OPINION 6

WOMEN AND MENTAL

HEALTH MORBIDITIES

WORLD 8

TAIWAN REJECTS CHINA'S PATH

AMID MILITARY FORCE SHOW

Established 1864

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CAPSULE

DIESEL CROSSES ₹100 MARK IN GANDHINAGAR New Delhi: Diesel prices on Sunday crossed ₹100-a-litremark in Gandhinagar and Leh as fuel prices were hiked again in sync with firming international oil prices. Petrol price was hiked by 30 paise per litre and diesel by 35 paise a litre, according to a price notification of fuel retailers. The sixth straight day of price hike pushed fuel rates to a new record high. The price of petrol in Delhi rose to its highest-ever level of ₹104.14 a litre and ₹110.12 per litre in Mumbai, the notification showed In Mumbai diesel now comes for ₹100.66 a litre. P9

N-POWERED CARRIER FOR MALABAR EXERCISE

New Delhi: Nuclear-powered US aircraft carrier Carl Vinson will be part of the second phase of the high-voltage Malabar exercise from October 12-15 featuring the navies of all four Quad countries, India, the US Australia and Japan

NCB RECORDS STATEMENT OF SRK'S DRIVER

Mumbai: The Narcotics Control Bureau has recorded the statement of Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's driver in connection with the seizure of drugs from a cruise ship off the Mumbai coast, an NCB official said on Sunday.

GEHLOT'S BROTHER SUMMONED BY ED

New Delhi: The brother of Raiasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has been summoned again by the Enforcement Directorate for questioning in a case of illegal export of fertiliser.

'No power in blackout, coal shortage rumours'

Miscommunication from GAIL, Tata Power in Delhi created panic: Min RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

A fter several States, including Gujarat, Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi and Tamil Nadu, raised concerns of blackouts amid fears of coal shortage, the Government on Sunday said that there was no shortage of coal in the country.

Union Power Minister RK Singh, who reviewed the coal stock position at thermal power plants, including those plants which are supplying power to distribution companies of Delhi on Sunday, lashed out at Tata Power and GAIL for sending "baseless SMSs" to customers and creating panic about a power crisis, warning that such acts will be treated as instances of "irresponsible behavior.

Singh noted that the country is four days ahead of the average requirement of coal per day and an "unnecessary panic" was

being created over the issue.
"We have an average coal reserve (at power stations) that can last for more than four days. The stock is replenished

experiencing at least three-four hours of power cuts on a regular basis due to the severe coal shortage at thermal power plants. According to reports, two units each at the Talwandi Sabo power plant, Ropar plant and one unit at the Lehra Mohabbat, 475 MW plant have been shut. Punjab CM Charanjit Singh Channi asked the Centre to immediately increase the State's coal

Rajasthan has announced that it is resorting to two to three hours scheduled power cuts daily to tide over the power crisis. Tata Power, which has signed contracts to supply

supply as per its quota.

Gujarat, 475 MW to Punjab 380 MW to Rajasthan, 760 MW to Maharashtra and 380 MW to Haryana from its imported coal-based power plant at Mundra in Gujarat, has stopped generation.

Jharkhand is also witnessing a huge power crisis and resorted to six to seven hours of load shedding in Dhanbad, Bokaro, Giridih, Chatra, Koderma and Hazaribagh.

Bihar is getting only 2,400 MW of power from the NTPC during the against the 4,500

areas are facing four to five hours of power cuts in the

The Tamil Nadu Generation and

suspended power supply in

Distribution Corporation said if

www.dailypioneer.com

parts of Chennai to carry out maintenance work. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has

sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "urgent personal attention" calling the situation "quite alarming". "The power sector is being pushed into turmoil because of coal shortage," Reddy pointed

every day. We are supplying power to the entire country. Whoever wants, give me a requisition and I will supply

them," adding that he was in touch with Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Pralhad Joshi. Dismissing Delhi's concerns over a potential power crisis in the national Capital,

which prompted Chief Continued on Page 2

Sisodia accuses Centre of 'turning a blind eye' to every problem

New Delhi: Delhi's Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Sunday alleged that the Centre is not ready to accept that there is a coal crisis and its policy to "turn a blind eye" to every problem could prove fatal for the country. His remarks came after the Coal Ministry asserted that sufficient dry fuel is available in the country to meet the demand of electricity generating plants and dismissed as "entirely misplaced" any fear of disruption in power supply. See Page 2

India, China hold fresh talks to end border row

India puts forth its concerns against Chinese propaganda

RAKESH K SINGH NEW DELHI

India and China held the 13th round of high-level military talks for over eight hours on Sunday to seek a forward movement on the stalled disengagement process in the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh.

The meeting was held in the backdrop of a massive propaganda campaign and pinpricks for the last ten days along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) by the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) in Arunachal Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh besides a psychological operation on the Chinese social media. A photo of the Galwan

incident on the Chinese social media was deliberately being made viral for the last ten days in areas along the LAC to psychologically put pressure on the Indian delegation ahead of the talks, sources said. However, the Indian dele-

gation put forth its concerns on the delay in resolving the friction points in eastern Ladakh at an early date. Rejecting the Chinese psychological operations, the Indian side also stood its ground and put forth Indian concerns in a candid talks, they said. The outcomes of the talks manner without any psychological pressure, sources said.

The Chinese propaganda and psychological operations are based on Al Qaeda's tactics of attacking the US once and releasing threat videos for over a decade to terrorise the western world. Likewise, China is also seeking to milk the Galwan incident in which it has not even released the correct casualty figures it sustained at the

hands of the Indian Army. The 13th round of Corps Commander-level talks took place at the Moldo border point on the Chinese side of the LAC in eastern Ladakh.

The talks began at about

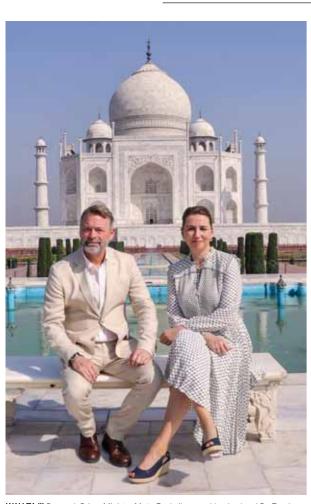
10.30 am and continued til 7.00 pm, and the Indian delegation is on its way back after completion of this round of the

could not be immediately ascertained and the Indian Army is expected to release a statement on the deliberations soon. The latest round of talks

took place over three weeks after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar conveyed to his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi that the two sides should work for an early resolution of the remaining eastern Ladakh. issues

The two Ministers met on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Dushanbe on September 16.

Continued on Page 2



WAH TAJ!! Denmark Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen and her husband Bo Tengberg pose for a photograph inside the premises of the Taj Mahal in Agra on Sunday

Min Mishra's son sent to 14-day judicial custody

PNS LUCKNOW

Alocal court in Lakhimpur Kheri has sent Ashish Mishra alias Monu, son of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra, to 14 days' judicial remand after his arrest by the of Uttar Pradesh Police after 12 hours of intensive interrogation on Saturday night.

on Saturday night.

The cops, however, failed to nab MP Akhilesh Das' nephew Ankit Das, also one of the prime suspects in the case.

Special Remand Magistrate Diksha Bharati refused the application of the SIT seeking police remand after midnight and sent Ashish to 14-days' judicial remand. However, the SIT will move the court again on Monday move the court again on Monday to seek police remand of Ashish

Mishra for further interrogation. During the marathon interrogation on Saturday, Ashish failed to furnish any supportive evidence to prove his innocence, that he was not present in any of the three SUVs that went about crushing the farmers, killing four of them, in Tikonia area of Kheri on Sunday last.

Continued on Page 2

'Lakhimpur's people have no hope of justice from UP Govt'

Privanka blows Cong poll bugle in PM's constituency

RAMATMA SRIVASTAVA ■ VARANASI

Uttar Pradesh (UP) Government, Congress national general secretary and the party's UP incharge Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Sunday said the farmers and the common man have no hope of justice from the BJP-led Government, and it's for the first time in the country that the police "invited" a murder accused for talk

at the police station.
"The Congress will continue its fight until the victims of Lakhimpur Kheri get justice and the Union Minister of State Ajay Mishra tenders his resignation" she said.

Blowing the election bugle of the Congress while addressing a Kisan Nyay Rally at Jagatpur Inter College Grounds in Varanasi, Priyanka said that when she visited Sonbhadra where 13 adivasis were killed by people having the patronage of



Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi being felicitated during the 'Kisan Nyay' rally, ahead of UP Assembly Elections 2022 in Varanasi on Sunday

police, she realised that the victims' families just wanted justice and not compensation from the Government. Similarly, when she visited Hathras after the rape of a girl, and recently Lakhimpur Kheri, the victims'

the administration and the families wanted only justice and not compensation.

> "But they have no hope of justice from the present BJP-led Government and are looking towards the Congress Party she said

'Modi's goal is not to stay in

power but to change country'

Continued on Page 2

'Don't turn issue into Hindu vs Sikh narrative'

Risky to reopen wounds that have taken long to heal: Varun

PNS NEW DELHI

The BJP's Member of Parliament (MP) Varun Gandhi, who had earlier demanded the immediate arrest of those responsible for the "murder" of farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri in Uttar Pradesh (UP), on Sunday warned against attempts to communalise the incident and turn it into a "Hindu vs Sikh battle."

Varun said it was dangerous to create these "fault-lines" and reopen wounds that have

taken a long time to heal.

By making these comments, the three-time BJP MP from Pilibhit has hit-out at



Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra who had blamed "Khalistanis" for the Lakhimpur Kheri incident that occurred on October 3.

Mishra's son Ashish Mishra is an accused in the case and was arrested by the UP Police after the Supreme Court lashed-out at the UP Government for not taking him into custody even though a case had been registered against him a week ago after an SUV ran-over agitating farm-

ers in the State. Continued on Page 2

Two held in J&K in **IED** recovery case

Three ISIS associates also arrested by NIA

PNS JAMMU

After a spate of targeted killings of civilians by the terrorists, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Sunday carried out searches at seven locations across three districts of Kulgam, Srinagar and Baramulla in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) in the Bathindi IED recovery case.

During the day-long searches, two TRF operatives namely Tawseef Ahmed Wani and Faiz Ahmed Khan were arrested for their involvement in the conspiracy.

The anti-terror agency car-



ried out simultaneous searches with the assistance of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and J&K Police.

In another development three people were held in J&K over their alleged association with the banned ISIS.

Setback for Abdullah's party in Jammu

Two prominent leaders Slathia, **Rana quit NC**

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Devendra Singh Rana, who is a former close aide of Omar Abdullah and Provincial President of Jammu & Kashmir National Conference (NC), on Sunday resigned from the primary membership of the party.

Rana is the younger brother of the Minister of State in the PMO Dr Jitendra Singh.

Along with him another senior party leader Surjit Singh Slathia also resigned from all his positions in NC with immediate effect. Confirming this political development the NC Continued on Page 2 | tweeted, "Dr Farooq Abdullah

has received & accepted the resignations of Mr Salathia & Mr Rana. No further action or comment is deemed neces-

sary."
Rana, who had worked closely with former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah as his political advisor, is tipped to join the Bharatiya Janata Party in the national Capital on Monday

Speaking to *The Pioneer* over telephone, three-time J&K Legislator Rana said, "Yes, I have resigned from the NC. You will get to know about my next move soon". After making the formal announcement in Jammu, Rana left for New

For about one week speculations were rife in the political quarters about Rana's next political move

Continued on Page 2

Shah slams Opp for portraying PM as a dictator

PNS NEW DELHI

Describing Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the "biggest reformer" and "unparalleled listener" and a democrat, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said that he made a "new model of development" that "echoes" from Gujarat to Delhi and slammed the Opposition for trying to bring the Prime Minister down and portraying

him as a dictator. Shah said that the goal of Modi is not to stay in power but to change the country Describing Modi as the



V interview that the Prime Minister made a new model of development that echoes from Gujarat to Delhi.

Heaping praise on the Prime Minister, the former BJP president said as a Chief Minister of Gujarat Modi had shown that the multi-party system can work effectively and efficiently in India. Shah said it was Modi who by his efforts



Opposition for trying to bring Modi down. When asked if criticism affects Modi, Shah said, "He (PM) only gets stronger as more and more criticise him". When asked about his

comments on the perception that Modi does not listen to anyone and takes all decisions by himself in a way a dictator would do, Shah said "I am fortunate to work with him both when he was CM and now as PM and I have not seen a better and calm listener than him. in all the meetings he listens for long and does not speak at all.. and then decides".

Continued on Page 2

3-judge Bench to hear Kalkaji matter: SC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has said that its three-judge Bench would hear an appeal chal-lenging a Delhi High Court order directing removal of encroachments and unauthorised occupants and shop-keepers from the Kalkaji Temple in South Delhi.

A Bench of Justices SK Kaul and MM Sundresh noted that a three-judge Bench of the apex court is already seized of the issue which has been dealt with by the single judge of the High Court.
"We are informed that a

three-judge Bench of this Court is monitoring the issue which has been dealt with by the single judge in the impugned order and the date of the listing of that matter is October 25, 2021...

Continued on Page 2

India is headed towards power crisis: Sisodia

'CENTRE SHOULD WAKE UP FROM ITS SLUMBER AND ARRANGE FOR COAL'

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Sunday alleged that the Central Government is not ready to accept that there is a coal cri-

"India is headed towards power crisis and the Centre should wake up from its slumber soon and arrange for coal, "adding, "Central Government is incompetent and can not run the country." "Centre runs away from every crisis," Sisodia said.

His reaction came after the Union Power Minister R K Singh called 'Delhi's power crisis' a 'rumor.'
"The Union Power

Minister said there isn't any coal crisis and that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal should not have written a letter to the Prime Minister on the issue. It is sad that a Union Cabinet Minister has adopted such an irresponsible approach," Sisodia said while addressing a press conference.
Sisodia linked the power

crisis with the Oxygen crisis during the second wave of Covid -19. "In the second wave of Covid – 19, the country had faced an oxygen crisis due to

this irresponsible attitude of the Centre, thousands of people had lost their life," the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader

Sisodia targeted Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) ruled Centre and said, "the Central government is driving the country into trouble. The governments of Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat etc. are warning the Center about the incoming crisis. Many power plants have closed. The state governments are planning long power cuts. In spite of this, the Central Government is turning a blind eye. The Central Government is neither con-

dated 27.06.2021 of PS Bahu

Fort District Jammu, relating to

After launching investiga-

registered the case as RC-

Ongoing investigations have so far revealed that

Pakistan-based handlers of

proscribed terror outfit LeT

and their associates based in

J&K had conspired to cause extensive terror activities for

harming the general public. They had planned that the

responsibility for the terrorist

acts so committed would be

taken by the pseudo-acronym

TRF so as to maintain plausi-

enforcement agencies.

Bathindi,

terrorist acts in J&K".

cerned with this crisis nor does it want to solve it. At this time the Central Government, as a responsible government, should accept that there is a coal crisis in the country, find a solution and not blame the state governments.

Appealing to the Central Government, Sisodia said that if charge not taken in time, there would be a bigger crisis in the country. He said that governments run with cooperation, so to overcome this crisis as a nation, the Central Government should adopt a cooperative attitude and take the state governments with it to make a plan to overcome this

Meanwhile, Delhi state BJP leader said Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is misleading citizens on possible power cuts. "Both Union Power Minister Raj Kumar Singh and Coal Minister Prahlad Joshi have categorically stated that the Center will not allow any shortage of fuel for power plants supplying power to Delhi. One fails to understand why despite Centre's assurance the Delhi Government continues to mislead people," Adesh Gupta, president, Delhi BJP said.

Cops asked to keep vigil over terror threat during festive season

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With the festival season round the corner, Rakesh Asthana, the Delhi Police Commissioner has instructed Deputy Commissioners of Police (DĈPs) to renew emphasis on anti-terror measures, enhance police visibility on the ground and intensify night patrolling across the national Capital.

In the crime and Covid review meeting on Saturday, the CP laid emphasis on anti-terror measures by strengthening the eyes and ears scheme of the force, public participation and interactions with market as well as Residents Welfare Associations

He also emphasised on enhanced police visibility on the ground and intensifying night patrolling.

Reviewing the state of street crime and organised crime in the city, the CP said that a lot of action has been recently taken against gangsters and further instructed the senior district officers to strengthen efforts to nab them.

Through another virtual meeting, he addressed over 5,000 police personnel of the ranks of Assistant Commissioner of Police, Station House Officer, Sub-Inspector and Assistant Sub-Inspectors of different units of the force and conveyed them greetings on Navratri and the upcoming festivities, according to police officials.

Outlining the various welfare

measures taken for the personnel recently, he informed them about the mandatory annual preventive health check-up for Delhi Police personnel above the age of 40, a measure taken to keep a check on health issues so that personnel remain fit and healthy at work, the officials said.

