also in towns and villages. Vaccination is a safe and effective way to prevent disease and save lives — now more than ever.

CK Subramaniam | Mumbai

BJP LIKELY TO WIN BENGAL ELECTIONS

Sir — If the massive crowd at the Prime

matters worse for her and winning from Nadimgram will not be a cakewalk for Mamata as the Adhikari clan holds significant influence in the area.

However, Mamata's chances of winning the battle of prestige at Nadimgram are quite good but will definitely affect the TMC's performance elsewhere. The TMC's rule has been fraught with corruption and its Ministers were neck-deep in malpractices and nepotism.

Minister's rally at the Brigade Parade Ground in Kolkata is anything to go by, the indication is clear that the TMC is going and BJP is coming to power in West Bengal.

Yash Pal Ralhan | Jalandhar

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUNDBITE

Women in our country have always played a great role in nation-building and in upholding national integrity, peace and harmony.

Women have always been an inspiration to society.

Andhra Pradesh Governor — Biswa Bhushan Harichandran

The Government has signed an advance purchase agreement for 8.5 million additional doses.

To make everyone around them happy, they sometimes compromise their real self.

Actress — Sunny Leone

Nowadays everybody is looking for a big total; every game we want to score more than 250 but for that you need some time and matches.

Indian women's ODI vice-captain — Harmanpreet Kaur

The social organisations could also contribute to ensure comfortable commuting and convenient accomplishment of the vaccination process.

Union Minister — Jitendra Singh

FIRST COLUMN

INDIA MUST NOT LET CHINA WOO HASINA

Ties between New Delhi and Dhaka would benefit both countries and Modi's trip should take this forward



KALYANI SHANKAR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's forthcoming visit to Dhaka on March 26 is quite significant as it will be his first foreign trip after the COVID-19 outbreak. It is expected to consolidate bilateral ties as Bangladesh is a gateway to southeast Asia and part of Modi's 'Act East' policy. In the last six years, the Prime Minister has established a rapport with his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina. There have also been frequent ministerial and official-level visits and continuous interaction between New Delhi and Dhaka. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar visited Dhaka last week to pave the way for the Prime Minister's visit as part of Bangladesh's celebrations of 50 years of independence. It also marks a decisive victory of the Indian Army over Pakistan. Coincidentally, Modi's visit is just before the first phase of the Assembly polls in West Bengal and Assam, which share common borders with Bangladesh. The enormous improvement in bilateral ties in the recent years led Hasina to call it a 'golden period.'



Yet, the steps taken in the domestic sphere during Modi's second term are causing concern to Bangladesh, even though New Delhi contends that it is a domestic matter. These measures include the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), the passing of the controversial Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) and the creation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

During Modi's trip, the two leaders are expected to discuss bilateral issues, especially the matter of Teesta river water sharing. Despite achieving breakthroughs in several areas in India-Bangladesh ties, both countries are yet to resolve the issue and Teesta has emerged as an emotive matter in Bangladesh and West Bengal. Dhaka has been pushing New Delhi to settle it early as Teesta water is vital for irrigation during the dry season in the northern part of Bangladesh. The Modi Government had successfully persuaded West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on the tricky Land Boundary Agreement and the enclaves' resolution, but Didi has stuck to her guns on Teesta. Jaishankar, during his recent Dhaka visit, said, "The position of the Government of India has not changed." However, it is a political necessity for both sides to find a solution soon. A deal would help New Delhi get more political leverage over China's growing influence, particularly in the Bay of Bengal region. It will also help Hasina politically. Meanwhile, a desperate Dhaka has turned to Beijing and a massive project funded by China has been adopted to manage the Teesta river.

On the domestic side, illegal immigration has been a political and electoral issue for the BJP since 1996 when its national executive in Bhopal passed a resolution on it. Even the 2019 manifesto said, "We will continue to undertake effective steps to prevent illegal immigration in the north eastern States." The other issue is that of Rohingya refugees. Millions of Muslims from the Rakhine province of Myanmar, following the Tatmadaw's crackdown in 2017, fled to Bangladesh and other neighbouring countries, including India. New Delhi is caught in a dilemma between two close strategic neighbours, Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Connectivity is another important area where both the countries are focusing, and many new projects are on the way and New Delhi has come to Dhaka's rescue by exporting nine million vaccines as part of its COVID diplomacy. On its part, Bangladesh is set to graduate out of the Least Developing Countries with its GDP growth of eight per cent. New Delhi must keep up the partnership that allows for economic growth, defence cooperation, connectivity and improved developmental parameters for both nations. A collaboration between India and Bangladesh would benefit both countries. New Delhi must not lose the moment to take the ties forward.

(The writer is a senior journalist. The views expressed are personal)

Gender inequality in Indian labour market

It is not only participation in higher education that will provide a broad solution but skills training relevant to the market demand is also necessary



BALWANT SINGH MEHTA

Every year on International Women's Day the world celebrates the achievements of women in social, economic, cultural and political spheres. Not many are aware that this special day for women began as a labour movement in 1908, when 15,000 women marched through New York City demanding shorter working hours, better pay and the right to vote. March 8 was taken up as an official International Women's Day in 1975 by the United Nations. This year's theme was centred around celebrating the tremendous efforts of women/girls in shaping a more equal future and also in aiding recovery from the pandemic. However, it is imperative to highlight the gaps that remain and the way forward to address them successfully.

Gender inequality in the labour market, particularly in the context of developing nations, is one area of concern that still poses a great challenge, particularly in a country like India. Historically, women have been denied many opportunities due to deep-rooted biases in the social systems. These eventually lead to labour market inequality as such discrimination is not limited to the domestic arena only but extends beyond the household. The underlying factors that cause such discrimination in India are the sex ratio at birth, life expectancy at birth, the infant mortality rate, the under-five mortality rate, the maternal mortality rate, nutritional deprivation, inequality in literacy rates and the gender gap at the highest level of political decision-making. These inequalities have direct implications for labour market outcomes in terms of women's participation in economic activities. Even with similar educational attainments and skill sets as men, women are denied opportunities, which leads to significant differences in status of work, income and occupations. Despite the introduction of many affirmative policy actions, such exclusionary approaches remain.

Inequality in the labour market: While some studies have noted an improvement in employment conditions for women, with rising salaries and more participation in quality or decent jobs, other studies have highlighted jobless growth and declining participation in the labour market in the past decades. The pandemic severely hit economic activities of those who were at the lower rung of the occupation hierarchy, particularly women working in the informal economy. They were out of jobs for a significant period of the outbreak and those who managed to hold on to one had to face wage cuts. This has further precipitated the vulnerability of women.

Employment and education/skill level: Globalisation has led to an increase in women's participation in the labour market in India. But there is still a huge gender gap, with only 18 per cent of women employed as compared to 47 per cent men. It is often argued that women are engaged in mostly low-skilled, low-paid work under precarious work conditions. Education and skill level play a key role in access to the labour market and in the quality of work one gets.

Almost half of the working women (42 per cent) are illiterate compared to 19 per cent men, and around 77 per cent are educated up to the upper primary level as compared to 62 per cent men. There is a significant difference between the higher education level of working women and men, i.e. 23 per cent of women as compared to 38 per cent of men are educated above the secondary level.



GLOBALISATION HAS LED TO AN INCREASE IN WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE LABOUR MARKET IN INDIA. BUT THERE IS STILL A HUGE GENDER GAP, WITH ONLY 18 PER CENT OF WOMEN EMPLOYED AS COMPARED TO 47 PER CENT MEN

The writer is senior faculty at Institute for Human Development, New Delhi. The views expressed are personal.



Job quality and occupations: More than half of working women (53 per cent) are engaged in self-employment, whereas one-fourth take up some form of casual work (25 per cent) and only 22 per cent are in regular salaried jobs. The share of men engaged in regular work (24 per cent) is relatively higher, while their share in casual employment (24 per cent) is slightly lower. Further, differences are also observed in terms of occupational segregation in the labour market (i.e. the difference in the share of men versus women within an occupation). Such segmentation is widespread within occupational groups.

The occupational distribution by gender shows that women (28 per cent) are relatively more involved than men (22 per cent) in low-paid and unskilled jobs, such as elementary occupations (domestic helpers, cleaners, street vendors and garbage collectors), services (personal care, housekeeping and salespersons) and as office and customer service clerks. Women (10 per cent) are also under-represented in high-skill and well-paid jobs, such as those of professionals, technicians and associate professionals, as compared to men (13 per cent). Additionally, the percentage of women (92 per cent) engaged in informal employment in the country is higher than men (88 per cent).

Unemployment, NEET and inactive people: The overall employment level among women (five per cent) is less than their male (six per cent) counterparts. The unemploy-

ment rate among young (15-29 years) women is not only significantly high (18 per cent) but also greater than men (17 per cent). The trend also shows a sizable increase in youth who are not in employment, education and training (NEET), among whom a large proportion is that of women. More than half of young women (55 per cent) are in the NEET category with only 13 per cent of young men featuring in it. Additionally, 84 per cent of young women are inactive as compared to 41 per cent of men. The inactive youth include those who face employment difficulties and may drop out of the labour force when jobs are hard to find, whether for study, leisure, illicit activities or due to inertia. Women face many social and economic hurdles which limit their participation in the labour market and this may lead to labour market inactivity.

Factors aiding inequality: There are many factors that contribute to labour market inequality. Mehta and Awasthi (2019) analysed various factors through an econometric decomposition exercise. Their study revealed four important factors: Educational qualification or skill level is one of the most important factors contributing to inequality, as individuals with high education or skill level can access better jobs or have higher chances of getting a decent job; access to a decent quality job or a regular formal salaried job, which provides better and secure income, while casual work is irregular and low paid; gender, as various socio-economic con-

ditions and other restrictions cause women to have a lower labour force participation rate and lastly work experience, as people with experience are more likely to get better access to the labour market. There are other factors such as social groups, income level or poverty and rural and urban location which play a key role in gender inequality in the labour market.

The way forward: Rising inequality in the labour market is a reality, with the differences between the male and female population growing wider. Though, over the years, female presence in regular or high-skilled and better-paid jobs has improved but still a large number of them are engaged in low-paid and unskilled jobs. In recent years, the growing enrolment of young women in secondary and tertiary-level education has resulted in them being better-skilled employees and their proliferation in decent employment. This trend is seen particularly in the services sector, especially in financial services and information technology. Hence, apart from a gender-friendly environment, it is necessary to make education up to the secondary level universal and free.

However, the growing number of women in the NEET category and the higher unemployment level among educated or skilled women is negating the advances made through such measures. Therefore, it is not only participation in higher education that will provide a comprehensive solution but skills training relevant to the market demand is also necessary.

POINT-COUNTERPOINT

BENGAL TRUSTED DIDI FOR 'PORIBORTON'. SHE BROKE THE TRUST. I HAVE COME HERE TO MAKE YOU BELIEVE IN 'ASOL PORIBORTON'. —PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI



HE SAYS THERE IS NO 'PORIBORTON' IN BENGAL. BEFORE POLLS IT IS UJJIWALA AND POST POLLS IT TURNS INTO 'JUJLA'. THIS CANNOT CONTINUE. —WEST BENGAL CHIEF MINISTER MAMATA BANERJEE



Govt land monetisation will boost infrastructure development

The proposed SPV meant to carry out the monetisation should take essential steps for making land assets of PSUs free of any hindrances

Urban development in India is largely obstructed by the lack of availability of land at affordable prices, a key prerequisite for infrastructure development and housing. According to the Numbeo database for 2021, Mumbai is among the top 10 cities with the highest price-to-income ratios. The reason for the high price of land available for infrastructure development or residential stock in India is directly linked to the complexities of the land acquisition process.



PRERNA PRABHAKAR

With a number of loopholes in its current design, it has been largely debated by various researchers and policymakers. Making matters worse, the lack of clear land titles and the need for obtaining approvals and clearances from civic authorities impedes the progress of a project. As it has been a long-

The writer is an Associate Fellow at the National Council of Applied Economic Research. The views expressed are personal.

standing problem, it is imperative to seek solutions and adopt appropriate policy models to address it. Picking cues from China's journey can prove helpful. The improved infrastructure quality has been a fundamental source of China's economic growth, which currently stands on a par with the advanced economies. As per the World Bank's Infrastructure Index for 2018, Beijing appeared in the top 20 ranks alongside other advanced economies with a score of 3.75. India, in contrast, was one of the low-scoring countries on the index at 2.91. This fast-paced development of the Chinese economy forms one to think about its model of infrastructure development.

Of many steps taken by the Chinese Government, a significant effort relates to monetisation of public land to develop infrastructure. According to

an estimate by Chinese researchers, the Government allocated 1,36,267 hectare of land in 2010 for infrastructure, which was around 20 per cent of the total State-owned land.

Financial support in the form of this land allocation can be gauged by the fact that had State Governments purchased the same at market rates, they would have ended up paying 1,292.8 billion yuan, amounting to 31.8 per cent of their total revenue in 2010. This model can be replicated and adopted by India by making unutilised land with Government departments and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) available to private players for infrastructure development and housing construction, thereby filling the existing gap. The Union Budget 2021-22 has proposed monetisation of land belonging to the



Government-owned companies and PSUs by way of direct sale, concessions or other suitable means. The plan is to launch a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) in this pursuit. The decision is likely to free up a large extent of land for building infrastructure and affordable housing projects. According to various estimates available in public domain, the

land held by various Government agencies is over 5,39,000 HA, of which, over 1,60,000 HA is held across various airports, seaports and by the railways. Approximately 11.8 lakh acres is owned by the Railway Ministry, out of which about 1.26 lakh acres is not in any kind of use. For the proposed land monetisation, it is pertinent to ensure preparation on various fronts. First, record of lands with plot ownership and boundaries should be available in an updated form, without any disputes or other encumbrances like lease terms to PSUs. Though States are making substantial progress in digitising land records, there is still a long road ahead for improving its quality, as has been exhibited by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) Land Records and

Services Index (N-LRSI) in its 2020 and 2021 editions. The proposed SPV meant to carry out the monetisation process should take the essential steps for making land assets of PSUs free of any hindrances. Canada's experience can offer some useful lessons in designing an SPV — Canada Lands Company — identifies and purchases surplus properties (including Government-owned land) at market prices. It further manages the purchased properties and finally sells it to private entities. Since 1995, it has developed 2,000 affordable housing projects. Second, land prices valuation, which has proved to be a major roadblock for loan acquisition procedures, should be determined through a detailed analysis of market trends and potential gains from the proposed project. Lastly, Central and State

Governments should take the necessary steps to limit the requirement of multiple approvals required to kick off an infrastructure or real estate project. This comes across as the biggest bottleneck as observed from heaps of land parcels lying unutilised in the States. Land banks as private companies require the tedious approval and clearance processes that are necessary to secure access. With increasing requirements of infrastructure resources and housing stock in Indian cities, there is an urgent need to optimise land resources. If adopted with adequate measures, Government land monetisation can be an efficient policy step that captures real estate value of unutilised public land, augments revenues of local, Central and State Governments and also mitigates problems posed by escalating land prices.

Myanmar security forces kill 2 anti-coup protesters

AP ■ MANDALAY

Security forces shot dead two people in northern Myanmar...



Anti-coup protesters discharge fire extinguishers to counter the impact of the tear gas fired by police during a demonstration in Naypyitaw, Myanmar on Monday.

The Irrawaddy newspaper said the victims were shot in the head during anti-coup protests in Myitkyina in Kachin State.

Protesters huriedly carried away a number of casualties, including one apparent fatality, a person who had clearly sustained a severe head wound.

A second body was seen a little later, on a stretcher, his head covered with a cloth.

Security forces also clamped down on anti-coup protesters elsewhere Monday, firing tear gas to break up a

crowd of around 1,000 people who were demonstrating in the capital, Naypyitaw.

The protesters deployed fire extinguishers to create a smoke screen as they fled from authorities.

Biden order could change how colleges handle sex misconduct

AP ■ WASHINGTON

President Joe Biden is set to sign an executive order on Monday directing the Department of Education to review policies implemented by Donald Trump's administration...



President Joe Biden speaks in the State Dining Room of the White House.

Biden focused on gender equity during his campaign and promised to strengthen Title IX by the end of the White House. He also will sign a second executive order formally establishing the White House Gender Policy Council...

review of Title IX could pave the way to a major shift in how colleges handle allegations of sexual misconduct moving forward. Trump's education secretary, Betsy DeVos, in 2018 rescinded an Obama-era administration standard in cases of reported sexual assault from requiring a "preponderance of evidence"...

IN EXPLOSIVE INTERVIEW Meghan reveals suicidal thoughts, royal racism



This image provided by Harpo Productions shows Meghan, The Duchess of Sussex, left, in conversation with Oprah Winfrey.

PT ■ LOS ANGELES/LONDON

Meghan Markle struggled with a new member of Britain's royal family after her marriage to Prince Harry to such a degree that she even contemplated suicide, the Duchess of Sussex revealed in an explosive tell-all interview with American chat show host Oprah Winfrey.

about their son Archie's expected skin color when Meghan was pregnant with their first child.

"I just didn't want to be alive anymore," Meghan said, adding that when she "went to the institution for help" she was told it would not be forthcoming as it "wouldn't be good for the institution."

The 39-year-old former American actress, who is pregnant with her second child, revealed that the couple are expecting a baby girl and shared how the palace decided that their first-born, Archie, could not be a prince and would therefore have no security.

Oz ends defence cooperation with coup-hit Myanmar

Canberra: Australia has suspended its defence cooperation with Myanmar and is redirecting humanitarian aid because of the military takeover of the government and ongoing detention of an Australian citizen.

Escalating violence raises pressure for Myanmar sanctions

Bangkok: The escalation of violence in Myanmar as authorities crack down on protests against the February 1 coup is raising pressure for more sanctions against the junta, even as countries struggle over how to best assist military leaders uninvolved in the military takeover.

The challenge is made doubly difficult by fears of harming ordinary citizens who were already suffering from an economic slump worsened by the pandemic but are braving risks of arrest and injury to voice

First lady Jill helps honor women from 15 countries for courage

AP ■ WASHINGTON

First lady Jill Biden says nearly 70 women from 15 countries are being honored for their courage in the State Department in honoring for their courage made an "intentional decision" to persist and demand justice despite their fear.

Jill sees teachable moment in the depths of a pandemic

AP ■ WATERFORD, PA.

Jill Biden sees a teachable moment in the depths of the coronavirus pandemic. The first lady sat in a socially distanced circle in the library at Fort LeBoeuf Middle School in Pennsylvania, listening and taking notes as parents expressed relief in a school that reopened and their

children were back in the classroom. One mother talked about the "bumpy patches" of online learning and said reopening "has been so to the T" that she doesn't worry about her son and daughter. Another mom said the district included parent input and she was comfortable her children were in a "safe environment."

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo). Name: Seemi D/o Sant Ram R/o H. No. 10-B, Press Enclave, Vikas Nagar, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 11.02.2021 from the area of P.S. Rahnola, Delhi. In this regard a case DD No. 58-A dated 12.02.2021 has been lodged at Police Station Rahnola, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

SEMI Age: 20 Years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Fair, Face: Oval, Wearing: White & black colour jacket and grey colour pant and hawal chapal in feet. Any person having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped girl, may inform SHO, Rahnola, Delhi at E-mail id - cbc@cbl.gov.in or Website: http://cbl.nic.in

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam 'fully welcomes' proposed electoral changes

Hong Kong: Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam said on Monday the city's government "fully welcomes" changes to the city's electoral system that will substantially increase central government control over Hong Kong politics and exclude Beijing's critics.

Chinese authorities have said the decision before China's National People's Congress would mean the largely pro-Beijing committee that elects Hong Kong's leader would also choose a large part of the legislature.

DELHI JAL BOARD (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (NE) III

"Stop Corona; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene" Press NIT NO.50(2020-21)

EX. ENGINEER (NE)-III

Public Notice

It is hereby notified that the Flat No. 176, Block-D-1, Sector-29, Noida, has been allotted in the name of SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH...

Public Notice

It is hereby notified that the Flat No. 176, Block-D-1, Sector-29, Noida, has been allotted in the name of SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH...

Public Notice

Apartment No. H-24, First Floor, Tower Block 'H' (Residential Centre Park), Gurugram...