The CP also said that henceforth personnel deployed on night duty will be asked to report for duty the next day

"Earlier, post night checking, personnel were asked to report at the office the next day by 10 am on many occasions but henceforth, the Delhi CI has directed that personnel be called only from 2 pm onwards the next day so that they can get adequate rest and report to duty fresh," the officials said.

Delhi Police personnel will now get leaves to spend time with their families to celebrate birthdays and wedding anniversaries among other important occasions of their lives.

Police personnel above the age of 50 would also be considered for transfer postings to locations near their house so as to avoid inconvenience to them and can attend to family responsibilities as well.

During the crime review meeting, the district DCPs have also been asked to personally hear grievance redressal of their personnel and address their concerns.

Over 32 trees in city to be felled, 632 to get transplanted for Govt colony's redevelopment

New Delhi: The Delhi forest department has given permission to fell 32 trees and transplant another 632 for the redevelopment of a Government residential colony at Kasturba Nagar in South

The 32 trees to be felled include 13 dry trees. The forest department has asked the user agency, Central Public Works Department (CPWD), to deposit Rs 3.71 crore for creation and maintenance of compensatory plantation for a period of

A total of 6,510 saplings of Neem, Amaltas, Peepal, Pilkhan, Gular, Bargad, Desi Kikkar and Arjun will be planted as compensatory plantation at Utsav Marg in Rohini.

The forest department has asked the CPWD to submit a detailed plan for site preparation and plantation before initiating tree felling and transplantation.

The transplantation of trees has to be initiated immediately after permission is issued and should be completed in three months, after which a completion report has to be submitted to the tree

The user agency has been asked to adhere to all conditions mentioned in Tree Transplantation Policy 2020 scrupulously.

According to the policy notified in December last year, agencies concerned have to transplant a minimum of 80 percent of the trees affected by their development works.

Ten saplings are required to be planted for each tree transplanted or felled and the Department of Forests and Wildlife has to keep a detailed and upto-date record of applications approved for tree felling under the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 on its website.

City records 29 fresh Covid cases, 1 death

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The national Capital report-ed one death due to Covid-19 and 29 fresh cases on Sunday while the positivity rate stood at 0.05 per cent, according to data shared by the health department of the Delhi Government.

According to the bulletin The death toll due to the coronavirus infection in Delhi stands at 25,089. A total of 58989 tests -- 43135 RT-PCR and 15854 rapid antigen tests were conducted a day ago,"

The highest number of 448 deaths was reported on May 3. The Delhi government has been ramping up the health infrastructure in the city to prevent a repeat of the crisis witnessed during the peak of the second wave.

The Delhi Government has taken steps to increase the number of hospital beds to accommodate up to 37,000 patients a day and to become self-reliant in terms of oxygen

supply.

The daily case count had dropped to 17 on September 13, with no death being recorded, while the positivity rate was 0.04 per cent. The tally of cases reported in Delhi so far stood at 14,39,166. Over 14.13 lakh patients have recovered from the virus, it said.

Setback for...

From page 1

It is learnt differences had cropped up between him and the top brass of the party ever since he vociferously started batting for fulfilling the political aspirations of the people belonging to the Jammu region. A section of leaders based in Kashmir had raised objections over his political statements from Jammu. Rana even visited Srinagar and met JKNC President Dr Farooq Abdullah and Vice-President Omar Abdullah However, he later claimed he went there only to condole the demise of a close relative of the Abdullah's.

📵 NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY E-Procurement Tender Notice No 3/Track/2021 Dated 06.10.2021

Principal Chief Engineer, North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur invites the followin

Due on 16-11-2021

S.No.1. Description of materials on Fish Plates for BG 6 Kg/52Kg Rail as per RDSO drawing no. T-696-699 along with bolts, nuts & all types of washer given in the drg. No RDSO/T-696-699 with latest Alt, if any onforming to IRS specification No. IRS Γ-1-2012 (Provisional) with Addendum & Corrigendum Slip no. 1 of Sept' 18 as per following details :- Fish Plate T-696-699 : 01 No. each (Total - 04 Nos.) Bolt & Nut T-1899 = 02 Nos, Bolt & Nut T-11501 = 02 Nos. & Bolt & Nut T-700 = 04 Nos. Otv. 453 Sets, Consignee SSE (P.Way)/TD: Varanasi 131 Sets Gonda 296 Set Izzatnagar 26 Sets.

S.No.2. Description of materials Manufacture and Supply of One Metre long Spl. Fish Plate with 6 bales (for 60 Kg.) Rail as per RDSO drawing no. T-5916, conforming to IRS specification no T-1-2012 (Provisional) with Addendum & Corrigendum Slip no. 1 of Sept'18 as per following details; Fish Plate 01 Mtr Long T-5916 = 02Nos. Bolts with Nuts T-1899: 06 Nos . Otv.: 2327 Sets, Consignee SSE (P.Way)/TD: Varanasi 377 Sets Gonda 500 Sets Izzatnagar 450 Sets.

S.No.3. Description of materials BG 60 kg (UIC) as per RDSO drawing No. T-4016, conforming to IRS specification No. IRS: T-I-2012 (Provisional) with Addendum & Corrigendum Slip no. 1 of Sept'18 as per following details complet set with all fittings:- Joggled Fish Plate to RDSO Drg. No. T-4016 = 2 Nos, Clamps to RDSO Drg. No. T-4017 = 4 Nos, Clamp to RDSO Drg. No. T-4017/1 = 4 Nos. Bolt Nuts (25x290 mm) to Drg. No. T-11524 4 Nos. & Single Coil Spring Washer t RDSO Drg. No. T-10773 = 4 Nos. Qty. 970 Sets, Consignee SSE (P.Way)/TD: Gonda 970 Sets.

Note:- For Sr. No. 1 to 3 - Delivery period 6 Months, Estimated tender value (Rs.) 3,26,76,964.00, Earnest Money (Rs.)

Note:- 1.0 - The complete information along with tender document of above E Procurement Tender is available in websit on https://ireps.gov.in up to 11.00 hrs. or other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders. For this purpose, venders are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with class III Digital signature certificate issue by CCA under IT Act-2000. 3.0 - In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. XEN/TP, N. E. Railway, Gorkahi

CPRO/W - 202 About any passenger amenity complain

SMS on Mobile No. 09794845955 "Never travel on roof and foot board:

AAP to start free spraying of Two held... bio-decomposer on farms From page 1 Giving a statement on the arrests in the EID case the NIA under Winter Action Plan said, "The case was initially registered as FIR no. 234/2021

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI



With the help of Pusa scientists, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Delhi is preparing at Kharkhari Nahar the solution from September 24 and will provide it free to the farmers Aiming to deal with stubble burning pollution, Delhi

government also urged neighbouring states to provide this microbial solution free to their Environment minister

Gopal Rai, said, "Stubble burncauses pollution in

Meanwhile, the AAP gov-

From page 1

The 12th round of talks

between the two sides were

held on July 31 following which

the two armies completed the

disengagement process in

Gogra, which was seen as a sig-

nificant outcome of the series

of the talks between the two

delegation was led by Lt Gen

PGK Menon, the Commander

of the Leh-based 14 Corps.

The talks covered the unre-

solved friction areas like Hot

Springs and 900 sq km Depsang

Plains in which the Indian

forces are unable to access the

Corps Commanders level talks,

the sides have also held 10

Major General level talks, 55

Briagdier level confabulations

and 1,450 calls over the hot-

lines set for border coordina-

tion between the two armies,

Staff Gen MM Naravane had

underscored that if the Chinese

military continues with its large-

scale deployment in the eastern

Ladakh region, then the Indian

Army too will maintain its

strength on its side which he

said is "as good as what the PLA has done." The fresh round of

talks were held in the backdrop

of two recent incidents of

attempted transgressions by the

Chinese People's Liberation

Army (PLA) with one in the

Barahoti sector of Uttarakhand

and another in the Tawang sec-

tor in Arunachal Pradesh.

On Saturday, Chief of Army

sources here said.

Besides the 13 rounds of

traditional patrolling points.

At Sunday's talks, the Indian



third party audit report to the Commission for Air Quality Management.

According to SAFAR, a unit of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), air quality in Delhi recorded under mod erate category. It will further deteriorate in the next three days, as the pollution monitoring agency said. "Delhi's AQI is in the moderate category with PM10 as fire emission upwind along with local and regional dust under dry conditions. With the presence of such dry conditions both fire emission and dust-sus-AQI will degrade to be in poor condition for next three

Revenue Dept calls for revising circle rates based on prevailing market rates

New Delhi:The Delhi Government's Revenue Department has prepared a report to revise circle rates of properties in the city by breaking it down down into sub categories within eight existing categories to reflect the prevailing market rates,

A committee of the Revenue Department after evaluation of circle rates of different kinds of landed properties, has prepared the report which will be examined at the minister level before sending it for approval of the government, said a senior officer of the department. "The circle rates are currently fixed as per eight

be further be broken down into 3-4 sub categories within each category for better appreciation of property rates," the officer said. The circle rates in Delhi were last increased in 2014. Currently, depending on the area, circle

categories as per municipal classifications. It could

rates are divided in eight categories of 'A' to 'H' following classification of the municipal corporation. The circle rate in 'A' category areas like posh Vasant Vihar is Rs 7.74 lakh per square metre while

in the least developed 'H' areas like Nand Nagri is Rs 23,280 per square metre. Officials said that market rates of properties even within a given category have been found to be varying widely depending on level of development and commercial value.

"So even within a lower circle rate category, a particular area may have high market value of properties there which may be more than a less developed part of a higher circle rate category," | vehicles older than 15 years in compliance of the Supreme Court's order," the plan

Impound 10-vr-old diesel. 15-yr-old petrol vehicles: **Noida Admin tells police** Noida:In a measure to prevent air pollution,

the Gautam Buddh Nagar administration has asked the district police to impound diesel vehicles older than 10 years and petrol vehicles older than 15 years in compliance with a Supreme Police have also been asked to ensure that

ehicles not destined for Noida or Greater Noida

use bypasses or peripheral expressways, according to the 'winter action plan' issued by the Gautam Buddh Nagar district administration. It stated that police have been asked to keep a strict vigil and show no tolerance for visible emissions by stopping "visibly polluting vehi-

cles" from plying by impounding or issuing fines to offenders. The administration on October 6 released he 'winter action plan' to check pollution to various government agencies and authorities ahead of winters, during which air pollution in the National Capital Region (NCR), including Noida and Greater Noida, spikes to severe

The administration asked the police to list traffic hot-spots in the district and release it and an advisory accordingly.

levels affecting human health.

"Deploy additional man power and civil defence volunteers to ensure smooth traffic flow at identified traffic hot-spots and impound

NE women feel safer after city Govt's initiative Tejaswini

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The first review of northwest district's women centric initiative 'Tejaswini' after three months claimed that the women in the area feel more safer now than they used to feel earlier before the initiative.

The initiative was started on July 10 in order to curb crime against women and to ensure their safety and security.

According to police, 46 women constables were deployed in the crime infested and sensitive beat areas, including JJ clusters of Jahangirpuri, Shakurpur and Pitampura residential areas, Bhalaswa village, market or mall complexes, metro stations, schools and colleges.

Police said thatvUsha Rangnani, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Northwest district held number of meetings, interaction and ous groups of area women and these women constables to personally monitor ground realities.

Min Mishra's... India, China...

From page 1

DIG Upendra Agarwal who led the interrogation, informed media persons on Saturday night that they were taking Ashish Mishra in custody. The DIG also disclosed that Ashish was not cooperating with the investigating

Sources said that the minister's son could not give details of his whereabouts at the time of the incident when the violence took place.

The sources confirmed that Ashish provided videos to the team that he was not present at the time of the violence but the video had contradictory visuals. Ashish tried to convince that he was at a wrestling function in his Banveerpur village at the time of the violence. But his video could not

Public Notice

NOTICE is hereby given that Mr. Vivek Bansal & Ms. Ashima Bansal are intending to purchase the Property no 42/1.East Patel Nagar, Patel Nagar, New Delhi, 110008 (hereinafter referred to Said property) from Mr. Hemanshu Parwani and Ms. Madhvi Balani are the owners of said property by way of Will dated 14.12.1999 in the executed by Ms. Jaswanti P. Parwani Wlo Late Mr. P.W. Parwani registered on 14.12.1999 in the O/S sub-Registrar Delhi as per Book No. 3 Zid No. 34 Page No. 1/2 & Document No. 5361 and Now, Mr. Vivek Bansal & Ms. Ashima Bansal have agreed to create mortgage in respect of the said property in favour of our citeria PNB Housing Finance Ltd. Further, if any person, body, individual, institution having any claim, title, interest and for objection in respect of apperty or part of the property by way of said, exchange, lease, lien, mortgage, charge, exchange, rease, lien, mortgage, charge, exchange, lien, mortgage, charge, exchange,

'Lakhimpur's...

From page 1

"It has happened for the first time in the country and probably in the world that the police sent an invitation to a person accused of mowing down five people to talk at police station," the Congress general secretary charged, and added, "Instead of providing justice to the victims' families, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is trying to save the Minister's son and stop the Opposition from meeting the family members of the victims."

Taking a dig at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Lucknow after the Lakhimpur Kheri incident, Priyanka said "Even the Prime Minister has no time to meet the victims' families to console them by going to the violence-hit district, but he has time to go to the State Capital to attend a programme of the State Government."

Launching a scathing attack on the Government at the Centre, the Congress general secretary said, "The PM also has no time to meet the farmers agitating at the borders of the nation's Capital for the last 8-9 months in protest against the three contentious farm laws, but he has time to go abroad. The PM insulted the farmers by terming them as andolanjivi."

Priyanka also said that the price of petro products was gradually rising and the price of domestic LPG had reached Rs 1,000 while the price of urea had also increased and the power tariff had been hiked

3-judge...

From page 1

"In view of the aforesaid, it would be appropriate that the present matter is also listed along with the same," the bench

The apex court was hearing a plea filed by Kalkaji Mandir Vikreta Sangathan challenging the September 27 order of the high court directing removal of encroachments and unauthorised occupants and shopkeepers, who do not have any valid legal rights to occupy the shops, from Kalkaji Temple in South Delhi.

The high court had said it is essential for a temple, where thousands of devotees visit for conducting puja every day, irrespective of its public or private status, to be devoid of unauthorised encroachments, which results in extreme inconvenience and safety and security concerns for the devotees.

It had appointed retired Delhi High Court judge, Justice J R Midha as the administrator of the Kalkaji Temple for performing various functions in relation to the religious

The high court had also appointed Goonmeet Singh Chauhan, a renowned architect who has undertaken various projects of public importance, to submit a re-development plan for the Kalkaji Temple and the entire surrounding com-plex, and said he shall work closely with the Administrator and his team.

'Modi's...

"Sometime I myself think where is the need for so much discussion...", said the senior BJP leader and rejected as "completely baseless the view that Modi is dictatorial.

"Leadership is the biggest quality in PM Modi", said Shah.

"Modi gives importance to quality suggestions, not to persons giving the suggestions, he added. During the interview, Shah time and again sought to emphasise on the country's 'economic growth' under Modi's regime and pointed-out Gujarat model of development and how Modi gave a model for others to learn from. "Modi ji takes decisions by taking risks. Our aim is to spur change in the country. The world's largest democracy with a population of 130 crores has to be taken to a respectable place in the world", he said.

He said that Modi works for the poor, while the Opposition sits in power by making discontent inside the political capital. "After nearly 27 years of Left rule in Bengal, see the State's situation, and compare it with Gujarat", he said.

Shah recalled "three big stages of Prime Minister Modi's life, all three were challenging", he

"Modi Ji's public life can be divided into three parts. First- as General Secretary(Organisation)after joining the BJP. Secondly- as the Chief Minister of Gujarat. Third-As Prime Minister in national politics", said Home Minister.

'Don't turn...

From page 1

Varun, who along with his mother Maneka Gandhi, was recently dropped from the BJP National Executive, said the struggle for justice in Lakhimpur Kheri is about the "cruel massacre of poor farmers in the face of an arrogant local power elite", and the issue has no religious connotations.

"To use the word 'Khalistani' liberally to describe the protesting farmers is not only an insult to the generations of these proud sons of the Tarai who have fought and shed blood on our borders, it is also extremely dangerous for our national unity if this provokes the wrong kind of reaction," he said.

In a tweet, he said: "An attempt to turn Lakhimpur Kheri into a Hindu vs Sikh battle is being made. Not only is this an immoral & false narrative, it is dangerous to create these fault-lines & reopen wounds that have taken a generation to heal. We must not put petty political gains above national unity." Varun, who on October 2 on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, described the glorification of Nathuram Godse, the assassin of the Mahatma, as "shameful", has taken a completely contrarian line on the farmers' agitation by supporting their demands, which is against the BJP's official stand.