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a female (depicted in the photo). Name: SANTOSH Station: 497, Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Build: Medium, Identification: Left hand tattoo (Madar Lal) & mentally unstable. Wearing: Pink colour suit & salwar and Red colour jutti in feet.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that a unidentified dead body of male Name: Rajan @ Suraj/S/O: Unknown, R/O: Unknown, Age: about 50 years, Height: 5', Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Build: Medium, Wearing: Blue colour jeans & multi colour Gamcha, who was found dead in the area of P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl named Radha D/o Shyam Karan, R/O C-8/22, Sec-7, Rohini, Delhi, has been missing/kidnapped since 16.03.2019 from the area of P.S. Rohini, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 8519 dated 16.03.2019 has been lodged at P.S. North Rohini, Delhi.

Name: Radha, Father's Name: Shyam Karan, Age: 13 years, Height: 5'4", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Black Suit & Salwar, Hair: Black. If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl named Radha D/o Shyam Karan, R/O C-8/22, Sec-7, Rohini, Delhi, has been missing/kidnapped since 16.03.2019 from the area of P.S. Rohini, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 8519 dated 16.03.2019 has been lodged at P.S. North Rohini, Delhi.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the public that we have changed the name of our company from Laxmi Battery & Inverter to 'LAXMI BATTERY' (P) Prop. Mr. Rajesh Gupta, I-Block, Village Pathi, Kham, Krishan Vihar, Delhi-110086. Our business will be continuing under the new company name 'LAXMI BATTERY'.

UJVN LIMITED

H.O.: 'UJVN', Maharan, Bahadur, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006. Contact: 0135-276388, Fax: 0135-276350. Website: www.ujvn.com

OSJW TRADES INVESTMENT AND FINANCE LIMITED

Notice of Board Meeting. In Pursuant to Regulation 29 of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements), 2015, notice is hereby given that the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Monday, March 15, 2021...

SALE NOTICE. The under mentioned Assets will be sold through auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of dues as per court orders. Case Details: ICICI Bank Vs LAKHINDER KAUR, CS (COMM) No. 352/2018. Make and Model-MARUTI S CROSS, Vehicle No-DL1U6384.

Public Notice. It is hereby notified that the Flat No. 176, Block-D-1, Sector-29, Noida, has been allotted in the name of SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH. Public Notice. Apartment No. H-24, First Floor, Tower Block 'H' (Residential Centre Park), Gurugram.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED PERSON. General public is hereby informed that one person namely Rahul S/O Rajkumar R/o RZH-80, Gali No. 8, Nihal Vihar, Delhi Age: 21 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Long, wearing Black colour jacket & pant and shoes in feet, has been missing/kidnapped since 24.01.2021 from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 97-A dated 09.02.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice. By CSE/CCE/Northern Railway DRM office, 2nd floor, New Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invite open tender under Single Packet system from experienced & established contractors having sufficient experience in similar nature of work and satisfying minimum eligibility criteria as prescribed form for the following work.

OSJW TRADES INVESTMENT AND FINANCE LIMITED. Notice of Board Meeting. In Pursuant to Regulation 29 of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements), 2015, notice is hereby given that the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Monday, March 15, 2021...

Govt to amend telecom licence norms to control sourcing from China

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government is likely to amend the telecom licence norms this month to incorporate the guidelines of national security directive on telecommunication sector that will help in controlling installation of network equipment from China and other non-friendly countries.

Under the provisions of this directive, the government will declare a list of trusted sources and trusted products for installation in the country's telecom network.

DoT is almost ready to amend licence conditions to incorporate guidelines NSD (national security directive). It should be done in the coming

week," an official source said.

Notably, Chinese telecom gear maker Huawei has had its run-ins in the past with the governments of Canada and the US. The US has alleged that it did not comply with its cybersecurity and privacy laws, leaving the country and the citizens vulnerable to espionage.

The list of the trusted source and product for installation in telecom networks will be decided based on the approval of committee headed by the deputy national security advisor.

The committee will consist of members from relevant departments, ministries and will also have two members from the industry and independent experts.

Govt nets ₹53,346 cr from Vivad Se Vishwas scheme till Feb 22

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government has realised Rs 53,346 crore through direct tax dispute resolution scheme Vivad Se Vishwas till February 22, Parliament was informed on Monday.

To a query in the Lok Sabha on whether the government has been able to achieve the objective of settling income tax cases after launching the Vivad Se Vishwas scheme, Minister of State for Finance Anurag Singh Thakur said, "Yes." He said over 1.28 lakh declarations have been filed under the scheme involving a disputed tax of Rs 98,328 crore. Of this, Rs 53,346 crore has been received as payments against disputed tax.

This include Rs 27,720 crore worth payments made by the central public sector undertakings (PSUs), Rs 1,023 crore by state PSUs, and Rs 24,603 crore by others.

The Vivad Se Vishwas scheme provides for settlement of disputed tax, disputed interest, disputed penalty or disputed fees in relation to an assessment or reassessment order. The dispute is settled on payment of 100 per cent of the disputed tax and 25 per cent of the disputed penalty or interest or fee. The taxpayer is granted immunity from levy of interest, penalty and institution of any proceeding for prosecution for any offence under the Income Tax Act in respect of matters covered in the declaration.

India's domestic air traffic falls 37 pc to 78 lakh passengers in Feb: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

India's domestic air traffic fell 37 per cent year-on-year to 78 lakh passengers in February amid travel curbs and capacity restrictions due to the pandemic, according to ICA.

Even the sequential growth slowed down for the second consecutive month in February with a nearly flat growth over January 2021, rating firm ICA said in a release.

Domestic passenger traffic in January this year was recorded at 77.34 lakh, according to DGCA data.

Similarly, 1.23 crore people travelled on local routes in February 2020 as against 78 lakh passenger in February this year. The number of flights departed has also gradually increased from 416 on day

one (May 25, 2020, when domestic operations were resumed) to 2,885 on day 267 (February 14, 2021).

"For February 2021, the average daily departures were around 2,296, significantly lower than the average daily departures of 3,137 in February 2020, though better than around 2,190 in January 2021," said Kinjal Shah, Vice President, ICA.

The average number of passengers per flight during February 2021 was 121, against an average of 136 passengers per flight in February 2020, she said, therefore, it is expected that the domestic aviation industry operated at a passenger load factor (PLF) of around 78 per cent in February 2021, against 87.7 per cent a year ago, that too on a low capacity.

BRIEFS

TATA POWER-DL BAGS GOLDEN PEACOCK AWARD
Tata Power Delhi Distribution (Tata Power-DL), a leading power distribution company serving a populace of 7 million in the national capital, has been presented with the prestigious 'Golden Peacock Award for Energy Efficiency' for the year 2020 under the 'Power Distribution' Category by the Awards Jury under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Justice M. N. Venkatachaliah, former Chief Justice of India.

MAYOR OF NORTH DELHI, DY HEAD OF MISSION AUSTRIAN EMBASSY INAUGURATES PICTORIAL EXHIBITION
North Delhi Mayor Jai Prakash and Deputy Head of Mission, Austrian Embassy, Matthias Raoderics on Monday inaugurated a pictorial exhibition on the subject of women empowerment at North DMCC headquarters on the occasion of International Women's Day. On the occasion Deputy Mayor Ritu Goel, Standing Committee Chairman Chitra Bhatnagar, ex-Mayor Rajni Abbi were also present.

NORTHERN RAILWAY DEDICATES ITS WDP4B, WDP4D CLASS LOCOMOTIVES TO WOMEN WARRIORS
As a token of homage and respect, Northern Railway takes pride in dedicating its WDP4B and WDP4D class locomotives of Tughlakabad to these brave warriors. Tughlakabad locomotives Rani Anjilabai, Rani Avthalbati, Rani Velu Nachyari, Rani Chennamma, Rani Laxmbai and Jhalakbali will soon be joined by Uda Devi and others in celebrating our immortal heroes' women with character of steel.

CSOs COLLABORATES WITH GOODWORKER TO CONNECT RURAL WORKERS WITH EMPLOYERS
NEW DELHI: Centre's digital India arm Common Services Centres (CSC) is partnering with GoodWorker, a job matching platform, for connecting blue-collar workers with employers through its extensive reach in rural India. A Ministry of Information Technology official said the partnership promises to bring one lakh job opportunities through CSC Gramin Naukri Portal. The job opportunities will include profiles like Sewing Machine Operator, Delivery Executive, Customer Support Executive/Tele caller, etc.

SRM CONDUCTS WORKSHOP ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR SELF-HELP GROUPS
Kattankulathur: SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur and Pudhva Thalamurali Foundation together with ISRE EXPOTM Indian Small and Rural Business Exposition conducted 'Entrepreneurship Orientation Programme on Area plates and spirulina production and marketing' at Government Middle School Campus, Orathur village. Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, SRMIST has adopted eight villages (Orathur, Kolathur, Chettiyapuram, Kattanasanappatti, Thernelpakkam, Paravakkam, Anjur, and Mallavandappattu) from Chengalpattu and Kanchipuram district.

Equities slip on high crude oil prices; Realty stocks fall

IANIS ■ MUMBAI

India's benchmark equity indices ended Monday's trade session on a flat to positive note even as high crude oil prices along with rising bond yields subdued sentiments.

Accordingly, the two key indices had a gap-up opening, subsequently they rose to modestly positive intra day highs but fears of inflationary pressures due to high oil prices spooked investors. Globally, Asian shares broadly reversed course to trade lower on Monday as decline crude oil prices raised inflation worries.

On the other hand, European stocks rose with bond yields near one-year highs as the world's largest economy was on the verge of adding \$1.9 trillion in stimulus.

Indian benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty rose to gains on Monday after two sessions of decline as investors snapped up energy, IT and pharma shares. After fighting multiple bouts of volatility during the session, the BSE gauge Sensex settled 35.75 points or 0.07 per cent higher at 50,441.07. Intraday, the index rose as much as 667 points, but pared most of its gains tracking weakness in global markets.

pulling out Rs 1,494.49 crore from the Indian markets.

Among sectors, PSU bank, media, metals gained the most while, realty, FMCG, Auto lost

Sensex, Nifty eke out gains

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Indian benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty eke out gains on Monday after two sessions of decline as investors snapped up energy, IT and pharma shares. After fighting multiple bouts of volatility during the session, the BSE gauge Sensex settled 35.75 points or 0.07 per cent higher at 50,441.07. Intraday, the index rose as much as 667 points, but pared most of its gains tracking weakness in global markets.

50% employees at Vizag plant to be women: Yokohama Off-Highway Tires

PNS ■ MUMBAI

After witnessing many surprising outcomes from the all-women shop-floor at its Dahaj plant, Yokohama Off-Highway Tires has decided to have 50% staff as women at its upcoming plant in Vizag. The world's leading off-highway tyre maker began hiring women for the shop-floor in September 2018, thus becoming the first tyre company to do so on its heavy-duty tyre shop-floor at the Dahaj plant, with lots of apprehensions given the nature of the work, said Yokohama India Group Head Nitin Mantri. They rolled down the first tyre in February 2019 after the induction and training by a programme and were inducted into the truck and bus radial unit first and then extended to radial OTR (off-road) unit in Feb 2020.

LPG price double in 7 yrs; tax collection on petrol, diesel jumps 459%: Pradhan

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Price of domestic cooking gas, LPG has doubled to Rs 819 per cylinder in the last seven years while the increase in taxes on petrol and diesel has swelled collections by over 459 per cent, Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Monday.

In written replies to a slate of questions on rising fuel prices in the Lok Sabha, Pradhan said the retail selling price of domestic gas was Rs 410.5 per 14.2-kg cylinder on March 1, 2014. This month, the same cylinder costs Rs 819.

Small price hikes over the past couple of years have eliminated subsidies on cooking gas as well as PSD kerosene.

Pradhan said the price of domestic subsidised LPG has been raised during the last few months. It cost Rs 594 per cylinder in December 2020 and now is priced at Rs 819. Similarly, kerosene sold to the poor through the public distribution system (PDS) has risen from Rs 14.96 per litre in March 2014 to Rs 35.35 this month, he said.

DELHI JAL BOARD GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (EAST) I M 16 MAYUR VIHAR PKT E PHASE II NEW DELHI 110091

Stop Corona; 1.Wash Your Hands 2.Wear Mask 3.Maintain Social Distence

PRESS NOTICE TENDER FOR SELF-HELP GROUPS
NIT NO.41/East-I/ (2020-21)

S.No.	Name of Work	Estimated Contract Value (₹) (Lakhs)	Tender/ Fees/ Amount put to tender	Dated of release of Corrigendum in E-Procurement & Tender ID No.	Last Date/Time of Receipt of Tender E-Procurement Solution
1	Removal of contamination by replacement of water in 10 Block Kitchipur in AC-56 East-I	38.99,622.00	500.00	05.03.2021 10:47:11	23.03.2021 03:15 PM
2	Removal of contamination by replacement of old k. (Mangar) K. Water in 8-Block Mangar Farazi in G-10 11 to G-10 No. 16 and 9 in AC-57 East-I	35.15,578.00	500.00	05.03.2021 10:47:20	23.03.2021 03:15 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Adv. No. J.S.V. 478 (2020-21)

Sd/-
Pratap Singh
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (EAST-I)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
(SECTION 82 Cr.Pc.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused person **Rahul S/o Ram Bangwan R/o H. No. E 3/25, Near Maharana Pratap Chowk, Shahbad Dairy, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 756/15, u/s 33/58 Delhi Excise Act at PS **Bawana, Delhi** and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused person **Rahul**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Rahul**, has absconded (or is concealing himself) to avoid the service of said warrant.

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Rahul of FIR No. 756/15, u/s 33/58 Delhi Excise Act at PS Bawana, Delhi** is required to appear before this court in accordance to the said complaint on or before **09.04.2021**.

By order
Vaibhav Mehta
Metropolitan Magistrate (North)
Court Room No. 14, First Floor
Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/834/OJ/2021

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Payal D/o Sanjay Kumar, R/o House No. R-35 Gali No. 1A, Swatantra Nagar, Narela, Delhi, Age 15 yrs., Height 4'2", Fair Complexion, Round face, hair long black. Identification a mole on right cheek wearing green colour suit pink colour sari has been missing/kidnapped since 11.02.2021 from the area of PS Narela, Delhi.**

Payal

In this regard a case FIR No. 4021 Dt. 14.02.2021 U/s 363 IPC has been registered at PS Narela, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this missing/kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in S.H.O.,
Ph: 011-23101534
Ph: 011-23101406 PS Narela, Delhi
Ph: 011-23015218
DP/824/OJ/2021 Ph: 011-2782443, 8750870324

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one boy namely **Dev, S/o Lt. Harbir Singh, R/o: Jhuggi No. C-1312, Suraj Park, Samajpur Badli, Delhi, Age: 11 years, Height: 3'6", Complexion: Fair, Face: Oval, Build: Medium, wearing Brown colour Coat, Blue Pant and Blue colour Shoes in feet, has been missing from his house since 02.02.2021. In this regard a FIR No. 0057/2021 U/S 363 IPC, dated 03.02.2021 has been registered at P.S. Samajpur Badli, Delhi.**

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

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in P.S. Samajpur Badli,
Ph: 011-24368639 Delhi
Ph. No.: 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/813/OJ/2021 Ph. No.: 011-27854757, 27854799

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a female namely **Sunita with son (Arvind, age 9 years), Wife: Shri Ram, R/o: RZC-174, Nihal Vihar, Delhi** is missing/kidnapped since 03.02.2021 from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 137-A dated 05.02.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Nihal Vihar, Delhi. The description of missing/kidnapped lady is as under:

Name: Sunita with son Arvind age 9 Yrs., Age: 26 Years, Height: 4'6", Face: Round, Complexion: Shallow.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped lady but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone having any information or clue about this missing/kidnapped lady may kindly be inform undersigned.

Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639 SHO
Police Station, Nihal Vihar, Delhi Ph: 011-25946700, 25946710

DP/700/OJ/2021

Appeal for Identification

General Public is hereby informed that a male dead body Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: About 30-35 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Gender: Male, Build: Thin, Face: Oval, Moustache: Black, Beard: Black, Wearing: Red hooded anti sweater and blue jacket was found dead near Shop No. 1323, Pan mandi, Sadar Bazar, Delhi, on 26.02.2021. In this regard, DD No. 55A U/s 174 CrPc Dt. 26.02.2021 has been lodged at PS Sadar Bazar, 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 may kindly inform to the following.

SHO
P.S., Sadar Bazar, Delhi
Ph: 011-23512411, 8750870124

DP/1001/NJ/2021

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one boy namely **Saharukh S/o Salamat R/o Jhuggi No. H-2/19, Jahangir Puri, Delhi**, has been missing/kidnapped since dated 23.02.2021 from the area Jahangir Puri, Delhi. In this regard, a case FIR No. 143/21, Dated 25.02.2021, has been registered at P.S. Jahangir Puri Delhi. The description of the missing boy is as under:

Age: 11 Years Complexion: Shallow, Height: 3' 6" Built: Thin, Face: Long, Wearing: Blue colour T-Shirt & Blue Colour Keffi. 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., Jahangir Puri, Delhi at following Tel No. In e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, providing clue about the person.

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Sd/- SHO
Fax No. 011-24368639 Jhahngir Puri, Delhi
DP/695/NW/2021 Ph. No.: 011-27831600

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Lalita, D/o Vishnu Dayal, R/o E-1450, 1st Floor, Jahangir Puri, Delhi, Age: 17 years, Height: 4'8", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Oval, wearing Red Suit and Black Sandal in feet, has been missing from her house since 25.02.2021 at night. In this regard a FIR No. 144/21 U/S 363 IPC, dated 26.02.2021 has been registered at P.S. Jahangir Puri, Delhi.**

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

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in P.S. Jahangir Puri, Delhi
Ph: 011-24368639
Ph. No.: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Jahangir Puri, Delhi
DP/700/NW/2021 Ph. No.: 011-27636000, 27631600

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male Age: Approx 32 years, Complexion: Dark, Height: 172 Cms., Build: Medium, Face: Oval, Clothes: Without Clothes, was admitted in Safdarjung Hospital vide MLC No. KH/19/21 referred from Kailash Hospital. Later patient died in Safdarjung Hospital. In this regard a DD No. 11PP, dated 26.01.2021, has been lodged at P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO
P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, Delhi
Ph: 011-24106346, 24106345

DP/540/SW/2021

Appeal for Identification

General public is hereby informed that one person Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 60-65 Yrs., Height: 5'5" approx. Sex: Male, Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Build: Normal, Wearing: White Shirt, Black Pant and Dark Brown Jersey, Place of Recovery: Found dead Near the footpath opposite Delhi Jal Board at NH-09, Delhi.

In this regard DD No. 57A, U/s 174 CrPc, Dated 06.03.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Madhu Vihar, Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign.

SHO
P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi
Ph: 011-22732429

DP/415/ED/2021

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that an one person was found in unconscious condition at Shadipur Red Light near Hanuman Mandir Station on dated 22.02.2021. He is admitted in Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital for treatment after treatment declared dead by doctor dated 01.03.2021. In this regard a DD No. 99A, dated 01.03.2021 has been registered at P.S. Ranjit Nagar, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for identification at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Mortuary Deter for 72 hrs. The description of the person as given as under:

Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: About 22 years, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Whitish, Build: Medium, Face: Round, Wearing: Black Colour T-shirt and Black Colour Lower. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead body but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this dead body please inform undersigned.

SHO
PS Ranjit Nagar, Delhi
Ph: 011-25704008, 25704009, 8750870436

DP/687/CD/2021

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, was found dead on 04.03.2021 at Pole KM no. 16/11, 16/13 Up Line Railway, Near Ganda Nala, Sagarpur, Delhi.** Dead body has been preserved in DDU Hospital mortuary for 72 hours for identification. In this regard DD No. 9A dated 04.03.2021 U/S 174 Cr. P.C. has been lodged at Police Station, Delhi Cantt. Railway Station, Delhi. Identification of unidentified dead body is as under:

Name: Unknown, Age: 30-35 Years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Long, Build: Medium, Wearing: Blue colour lining shirt & Black colour Lower. If anyone has any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

SHO
Police Station, Delhi Cantt. Railway Station, Delhi
DP/74/RLV/2021 Ph: 011-25688505, 8750871309

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a man namely **Aashif S Sheikh, S/o: Imajuddin Sheikh, R/o: C-79/44, Aaram Bagh, Pahar Ganj, Delhi** is missing since 23.02.2021 at about 6:00 PM from his home. In this regard DD No. 72 A dated 25.02.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Pahar Ganj, Delhi. The description of the missing man is as under:

Name: Aashif Sheikh, Age: 25 Years, Height: 5'2", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Build: Thin, Wearing: Sky Blue Jeans, Blue colour T-shirt and Red & Blue colour shoes in his feet.