The BJP MP who has penned a book 'Rural Manifesto- Realising India through her villages' has divergent views from the party on developing the rural economy.

'No power...

From page 1 Minister Arvind Kejriwal to seek Prime Minister Narendra Modi's intervention, the Minister said that there was no crisis regarding power supply in Delhi.

"Delhi is being supplied the required amount of electricity and it will continue. Panic has been unnecessarily created about coal shortage and this is due to miscommunication from GAIL and Tata Power," he said.

Singh explained that the panic over possible power shortage started because GAIL sent a message to Delhi discoms about stopping gas supply because their contract is ending. 'The Lieutenant-Governor

of Delhi spoke with me on Saturday evening about a letter written by the Delhi CM regarding possible power supply disruption. I communicated to him that our officials are monitoring the situation and no such issue would arise," the Minister said. "I have asked the GAIL

CMD to continue supplying the required amount of gas to power stations across the country. He has assured me that the supplies will continue. Neither was there any shortage of gas in the past, nor will it happen in the future," he added

The National Thermal Power Corporation has also been advised to offer the normative declared capacity to the Delhi discoms as per their allocations from gas-based power plants under respective PPAs.

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03





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Look into gravity of

anticipatory bail: SC

offence before granting

Railways not sure if 'Rail Neer' is a packaged item



DEEPAK KUMAR JHA NEW

It is as surprising as it gets. More than a year since the Indian Railways allowed the sale of only "packed items" on platforms keeping in mind the Covid protocols, its bureaucracy hasn't been able to decide whether its very own branded bottled mineral water "Rail Neer" is a "packaged article" or

As per the August 2020 circular, the Ministry of Railways directed only packaged items to be sold at the contract shops, licensed trollevs and vendors on the platforms in line with the covid protocols. The Railway Board, in its August 13, 2020 com-

Zonal Railways sale of 'other' packed items besides the permission for sale of fresh fruits and juices from the authorised fruit and juice stalls across the railway stations in the country.

Interestingly, while most of the railway zones abided by the policy and allowed the sale of Rail Neer along with packed food, snacks and beverages items, the Northern Railways took exception and suspended the sale of Rail Neer with a query forwarded to the Railway Board to clarify that it be allowed under packed articles or not.

The prolonged indecisiveness of the Railway Board, Ŕailways Northern and its catering arm IRCTC has, thus, left lakhs of daily passengers, authorised caterers and vendors in lurch across

"Whether Rail Neer is permitted under packed items or not," the Northern Railway queried from the Railway Board twice in last three months between March and June 2021, after several follow ups by the vendors and caterers associations under the Delhi Division.

'We have been running from pillar to post to seek one approval that Rail Neer should be considered under packed item as per the policy guidelines issued by the railways in the wake of covid sale purchase guidelines. It is ridiculous that such a big machinery is taking so many months just to decide whether water they seal in their dedicated units are packaged water bottles or not," said Ravindra Gupta, President of the All India Railway Catering
Licensees Welfare

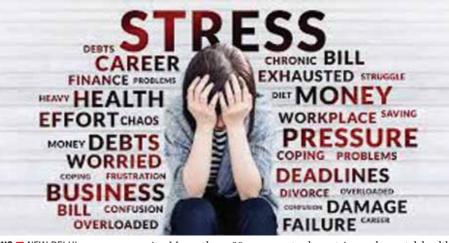
Association. When sought comment on the crisis, a senior railway official requesting anonymity said that he will have to look into the matter and enquire why such an unfriendly issue is entangled between the railways, caterers and above all the passengers.

Railway rued the fact that while passengers are a more harassed lot when they are unable to buy a water bottle from the railways' contractually engaged stalls and vendors, the railways failed to understand that it is losing revenue as compared to the vendor or the authorised sellers. "The allowing of sale of Rail Neer under packaged item will benefit more the railways," said Gupta. Owner of a railway stall

selling packed fruit juices,

snacks items at New Delhi Railway Station, Diwakar Mishra, stated that rather than stall owners who already incurring huge losses due to the pandemic incurred business impact, the stall owners are looking into the aspect where passengers the end users will be more benefitted. "Passengers can buy all permitted edible items under one roof including the packaged water bottle or mineral water. It is now more than a year the decision on this crisis is pending," Mishra said when enquired after visiting

Mental health of 73% Indians hit by pandemic: Survey



PNS NEW DELHI

whopping 73 per cent of Alindians have said that their mental health has been impacted by the pandemic — either due to isolation, restrictions or concerns for well-being while nearly 85 per cent of those surveyed spent more on wellness items during the crisis compared to previous years, according to a survey titled 'Amex Trendex', the trend report from American Express.

Around 2,000 general population travellers in the United States and 1,000 in Japan, Australia, Mexico, the UK, Canada and India were surveved.

A whopping 93 per cent said they would rather choose to have a stronger mental health than a new car and 89 per cent agreed they would give up their favourite TV show for

it. More than 80 per cent have triggered mental health Indian consumers said they have taken advantage of new mental health resources during the pandemic.

They are also spending more on natural vitamins and supplements (59 per cent), inhome fitness equipment (56 per cent) and organic food (58 per cent) and exercise (43 per cent). Also Read —Anxiety of socialisation can be cause of concern for students returning to schools.

In the meantime, on the World Mental Health Day, Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director WHO South-East Asia Region noted that while there has been an increase in demand, the critical mental health services have either been disrupted or halt-

Bereavement, isolation, loss of income, anxiety and fear

PTI ■ NEW DELHI ravity of an offence and spe-Cific allegations are the parameters which should be looked into by a court while granting anticipatory bail to an accused, the Supreme Court has said.

A bench of justices D Y Chandrachud and B V Nagarathna made the observations while setting aside an order passed by the the Madhya Pradesh High Court granting anticipatory bail to two persons accused in a murder case.

The top court said it has to determine whether on the basis of the material available at this stage, the high court applied the correct principles in allowing the applications for anticipatory

'Courts ought to be generally guided by considerations such as the nature and gravity of the offences, the role attributed to the applicant, and the facts of the case, while considering whether to grant anticipatory bail, or refuse it," the bench said.

The top court was hearing appeals challenging anticipatory bail granted to two accused in connection with an offence registered under Sections 302 (murder), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt) read with 34 (common intention) of the Indian Penal

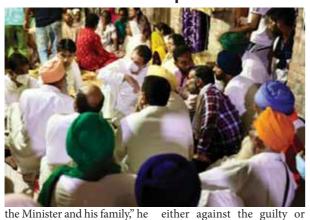
Cong seeks to meet President to e-cigarettes have chemicals not disclosed by manufacturers: Study present facts in Lakhimpur case

ongress on Sunday wrote a Cletter to President Ram Nath Kovind seeking an urgent meeting over the Lakhimpur Kheri violence in order to raise questions on the investigation that followed after the incident.

Congress General Secretary KC Venugopal urged the President to allow a delegation of seven party members led by Rahul Gandhi to "present a detailed memorandum of facts".

Calling it a "shocking incident of broad day massacre of farmers", Venugopal noted that it has "shaken the conscience of the entire nation".

open warmings given by Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Ajay Mishra Teni and consequent trampling of farmers under a Thar Jeep owned by



"Farmers, who were eyewitnesses, have openly stated that they were run over by vehi-Union Minister of State for Home Affairs. Despite allround protests and intervention of the Supreme Court, no

ing justices Dinesh Maheshwari and C T

Ravikumar, passed the order

while hearing a plea against

ing chosen to implead the parties by name, "the mini-

mum fairness in dealing with

the allegations in the writ

petition was to put all such

respondents to notice before

passing any peremptory

"Accordingly, we set aside the impugned judgment and

order and relegate the parties

by restoring the writ petition

to the file of the high court to

its original number for being

considered afresh on its own

merit and in accordance with

that on the basis of the high

court order, the CBI had reg-

istered an FIR in the matter in

revived and investigation can proceed only if the high court

finally answers the issue in

passed, no precipitative steps

favour of the petitioner.

February last year.

The bench was informed

It said the FIR would stand

"Until the final order is

law," it said.

It said the petitioner hav-

the high court order.

either against the guilty or against the Minister," he added in a letter written a day before the arrest of alleged accused.

The proposed seven-mem-Rahul Gandhi, includes AK Antony, Mallikarjun Kharge, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Priyanka Gandhi, KC Venugopal and Adhir Ranjan Choudhury.

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Those who think that vap-I ing or e-cigarettes are healthier than smoking conventional cigarettes, think again. Researchers have found that vaping aerosols contain thousands of unknown chemicals and substances not disclosed by manufacturers, including industrial chemicals and caffeine. Johns Hopkins University researchers also found the vaping aerosols contain three industrial chemicals, a pesticide and two flavorings linked with possible toxic effects and respiratory irritation which even the vapers are unaware of.

The study is published in journal Chemical Research in Toxicology.

The study is the first to aerosols, an advanced fingerprinting technique used to identify chemicals in food and wastewater.

compared e-cigarettes with normal cigarettes found that cigarette contaminants are much lower in e-cigarettes. The problem is that e-cigarette aerosols contain other completely uncharacterized chemicals that might have health risks that we don't yet know about," said senior author Carsten Prasse, an assistant professor of environmental health and engineering at Johns Hopkins. Previous studies of e-

cigarettes have looked specifically for evidence of the hazardous chemicals found in traditional cigarettes. But here the researchers performed a non-targeted analysis to explore the full range of chemicals both in the vaping liquid and the aerosols.

Using a chemical fingerliquid chromatography/highresolution mass spectrometry, never used on vape samples but used before to identify "Existing research that organic compounds in waste-



water, food and blood, the team tested four popular products. Although it's possible to buy vaping products in hundreds of flavors, here for consistency they tested only tobacco flavored liquid.

unknown chemicals in the eliquid, and the number of compounds increased significantly in the aerosol. Furthermore, they detected

hydrocarbon-like compounds, typically associated with combustion, which manufacturers say is not happening during vaping. In traditional cigarettes, the condensed hydrocarbons generated during combustion are toxic. "One of the main ways

electronic cigarettes have been marketed is that they

operate at temperatures

conditions or worsened exist-

ing ones. This has increased the

risk of severe outcomes for peo-

ple with pre-existing mental,

neurological or substance use

countries currently spend less

than 1% of their health budgets

on mental health despite evi-

dence of high returns on the

investment for care and treat-

ment of mental health disor-

ders, and despite growth in

mental health awareness," she

Region which is home to one-

fourth of the global population, accounts for 39% of the near-

ly 700,000 suicides that take

place globally every year.

Suicide is the leading cause of

death among young people aged 15-29, added the state-

The WHO South-east Asia

said in a statement here.

"Most of the Member

disorders.

below combustion, which would make them safer than traditional smoking," said lead author Mina Tehrani, a postdoctoral fellow in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. "Our study shows that this novel

fingerprinting approach can be applied to assess whether combustion-like processes are going on."

2,000 chemicals, the vast majority of which are unidentified. Of those the team could identify, six substances were potentially harmful, including three chemicals never previously found in e-cigarettes. Tehrani was particularly surprised to find the stimulant caffeine in two of the four products. Caffeine has previously been detected in e-cigarettes but only in the caffeine-oriented flavors like coffee and chocolate.

'That might be giving smokers an extra kick that is not disclosed," she said. "We wonder if they are adding it intentionally.'

"People just need to know that they're inhaling a very complex mixture of chemicals when they vape. And for a lot of these compounds we have no idea what they actually are," Prasse said. Co-author Ana M. Rule, an expert in metals exposures from vaping with the Johns Hopkins Health, said many young people who vape never smoked so they aren't making a healthier choice, only starting out

SC sets aside C'garh HC order that directed CBI to lodge FIR in SRC case

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has set aside a Chhattisgarh High Court order which had directed the CBI to register an FIR in connection with the alleged misappropriation of over ₹ 1,000 crore in the State Resource Centre (SRC) and Physical Referral Rehabilitation Centre (PRRC) over a period of around 10

The high court had passed the order in January last year on a public interest litigation seeking direction to the CBI to register an FIR, including against some senior bureaucrats, in connection with the alleged siphoning of funds from the SRC and PRRC of the state government.

The apex court noted that in his plea filed in the high court, the petitioner had arrayed 31 respondents including some senior officials as parties but there was nothing on record to indicate that all of them were duly served before the order was passed.

"This is not the way a public interest litigation can be proceeded with. More so, in respect of allegations which are serious, attributing criminality to high officials of the state government and other persons," a three-judge bench headed by Justice A M Khanwilkar said in its order passed on October 7.

The bench, also compris-

Nod to export 40 lakh India-made 'Sputnik Light' doses to Russia

IANS NEW DELHI

India has allowed export of around 40 lakh doses of domestically-manufactured coronavirus vaccine 'Sputnik Light' to Russia, sources said on Sunday.

Sputnik Light - the single-dose Covid-19 vaccine variant of Russia's Sputnik - has not yet been approved for emergency use in India. Hetero and Dr Reddy's

Laboratories, the Indian partner of Russian sovereign wealth fund RDIF, markets the Sputnik range of vaccines There were various view

points among Indian experts about the single-dose vaccine's efficacy on Indians. In Septemeber, the Drugs

Controller General of India had granted permission for the conducting Phase 3 bridging trials of Sputnik Light on the Indian population. The nod comes after a

recent study published in the medical medical journal The Lancet said that Sputnik Light showed 78.6 to 83.7 per cent efficacy against Covid-19, significantly higher than most two-shot vaccines.

ost two-snot vaccines.
The Central Drugs
andard Control be taken by the CBI in connection with the said FIR," it Standard Organisation's Subject Expert Committee had, in July, said, while disposing of the The bench, which said the denied grant of emergency parties would appear before authorisation to the high court on October 28, Sputnik Light, stressing need requested the high court to to Phase 3 trial of the Russian deal with the matter expedivaccine

MoU signed for production of quality planting material of medicinal plants



IANS NEW DELHI

The National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB) has joined hands with the CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT), in Himachal Pradesh's Palampur, to promote the production of quality planting material of medicinal plants. The two organisations

Understanding (MoU) to facil-

(QPM) of medicinal plants and herbs identified by NMPB and help in the establishment of their nurseries for QPM development, promotion, conservation and cultivation of the appropriate medicinal plants in different agro-climatic zones, including the Rare Endangered Threatened (RET) species and those growing in high-altitude regions.
The CSIR-IHBT will also have signed a Memorandum of

undertake research on mass itate the development of multiplication and agro-tech-

Quality Planting Material nology development while the NMPB, through its implementing agencies i.e. State Medicinal Plant Boards, State AYUSH societies, State Horticulture Departments and Regional-cum-Facilitation Centres across India, will support projects related to QPM Development. The NMPB works towards

supporting policies and programmes for the growth of trade, export, conservation and cultivation of medicinal

Two cyclonic circulations to bring heavy rainfall to central, peninsular India: IMD



IANS NEW DELH

Even as conditions have become favourable for further withdrawal of southwest monsoon from large parts of northwest India, two cyclonic circulations in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal each will bring in heavy rainfall in much of central and peninsular India over next two days, the IMD said on Sunday.

Conditions are becoming favourable for further withdrawal of the southwest monsoon from some more parts of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, most parts of Madhya Pradesh, harkhand, Bihar, and some parts of Maharashtra, Odisha and West Bengal during next two days, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said in a statement.

The first cyclonic circulation lies over north Andaman Sea and its neighbourhood. Under its influence, a Low Pressure Area is very likely to form over the same region during next 36 hours. It is likely to become more marked and move west-north-westwards towards south Odisha-north Andhra Pradesh coasts during subsequent 4-5 days, the IMD

"Under its influence, light to moderate rainfall at most places with isolated thunderstorm (wind speed 40-50 kmph gusting to 60 kmph) and heavy to very heavy rainfall is very likely over Andaman and Nicobar Islands during next 5 days," it added. A cyclonic circulation also

lies over east central Arabian Sea and extends up to mid tropospheric level tilting southwestwards with height. It is very likely to persist during next 3-4 days, and under its influence, fairly widespread to widespread light to moderate rainfall with isolated heavy rainfall is very likely over southern peninsular India during next 5 days and over Maharashtra during next two

Isolated very heavy rainfall is very likely over Kerala and Mahe between October 12 and 14, the IMD release said.

The withdrawal of southwest monsoon commenced very late on October 6 this year as against the normal date of

Raj: 4 held for lynching Dalit man over love affair

Jaipur: Four people have been arrested and one minor detained for allegedly beating a Dalit man to death over his love affair in Rajasthan's Hanumangarh, police said on

The incident took place on October 7 in the Prempura area of Hanumangarh where the accused thrashed Jagdish with sticks until he died.