If anyone has any information about this missing man please inform to the following:-

Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639 SHO
Police Station, Pahar Ganj, Delhi Ph: 011-23520787, 8750012525

DP/690/CD/2021



Artificial Vision

Researchers are developing a retinal implant that works with camera-equipped smart glasses and a microcomputer that may help the blind people in getting artificial vision. "Our system is designed to give blind people a form of artificial vision by using electrodes to stimulate their retinal cells," said researcher Diego Ghezzi from the Ecole Polytechnique federale de Lausanne in Switzerland



DOCYARD
DR SHOBHA GUPTA

Medical Director,
Gynaecologist and
IVF Specialist
MOTHER'S LAP IVF CENTRE,
NEW DELHI



Keep thyroid under check



Most people know that stress can cause various health problems. We are living in a scenario where every person lives under stress. Especially the pandemic has taken a toll on everyone's health apart from that sedentary lifestyle such as lack of exercise, smoking, drinking, junk food eating, lack of sleeping especially where people work in the night shifts, desk jobs, tension of target completion, the pressure of board meetings, client pressure, etc. All these factors in totality lead to stress.

Many people don't know that stress can also cause thyroid. Hypothyroidism or thyroid refers to any state in which thyroid hormone production is below normal. The symptoms are usually milder at the beginning but develop gradually as the condition deteriorates.

The symptoms of hypothyroidism are often subtle but can include:

- Increased cholesterol levels
 - State of depression
 - Losing or gaining weight
 - Swollen neck
 - Mood swings
 - Low energy
 - Hair loss
 - Constipation
 - Dry skin
 - Brittle nails
 - Problem with vision
 - Trembling of hands.
- In today's generation thyroid is a very common problem especially post 25 years of age and women are 4 times more prone to thyroid disorders than men. Undiagnosed and untreated thyroid disease can be a cause for infertility or frequent miscarriage.

An underactive thyroid (hypothyroidism) is a condition in which the thyroid gland doesn't produce enough of certain important hormones. For women, there is a link between hypothyroidism and infertility. Low levels of thyroid hormone can interfere with ovulation, which impairs fertility.

Since standard thyroid blood tests are not sensitive enough to detect low ovarian tissue levels the majority of the time. Women must find a knowledgeable physician who understands that standard tests will often not be useful in detecting low ovarian thyroid levels. If you feel the above-mentioned symptoms immediately go for TSH (Thyroid-stimulating hormone) test, Chest X-ray, T4, or thyroxin test.

Treatment: Hypothyroidism can be treated in many ways. However, a doctor chooses the line of treatment based on several variables like the underlying cause of hypothyroidism, the age of the patient, the size of the thyroid gland, and the presence of coexisting medical illnesses.

If you are found to have hypothyroidism, thyroid hormone replacement is very effective in restoring fertility. It may take one-two months to normalise your thyroid hormone levels with medication; and once you start medication, you must check your TSH levels to confirm they are in the normal range. You will usually need to continue the medicines for the rest of your life and check your thyroid function every six months or so.

SUMMER COOLERS

FENNEL SEEDS: Highly aromatic and flavourful herbs, fennel seeds are used to treat some common digestive ailments including heartburn, intestinal gas and bloating.

Some people eat fennel seeds as mouth fresheners. Chewing fennel seeds can also help in getting rid of bad breath as they increase the production of saliva thereby washing out the bacteria. They also help to

relieve morning sickness. The antioxidants and other antimicrobial properties in fennel seeds help treat a host of hair ailments. Some of these include dandruff, scalp itches, hair breakage and hair fall.

They also contain nitrates, compounds known to lower blood pressure levels. The fiber content in them also helps in lowering the cholesterol levels.

Two, use cold water to wash your eyes every time you take a break. Even in the morning, just after you get up splash water on the eyes for a good two-three min-

PREVENT RENAL AILMENTS

World Kidney Day is on March 11. To mark the occasion, DR SUNIL PRAKASH explains chronic kidney diseases and how one can prevent or treat them

Millions of Indians are affected by Chronic Kidney Diseases (CKD). Various epidemiological studies suggest prevalence of CKD to be around eight to 10 per cent. Multiply this with our population and age is no bar! Though prevalent among the elderly, younger patients are also known to have progressive loss of kidney function. CKD is associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular disease and end-stage renal disease (ESRD).

The various causes of CKD can range from chronic medication, Diabetes, obesity, agricultural food chain pollution, water treatment pollution, to dehydration and kidney impact among others. Diabetes Mellitus is the leading cause of kidneys as well as chronic shrinking of kidneys called chronic interstitial nephritis are again factors that can cause CKD. Young people working in farms have a special proclivity. Indiscriminate usage of agricultural pesticides and fertilisers along with heat dehydration can cause irreversible CKD, robbing the nation of its young working force.

Obstruction to urine flow due to kidney stones, enlarged prostate and gynaecological problems can also be major causes. Congenital

causes like polycystic kidneys, reflux of urine and many other diseases target children right from the mother's womb or at birth causing young people to get CKD.

Kidneys filter waste products from the blood. All the nitrogenous end products, sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid and innumerable organic wastes which are inimical to good health are excreted by our indefatigable friends, the High Interior, the internal environment of the body, a prerequisite to good health is the prime responsibility of kidneys as they regulate blood pressure, enable new blood formation in bone marrow by producing the hormone erythropoietin, maintaining fluid and electrolyte balance and by forming active vitamin D, kidneys keep our strong bones in good humour!

Recognising early kidney damage is imperative and there are many early symptoms that can be a giveaway to kidney health. Paradoxically passing more urine specially at night is a classic symptom. Frothing in the urine, high BP especially in young people, unexplained anaemia, muscle aches and bone pains, swelling over feet or face (how so ever slight and transient) and the inability to have a baby are all symptoms to watch out for.

Knowing how to prevent or manage the wellness of our kidneys is equally important. One should keep in mind the seven sins of this disease — sugar, salt, stress, smoking, sedentary lifestyle, spirits i.e., alcohol and sleep (the lack of it). CKD is associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular diseases like heart

attacks and heart failure. Many a times the "seed of disease is in kidneys and the fruits of illness is borne by our heart". Invest a small sum of money and a little time in your health to reap bumper dividends of good health. Regular BP and blood sugar monitoring at home should be done religiously.

Periodic health checks detect asymptomatic early kidney disease which are amenable to correction. High risk patients above 50 years of age, people with Diabetes or high BP and patients having a family history of kidney diseases, stones and cystic diseases should all opt for periodic health checks. Every person should have a health insurance from first day of their earnings, whether personal or employer supported and people below poverty line should have coverage by schemes like Ayushman Bharat, ESI etc.

Are kidney diseases on the rise? The answer is an unequivocal yes. Ironically early CKD (stage 1 to 4) has no symptoms. Typically, it is not until stages 4-5 where there is severe reduction in Glomerular filtration and kidney functions that water, electrolyte and acids accumulate and cause flooding of lungs leading to cardio respiratory failure. Dialysis is a process by which a person is hooked up to a dialysis machine which filters out all toxins and acidic wastes from the blood thus reestablishing milieu interior, albeit only for a few days. So, a person will need a four-hour session of dialysis every two to three times a week.

If prepared in advance, dialysis is a seamless and painless procedure

which can lend many years of useful life. Getting a small surgery called AV fistula done well in time can enable a safe and a high-quality dialysis. We have patients living well for more than 15 years on dialysis. In fact, dialysis is a lifesaving and life prolonging procedure. Bluntly put, it boils down to either dialysis or death!

Nearly every patient has two healthy kidneys. In the event of someone landing in End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), changing one kidney with a healthy kidney from a relative will enable complete recuperation of the patient. The transplanted patient can lead a normal life with some regular medications and checks. The donor also leads a full and fulfilling life capped with the ultimate altruistic deed. A quick visit to the dietitian to get tips on managing good nutrition, food suited for the body, and to prevent thirst will go a long way in living well with kidney diseases. In the event of someone being diagnosed as an epidemic it is important to maintain a positive attitude with self-help by the family. The treatment of kidney disease is not just medical, but it is about comprehending your life on a daily basis and understanding the choices you can make based on your condition and available therapeutic modalities.

The writer is Senior Dietician & HOD, Nephrology & Renal Transplantation, BLK Super Speciality Hospital

EXPERIENCE THE RELIEF



DR PRIYA KAUL

Meditation allows humans to gain power over their mind, body and desires, says

Meditation is a thousand-year-old practice. The older the practice, the greater are its effects and benefits. In this modern time our life is with stress and excess consumption of information. Meditation is a tool to fight these effects of stressful life and find a peaceful living.

Meditation is to train the mind and actions, create self-awareness, and achieve a stable, emotional, calm and mentally clear state of mind. The good thing about meditation is that it does not require any equipment. It is, though, best practised in a quiet, peaceful surrounding. It is commonly a means to find answers to burning questions of the mind.

Mental health: Most mental health issues can be resolved, with the help of meditation. Researchers have believed that meditation could be a solution in many mental health cases to eliminate medication. In the recent pandemic, mental health issues became of grave concern in many nations around the world. Those suffering from depression and anxiety due to the pandemic are advised to practise meditation to gain relief. It has become an effective and important part of daily life.

Take control: It is often when the chaos of daily life takes control meditation comes handy. It helps rid away negative thoughts and allows the brain to find its zen and focus. It permits zero in on positive thinking and finding an equilibrium. It penetrates serenity into the mind that assists in fulfilling the chaotic and stressful world. Answering desired questions is best achieved in a quiet and peaceful environment or surrounding.

Motivation: Meditation allows humans to gain power over their mind, body and desires. The consistent practice of daily meditation prevents individuals to stay motivated and confident in their endeavours. Meditation gives them dominating thinking to stay on the course of positivity and healing. It gives them the strength to ignore distractions and manipulate the mind to do differently.

Stay calm: Meditation is useful for school students, busy corporate employees, business people and professionals in different fields. It helps gain concentration, resilience and improves performance. People who meditate are known to be kind in their actions and thoughts. They are also more humble and gentle beings. A study shows that meditation makes people softer, agile minded and successful as they stay calm and consider situations before impulsively taking action.

Be disciplined: Meditation lets an individual free from limitations and shortcomings. It leads them to peace and calmness. It helps bring stillness to a racing mind and controls fast-paced thinking. Meditation allows individuals to take control and be disciplined about life and daily habits.

The benefit of meditation is that it gives an individual the ability to find peace. It is a practice chosen by world leaders and highly successful people. Meditation is adopted, as part of the code of conduct, as well as a significant part of daily life and is utilised, as a way to live a happy life.

The writer is Spiritual life coach & Healer

Dadi Ka Kehna

Keeping your eyes healthy should be your priority, given that most of us are still working from home. ROSHANI DEVI shares easy home remedies that can help relieve the discomfort



Taking care of eyes is important, especially when you work from home has probably left you with longer working hours. This definitely calls for extra care for the eyes. Here are a few tips that can help.

One, don't forget to take breaks every 20 minutes. Stop for a while, look away from the screen for at least five minutes or close your eyes for two minutes.

Two, use cold water to wash your eyes every time you take a break. Even in the morning, just after you get up splash water on the eyes for a good two-three min-

utes. Three, if your eyes feel tired or puffy, cut cucumber slices and put them over the eyes. Rest for 10 minutes. You can also use cotton pads soaked in rose water to soothe the eyes. One can put the soaked cotton pads in the eyes for half an hour before using them.

Four, if your eyes are itchy or red, use ice cubes over the eyes. However, do not use them directly, wrap them in a towel or a cotton cloth and then use. Do this for at least 20 minutes. However, if the itches continues do visit the doctor.

Ayurveda shows way

Experts tell ARCHANA JYOTI that it is important to maintain personal hygiene to keep infections at bay

In the last few years, women's hygiene has been the talk of the town, given that there are so many diseases that stem because of unhygienic practices. Despite the awareness being created, India has still a long way to go before being able to talk about it openly.

When one talks about hygiene, intimate washes is the first thing that comes to mind. Loaded with natural ingredients and Ayurvedic benefits, rooted in ancient traditions, these washes are fast catching attention of the urban women looking for alternatives to toxic chemical-loaded products.

More so, when Coronavirus threat is looming large and health and hygiene have become a top-most priority, there are many who prefer time-tested Ayurveda based intimate hygiene that offers a level of security against infections.

Health experts support this choice saying that one should not lower one's guard

when it comes to personal hygiene. They opine that washes made of natural solutions retain the good bacteria, which protects the intimate area and kills bad bacteria.

"Those intimate washes which enhances skin health and serve as a helpful add-on therapy for those with infections should be used," Dr RP Prashar from a Delhi-based Ayurveda Hospital tells us. Sanchit Sharma, Executive Director of AAMIL Pharma, engaged in manufacturing Ayurvedic drugs points out that keeping in mind the hygiene needs of women, they have, after intensive research and development prepared Ayurvedic Vagtone Intimate Hygiene Wash that is rich in green tea, haridra and amla among others, replacing chemicals like silicon and artificial colours.

Apart from the use of Ayurvedic medicinal ingredients in hygiene wash,

researchers have supplemented the Vagtone formulation with natural fragrances and employed refining techniques endorsed by the Fragrance & Flavour Development Centre, Kanauj, an institution set up by the Union Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Ministry.

However, there is a widespread ignorance among women when it comes to their intimate hygiene, laments Prashar revealing that around 95 per cent of the intimate hygiene products in the market are loaded with chemicals, and globally, approximately 75 per cent of the women suffer from a vaginal yeast infection at least once in their lifetime.

According to various surveys, in India at least eight out of 10 women are vulnerable to vaginal infection while at least 80 per cent ignore the importance of the intimate hygiene due to which they face various infections.

IN BRIEF

Women leaders representing doctors and corporates on March 8, 2021 underscored the need to change how women are perceived by the society and advocated that women must look after themselves before noting what others need. Attending the summit titled Women's Health Matters by the International Women's Wellbeing (IWW) Council ahead of International Women's Day, they hoped that a substantial part of the allocations for Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana, announced during the Union Budget last month, is allocated for women's health issues.

Noting that gender discrimination is a critical component that impacts women's health Dr Nandita Palshetkar, Director, Bloom IVF Centre, said: "COVID has hit the women badly — 60 per cent of them have been pushed to poverty and unemployment due to the pandemic and she is 20 per cent more likely to become unemployed than men. We laugh and wellbeing (IWW) Council ahead of International Women's Day, they hoped that a substantial part of the allocations for Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana, announced during the Union Budget last month, is allocated for women's health issues. Noting that gender discrimination is a critical component that impacts women's health Dr Nandita Palshetkar, Director, Bloom IVF Centre, said: "COVID has hit the women badly — 60 per cent of them have been pushed to poverty and unemployment due to the pandemic and she is 20 per cent more likely to become unemployed than men. We laugh and wellbeing (IWW) Council ahead of International Women's Day, they hoped that a substantial part of the allocations for Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana, announced during the Union Budget last month, is allocated for women's health issues.



Bollywood
 'When I wanted to become a producer, that wasn't looked upon kindly'
 —Pooja Bhatt



The theme parks are the hub for heady adventures, thrilling rides, and adrenaline rush. However, visiting them was, perhaps, the last thing on people's minds when the pandemic struck us in 2020 as it brought a lot of difficulties across businesses and brought our lives to a halt. Despite 2021 being the year of recovery for some, it is still a sluggish period for the Indian theme park industry. Earlier, it used to be a booming industry with a good employment rate of a minimum of 80,000 people, but now, the employees are jobless or bearing salary cuts.

Dealing with this major hit to the theme parks, the industry is trying to focus on the path of recovery. While the future seems promising, it will require some time and effort in the right direction to revive the customer base. Currently, all they are focussing on is that their operation adheres to the government guidelines.

THE PRESENT

Now, with the unlocking, most theme parks in the country have reopened after being shut for approximately 10 months as per the guidelines. The parks are taking every possible safety precaution for their visitors and making sure to follow all the norms issued by the government. Their utmost priority is ensuring the safety of the people.

ROAD TO RECOVERY

While the future of theme parks seems promising, it will require some time and effort in the right direction to revive the footfall, says Major DINESH SHARMA

They are trying to adapt to the new normal and grasp the online working methods. Online pre-booked admissions, markings showing where to stand, maintaining social distancing, temperature screening, and sanitising the visitors and employees at the entry time and other prominent zones inside the parks are some of the steps taken to ensure safety. The park operators are also pushing for contactless transactions with food orders, menus on applications, and for buying things from the stalls and shop inside the venue.

The parks are being properly sterilized — swings, surfaces, seat belts, and handrails — before and after every ride. They have allocated their funds on the safety of the visitors and are spending approximately ₹10,000-15,000 or even more than this per day.

It has, indeed, been a roller coaster



ride for the industry with theme parks having to reopen and then shut down multiple times due to the volatile COVID-19 situation. In order to have a blooming future, strengthening their present situation is essential. The recreational firms have realised this and hence, are working towards achieving the same objective.

Increased expenses, the imposition of safety measures, social distancing, and the provision of limited tickets are some of the ways in which they are looking at reviving their businesses. There are hardly 40 visitors per day and rides are running at less than half the capacity as compared to the pre-pandemic times.

It is undeniable that theme park authorities are struggling with financial issues to protect their employees and mainly to apply the right strategies to draw visitors to the theme parks.

Basically, there are two major categories, one which includes rides with water, and the other is without water. While the firms haven't made the water rides operational as of now but if they decide to open them soon, then, it will become increasingly challenging to curb the transmission of the virus. However, in case they re-launch their water rides, then they will have to adopt specific safety measures. They will have to use a certain chemical that can help in eliminating the virus from the water and is also skin-friendly.

They can also make sanitising compulsory before stepping into the water. Changing or purifying the water at regular intervals after a certain amount of people have entered is another basic yet important step that can help in ensuring the safety of the people while savoring the water rides. The provision of COVID-19 tests at the entrance of the parks that too at nominal charges will further aid in keeping everyone safe and sound.

ATTRACTING CUSTOMERS

One of the common ways in which theme parks are attracting customers is running creative advertisements and campaigns as a part of their marketing strategy to grab attention. Additionally, they are offering the ticket at nearly 30 to 40 per cent discount on its full ticket price. In the present times, the parks price point is 10-15 per cent lower than 2019 prices but they are optimistic and hopeful that if the demand sustains over the next couple of months then the theme parks will function in full swing. They will be able to roll back to original ticket prices.

THE FUTURE

The present might seem blurry but the future of recreational parks is indeed promising. As to the present risky situation, all these hygiene solutions need to be adopted for the next 12 to 18 months as the virus is here to stay and we need time to minimise its risk.

Almost every company and business was affected terribly by the pandemic. Hence, it will take time to recover and we need to imbibe relevant strategies to overcome the losses and get back on our feet. This is especially so in the case of theme parks as the challenge for them is huge and the revival journey is troublesome. However, it isn't impossible as everyone wants cheerful and enthusiastic moments after the lockdown, and theme parks will be the perfect resort for the same. Hopefully, with all the relevant strategies in place, that day won't be far when the theme parks will again be crowded!

(The writer is the founder of Delta105, Army theme park.)



Stand up for yourself: Arjun

Actor Arjun Kapoor feels it is crucial for women to stand up for themselves and their dreams, and shatter stereotypes.

"It is crucial for women to stand up for themselves and their dreams and shatter stereotypes. I have always been a staunch supporter of women's causes and have always tried to contribute in my own way as much as possible," Arjun said.

On the occasion of International Women's Day, Arjun interacted and celebrated girls who have broken stereotypes, challenged norms, and have themselves become a role model, inspiring a generation to share their experiences and their journeys.

Arjun conversed with these girls, shared anecdotes from his life on how women can do anything they set their mind to.

"It was an eye-opener for me to know the amazing stories of these girls and their inspiring personal journeys," added the actor, who spearheads a digital IP called *Bending The Gender* that is aimed at saluting girls who have been shattering the glass ceiling across India.

On the work front, Arjun currently awaits the digital release of his forthcoming cross-border love story featuring Rakul Preet Singh.

He will also be seen in the horror-comedy *Bhoot Police*.

'Empower each other'

Actor RANI MUKERJI says women can change the perception about their representation in every aspect of filmmaking

Actor Rani Mukerji says that the power lies with women to change the perception about how they are represented in every aspect of filmmaking. On the occasion of Women's Day on Monday, Rani added that if women celebrated each others success, they would be heard all the more.