The accused also shot a video of the entire incident in which they are seen giving water to the victim to drink and then thrashing him repeatedly with sticks. Efforts are on to nab other accused, police

A sum of ₹4.12 lakh has been approved by the district collector as compensation, DGP M L Lather said in a state-

The arrested have been



Ode, Dilip Kumar, Sikandar and Hansrai.

BSP supremo Mayawati took to Twitter to corner the ruling Congress over the inci-

"Beating a Dalit until death in Rajasthan's Hanumangarh is sad and condemnable but why the Congress high command is silent? Will Punjab and Chhattisgarh CM will go there and help the victim family with ₹50 lakh? The BSP wants an answer, otherwise, stop shedding crocodile tears in the name of the Dalits," Mayawati

ADGP (Crime) Ravi Prakash said the victim, Jagdish Meghwal, was having an affair with his neighbour's wife.

Owing to a family dispute, she separated from her husband, and October 7, Jagdish had gone to meet the woman at her rented accommodation in Suratgarh.

Knowing this, her husband and 10 others kidnapped Jagdish from Suratgarh and took him to a farm house and thrashed him with sticks. The accused later dumped Jagdish outside his residence. By the time the family could

He said a case has been registered for kidnapping, murder and under sections of the SC/ST Act. The investigation has been handed over to the

injuries, the officer said.

Railways for pocket-sized biodegradable spittoons
New Delhi: As public spitting and enable passengers to

despite more stringent provisions introduced during the Covid-19 pandemic, a pocket-sized reusable and biodegradable spittoon, with seeds that will grow into plants when it is disgrow into plants when it is disposed of, is the latest green innovation being pushed by the Railways to tackle the menace.

It is estimated that the Indian Railways spends around ₹1,200 crore and a lot of water annually to clean the stains and

annually to clean the stains and marks caused by spitting on its premises, especially by pan and tobacco users. To discourage passengers from spitting on railway premises, vending machines act, Jagdish succumbed to his or kiosks are being set up at 42 stations to provide the spittoon pouch for as little as ₹5 to ₹ 10. Three railway zones – Western, Northern and Central-- have awarded contracts to a startup, EzySpit, for this. These spittoons can be easily carried in pockets ever they want while leaving the rail premises without ugly stains.

The product features macromolecule pulp technology and is equipped with a material that locks in bacteria and viruses present in saliva, accord-

ing to its manufacturer.

These biodegradable pouches, which come in different sizes and are reusable up to 15 to 20 times, also contain seeds along with a material that absorbs the spit and turns them into a solid. Once used, these pouches when disposed of in mud or soil, encourage plant

The Nagpur-based compahas already started installing EzySpit vending machines at stations. They have also entered into contract with Nagpur Municipal Corporation and Aurangabad Municipal



Women catch fish with 'jakois' in a water body at Disangmukh in Sivasagar on Sunday

Kerala Women's Commission's new

chief 'shocked' at men's attitude

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Psatheedevi, the newly appointed chairperson of Kerala Women's Commission is unhappy and upset over the attitude of men in the State. The day she took charge of the Women's Commission, a 21 year old student in St Thomas College, Pala in Kottayam district was murdered in a gruesome manner by her own lover and that too in the campus. "I was shocked when I saw the reaction of the murderer in TV news channels. There was no remorse on his face and he enacted how he murdered his lover with elan. This is the new

She was a highly respected Member of Parliament from Badagara constituency during a politician who does not mince her words. "The men folk feel that they are the masters and the females are their slaves. This attitude has to change," said Satheedevi.

The new SWC chief is of the view that situation in Kerala as far as the safety and security of women was a cause of

"The campus murder which we saw recently is not a rare incident of its kind. There was this incident of a youth shooting to death his lover, a dental science student and committing suicide. These are instances which prove that there is something seriously wrong with the men," said

She said that even as she was speaking to the media, there were reports coming in from various parts of the country including Kerala about

women and young girls being molested, abused and assaulted. "In many cases I have noticed that the media give a macho image to the aggressor. This is not a good precedence. An assault or molestation is an attack and the accused has to be treated as an accused. I would like the media to stay away from sensationalising the events," asked Satheedevi.

Even as the chairperson was speaking to the media, reports about the arrest of three youths for sexually assaulting and blackmailing a young girl trickled in. Shamzad Waynadu (24), who claims himself to be a Good Samaritan and his friends Mehmood(23) and Rehman (26) were arrested on Saturday by the police for raping and assaulting a 26 year old woman after promising her financial help for the medical treatment of her child.

Security beefed up for Durga Puja in Kolkata

The Kolkata Police have beefed up security measures in the eastern metropolis following high alert issued by the Home Department in the wake security inputs that terror moles were on the prowl and could play mischief during the Durga Puja festivals. Security has been heightened in the lesser cities of Siliguri, Asansol and other district towns also, sources said.

Considering the fact that lakhs of pandal hoppers throng the streets of India's cultural capital 24x7, Kolkata Police is not leaving anything to chances. The police administration has roped in the community Puja organisers to play a role in strengthening the security network.

"Most Puja pandals have been equipped with CCTV cameras and watch towers near the Puja pandals as also the important thoroughfares," said a senior IPS officer adding the Puja committees have been asked to appoint security vol-unteers to keep vigil on all sus-picious things and movements. While most of the pandals

are out of bounds for vehicles are out of bounds for vehicles ... crowd movement is also being monitored closely," said the official adding makeshift police outposts have been constructed in all the big Puja pandals with a Deputy Commissioner level officer in charge of affairs. "The administration has not only asked us istration has not only asked us to take strictly maintain corona protocol but also keep an eye on the movements around," said an organizer of Tridhara Sanmilani a big Puja committee in South Kolkata adding "there are volunteers authorized by the Kolkata Police on security

A notice issued by the State Home Department has also mentioned that immersion of all idols have to be completed between October 15 (Dashami) and October 18 in consultation with local police stations. "In the context of the



prevailing threats from divisive and terrorist groups to destabilise the country and to create law-and-order problems, you are advised to exercise utmost vigilance during the celebration of the festivals," the statement

The notice has also asked the community puja organizers "to engage adequate numbers of volunteers in Puja pandals to keep vigil on the movement of suspicious persons and all the volunteers should be directed to keep in touch with local

The decisions to beef up security have been taken in the wake of arrests made by the National Investigation Agency and Kolkata Police Special Task Force over the past few months. The arrests have only strengthened the theory that the Bangladesh based terror outfits are trying to make Kolkata and Bengal a veritable terror corri-

The arrest of Aal Halif alias Abu Ibrahim -- one of the most dreaded IS handlers --from Bengaluru in 2020 by the NIA brought to light the exis-

tence of an elaborate terror network. Halif was disguised as Sujit Chandra Debnath a Bengali Hindu who was working as civil labourer a mason.

The Kolkata STF too had arrested alleged Bangladeshi

terror modules Naziur Rahman Pavel, Mikail Khan and Rabiul Islam who were residing in cosmopolitan locality of Haridevpur taking Hindu names. These people have been working for the Jamat ul Mujahideen (JMB) Bangladesh.

'These are the people we have arrested ... we do not know how many more like them are around ... so the police are on high alert leaving nothing to chances," the senior Meanwhile thousands of

devotees had already started thronging the Kolkata streetstrend among men," the suave Satheedevi told the media on from Maha Chaturthi and Maha Panchami (fourth and fifth day) of the Pujas giving a small hint as to what things would turn out to be from Sasthi (sixth day) to Dashami

J&K ACCESSION FILES

Disclosure of Bucher papers to NMML in national interest: CIC

vided by India's second army chief General Sir Roy Bucher to Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML) about Jammu and Kashmir related to the period of 1947-49, which may throw light on Accession, is in "national interest", the Central Information Commission has observed in an order.

The Commission stopped short of ordering disclosure of these crucial documents, withheld from the public on orders of the Ministry of External Affairs. Information Commissioner Uday Mahurkar has instead asked the NMML's Central Public Information Officer "to take up the matter with higher officials" and "secure the necessary permission" before sharing the information with RTI activist Venkatesh

The highest adjudicating authority on RTI matters, the CIC, did not specify if the information can be disclosed if there is an objection from "higher offi-

RTI activist Venkatesh Nayak had sought the documents from NMML under the transparency law but it was tion clauses in the RTI Act.

"Keeping in view the facts of the case and the submissions made by both the parties, the Commission observes that the objective of the Appellant (is) in National interest. Therefore the Commission directs the CPIO to take up the matter with higher officials of the Respondent Authority and cite this order of the Commission and secure the necessary permission from them before sharing the information with the Appellant," Mahurkar said in the order.

Nayak while researching accession of Jammu and Kashmir had stumbled upon an interview of Bucher to noted biographer BR Nanda, couple of decades after his retirement in 1949.

"He (Nayak) said the operation of the instruments of accession was handled by the then 2nd Army Chief and there are some documents connected with him which have not been disclosed to the public so far but which throw light on the truth of accession," Mahurkar noted in his order.

In the interview Bucher had made multiple references to files and papers related to Jammu and Kashmir affairs for

given to the NMML, Nayak said. General Sir Francis Robert Roy Butcher served as second chief of the

Indian Army between January 1, 1948 to January 15, 1949. Nayak said he had pressed for larger public interest in the disclosure of the information as October, 2021 will usher

in the 75th anniversary year of signing of instrument of accession by Maharaja Hari Singh but Information Commissioner Uday Mahurkar used the word "national interest" in his order. The NMML has kept this docu-

ments closed from public scrutiny even after 70 years on the instructions of the External Affairs Ministry, he said.

He used the Right to Information Act to seek inspection of files and records submitted by Bucher to NMML among other details such as a list of documents held by the prestigious library which are closed to the public.

NMML was prompt enough to give details of documents which are closed to the public but said it cannot share the Bucher papers as they are withheld on the instructions from the Ministry of External Affairs.

Reliance buys REC Solar for \$771 mn

New Delhi: Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's newly-floated energy firm has made its first acquisition, buying REC Solar for \$771 million, brand new 2 GW Cells and Module capacity in Singapore, brand new 2 GW Cells and Module capacity in

"Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd (RNESL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL), has announced acquisition of 100% shareholding of RÊC Solar Holdings AS (REC Group) from China National Bluestar (Group) Co Ltd., for an enterprise value of USD 771 million," it said in a statement. REC is headquartered in Norway and has its operational headquarters in Singapore and regional hubs in North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia-Pacific.

REC Group is an international pioneering solar energy compa-ny leading the industry through its technological innovations and superior, high efficiency and longlife solar cells and panels for clean and affordable solar power.

The 25-year-old company has three manufacturing facilities - two in Norway for making solar grade polysilicon and one in Singapore making PV cells and modules."Reliance will strongly

Modules plant in the US," it said.

In India, Reliance plans to use this industry leading technology in their fully integrated, metallic Silicon to PV Panel manufacturing giga factory at Dhirubhai Ambani Green Energy Giga Complex, Jamnagar initially starting with 4 GW per annum capacity and eventually growing to 10 GW per

Reliance's deep expertise of scale, project execution and operational excellence coupled with REC"s technology will facilitate the establishment of state-of-the-art next-generation fully integrated PV manufacturing facility at Dhirubhai Ambani Green Energy Giga Complex and subsequently replicate such complexes around the world.

The acquisition of REC will help Reliance with a ready global platform and the opportunity to expand and grow in key green energy markets globally, including in the US, Europe, Australia and elsewhere in Asia.

Rajasthan Girl, 20, spends a day as British High Commissioner to India

Rajasthan recently became the British High Commissioner to India for a day.

Ms Maheshwari, who is pursuing her Bachelor's in Physical Science from Delhi University's Miranda House College, won the 'High Commissioner for the Day' contest organised annually since 2017 to celebrate the International Day of the Girl Child on October 11, British High Commission said in a press release. Ms Maheshwari, who aspires to join the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), is the fifth winner of the India edition of the competition.

As the UK's top diplomat in India, Ms Maheshwari experienced a broad variety of diplomatic activities on Friday. She observed the India-UK Energy for Growth Dialogue alongside Ministers Raj Kumar Singh and Kwasi Kwarteng, the release said.

"She met with beneficiaries

New Delhi: Twenty-year-old of a leadership programme for ed by the Chevening Alumni Programme Fund, climate experts from the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), who signed the UK in India Pledge for Progress, to show their leadership in gender equality and young leaders from the not-for-profit Global Youth,"

> informed. Ms Maheshwari's packed day also included a hands-on demonstration of the I-PACE -Jaguar's zero-emissions, all-electric performance SUV to be used by world leaders at the COP26 climate conference in Glasgow next month.

> the British High Commission

Talking about her experience, Ms Maheshwari said, "I had applied for the competition last year as well and I'm really pleased that I got the opportunity. The interaction with senior diplomats and with women from 'She Leads' leadership programme were the two personal highlights of the day for me."



Newly-inaugurated Electric BEST Buses during a rally on the Bandra-Worli Sea Link, in Mumbai on Sunday

Class 10 student hangs self after being molested by classmate in UP

Bulandshahr (UP): A class 10 student died by suicide in Bulandshahr after she was allegedly molested by a classmate and being threatened by his relatives, police said on Sunday.

The 15-year-old girl was found hanging from the ceiling on Saturday.

The police have registered a case under provisions of the POCSO Act and IPC sections 306 (abetment to suicide), 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty), 452 (house-trespass after preparation for hurt, assault or wrongful restraint) among others against seven identified and eight unidentified people on the basis of a complaint lodged by the girl's father.

On October 8, the girl's classmate allegedly molested her and made obscene remarks against her, according to the complaint.



victim informed the school's principal about the incident, following which he promised to scold the accused.

Later in the evening, the accused, along with 15 others, reached the girl's house and started hurling abus-

es at her, the complaint stated.

The next day in school, the accused again misbehaved with the victim and threatened her. Upset over this, the girl allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling at her home, the police

Girl raped by cousin in Rajasthan

PTI ■ JAIPUR

15-year-old girl was allegedly raped by her Acousin in Jaipur, police said on Sunday.

Manish (23) has been booked on the basis of a complaint lodged by the girl's family members, Galta Gate police station SHO Satish Kumar

The rape survivor's medical examination has been conducted and her statement will be recorded before the magistrate on Monday.

taken the minor out on the pretext of going to the market but instead took her to a secluded place and allegedly raped her.

According to the complaint, the accused had

Manish has been charged under section 376 (rape) of the Indian Penal Code and provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

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- PAPER WITH PASSION-

Kashmiriyat

The recent spurt in violence in the Valley doesn't bode well for any party concerned

he last one month has seen a sudden, seemingly inexplicable, spurt in violence in the Kashmir Valley. The Government of India had in recent months become confident that the situation there was peaceful and "under control". However, over two dozen people have become targets of terrorists in a short span of time. They belong to all communities, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, even an immigrant from Bihar. There is a discernible pattern to this violence. There are no high-profile victims; the dead were easy, soft pickings. They are teachers or pharmacists or street vendors. They were all killed from close range. That magnified the fear. The killing of two teachers in a Government school in Srinagar's Eidgah area looked selective because the terrorists checked the identity cards of teachers and chose two victims who happened to be a Hindu and a Sikh. If that raised fears about only minorities in the Valley being



targeted, a Mohammad Shafi Lone, among other Muslims, was also shot down. It is claimed that a terrorist group, named The Resistance Front, is behind the attacks and that it is a front for Pakistanbased terror organisations. The point is, the message is as important as the messenger. The attacks, when they happened, had two things in common. The chosen targets came as a surprise, and the killers remained anonymous. The violence appears to have two ends. Show the presence of terrorists, and instil fear among the people. It is like the killing of Srinagarbased Shujat Bukhari that sent a message to the

media personnel that they could be targeted anytime.

In terms of strategy, anyone can be a target and anywhere, any time. What is unclear is who is behind the violence, but what is clear is that across the board, in Kashmir, the people are upset about it. There is no public backing to the spate of violence at all. That is the biggest silver lining for the Government to hold on to as it seeks to address the issue. The people have enough reasons to be frustrated, but that has not made them shed civility and human decency. Preventing such attacks is a security nightmare. Whom will the forces protect, where, and against whom and till when? Anybody can become the target; it is impossible to provide personal security to every citizen. Rightly or wrongly, the people of Kashmir were led to believe that the abrogation of Article 370 and the division of the State of Jammu and Kashmir went against the spirit of "Kashmiriyat". Two years down the line, during which the intense presence of security agencies clamped down on violence and disturbances, there are only two objectives to achieve. Stop the violence, however difficult a task it is, and confront foreign and non-state actors. Simultaneously, take the revival of the political process to its logical conclusion by holding elections at the earliest. Let the people find their feet again amid the welcome din of democracy.