"In my journey in the Hindi film industry, I have realised that the power is with the women to change the perception about how women are represented in every aspect of filmmaking. We have to support each other, root for each other and empower each other, so that the road is smoother for others who want to make a name for themselves in the male-driven industry. We have to celebrate each other and our successes collectively to ensure that we are all heard all the more," Rani said. She considers herself fortunate to have got the opportunity to bring fantas-



tic characters to life. "As an artiste, I have been fortunate enough to play some really fantastic self-reliant women on screen and live their inspiring stories closely. Like me, many actresses over generations have tried to change the conversation about how women are portrayed on screen," she said. Rani feels blessed that through her films she was given an opportunity to change the conversation of female representation in India.

Rani's last two films were *Hichki* and *Mardaan 2*. She says she wants to continue finding unconventional scripts as these while representing women on screen.

"I have throughout my career made conscious decisions to portray strong women characters on screen who led by example for society. I have chosen to play women characters who can command respect, because of their uninhibited life choices," she said.

"I will be inclined to pick projects that have a powerful story to tell through the eyes of a bold, upright woman who doesn't fear voicing her opinions and is confident about being herself," she summed up.

Yatra Naryasthu is a title that Adwaita Gadanayak, DG, NGMA, took from the Sanskrit shloka: *Yatra naryastu pujyante ramante tata devata*, which means where women are worshipped, there the gods rejoice. A historic show gives us a glimpse into the tapestry of the life of several women artists. It straddles India's greatest names like Zarina, Arpita Singh, Arpana Caur, Jayasri Burman, Anupam Sud, Soghra Khurasani, Jyotsna Bhatt, Dipali Daroz, Jayashree Chakravarty and many more. Created as a corollary among printmakers, sculptors, ceramic artists and painters, the show has something for everyone. Special is the requiem for artists who have passed away. A number of works have been specially loaned to the NGMA by eminent collectors from Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai.

ZARINA'S MY DELHI

Zarina passed away last year on April 20 in London. Poet, printmaker and teacher Zarina was born in Aligarh, India. After receiving a degree in Mathematics, she went on to study woodblock printing in Bangkok and Tokyo, and intaglio with SW Hayter at Atelier 17 in Paris.

Her experiences and personal life define Zarina's works. An early interest in architecture and Mathematics is reflected in the use of geometry and her emphasis on structural purity. While her work gravitates towards minimalism, its starkness is tempered by its texture and materiality. Her art poignantly chronicles her life and features recurring themes of home, displacement, borders, journey and memory.

Zarina mined her memory and experience to reflect on the nature of belonging. Delhi 1, II &

THE OTHER HALF

Yatra Naryasthu details the passion and devotion of a woman artist's journey of creation, says UMA NAIR



III, are three prints that address the theme of home within the context of individual and national identity, displacement, isolation and community. Yet when you look at them together, it's like a meditation on belonging.

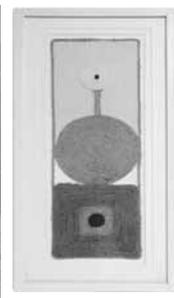
MANISHA BHATTACHARYA'S SONG OF THE SEA

Ceramic artist and mentor Manisha Bhattacharyya passed away after a battle with cancer and her cluster of three raku pots

belong to her series of the sea. Laden with cracked glaze and the sandy tone of a murky white, it shows her prowess and passion for creating pots that had a minimal accent and a Zen echo of rare rhythms.

LEENA BATRA'S PORCELAIN PLATTERS

In the history of ceramics in India, former Garhi artist and co-founder of Delhi Blue Pottery, Leena Batra is an important name.



Three porcelain platters are a treat for tired eyes. She was one of the first to experiment with porcelain and these three platters speak of precision, perfection and the finesse needed to create celadon glazed platters.

MADHURI JALAN'S LINGAM

Madhuri Jalan was a ceramic artist. She used to create sculptural pots and among her experiments was a copper lingham that was a part of her show at Habitat Centre in 2010. This copper lingham with a small trunk of an elephant is on loan from a collector. As a work of art, it blends both

mythic and spiritual yearnings in a deeply materialistic world. The *lingam* initiates an exchange of ideas/emotions around the the-matics of the creative process, inviting the viewer to weigh in on deeper artistic sources and cognitive triggers that stir them to create.

PRABHA SHAH

At the Triveni studio creating canvases for more than two decades is abstractionist Prabha Shah, who creates work in silence because she can neither hear the world nor speak her heart out in syllables.

Prabha's canvas is a testimony to the process of abstraction being an experience — not only is it the cruc of creation but it is also a residue that evolves with both precision and fervour. Prabha's visual language is the key to her own odyssey. In her canvas, the addition, the summation and the erasure all come into play. These postulations of personal choice become a paradigm of a self-referential and self-editing intention that is in parts voluntary and involuntary — as an act of creating in a silent world that has no sound.

Ultimately for art lovers *Yatra Naryasthu* details the passion and devotion of a woman's journey of creation. (The show is on till March 29 at NGMA.)

TRENDBLAZER



ANUSHKA'S ANIMAL SHELTER TO OPEN NEXT YEAR?

ANUSHKA SHARMA has been a champion for animal rights for years now. She had revealed that she wishes to build an animal shelter in the outskirts of Mumbai and looks like that dream is coming true.

A source said, "If all things go as per plan, the shelter will be ready for operations sometime next year! The work has resumed in full swing. She is leaving no stone unturned to ensure this happens. The shelter is based on the principle that animals too have equal rights in this world."

fairtalk

SAINA NEHWAL



"Everything is quite surreal. What I have achieved in life is all due to the constant support of my family. It has been my huge honour to play a sport I love and put my country on a pedestal. Parineeti (Chopra) is a fabulous actor and we both connected so easily when we met. I wish the team all the best for the film and hope everyone leaves the theatre with dreams."

dailytalk

SAJID KHAN



"Please feel free to call me Sajid Wajid because I have changed my surname to Wajid. As long as I'm alive, I'll keep working hard so that everyone remembers his name. Somewhere I have a feeling that he is always with me. He was just 47, and in these 47 years he has never been separate from me. I still can't believe he passed away."

NICOLAS CAGE CONFIRMS MARRIAGE WITH RIKO SHIBATA

Actor **NICOLAS CAGE** married Riko Shibata on February 16 in Las Vegas as confirmed by E! online. "It's true, and we are very happy," he was quoted as saying. This is the 56-year-old's fifth marriage, and comes nearly two years after his marriage to Erika Koike in March 2019, which was annulled after just four days.

According to the report, the couple exchanged vows at the Wynn Hotel on the day of Nicolas' father's birthday.



Lahari, Rahul battle to partner Rohit

PTI ■ AHMEDABAD

The Indian team management faces a problem of plenty going into the five T20 Internationals against England, an assignment which marks the beginning of the side's build-up to this year's T20 World Cup at home.

There are 19 players available for selection and with two in contention for each slot, the XI for the five games, starting here on Friday, will be an indication to how head coach Ravi Shastri, captain Virat Kohli and bowling coach Bharat Arun are looking at the next six to seven months for the short-term format.

Will they look for a settled combination to first clinch the series and then experiment or will they field absolute rookies in the squad looking at the bigger picture?

For a team that's so closely followed, the result does matter and that's why one can expect a settled first eleven for the first game. To note today, all matches are at the same venue on similar kind of tracks.

The roaring comeback of Rishabh Pant will lead to a lot of interesting developments at the top of the order. Pant's inclusion means that KL Rahul, who till a few months back was the first choice keeper-opener, is unlikely to don the big gloves.

Shikhar Dhawan and Rohit Sharma were a settled opening pair. Pant was opening part till recently but Rahul's emergence as a potent white ball specialist has spiced up the competition.

Dhawan recently had a score of 150 odd in the Vijay Hazare Trophy for Delhi and when it comes to Rohit, there's nothing to be dismissed.

So where does the team management fit in? Pant, who has been a successful IPL opener? Will he be slotted in the middle-order as Dhawan's game is not suited to batting lower down?

These are two pertinent questions and in the answer, will be a follow-up question.



With skipper Kohli himself coming in at No 3 and two game-changers like Pant and all-rounder Rahul, Pandya expected to play the big shots at Nos 5 and 6, where does it ideally leave Pant? The only place he can be slotted is No 4 but Shreyas Iyer and Suryakumar Yadav are also jostling for a place.

Mitali & Co aim to bounce back

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

A rusty Indian women's cricket team will be seeking some rhythm in the second ODI against South Africa here on Tuesday after being outplayed by the visitors in the series-opener.

Though captain Mithali Raj and her deputy Harmanpreet Kaur had insisted that rustiness won't be an issue in their first series in 12 months, India clearly looked a side which had not played for a long time in the opener of the five-match series on Sunday.

A better prepared South Africa, on the other hand, were clinical and will be hard to beat in the coming games.

After the game, Kaur realised the players needed some time to get as a unit. Barring Kaur, Raj and Deepti Sharma, to a certain extent, none of the batters could apply themselves on a decent batting surface.

A lot of them were guilty of poor shot selection as pointed out by Kaur after the game.

The spinners, who are traditionally considered India's strength, hardly troubled the South African duo of Lizelle Lee and 21-year-old L. Wolvaardt.

Two players, who will only get a look-in if someone is injured or forcefully rested are Ishan Kishan and Rahul Tewatia as the two simply can't be fitted anywhere.

In all, there are too many good players and very little space to fit all with three sure-shot picks — Mohammed Shami, Ravindra Jadeja and Jasprit Bumrah already resting or recuperating from injury.

Once they comeback, it will be a bigger selection headache for the white ball but one that they won't mind.

some positives, however, such as Raj scoring a gritty half-century and pacer Jhulan Goswami showing she is still among the best in the business. Both the veterans were playing their first game since November 2019.

Kaur too looked good in her 100th ODI but would have liked to convert the start into a big score.

Opener Monica Patel was struck three delightful fours before falling to a loose shot and would be backing herself to bat long on Tuesday.

"Few of them got starts but couldn't convert. The bowlers need to be more consistent with lines and lengths, maybe they weren't consistent because they're coming back after a long break," Raj acknowledged after the match in which India could post only 177 that South Africa chased down in just 40.1 overs.

Pacer Monica Patel was handed her debut on Sunday and more caps can be handed out in the second game with the management keeping one eye on preparations for the World Cup next year.

Pulling off one back against South Africa seems like a daunting task considering the way they played in the open.

er. They looked a team high on confidence having blanketed Pakistan at home recently.

Their pace attack led to a Shabim Islam's impressive 50 and Indians will have to find a way to negate that threat.



SINGLES

LAPORTA BACK AS PRESIDENT

MADRID: The president of Barcelona when Lionel Messi began playing in Spain will also be in charge when the club tries to convince the star to stay. Joan Laporta was elected Barcelona president again on Sunday, inheriting a club in crisis and facing daunting problems that include a huge debt and the possible departure of Messi when his contract finishes at the end of the season. "The fact that the best player in the world is going to vote today, along with his son, is proof that Leo loves Barca," Laporta said. "Together we will convince him to stay."

Laporta defeated businessman Victor Font and longtime board member Toni Ferra, the other two candidates who won over the more than 110,000 members eligible to vote.

SPORTS BEATS MALACE 4-1

LONDON: Gareth Bale and Harry Kane both scored twice to help Tottenham take the Premier League title and boost its top-four hopes after a 4-1 victory against Crystal Palace. The duo combined twice with Kane the architect for both goals by Bale before the England captain hit a wonder strike and then created history with another in the 78th minute. Son Heung-min assisted Kane's second and it was their 14th goal combination in the PL this season to beat the previous record of 13 set by Alan Shearer and Chris Sutton for Blackburn in the 1994-95 season.

RUBLEV REIGNS IN ROTTERDAM

ROTTERDAM: Andrey Rublev extended his phenomenal winning run at ATP 500 events to 20 matches on Sunday when he defeated Marton Fucsovics 7-6(4), 6-4 in the ABN AMRO World Tennis Tournament. The World No. 8 also extended his winning streak in ATP Tour championship matches to seven victories. Rublev saved all four break points he faced to capture his fourth straight title at ATP 500-level after one hour and 50 minutes.

MANIKA, SATHIVAN IN 2ND ROUND

DOHA: India's Manika Batra and Sathiyan Gnanasekaran on Monday went through to the second round of the WTT Star Contender table tennis tournament in Doha. Manika, ranked 63 in women's singles, beat Chinese Taipei's Hsien-Tzy Cheng 3-0. Manika held her own to beat her opponent in straight sets 11-5, 11-9, 11-9. The 2018 Asian Games bronze medalist will face Japanese world No. 3 Minna Ito in her round of 16 match on Tuesday. Meanwhile, world No. 37 Gnanasekaran had a more tricky encounter against France's 40th ranked Emmanuel Lebesson, winning the match 3-2. Gnanasekaran lost the first two games but then came back to take the match 9-11, 7-11, 11-7, 11-4, 11-4. He will face Japanese world No. 5 Harimoto Tomokazu in the round of 16 on Tuesday.

ATIANU, TARJUN, DEEPIKA IN RESERVE SQUAD

PUNE: Seasoned Annu Das and Tarunachand Rai among men and Deepika Kumari in the women's section will headline the Indian recurve archery contingent during this year's Tokyo Olympics. After the final selection trials (Trial 3) at the Army Institute of Sports in Pune, a six-strong squad which has three male and equal number of female archers was selected for the quadrennial extravaganza. Besides Annu and Tarunadep, the other archer in the Indian men's team is Pravin Jadhav, while Ankita Bhakat and Komolika Bari complete the women's squad.

INDIA BEAT GREAT BRITAIN 3-2

BRUXELLES: Striker Mandeep Singh struck a brace as the Indian men's hockey team eked out a close 3-2 win over Great Britain to end their Europe tour on an unbeaten note here on Monday. Harmanpreet Singh's strike in the very first minute and two goals by Mandeep in the 28th and 59th minutes helped India remain undefeated on the tour. For Great Britain, James Gal (20th) and striker Adam Forsyth (55th) were the goal scorers. The last few minutes was a battle of nerves as both the teams led up to the billing, but it was Mandeep who rose to the occasion as his late strike helped India cap off their first assignment of 2021 with a 3-2 win.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India will play their inaugural World Test Championship final against New Zealand at Southampton's Ageas Bowl Stadium from June 18-22. BCCI president Sourav Ganguly confirmed on Monday.

Initially, the final was supposed to be held at the Lords but Southampton, with a five-star facility inside the stadium, will make it easier for both the ICC and the England and Wales Cricket Board to create a bio-bubble for the two teams.

"Yes, the final will be held at Ageas Bowl," Ganguly replied to a query from PTI.

India qualified for the marquee clash after beating England 3-1 in a just-concluded Test series.

Southampton, with its slowish

WTC final in Southampton: Ganguly

track, puts India on even keel with New Zealand as spinners will come into the game at the venue.

"I will go for the World Test Championship and hopefully we can get past New Zealand in the final. New Zealand will be there before us and they will play a couple of Test matches (against England)," Ganguly told *India Today* channel.

He lavished praise on the team for its stupendous performance in both the away series against Australia and home games against England.

Massive achievement? "Oh yes, specially after what players have gone through to be in



those bubbles and play cricket day in and day out. It was remarkable. Right from IPL till now. What they have achieved is fantastic," he told the channel. (Rahul) Dravid who does a

lot of work behind the scenes with these boys. To see that day in Brisbane was outstanding," he said.

Ganguly believes that Rishabh Pant is a match winner in the mould of Virender Sehwag, Yuvraj Singh and Mahendra Singh Dhoni. "I have seen him for past two years and I have belief in match-winners. A player, who on his day will win you games. Pant is one such guy."

"Sydney Test, if he had been there for six more overs, he would have won us that game too. He is like Dhoni, Sehwag and Yuvraj, who can win matches alone," said the former India captain.

He was mighty impressed with Pant's game sense during his under pressure hundred at Motera.

"And look at how he played in Ahmedabad. His game sense while facing the second ball against James Anderson, who has bowled well in the series. He counter-attacked and changed it."

He also lauded National Cricket Academy head Rahul Dravid, whose behind the scenes work has helped in creating a solid bench strength.

"That's why I say Dravid has done a great job. Mohammed Siraj and Shardul Thakur did it well in Australia and we still find Test without Jasprit Bumrah."

Eng leadership power lies with Morgan: Vaughan

PTI ■ LONDON

Former captain Michael Vaughan has argued that England Test skipper Joe Root should also get to pick his best players irrespective of ECB's rotation policy, just like limited over leader Eoin Morgan "gets what he wants".

In a column for Telegraph, Vaughan wrote England fielded a weakened team in the four Tests against India with the likes of Jos Buttler and Moeen Ali returning home in the middle of the series only to be back for the limited overs leg of the tour.

"It is very clear where the leadership power lies in English cricket - it is with Eoin Morgan and not Joe Root. "I am pretty sure that Morgan went to the selectors and Ashley Giles and said he wanted his best team at all times this year. In Twenty20, so he could build for the World Cup in

Wendies win third T20I, seal series

AP ■ OSBOURN

Fabian Allen hit three mighty sixes in the 19th over to help the West Indies to series-clinching, three-wicket win over Sri Lanka in the third Twenty20 international.

Chasing Sri Lanka's modest 131-4, West Indies were again constrained by Sri Lanka's spin attack and came to the 18th over at 105-7, needing 27 runs from 18 balls.

Captain Jason Holder, cool and with a plan in mind, blocked out the 18th over, the last from dangerous spinner Wainundudu Hasaranga, saving for a six from a free hit which helped break the mounting tension.

With 20 runs needed from the last two overs, Allen hit sixes from the first, third and last balls of the 19th over from Akila Dananjaya to get the Test Indies home with an over to spare to clinch the series 2-1. Allen hit 21 runs from six balls and also took 1-13 from four overs to earn player-of-the-match honors. He said there was no panic in the West Indies dressing room, even when it's biggest hitters fell early. Sri Lanka, those to bat on winning the toss on Sunday.

DP, Samarth's another hundred takes K'taka in semis

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Young opener Devdutt Padikkal sent a strong message to the national selectors before England ODIs as he slammed his fourth consecutive List A ton as Karnataka take Kerala by 80 runs in a quarter-final game of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on Monday.

Karnataka rode on skipper Ravikumar Samarth's knock of 192 off 158 balls and a stroke-filled 101 by 20-year-old left-handed Padikkal (off 119 balls) to post an imposing 338/3 and then bundled out the opposition for 258. Kerala's decision to put Karnataka into bat backed fired badly, as Samarth and Padikkal toyed with their attack with a massive 249-run partnership in the first half-century.

He completed his century in 112 balls and was aggressive right from the start, while Padikkal hammered 10 boundaries and two maximums.

It was a Samarth-Padikkal show as Karnataka were going strong at 196/0 after 35 overs

GUJARAT IN SEMIS

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Skipper Pravin Panchal's stroke-filled 134 and an equally impressive show from the bowlers set up Gujarat's massive 117-run win over Andhra in the second quarter-final of the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

Gujarat rode on Panchal's 134 to post a competitive 299 for 7 and then bundled out the opposition for 182, to make it to the semi-final. India Test star and Andhra captain Hanuman Vihari was out for a five-ball duck.

While Padikkal continued his fabulous show in the national ODI tournament and in the process scored his 4th consecutive List A century and became the first Indian to do so, Samarth surpassed veteran Wasim Jaffer's unbeaten 170 to register the highest score in a Vijay Hazare knock-out match.

For Kerala, right-arm medium pacer Basil NP (3/57) was the pick of the bowlers, while others had an off-day.

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GOLD FOR NO 1 BAJRANG

PTI ■ ROME

Olympic-bound Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia pulled off a two-point in the last 30 seconds of the Gold medal bout to defend his title at the Matteo Pellicone Ranking Series event, a result that propelled him back to world number one rank.

Up against Mongolia's Tulga Tumur Ochir, Bajrang was trailing 0-2 till the final moments of the 65kg final but managed to level the scores, 30 seconds from the final whistle.

Since the last scoring point came from the Indian, he was declared the winner on criteria on Sunday night.

his game in the one-year break, forced by the coronavirus pandemic.

The 27-year-old though said he needs to work more on his defence as he is eyeing a medal at the Tokyo Games.

"I found that my leg defence has improved compared to before. I have got better but it still needs more work. I also need to be better on my attacking moves," Bajrang told PTI.

Asked about his struggle in the final against the Mongolian, one of the three men's Indian wrestlers to have quali-



fied for the Tokyo Games said it indeed was tough.

"Look, the 65kg category is extremely competitive. The Mongolian has qualified for the Tokyo Games.

He is not a weak opponent. All the wrestlers in this category have the same aim of doing well in Tokyo, so all are tough and we are all on the same level," he said.

"It is such a sport, that you go up and down in the ranking that I am back to the mat and competing,"