An artisan gives finishing touches to the idol of Durga in Gauhati

Let's keep living

The opening of the visa-on-arrival scheme is a welcome step in reclaiming our lives

he decision to allow visas on arrival for tourists coming to India on chartered flights from October 15 and others from November 15 is a welcome step. It is bold and timely. It will indeed restore the confidence of the tourism sector that was worst hit due to the Corona pandemic. Most of the tour operators and travel companies had to either shut down or operate at minimal levels. All visas were



suspended last year due to the pandemic. It caused hardships to millions of people directly or indirectly associated with the sector. Not only the people suffered but the country also lost a major chunk of foreign exchange. The actual cost of the revenue loss is staggering. To be fair to the Government, lockdown and completely cut off from the rest of the world looked like a good idea to deal with the spread of the Coronavirus. But while many countries opened up long back, Indians continued to be over-sceptic and did not allow major sectors to operate. The tourism sector was one of these.

Some people may frown on the Government's decision. Despite the warning of the third wave coming in September-October, the Government went ahead with its plan to unlock the tourism sector. However, we are one-third past October and there is no sign of any wave on the horizon. With a sizeable number of people vaccinated, it is very unlikely that the third wave, if at all it comes, would have the same catastrophic effect as in the second wave. The Home Ministry has said it had been receiving representations from various stakeholders to start tourist visas. And that it consulted all departments concerned and State Governments before taking the decision. The restrictions placed on visa and international travel stand further eased given the present COVID-19 situation, it said in its press note. However, all the tourists, on arrival will have to follow COVID-19 protocols. It is high time the world starts living a normal life. Though making some adjustments would be good for all of us. There are always some lessons in every crisis. As Saint Augustine said: "The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page." Though now the traveller may have to be extra cautious and may have to hold a Corona passport. A virus, no matter how powerful, cannot cow us. Humanity must prevail.

Women and mental health morbidities



Especially since the COVID-19 pandemic, women have exhibited higher levels of depression and anxiety than men across nations and social classes

n the occasion of the World Mental Health Day on October 10, it's time to put under the spotlight issues pertaining to gender and women's mental welfare. With the theme this year being "Mental Health in an Unequal World", research shows that in the context of the influence of COVID-19 on people's mental wellbeing, women have exhibited higher levels of depression and anxiety than men across nations and social classes. Paradoxically, though, the fatality rate among COVID patients has reportedly been twice as high for men as that for women, the latter have faced a more profound mental and physical impact of the pandemic both as frontline workers and at home. Apart from the patients themselves, this impact has also been witnessed by victims of increased domestic violence, and those facing the additional burden of household activities emanating from lockdowns and the 'work from home' mode.

One of the critical findings of a recent research on COVID-19 points to extensively high rates of maternal and neonatal complications among pregnant women, such as miscarriages, pre-eclampsia, Caesarean births and perinatal death, all of which contributed to psychosomatic disorders among affected women. Further, in the COVID-19 cohort, women with previous psychiatric diagnosis or low income faced higher risk of experiencing distress and anxiety symptoms. For instance, a study in Wuhan, the epicentre of the pandemic in China, found a high prevalence of post-traumatic stress syndrome, and higher incidence of hyper-arousal among women as compared to men. Another study on the impact

of COVID-19, conducted in 2020 by the global humanitarian agency, CARE International, reveals that among its 10,000 respondents, as many as 27 per cent of the women faced mental illness challenges while the corresponding figure was only 10 per cent for men. The primary source of stress for the affected women was their worries about rebuilding livelihoods and accessing food and healthcare. This is no surprise, considering that a large proportion

of women across the world are employed in the sectors hardest hit by the pandemic, including domestic work, entertainment, retail, tourism and travel, as well as in the informal economy and as migrant workers.

It is also argued that gender has always been a critical determinant of both mental health and mental illness, and the pandemic has merely exacerbated the already prevailing challenge of rising female mental morbidities. Citing data from the India Human Development Survey (IHDS), a study undertakeń by the non-profit Research Institute for Compassionate Economics in 2018 asserts that other traditional patriarchal practices like women having their meals after their male counterparts and lack of female autonomy in decisionmaking, also cause poor mental health outcomes for

IHDS is a nationally representative panel survey of over 41,000 rural and urban households, jointly conducted by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) and the University of Maryland, in two rounds, in 2004-05 and 2011-12. Along with questions on health, education, marriage, household



A STUDY BY CARE INTERNATIONAL **REVEALS THAT AMONG ITS 10,000** RESPONDENTS, AS MANY AS 27 PER **CENT OF THE WOMEN FACED** MENTAL ILLNESS **CHALLENGES** WHILE THE CORRESPONDING FIGURE WAS ONLY 10 PER CENT FOR MEN

assets and poverty, the IHDS also collected information on women's social status and autonomy by asking evermarried women about their decision-making power in the household. The first quantification of the discriminatory practice of women eating after men comes from the 2004-05 IHDS, when 36 per cent of the female respondents said that in their households, women ate after men. Although this figure dropped to 25 per cent in the second round in 2011-12, it is still high enough to raise alarm bells.

The r.i.c.e. report also uses IHDS data to show that at all levels of per capita household consumption, women in households where female members eat last are more likely to be underweight than their counterparts in house-holds not following this practice. Undernutrition not only reduces physical energy levels but also results in lower immunity, which is believed to be another cause for mental disorders.

A 2001 study by the World Health Organisation (WHO) averred that depressive disorders account for 41.9 per cent of the neuropsychiatric ailments among women as against 29.3 per cent among men. Moreover, the leading

mental health problems of the elderly are depression, organic brain syndromes and dementia, all of which again have disproportionately higher occurrence rates among women than men. So how can we combat the challenge of mental disorders and somatic complaints affecting women in particular?

The first step is to recognise that the mental health issues faced by women are primarily the result of various gender-based factors like low employment levels, income inequality and higher burden of care work for women. The atrocities perpetrated on women, including Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), sexual assaults and rape also lead to mental trauma. It is, therefore, obvious that women's mental wellbeing is a quotient of the environment in which they live and work. Hence, as we mark another Mental Health Day, it is imperative to mitigate women's mental distress by focusing on the broader socio-economic frameworks and community settings that contribute to overall gender discrimination.

(The writer is the editor at the National Council of Applied Economic Research, NCAER. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AND THE AWARD GOES TO

Sir — At a time when the modern world is beset with not just man made conflicts but also ravaged by nature's fury, the Norway's Nobel Committee made their appropriate choices by closely monitoring the crisis of the present era. This year's Nobel Prize in chemistry has been awarded to German scientist Benjamin List of the Max Planck Institute and Scotland born scientist David Macmillan of Princeton University, for developing asymmetric Organocatalysis in 2000. This innovative technique of catalysis is an efficient, cheap, fast and eco-friendly way to develop new molecules. The Nobel Prize in chemistry comes as a ray

of hope for producing eco-friendly. The duo tried to predict and explain the complex forces of nature, and added to our existing knowledge about catalysts that work in harmony with nature. Although asymmetric catalysts were in existence since 2001, they often used heavy metals rendering them expensive and environmentally harmful. Unlike enzyme catalysts which are huge, the asymmetric organocatalysts are made up of a single amino acid. They not only increase the rate of reaction but also make the process cheaper and environment friendly. Moreover, they have a stable framework of carbon atoms and are composed of common elements like oxygen, sulphur, nitrogen or phosphorus.

Vijay Šingh Adhikari | Nainital

BEHIND THE BAR AFTER THE UPROAR

Sir — Five days after the Lakhimpur Kheri incident, Ashish Mishra, the lead accused and son of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Kumar Mishra, was arrested. The police grilled him for 12 hours about the October 3 incident in which a car belonging to his father was driven into a farmers' protest, killing four. He had allegedly fired rounds on protesting farmers which led to clashes. He also skipped the summons sent to him by the police but appeared later before the police. He was not helpful during the interrogation and was unable to provide

Malaria vaccine is here, Aedes



he development of the long-awaited and much-needed anti-malaria vaccine is being hailed as a major breakthrough in medical science. It is an achievement that has exemplified human capacity for developing new pharmaceutical products to combat and conquer diseases in the march of time. Science has performed miracles for humankind. The world's first anti-malaria vaccine - RTS, S - developed by a British pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline, approved by the World Health Organisation for 'widespread use among children' and

answers about his whereabouts at the time of the incident.

Ajay Mishra continues to maintain that his son wasn't present at the site of the protest that day and was elsewhere attending a wrestling event. However, eyewitnesses say it was Ashish Mishra behind the wheel. The bloody episode of last weekend has turned into a major political issue with political parties and farmers taking to the streets and demanding the son's arrest and the Union Minister's dismissal. The arrest of Ashish Mishra is a victory for the farmers. But the question remains why was he given VIP treatment when such serious allegations were put on him.

Krishnan Ramani | Kozhikode

FUEL PRICES GO BERSERK

Sir — With State-owned fuel retailers passing on the cost to consumers, prices of petrol, gas and diesel have been reaching new highs for four days in a row. The price of petrol has been hiked by 30

known and sold as Mosquirix, holds out the hope of saving millions of lives. It has taken decades for scientists to develop the vaccine. The vaccine is the first developed for any par-

asitic disease The WHO's approval has been given based on results from the ongoing pilot programme in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi, coordinated by the world health body itself. Described as a 'silver bullet', a 'new weapon on the war on malaria', a 'game changer' and a 'boost to public health', the vaccine will significantly reinvigorate the fight against the mosquito-borne parasitic disease despite the fact that it has limited efficacy; it prevents 39 per cent of malaria cases and 29% of severe malaria cases. One study has found that when children were given both the RTS, S and antimalarial drugs, there was a 70 per cent reduction in hospitalisation and death. True, the new vaccine is only moderately effective, still it will help turn the tide

G David Milton | *Maruthancode*

paise a litre and diesel by 35 paise. fuel rates are being increased by a larger proportion. India imports oil and hence the oil prices swing with international prices. The increase is likely to have a cascading effect on the price of essential commodities such as vegetables, fruits and milk with consumers bearing the brunt

of the price rise. The prices of fuel vary from State to State according to the local taxes levied on them. The price rise in gas, which is binding to the international price, has resulted from many reasons from economic recovery to geopolitics. Global energy demand fell last year when economies slipped into CÓVID lockdowns. When growth returned this year, especially to Asian economies, demand shot up and energy producers struggled to meet it, pushing up prices.

CK Subramaniam | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

An attempt to turn Lakhimpur Kheri into a Hindu vs Sikh battle is being made We must not put petty political gains above

> **BJP** leader —Varun Gandhi



national unity

The situation in Taiwan is more complex and fluid than at any other point in the past

Taiwan President –Tsai Ing-wen Self-doubt is always there but that is

something that keeps that fire burning inside me. It is an integral part as an actor

—Vicky Kaushal



modern-day Bradman, it's right in front of our eyes, it's in Joe Root.

Former England spinner —Monty Panesar

Manipur under the BJP Government is progressing on the path of development which was stopped during the Congress rule.



BJP President -JP Nadda

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Intelligence can be useful in war, but the bulk of what it does in peacetime is pointless



GWYNNE DYER

long time ago now I was asked to do a television series about the world's intelligence services - and I turned it down flat. My main Treason was a feeling that there was less to the whole intelligence world than met the eye, and the subsequent thirty years have only served to confirm that judgement.

The latest case in point is the recent revelations about the US CIA. In 2017, it turns out, the CIA flirted with the idea of kidnapping or killing Julian Assange, the founder of WikiLeaks, in his refuge in the Ecuadorian embassy in London.

Wikipedia profoundly embarrassed the CIA in 2010 by putting a huge trove of secret US records about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan on the web. Fearing extradition to the United States, Assange (who is Australian), sought asylum in the Ecuadorian embassy in London in 2012.



The pace picked up in early 2017 when Donald Trump became president and Mike Pompeo heading the CIA convinced himself that the Russians were going to try to spirit Assange out of Britain into their own hands.

So, the CIA began planning to preempt the Russians by kidnapping Assange from the embassy and take him to the US - or, if that didn't work, kill him. Contingency plans were also discussed for thwarting a possible Russian attempt to get Assange out.

The Ecuadorian Government changed and Assange was expelled from the London embassy in 2019, but he still faced an American demand for extradition. A British court rejected that early this year, but he continues to sit in prison awaiting the outcome of a US appeal to

a higher court. And here's the thing. None of the information Assange released hurt anybody, and a lot of it needed to be revealed: war crimes in Iraq and Afghanistan and government surveillance of tens of millions of US citizens. The CIA made it all secret because it could, not because it was necessary or justifiable.

It's not just American intelligence agencies, of course, and they don't always think about killing those who spill their precious secrets. Thus Israeli Mordechai Vanunu, who confirmed the existence of Israel's nuclear weapons in 1986, was only kidnapped in Italy and jailed in Israel for 18 years (11 years in solitary).

Vanunu's revelation changed nothing: everybody already knew that Israel has nuclear weapons, even if it will never confirm it publicly. Thirtyfive years after he was kidnapped, however, Vanunu is still not allowed to leave Israel. If he speaks to foreigners he is arrested, and sometimes

iailed again for a few months. Then there's Edward Snowden, a former CIA employee who revealed huge amounts of data about the US National Security Agency's global surveillance programmes in 2013. Revealing that the US was hacking the phones of friendly foreign leaders like Germany's Angela Merkel was

the right thing to do, but he can never go home again. These people are not 'helping terrorists' or betraving their countries. The 'intelligence services' (the old term 'secret services' was less misleading) reflexively build bureaucratic empires and ceaselessly expand their reach because that's what bureaucracies do. They can be useful in war, but the vast bulk of what they do in peacetime is pointless.

I only suspected that in 1990, when the Cold War was just ending. By now, it is blindingly obvious. All these cases are victimless 'crimes' where things that should be known about the illegal, counter-productive, and even criminal behaviour of governments are finally revealed and the intelligence services then relentlessly harass the whistle-blowers to frighten others into silence.

(Gwynne Dyer's new book is 'The Shortest History of War'. The views expressed are personal.)

CPHC: Collaborative Sino-Pakistan threat?



The possible transfer of sophisticated Chinese bio-medical technology to Pakistan would be an upcoming threat for India and the world

ecent news of the China-Pakistan Health Corridor (CPHC), in collaboration with Pakistani and Chinese medical universities, research institutes and biotechnological firms,is more than a routine, academic and scientific exchange. The fact that five million Chinese will be associated with CPHC and working in Pakistan in the next four years is startling, making one wonder about the type of collaboration in the works. There are no precedents yet in academics of such a large number of people from one nation gathering in a host country in a short period of time to undertake 'scientific research'. There could be more than what meets the eye.

An article in PLA Daily recently asserted that "talent cultivation, commanding system and armaments development should proceed in coordination", a tacti-cal move that can trigger different kinds of permutation combinations in the defence studies. In this respect, President Xi Jinping had previously declared that "In circumstances of increasingly intense global military competition, only the innovators win". In the last two decades, China has immensely modernised its military apart from absorbing the R&D of civilian sectors.

China's Institute of Military Medicine has reportedly made much progress in active anti-biological warfare. These dualpurpose advancements include laser and biotechnology, space, apart from artificial intelligence. Such advancements outpace the international regulatory framework of biosecurity. The development of any new pathogens through the CPHC could bypass the existing and evolving medicine system and hence should be a health security concern. The possible transfer of such sophisticated bio-medical technology to Pakistan would be an upcoming threat for India and the world.

The 'gunpoint diplomacy' that Pakistan has initiated against India could escalate. The role of the new and evolving technologies coupled with Artificial Intelligence (AI) and an active collaborative Sino-Pak threat has broadened the horizons of conventional and hybrid warfare. For instance, artificial intelligence medical robots used for surgeries can be resized to evade military detection. Bio-inspired AI weapons are already in place with a few countries. With the ability to carry harmful pathogens, they could broaden the asymmetric warfare. Their potential use as delivery mechanisms for a biowarfare purpose aimed to target the people, crops or livestock animals can

Biological agents can also be directed against India's food security through agroterror to create social unrest and economic devastation. Emerging plant and crop diseases or livestock diseases thus have to be watched for through a novel 'sector management' system in which the border and coastal areas can be divided into sectors and kept under constant surveillance for the changes in the soil and water properties or



THE TACTIC OF

'GUNPOINT DIPLOMACY' THAT PAKISTAN HAS INITIATED AGAINST INDIA COULD ESCALATE. THE ROLE OF THE NEW AND **EVOLVING TECHNOLOGIES COUPLED WITH** ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND AN ACTIVE **COLLABORATIVE** SINO-PAK THREAT HAS BROADENED THE HORIZONS OF CONVENTIONAL AND HYBRID

any other new and emerging diseases. India should be cooperating with the US and Israel in this domain since these countries have included food and livestock security in their overall security outlook. Hypothetically assuming the

case that the current pandemic was an "accidental leak" do not mitigate the risks of future "accidental" or deliberate leaks. Pakistan's singlepointed anti-India approach in its foreign policy has reduced its stature positioning as a pawn in the hands of China. At a domestic level, the Talibanisation of its society makes the country an active security threat to India and the world. China is not yet proven innocent concerning the pandemic. Also, the report of Australian journalist Klan in 2020 pointed out the Sino-Pak bio warfare agent's nexus and the manipulations of pathogens apart from helping Islamabad develop its lethal and drug-resistant viruses.

Pakistan's belligerent status and China's habitual secrecy and duplicity, along with its anti-Índia posturing, are collaborative threats. Democratic countries should demand of a no confidentiality clauses in the upcoming agreements related to CPHC. The facilities and the research institutes should be mandatorily open for international inspection. The details of the number of P-4 level safety or high containment labs and their research staff should be made available to the international agencies for regular inspection. WHO should be watchful of the imports of health equipment and the raw materials related to bio-medical research. Such steps are essential to avoid Pakistan's development of offensive

biological weapons and anti-biological weapons safety programs under the garb of 'scientific research'. The role of the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention thus will have an important role to play.
The Indian Government needs

to ask questions at an international forum. How will the labs/research institutes' security be ensured, especially when there are dangers to Islamabad's internal security? How will the world community ensure that the facilities or pathogens do not fall into the hands of Islamic fundamentalists in the Pakistani army and society? What will the two countries do to ensure no artificial manipulation and subsequent weaponisation of the pathogens that will be the subject of research? There are possibilities that such labs or their output might be used by Pakistan to militarily intimidate India to leverage the conventional

or even nuclear superiority.

"Accidental leaks" can be equally devastating. What mechanisms will be in place to ensure that the people who handle the labs report their sickness? Does a developing country like Pakistan have facilities to filter the bio-medical waste, including its water, before leaving the facility? The Arabian Sea may be more prone to dumping waste that might reach the Indian Ocean and damage the fisheries. Contamination of fisheries will eventually jeopardise human health.

Additionally, China's policy of reverse engineering of weapons could be applied to the pharma industry too. CPHC might also aim to punch the US position in the biopharma industry. Currently, the active Chinese presence in the US

through their biotechnology R&D firms in Boston, San Francisco, and Research Triangle Park in North Carolina pose dangers of technology replication and sale in the global market at cheaper rates. As Beijing has access to new technologies, it can bring back the structural make-up of new drugs and undermine its intellectual property regime apart from sharing it with Pakistan and other rogue States.

From another perspective, various international agencies have often pinpointed that Uighur Muslims have been illegally detained and used for human experiments. There are possibilities of Uighur Muslims being transported to Pakistan for human experiments to circumvent the attention of the international agencies. The Sino-Pak-Taliban nexus raises doubts over the subjects of human experiments for gene editing being broadened to include minorities in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Taliban and Pakistan have been infamous for organ trading and human trafficking. Thus, the international community should be keeping a watch on their population fluctuations and should be allowed access to the inner areas of northern Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the western province of Xinjiang to verify and assess the situation.

The Indian security agencies have to broaden the range of the threat spectrum, which should now encompass radiological, biological and AI weapons. New approaches that could be flexible, comprehensive, and essentially Indo-centric have to be brought within the narratives of the security domain to detect and neutralise the threats.



(The writer is an Assistant

Professor at Central

University of Punjab, Bathinda. The views

expressed are personal.)

WARFARE

THE PANIC ABOUT COAL SHORTAGE IS **UNNECESSARY. NEITHER THERE WAS ANY** SHORTAGE, NOR THERE WILL BE. —UNION POWER MINISTER **RK SINGH**





WHEN WE HAD AN OXYGEN CRISIS. THEY KEPT SAYING THERE WAS NO SUCH CRISIS. THE COAL SITUATION IS SIMILAR.

—DELHI DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER **MANISH SISODIA**

Tata gets Air India, but power crisis is a new jolt

The CBDT allows Tatas not to bother about taxes for eight years as they would be adjusted against losses that Tatas are sharing

he sale of Air India (AI), an eight-year tax reprieve to Tatas, a severe power crisis, and the stepping down of Chief Economic Advisor K Subramanian give a new twist to the country's economic affairs

It is not an easy situation to steer through. The country may heave a sigh of relief as it hives off an airline with over Rs 7.0820 crore losses as on March 31, 2020 and a combined debt of Rs 61,562 crore.

Of the total debt, the Tatas take over Rs 15,300 crore and the rest will be repaid by AI Assets Holding through monetising of Rs 14,000 crore assets that are not given to Tatas, and the rest will be paid through government revenues.



Tatas effectively take over AI, AI Express and 50 percent of cargo handler AI SATS Airport Services for Rs 2,700 crore in cash and the rest is adjusted against its debt takeover of Rs 15,300 crore.

No wonder the CEA in his exit statement avers that he served "a period of tremendous uncertainty and epochal change".

The country effectively reduces the recurring losses For eight years, Central Board of Direct Taxes allows Tatas not to bother about the taxes as these would be adjusted against losses Tatas are sharing. Still, nobody knows why Al and Indian Airlines merger in 2007-08 by UPA led to continuous losses to a moderately profit maker. This was marked by a process of allow-



ing many profitable routes to its competitors.

The power crisis is also unique. Almost the entire generation is in the public sector while distribution and revenue earning has been shifted to private hands. With coal shortage, despite high reserves, it is to hive off profits, increase costs as coal prices rise internationally. It would heap a heavy cost on all activities as the tariff has to increase, add to severe inflacountry post-pandemic needs to move faster. The problem accentuates as petroleum crude prices also going beyond \$77 a barrel. There could be more job losses against recent hopes of adding to employment.

Even AI's sale would have repercussions on the jobs of 12,085 AI and 1,433 AI Express employees for a year. After that Tatas can decide on the terms and that effectively means a large number of people would exit and fewer

new jobs would be created. That does not mean that the decision to hive off is not make up for domestic short- ering about social distress or

proper. It raises questions on why the 2007-08 merger happened and who was responsible for it. The country may tion and cause production have to decide on the process losses at a time when the of decision-making, without a public discussion. The power sector is going through such a crisis. Since Independence, despite the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru government offering to the private giants, no private sector has tried to get into the critical power generation. Despite stress on green energy and rise in solar generation, it still remains nascent and thermal, coal-fired, power remains the mainstay.

India being the highest

consumer of coal feels the pinch when prices shoot up. Importing more coal to

ages is not the option at present. If this happens the costs as higher tariff would be passed on to the consumers

causing prices to rise more. Another shock stems from the fact that the model of activity in the digitised world has changed. It has moved out of productionlinked market to service and finance-oriented secondary operations. World over, there are efforts to reduce on manpower but aim at high growth. The impractical is happening and causing social instability.

This is in contrast to the model of employing larger number of people and empowering them for social good even at financial losses. It has changed to the opposite - minimum jobs and no both-

working conditions. The Air India case, interestingly enough, fits the bill.

The troubled national carrier has earned the dubious distinction of being an airline with the highest number of employees on its rolls per aircraft as it has been hiring staff to oblige political bosses. AI has the highest ratio of 221 worker per aircraft. British Airways has 178 employees, 140 for Singapore Airlines and Lufthansa has 127. So, a cut in jobs is natural. While such high ratio looks impractical, the lows that many are adopting also are problematic and that too at low wages.

While one may feel happy with the sale of AI, it has to be realised that solutions cannot be achieved by mere selling of assets.

(The writer is a senior jour are personal.)

Taiwan rejects China's path amid military force show

Sunday vowed to defend the island from China's rising pressure for reunification, after a week of unprecedented tensions with Beijing.

Speaking at the island's National Day celebrations, a rare show of Taiwanese defense capabilities in the annual parade underlined Tsai Ing-wen's promise to resist Chinese military threats.

"We will do our utmost to prevent the status quo from being unilaterally altered," President Tsai said. "We will continue to bolster our national defense and demonstrate our determination to defend ourselves in order to ensure that nobody can force Taiwan to take the path China has laid out for us," the Taiwanese leader added.

China claims Taiwan as part of its national territory although the island has been self-ruled since it split from the communist-ruled mainland in 1949 after a long civil war.

Tsai emphasized the island's vibrant democracy in contrast



The Thunder Tiger Aerobatics Team flies over the President's Office during National Day

with Beijing's deeply authoritarian, single-party Communist

"The path that China has laid out offers neither a free and democratic way of life for Taiwan, nor sovereignty for our 23 million people," Tsai said.

A choir of singers from Taiwan's various indigenous tribes opened the ceremony in front of the Presidential Office Building in the center of the capital, Taipei. Surveys show Taiwanese

overwhelmingly favor their cur-

rent de-facto independent state and strongly rejects unification with China, which has vowed to bring the island under its control, by military force if necessary.

Tsai rarely singles out China in her public speeches, but in this speech acknowledged the increasing tensions that Taiwan faces as Chinese military harassment intensified in the past year. Since September of last year, China has flown fighter jets more than 800 times towards

Father of Pakistan's nuclear bomb AQ Khan passes away

Islamabad: Abdul Qadeer Khan, the disgraced atomic scientist known as the 'father of Pakistan's nuclear bomb' under the clandestine enrichment programme and infamous for his controversial role in nuclear proliferation, died here on Sunday after a brief illness. He was 85.

Khan, who was born in 1936 in Bhopal and migrated to Pakistan along with his family after the Partition in 1947, breathed his last at about 7.00 AM (local time) at the Khan Research Laboratories (KRL) Hospital - the medical facility named after him.

According to the state-run Associated Press of Pakistan, Khan had been admitted to the KRL Hospital on August 26 after he tested positive for Covid-19. Later, he was shifted to a military hospital in Rawalpindi but was discharged after recovering from the virus.

Khan was brought to the KRL Hospital early in the morning after he faced difficulty in breathing, Geo News reported.

Doctors said Khan's health deteriorated after bleeding in his lungs. He could not survive after his lungs collapsed.

Interior Minister Sheikh Rasheed said that all efforts were made to save his life. "The prime minister has directed to bury Dr Qadeer with full (state) honours," Rashid said, adding that the national flag Pakistan shall fly at half-mast on

"Deeply saddened to learn about the passing of Dr. Ábdul Qadeer Khan. Had known him personally since 1982. He helped us develop

nation-saving nuclear deterrence, and a grateful nation will never forget his services... President Arif Alvi said in a post on Twitter.

Prime Minister Imran Khan said that he was "deeply saddened by the passing of Dr A Q

"He was loved by our nation bec of his critical contribution in making us a nuclear weapon state. This has provided us security against an aggressive much larger nuclear neighbour. For the people of Pakistan he was a national icon (sic)," he said in a tweet.

Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa said that Khan's contributions in making Pakistan's defence stronger were "significant", while Defence Minister Pervez Khattak said he was 'deeply grieved" over his passing and called it a 'great loss".

"Pakistan will forever honour his services to the nation! The nation is heavily indebted to him for his contributions in enhancing our defence capabilities," Khattak said.

Funeral prayers for Khan were held at Islamabad's Faisal Mosque. A large number of people, including ministers and representatives of the armed forces, attended his funeral despite

He was buried at the H-8 graveyard, in accordance with his family's as well as his own wishes. Khan, considered as the father of Pakistan's nuclear bomb, is revered at home as a hero. He was also called a man who built the

Iran made more 20% enriched uranium than watchdog reported

Tehran: Iran has produced more than 120 kilograms (265 pounds) of 20% enriched uranium, the country's nuclear chief said, far more than what the U.N. Nuclear watchdog reported last month.

Mohammad Eslami said in an interview with State TV late Saturday that under the 2015 nuclear deal with world powers the other signatories were to provide Iran with 20% enriched uranium needed for its research reactor.

"But it was not delivered." he said. "If we did not produce it by ourselves this would have turned into one of our problems."

Under the terms of the nuclear deal, Iran was prohibited from enriching uranium above 3.67% with the exception of its research reactor activities. Enriched uranium above 90% can be used in a nuclear weapon.

In September, the International Atomic Energy Agency said Iran's stockpile of uranium enriched to up to 20% fissile purity was estimated at 84.3 kilograms (185 pounds) up from 62.8 kilograms (138 pounds) three

Scientists estimate that at least 170 kilograms (375 pounds) of 20% enriched uranium is needed to make a The nuclear deal known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA, promises Iran economic incentives in exchange for limits on its nuclear program, and is meant to prevent Tehran from developing a nuclear bomb. Tehran insists its program is peace-

The U.S. Unilaterally pulled out of the deal in 2018 under then-President Donald Trump, but Britain, France, Germany, China and Russia have tried to preserve the

Iraqis cast ballots hoping for a change few expect to happen

Baghdad: Iraqis cast ballots on deep scepticism that the indepen-Sunday for a new parliament in a vote boycotted by many of the young activists who thronged the streets two years earlier calling for an end to corruption and mis-

The vote had been scheduled for next year but was brought forward in response to the popular uprising in the capital of Baghdad and southern provinces in late 2019. Tens of thousands of people took part in the mass protests and were met by security forces firing live ammunition and tear gas. More than 600 people were killed and thousands injured within just a few months.

Although authorities gave in and called the early elections, the death toll and the heavy-handed crackdown prompted many young activists and demonstrators who took part in the protests to later call for a boycott of the polls.

A series of kidnappings and targeted assassinations that killed more than 35 people has further discouraged many from taking part. Apathy is widespread amid

dent candidates stand a chance against established parties and politicians, many of them backed by armed militias.

"I voted because there needs to be change. I don't want these same faces and same parties to return," said Amir Fadel, a 22-year-old car dealer, after casting his ballot in Baghdad's Karradah district.

A total of 3,449 candidates are vying for 329 seats in the parliamentary elections, which will be the sixth held since the fall of Saddam Hussein after the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 and the sectarianbased power-sharing political system it produced.

More than 250,000 security personnel across the country were tasked with protecting the vote. Soldiers, police and anti-terrorism forces fanned out and deployed outside polling stations, some of which were ringed by barbed wire. Voters were patted down and searched. Iraq's President Barham Salih

and Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi urged Iraqis to vote in large numbers.

Nepal Min quits 2 days after joining Deuba's Cabinet

Kathmandu: Nepal's Industry, Commerce and Supplies Minister Gajendra Bahadur Hamal resigned on Sunday following a controversy over his appointment, just 48 hours after his formal induction into the Cabinet.

Hamal tendered his resignation to Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba who accepted it, according to the Cabinet

Hamal, a district-level leader of the Nepali Congress, drew considerable flak after the media reports suggested that he was appointed a Minister at the recommendation of Chief Justice Ĉĥolendra Shumsher Rana, who happens to be his brother-in-law. Consequently, Hamal's elevation had also created unrest within the Nepali Congress, with many members terming it a move that undermined democratic values.

Hamal is also not a member of either the Lower or Upper House of Parliament. However, there is a provision in the Constitution that one can become a cabinet member for a six months period even if he or she is not a lawmaker.

According to sources, Hamal had resigned after facing relentless pressure over his appointment. "Currently, the news spread in various media outlets and

lawyers have unfairly misrepresented my appointment, and such news has devalued my years of struggle for democracy, rule of law, and the principle of separation of powers between state organs.

"However, since the question of my appointment has been raised, I have resigned from the post of the minister as it is not appropriate for me to remain as a minister amid such speculations," Hamal wrote in his resignation letter. Hamal was one of the 18 Ministers appointed by Prime Minister Deuba on Friday, almost three months after he assumed office on July 13.

Irish Foreign Minister warns of breakdown in EU-UK relations

London: Ireland's Foreign Minister has warned that British demands risk a "further breakdown in relations" with the European Union ahead of talks this week aimed at resolving the impasse over the Brexit agreement. Simon Coveney posted the remarks on Twitter after the UK's Brexit minister reiterated his insistence that the European Court of Justice must not be allowed to oversee implementa-

Coveney described this as a new "red line" that will impede progress in the negotiations. "Does (the UK government) actually want an agreed way forward or a further break-

down in relations?" he wrote. European Commission is expected this week to publish its proposals for breaking the deadlock over trade arrangements for Northern Ireland, the only part of the UK that has a land border with the 27-nation bloc.

The British government has sought to renegotiate part of its divorce deal with the EU that requires customs and border checks on some goods moving between Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK.

The regulations are intended to ensure goods entering the EU's single market meet European standards while keeping an open border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland — a key pillar of Northern

But the checks have angered Northern Ireland's unionists, who say they weaken the region's ties with the rest of the UK and make it harder for businesses to operate. "The role of the European Court of Justice

Northern Ireland and the consequent inability of the UK Government to implement the very sensitive arrangements in the protocol in a reasonable way has created a deep imbalance in the way the protocol operates, British negotiator David Frost said in remarks released ahead of a speech Saturday in Lisbon.

"Without new arrangements in this area, the protocol will never have the support it needs to survive." The Times of London reported Saturday that Brussels is likely to offer unhindered access for products linked to British "national identity," such as Cumberland sausages. The proposal is an attempt to avoid a so-called sausage war over chilled meats crossing the Irish Sea.

Frost's office on Saturday suggested EU concessions would have to "go far beyond the sausages." During a speech to the Conservative Party conference last week, Frost threatened to trigger a contentious break clause in the divorce deal if the EU were unwilling to make concessions on Northern Ireland.

A DAY AFTER ELECTION

Prague: Czech president Milos Zeman was rushed to the hospital on Sunday, a day after the parliamentary election at a time when he has a key role in establishing a new Government Prague's military hospital confirmed Zeman was transported there from the presidential chateau in Lany, near Prague.

Zeman's doctor, who recommended the hospitalisation. is expected to give details of his condition later Sunday. It's a return to the hospital for the Zeman was previously admitted

president after only a few weeks. on September 14 for what his office described later as a planned

ARMY GENERAL WHO COMMANDED IN IRAQ DIES Washington: Raymond T Odierno a retired Army general who commanded American and coalition forces in Iraq at the height of the war and capped a 39-year career by serving as the Army's chief of staff, has died, his family said on Saturday. He was

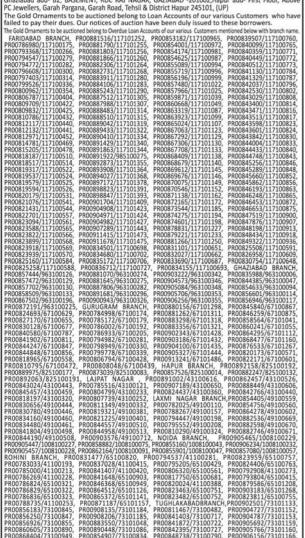
67. "The general died after a brave

battle with cancer; his death was

not related to Covid," a family

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16 killed after plane crash, says Russian Govt

group of parachute jumpers crashed after takeoff in the Russian region of Tatarstan early on Sunday, killing 16 people and injuring six, the Emergencies Ministry said.

At a height of 70 metres, the pilots reported that their left engine had failed and attempted an emergency landing near the city of Menzelinsk, trying to turn the plane leftward to avoid an inhabited area, the regional governor said. But the aircraft's wing hit a

Gazelle vehicle as the plane landed and it overturned, Tatarstan's governor Rustam Minnikhanov said.

The aircraft had been carrying 20 parachutists and two crew members. Six people were in a serious condition, the Health Ministry said.

The Let L-410 Turbolet twinengine short-range transport aircraft was owned by an aeroclub in the city of Menzelinsk. The aeroclub declined to comment, citing a law enforcement investigation into the incident. Cosmonauts use the area for



This photo provided by the Russian Emergency Situations Ministry Press service shows the L-410, a Czech-made twin-engine turboprop, crashed near the town of Menzelinsk, about 960 kilometers east of Moscow, Russia on Sunday

training and the aeroclub has hosted local, European championships and one world championship, the director Nurmukhametov said, according to

The Investigative Committee,

had opened a criminal investigation into a suspected violation of safety regulations.

The state-run Cosmonaut Training Centre has suspended its ties with the aeroclub pending an investigation, TASS cited a source as

targets officials, kills six others

Sanaa: At least six people were killed Sunday in Yemen's port city of Aden by a car bomb that targeted two senior Government officials who survived, an official said.

The explosion targeted the convoy of Agriculture Minister Salem al-Socotrai and Aden's Gov. Ahmed Lamlas in the district of Tawahi, said Information Minister Moammar al-Iryani.

The blast killed at least six people among Lamlas' companions and wounded at least seven others who had been passing by, al-Iryani said. The casualties were taken to hospitals for treatment, he

The explosion damaged several buildings in the area, quickly sealed off by security forces, according to security officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief media.

Prime Minister Maeen Abdulmalik Saeed called the explosion a "terrorist attack" and ordered an investigation. AP | takeover of the Taliban in August. AP

Car bomb in Yemen | Spain to evacuate more Afghan workers, families left behind

statement said.

Madrid: Spanish authorities said on Sunday that the country has started a new evacuation operation to extract more Afghans and their families left behind following the Taliban takeover

of Afghanistan. Spain's Defense Ministry confirmed to The Associated Press media reports that it is working with the foreign ministry on a new evacuation mis-

The ministry said it would not give any more details in order to protect the mission, but Spanish news agency EFE reported that the plan was get out some 200 people via Pakistan.

Spanish Foreign Affairs Minister José Albares visited both Pakistan and Qatar last month to ask for their assistance in extracting more Afghan workers who had not been included in the first airlifts from Kabul.

Spain successfully evacuated some 2,200 people — Spaniards and Afghans - in the frantic days following the

Merkel and Israel's Bennett differ on Iran, Palestinians Jerusalem: Germany's lamenot be taken off the table, it matic man," he instead

duck chancellor, Angela Merkel, received a warm welcome Sunday as she paid a final official visit to Israel, but differences quickly emerged between the close allies on the key issues of Iran's nuclear program and the establishment of a Palestinian state. Merkel said that Germany remains committed to reviving the international nuclear agreement with Iran — a step Israel opposes. She also said that Germany believes that a twostate solution remains the best way to end Israel's decades-long conflict with the Palestinians.

"Personally, I think that on this point, even if at this stage it seems almost hopeless, the idea of a two-state solution should

should not be buried ... and that the Palestinians should be able to live securely in a state," Merkel said at a joint news conference with Prime Minister Naftali Bennett. She also said that Israeli settlement construction on occupied territories sought by the Palestinians was unhelpful. Bennett, a former settler

leader who opposes the establishment of a Palestinian state, quickly pushed back. "Based on our experience,

the meaning of a Palestinian state means that very likely there will be established a terror state, roughly seven minutes from my house and from almost any point in Israel," he said. Calling himself a "prag-

was prepared to take steps on the ground to improve living conditions for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It was one of the few dis-

agreements between the close allies during Merkel's two-day visit, which caps a 16-year term marked by near unwavering support for Israel. At every stop, she was welcomed as a "true friend" of Israel. She repeatedly professed Germany's commitment to Israel's security and said she was confident that Germany's next government to be determined in lengthy coalition talks following an inconclusive election last month would take a similar stance.

Bishops wait for the arrival of Pope Francis in St. Peter's Basilica on the occasion of a mass for the opening of the Bishops'

Synod, at the Vatican on Sunday

Over 12 PSUs on block after AI privatisation

The Government's final The Government a mannational carrier Air India has given a fresh lease of life to its strategic disinvestment plan.

The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), which oversees the disinvestment policy, is now planning to cede management control over a dozen public sector enterprises in the next six months.

Sources said the successful culmination of the Air India disinvestment process has upped investor interest in picking up management control of public sector undertakings put on the block for privatisation. Overseas investors are also looking at the country's disinvestment plan with interest.

The Government wants to tap into this positive sentiment, which has also been heightened with a Moody's upgrade of the country's ratings, to put its strategic disinvestment plan on the fast track.

Government sources said they had received inquiries from multinational corporations about their possible participation in the strategic disinvestment plan post the Centre's decision to amend

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

oming out strongly against

certain recommendations

made by NFRA, chartered

accountants' apex body ICAI

on Sunday said the watchdog

does not have jurisdiction over

micro, small and medium com-

panies, and asserted that audit

helps in mitigating the risk of

Accountants of India (ICAI) also

stressed that "there is no direct

nexus between the quality of the

audit and the cost of conducting

the audit as is mentioned in a

consultation paper by NFRA as

the auditors have to comply with

the standards in auditing and

other relevant standards while

ICAI President Nihar N

Jambusaria come less than two

weeks after the National

(NFRA) came out with a con-

sultation paper on statutory

audit and auditing standards

for micro, small and medium

Global cues push

up energy crisis in

India, Govt looks to

step up generation

The build up power crisis in

I the country has worsened

this month as acute fuel short-

ages at power plants threaten

outages in coming days stalling

the revival wheels of the

world's fastest growing major

economy. As per official data

the country's 135-odd thermal

plants on an average were sit-

ting on just four days of coal

stocks at the end of September,

down from 13 days coal stocks

at the beginning of August

Regulations mandate 22 days

of stock at thermal plants. To

meet the domestic shortages,

option is available to buy coal

from abroad, but the post

Covid surge in electricity

demand worldwide has creat

ed added interest securing fuel

sources that had shot up glob-

of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya

Pradesh, Tamil Nadu are on

alert for outages. The coal

shortages at power plants had

come at a time when produc-

tion from CIL, which meets

almost 80 per cent of the fuel

needs of the country, had fall-

en owing to long monsoon this

year and disruption in supply

Though CIL maintains that its

supplies are nowhere at a lower

level this year compared to the level last year, power sector

sources said that the problem

is also compounding due to

lower interest shown by debt-

ridden State utilities to buy

more coal to run power plants

at the optimal levels.

Several plants in the States

al coal prices.

The latest comments from

conducting an audit".

The Institute of Chartered

corporate governance lapses.

NFRA has no jurisdiction over small,

between quality, cost of audit: ICAI

medium cos; no direct nexus

sions in the Income Tax Act. The amendment introduces certainty on taxation regulations and has improved India's ranking by several notches on the ease of doing business

As a result, the strategic disinvestment proposals of companies such as Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited (FSNL), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam, Container Corporation of India, IDBI Bank and Neelanchal Ispat Nigam may get a fresh lease of life and the process may get extensions if more time is required to bring larger number of overseas investors into the picture.

The government is also seeing an increased interest of foreign investors in the proposed initial public offer (ÎPO) of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), which is likely to be floated soon.

The government has a list of 34 PSUs that have been given 'in principle' approval for disinvestment. These include Scooters India, Bridge and Roof Co., Cement Corporation of India and Pawan Hans.

The government has not yet made its stand clear on the pending cases of disinvestment where the process has stage, but sources said a second thought on re-inviting investors even in these cases may be considered. This could help increase the participation of MNCs in the disinvestment of companies such as Bharat Petroleum Corporation

Pawan Hans. DIPAM's views on this matter could not be ascertained, but recently its Secretary, Tuhin Kanta Pandey, said that for all these enterprises, the government had received adequate interest from bidders, now at the second stage of due diligence.

Limited, Bharat Earth Movers

Limited, Shipping Corporation of India and

Both portfolio investors and direct foreign investors have shown increased interest in running and investing in Indian companies up for privatisation.

The government had budgeted for Rs 1.75 lakh crore from stakes sales in PSUs and state-owned financial institutions, including two PSU banks and one insurance company, in

IRDAI needs young CEO, abolish licence permit raj: Experts

IANS CHENNAI

which public comments have been sought till November 10, NFRA said it was appropriate to revisit the requirement of compulsory statutory audit for all companies irrespective of their size and/or public inter-Besides, the watchdog cited

In the consultation paper,

companies (MSMCs).

its preliminary analysis on the key financial parameters of the companies and said the fees paid to auditors by a large majority of MSMCs are way below what an audit, when performed in compliance with the letter and spirit of the standards of auditing, would

Against this backdrop, Jambusaria said NFRA does not have jurisdiction over MSMCs.

"It is not within its purview to propose whether audit of a companies is required or not. However, we may look at merits in having audits of these companies," he

Auto retailers staring at huge losses this festive season as chip shortage hinders supplies

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

utomobile retailers are star-Aing at huge losses this festive season as manufacturers struggle with vehicle dispatches to dealerships amid the ongoing semiconductor shortage crisis, according to a top FADA official.

With chip shortage continuing unabated, auto manufacturers are faced with production issues forcing them to curtail supplies to dealer part-

With the 42-day long peak season having commenced with the first navratra, dealers are finding it difficult to convince the customers to wait indefinitely for the vehicles of their choice.

Amid robust demand for several models, dealers are witnessing booking cancellations and there is also a drop in on the spot buying due to dearth of inventory at their end.

"Festive season is the most important period in terms of sales for us. On an average, the two month period accounts for 40 per cent of our total sales during a year. This is the time when we actually earn and save for operations for the rest of the year. This year we are not getting adequate vehicles and are staring at losses,

FĂDA President Vinkesh Gulati told PTI.

He noted that in the passenger vehicle segment, the waiting period on most of the models has gone up drastically from the earlier period of 1-

2021-22. It is hoping that larger overseas participation would help complete the process of strategic disinvestment of the larger PSUs.

Indian insurance sector is Lcrying for reform 2.0 wherein the licence permit raj is abolished and the sectoral regulator is headed by a dynamic young person to increase the insurance penetration, said a senior industry official

"For the first few years the IRDAI (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India) was developing regulations. After that it is reg ulating the industry's development," P.S.Prabhakar, Senior Partner of the accounting firm Rajagopal & Badrinarayanan and a former insurance industry official told IANS.

After N.Rangachary, the first IRDAI Chairman, told review of IRDAI since it is more than two decades old, several senior industry officials have voiced their views to IANS.

THE PIONEER ()

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Abdul Majid Pampori S/o. Late Ghulam Ahmed Pampori, R/o. F-15/9, Jogabai Extension, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-110025 have Changed my name to Abdul Majeed Pampori for all future purposes.

PD(9089)A

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given that Share Certificate No(s) 36439; 45474 for 200 share(s) having Distinctive No(s) 4986901 — 4987000; 9940101 — 9940200 held under Folio No. 0002075 respectively of Merino Industries Ltd., having its registered office at 5, Alexandra court, 60/1, Chowringhee Road, Kolkata-700020 registered in the name of Ghanshyam Das has been lost.

I, now have applied to the Company for issue of duplicate share certificate(s) in lieu of the above. Any person having any objection to the issue of duplicate Share certificate(s) in the issue of duplicate Share certificate(s) as aforesaid is requested to lodge his/her/their objection thereto with the Company at their above address or to its Registrars C B MANAGEMENT SERVICES (P) LTD. P-22. Bondel Road, Kolkata-700 019 in writing within 15 days from the date of publication. Date:11.10.2021

Name of SB/AP

RISHABH

Ghanshyam Das P-1/45A. Budh Vihar Phase - 1 Sultanpuri C Block North West Delhi Delhi - 110086

of SB/AP

RISHABH

JAIN

AP0397

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01118382

Diesel crosses ₹100 mark in Gandhinagar, other places as fuel prices go up again

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Diesel prices on Sunday crossed ₹100-a-litre-mark in Gandhinagar and Leh as fuel prices were hiked again in sync with firming international oil prices.

Petrol price was hiked by 30 paise per

litre and diesel by 35 paise a litre, according to a price notification of State-owned fuel retailers. The sixth straight day of price hike

pushed fuel rates to a new record high. The price of petrol in Delhi rose to its highest-ever level of ₹104.14 a litre and ₹110.12 per litre in Mumbai, the notification showed.

In Mumbai, diesel now comes for ₹100.66 a litre; while in Delhi, it costs After Mumbai and Hyderabad, diesel

rates cross the ₹100 per litre mark in Gandhinagar, the capital of Gujarat state, and UT of Leh. Diesel now costs ₹100.21 a litre in Gandhinagar and ₹100.06 in Leh.

Bhopal, Raipur and Jaipur are other state capitals where diesel is above that mark.

The relentless fuel price hike has also pushed petrol above the ₹100 mark in all but one state capital, with Dehradun, Chandigarh and Gwahati joining that list. Ranchi is the only state capital with petrol less than that mark.

Prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes.

Shedding the modest price change policv. state-owned fuel retailers have since October 6 started passing on the larger incidence of cost to consumers.

For five days in a row, the price of petrol has been hiked by 30 paise a litre and diesel by 35 paise, the biggest rally in rates. Prior

IANS MUMBAI

Higher commodity prices and continued revival in

demand for consumer dis-

cretionary products likely lift-

ed corporate revenue 18-20

per cent on-year to ₹ 8.2 lakh crore in the second quar-

ter of this fiscal, indicates a

CRISIL Research study of 300

India Inc revenue likely grew

18-20% on-year in 2nd quarter

RACE ECO CHAIN LIMITED

(Formerly known as Anisha Impex Limited) CIN: L37100DL1999PLC102506

Regd. Off.: Unit No.203, Plaza- P 3, Central Square, Bara Hindu Rao, New Delhi -110006 Email: cs@raceecochain.com website: www.raceeco.com

Corp. Office: 56/33, Site-IV Industrial Area Sahibabad Ghaziabad 201010

NOTICE OF POSTAL BALLOT

NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to and in compliance with Section 110 of the

Companies Act, 2013, (the 'Act') read with Rules 20 and 22 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 (the 'Rules') read with General Circular

No. 14/2020 dated April 08, 2020, General Circular No. 17/2020 dated April 13, 2020,

General Circular No. 22/2020 dated June 15, 2020, General Circular No. 33/2020 dated

September 28, 2020 and General Circular No. 39/2020 dated December 31, 2020 issued

by Ministry of Corporate Affairs(the 'MCA Circulars') (including any statutory

time to time), SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015

and such other applicable laws and regulations, the approval of members of Race Eco

Chain Limited (the 'Company') is being sought for the below mentioned Special

Pursuant to the MCA Circulars, the Company has sent the electronic copies of the Notice of

Postal Ballot along with Explanatory Statement on Saturday, October 09, 2021 to all

Members of the Company who have registered their email addresses for receipt of

documents in electronic form with their Depository Participants (in case of electronic

shareholding)/ the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent (in case of physical

shareholding) as on Friday, October 1, 2021 i.e. the cut-off date. The Notice of Postal Ballot is also available on the Company's Website at www.raceeco.com website of Stock

Exchange i.e. BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com and on the website of NSDL at

In accordance with the provisions of the MCA Circulars, Members can vote only through

the remote e-voting process. Members whose name appears in the Register of Members/

List of Beneficial Owners as on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 will be considered for the

purpose of e-voting and voting rights shall be reckoned on the paid value of Equity Shares

registered in the name of members as on that date. A person who is not a member on the

The Company has engaged the services of National Securities Depository Limited

('NSDL') to provide remote e-Voting facility of casting the votes by the members. Members

IST at 9.00 a.m. and end on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, IST at 5.00 p.m. (IST).

-voting shall not be allowed beyond Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 05:00 pm (IST).

Members who have not registered their e-mail address are requested to register the same

n respect of shares held in electronic form with the Depository through their Depository

Participant(s) and in respect of shares held in physical form by writing to the Company's

Registrar and Share Transfer Agent, Bigshare Services Private Limited, 302, Kushal Bazar

The instructions on the process of e-voting, including the manner in which Members who

are holding shares in physical form or who have not registered their e-mail addresses can

The Board of Directors of the Company has appointed Mr. Hemant Kumar Sajnani (FCS:

7348 COP: 14214) Proprietor of Hemant Kumar Sainani & Associates as Scrutinizer for

The results of the Postal Ballot through e-voting (along with Scrutinizer's Report) will be

declared by the Chairman of the Company or a person authorized by him in writing, on or before Friday, November 12, 2021 and will also be displayed on the website of the

Company www.raceeco.com, besides being communicated to the Stock Exchange, NSDL

In case of any queries or grievances relating to e-Voting, you may contact Ms. Shiwati

Company Secretary of Race Eco Chain Limited or you can contact through e-mail at

32-33, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 or mukesh@bigshareonline.com.

cast their vote through e-voting, are provided in the Notice of Postal Ballot.

conducting the E-Voting process in a fair and transparent manner.

sted to note that e-voting period commences on Tuesday, October 12, 2021,

MIGRATION FROM BSE SME PLATFORM TO MAIN BOARD OF BSE AND NSE

difications and re-enactment thereof for the time being in force, and as an

Resolution by way of Postal Ballot through e-voting process ('e-voting'):

AMENDMENT IN THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

cut-off date shall treat this Notice for information purposes only.

S. No. Description of Special Resolution

www.evoting.nsdl.com.



paise and diesel by 30 paise.

This is because the international benchmark Brent crude has soared to over USD 82 per barrel after the decision by OPEC+ not to increase output more than 0.4 million barrels per day, fuel rates are being increased by a larger proportion.

A month ago, Brent was around USD per barrel.

Being a net importer of oil, India prices petrol and diesel at rates equivalent to international prices.

The surge in international oil prices ended a three-week hiatus in rates on September 28 for petrol and September 24

for diesel.

companies (excluding from the financial services and oil

sectors) that account for 55-

60 per cent of the market

capitalisation of the

discretionary products such as

automobiles likely spurted 19-21

per cent on-year, aided by high-

er realisations and volume.

Revenue from consumer

National Stock Exchange.

Since then, diesel rates have gone up by ₹4.20 paise per litre and petrol price has increased by ₹2.95.

Prior to the July/August price cuts, the petrol price was increased by ₹11.44 a litre between May 4 and July 17. Diesel rate had gone up by ₹9.14 during this period.

Telecom Secy asks C-DoT to work on 6G; launches **Quantum Communication Lab**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Telecom Secretary K Rajaraman has asked State-owned telecom research and development organisation C-DoT to start working on 6G and other futuristic technologies in order to catch up with the global market in time, a statement said on Sunday.

Samsung, Huawei, LG and some other companies have started working on 6G technologies which is said to be 50 times faster than 5G and is expected to be commercially launched between 2028-2030.

As per theoretical calculations, peak data download speed of 5G is pegged at 20 gigabit per second (gbps). However, Vodafone Idea has claimed to have achieved the highest peak speed of 3.7 gbps during trials in India.

"The telecom secretary has stressed upon C-DoT to keep track of emerging technologies, aligned with the technology life cycle. He has asked C-DOT to start working on 6G and other futuristic technologies in order to catch up with the market in time," Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT) said in the statement. According to Department of Telecom (DoT), 5G technology is expected to deliver ten times better download speed than that of 4G and up to three times greater spectrum efficiency.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) has recorded the top speed of 4G at around 20 megabit per second in Reliance Jio network

The department has begun the process for commercial launch of 5G in India. It has sought Trai's views on the base price of spectrum to be allocated for 5G services.

Rajaraman, who took charge as Secretary of DoT on October 1, also advised C-DoT to focus on commercialization of technology and consider setting up incubators in C-DoT for faster technology commercialization.

He visited C-DoT on Saturday where he inaugurated its Quantum Communication Lab and unveiled the indigenously developed Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) "QKD is essential to address the

threat that rapid advancement in Quantum Computing poses to the security of the data being transported by various critical sectors through the current communication networks," the statement said. The government has allocated

USD 1 billion for the National Mission on Quantum Technologies and Applications spanning over a period of 8 years.

The statement said C-DoT has become the first organization in India to offer complete portfolio of indigenous quantum secure telecom products and solutions to comprehensively address the requirements of telecom operators as well as that of strategic sector like Defence, in India.

C-DoT's 4G technology is under proof of concept (POC) trial in BSNL network at Chandigarh and Ambala.

HDB Financial Services Limited HDB FINANCIAL BERVICES

S. No. Loan No

Ground Floor, Zenith House, Keshavrao Khadye Marg, Mahalaxmi, Mumbai - 400034 Tel No.: +91 22 49116300

FINAL AUCTION CUM SALE NOTICE FOR GOLD ORNAMENTS

The borrower(s) (whose details are provided in the table herein below), in particular, and the public, in general, are hereby informed that the below mentioned accounts are overdue, and the borrowers/account holders have not responded /complied with the communication, and otice send by HDB Financial Services Limited (the "Company") requesting the borrower to clear his/her/their dues as per the documents in espect of the below mentioned loan signed/accepted by the borrower(s) (such documents, collectively "loan agreeement") and therefor efaulted in terms thereof. The Company has in excercise of its rights as a pledgee, decided to enforce the pledge and therefore hold a public auction of the gold ornaments pledged to the company as security for the loan for the purpose of selling the same and realizing/recovering he dues owned by the borrower(s) to the company. The auction will be conducted on 16-10-2021 at the below mentioned local branch of HDB Financial Services Limited from 11.00 am onwards on the date and branches mentioned in the below table;

Date Of Loan | Overdue Amount Rs.

5. No.	Loan No	Customer Name	Date Of Loan	Overdue Amount Rs.	Branch Name
1	9721021	Virender Kumar	19/11/2019	6457.14	Delhi- Bhajanpura
2	10836996	Aagil Khan	10/02/2020	8471.97	Delhi- Bhajanpura
3	11222958	Sarfaraz Ahmad	13/03/2020	16299	Delhi- Bhajanpura
4	11488896	Sachin S	03/06/2020	114469	Delhi- Bhajanpura
5	11807380	Mahesh Kumar	09/07/2020	5465	Delhi- Bhajanpura
6	13655094	Prithvi Ramakant	24/12/2020	3076	Delhi- Bhajanpura
7	13984240	Pappu P	20/01/2021	21968	Delhi- Bhajanpura
8	14627145	Vinod Rajput	15/03/2021	17104	Delhi- Bhajanpura
9	8651493	Manju Bhurtiya	26/08/2019	11376	Delhi- Bhajanpura
10	5370252	Manoi Kumar Verma	26/09/2018	7434.77	Delhi- Kashmiri Gate
11	12555857	Sumit Choudhary	22/09/2020	31184	Delhi Ncr - Burari
12	12079839		07/08/2020	8124	Delhi Ncr - Burari
13		Satish Singh	13/01/2021	19174	Delhi Ncr - Burari
14		Guddu Sharma	25/03/2021	21710	Delhi Ncr - Burari
15	7794494	Ajesh Kumar	04/06/2019	6904	Delhi Ncr - Burari
16		Asha Attri	25/09/2020	8210	Delhi Shahdara
17	14197209		08/02/2021	15351	Delhi Shahdara
18		Ashok Kumar	18/03/2020	26363	Delhi Uttam Nagar
19		Safi Mohammad	12/08/2020	51997	Delhi Uttam Nagar
20		Sangeeta K	11/09/2020	69582	Delhi Uttam Nagar
21	12467281	The state of the s	15/09/2020	28640	Delhi Uttam Nagar
22	13496181		09/12/2020	21937	Delhi Uttam Nagar
23		Indra Kala	23/07/2020	24872	Delhi-Adarsh Nagar
24	7048129	Ashwani A	26/03/2019	6752.24	Delhi-Adarsh Nagar
25		Jatin Raj Kumar	30/09/2020	46085	Delhi-Badarpur
26		Ajay Ram	09/10/2020	17320	Delhi-Badarpur
27		Nikhat Parveen	29/08/2020	209526	Delhi-Chandni Chowk
28	13362067	Rohit Sharma	27/11/2020	105034	Delhi-Chandni Chowk
29	9382589	Mohammad Ahsan	25/10/2019	11022.42	Delhi-Dilshad Garden
30	9027106	Balvinder Kaur	30/09/2019	5418.1	Delhi-Dilshad Garden
31		Rahul Kataria	14/02/2020	17187.54	Delhi-Dilshad Garden
32		Yasin Mohammad	29/05/2020	49586	Delhi-Dilshad Garden
33	11900883		17/07/2020	12224	Delhi-Dilshad Garden
34	12194621		18/08/2020	5295	Delhi-Dilshad Garden
35	12387138		07/09/2020	11241	Delhi-Dilshad Garden
36		Sohan Beer Singh	20/11/2020	6435	Delhi-Dilshad Garden
37	14170783		06/02/2021	7805	Delhi-Dilshad Garden
38		Aasif Khan	04/02/2021	10346	Delhi-Dilshad Garden
39	12554589			7770	Delhi-Hari Nagar
40		Vikas Khandelwal	22/09/2020 21/11/2020	13485	Delhi-Hari Nagar
41		Hemant Kumar Sharma	09/02/2021	5712	Delhi-Hari Nagar
42	12499877		17/09/2020	65905	Delhi-Jagatpuri
42	14710397			2800	Delhi-Jagatpuri
44	12442131		22/03/2021	17622	Delhi-Jagatpun Delhi-Kailash Nagar
45		Jeetender Kumar	11/09/2020 29/10/2020	6985	The state of the s
45	13408103			7282	Delhi-Kailash Nagar Delhi-Kailash Nagar
45	12632845		30/11/2020	16495	Delhi-Karol Bagh
48	8452827		29/09/2020	7354.68	
48	0402627	Geeta G	13/08/2019	/354.68	Delhi-Karol Bagh

Sailender Sharma 49 10120611 26/12/2019 Delhi-Lajpat Nagar 12872879 Md Atesham Alar Delhi-Lajpat Nagar 19/03/2021 20/12/2019 Varun Jain 13380 Delhi-Laxmi Nagar 11710169 Mahtab Ali Delhi-Madipur Mohammad Ishaq 4770.13 Delhi-Madipu Mohd Nafees Kh 30/06/2019 22/02/2019 Delhi-Madipu 32760 Delhi-Malviya Nagar Arun Kumar Dhar Sujit Sharma Afnan Ahme Delhi-Mayapur Delhi-Nai Sadal 14691126 19/03/2023 22/05/2020 12/08/2020 12123696 Mushtaq Alam 13712 Delhi-Nai Sadak 14149375 Delhi-Nai Sadak 16/04/2021 11651857 Raju Gupta Delhi-Nanglo 12326218 Kamal Kumai 02/09/2020 Delhi-Nanglo Delhi-Nangloi Delhi-Narela 13482454 Harish Chand Verma 13551518 14/12/2020 68 11627029 Abbas Ali 18/06/2020 5920 Delhi-Patel Nagar 12128179 13494527 13/08/2020 09/12/2020 Delhi-Patel Nagar Delhi-Patel Nagar Bhavika Ani 39370 Hasina Kedarkhan 12245850 Ram Chatur Sharma 24/12/2020 23/02/2021 14368499 Harpal Singh 7845 Delhi-Ramesh Nagar 11141589 Vinay Kumar 12190785 Vinod Kumar 06/03/2020 4816 Delhi-Sadar 14901471 Abhishek Gupta 07/04/2021 Delhi-Sadar Delhi-Sadar Delhi-Shastri Nagar 11792252 Amit Gupta 64245 11271461 Jitendra Kuma 17/03/2020 Delhi-Shastri Nagar 12507237 Mohan Singh 17/09/2020 22320 Delhi-Shastri Nagar 82 14776295 83 12522999 84 13600572 Indra Dev 25/03/2021 Satvinder Pal Sing 18/12/2020 Paramjeet Singh 40392 Delhi-Tilak Nagar 7415708 8926.24 Mukesh Kuma 7416254 Valaiti Singh 30/04/2019 8255.24 Delhi-Tilak Naga 10791.46 6107.57 Delhi-Tilak Nagar Delhi-Tilak Nagar 30/04/2019 12/07/2019

The auction shall be conducted on an "AS IS WHERE" and "AS IS WHAT IT" basis and the Company is not making and shall not make any representation or warranties as regards the quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. It shall be the sole and absolute responsibility of the potential purchaser to verify, examine and satisfy themselves about the quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments prior to placing their bid and for such purpose it shall be open to potential purchasers to examine at their sole cost and expense, and at the address set out herein above, the gold ornaments whether with or without expert advice 45 minutes prior to the time stipulated for the conduct of the auction. All the bid shall be subjected to such minimum reserve price as the company may deem fit to fix in this regards. The auction process and sale (if any) pursuant to such auction shall be subjected to such further terms and condition as the company may at sole discretion deem fit to impose.

If the borrower(s) mentioned above pays the amount due to the Company in terms of the loan agreement in his individual loan account in full before the auction as mentioned above, the pledged ornaments securing the said loan may be withdrawn from the said auction without further notice. Please note the it is the absolute discretionary power of the undersigned authorized officer of the company, either to postpone or to cancel the auction proceeding without prior notice and without assigning any reason thereof and to reject any or all the bids or offer without assigning any reason for the same.

For Race Eco Chain Limited Place: New Delhi Date: Oct 09, 2021 Company Secretary

East Delhi Near Metro Delhi 110032

ANGEL BROKING LIMITED Regd. Off: G-1, Akruti Trade Centre, MIDC, Road No. 7, Andheri (E), Mumbai-93

voting@nsdl.co.in or on Toll Free No.: 1800 1020 990/1800 224 430.

SEBI Registration No (Stock Broker): INZ000161534 PUBLIC NOTICE

and Registrar and Share Transfer Agent.

MCX Reg. Regd Address of SB/AP Reg. No. 3/425, Ground Floor Pathan Pura, Shahdaranorth AP010612 MCX/AP/

This is to inform/confirm that we have discontinued our Business Relations with the above mentioned Authorized Persons. Clients and General Public are warned against Dealing in with them in his/their capacity as our Authorized Persons and we hereby confirm that we will not be liable in any manner for any consequence of such dealings/deals. Clients are requested to contact our centralized desk 022-3355 1111/4218/5454 or email us to support@angelbroking.com.

141643

For ANGEL BROKING LTD Place: Delhi

Authorised Signatory

Shiwati

8206235

9524966

Bharat Bhushan

91 9525358 Asakthivel Arumugam Sakthiv 92 8202539 Asakthivel Arumugam Sakthiv

Asakthivel Arumugam Sakthivel Asakthivel Arumugam Sakthivel

https://www.dailypioneer.com/vivacity/

TRAVERSING THE FLAVOURS OF HERITAGE

CHRISTY VARGHESE recounts his experience of the Old Delhi Food and Photo Walk, pointing out little-known facts that were shared by chef RAJEEV GOYAL



on a Sunday, and we are no exception. However, we had to reconsider our priorities after being invited to the Old Delhi Food And Photo Walk -Explore the Unexplored, organised by Ministry of Tourism in association with India Food Tourism Organisation. The promise of free food, especially of the likes served in Old Delhi, was too enticing. Under usual circumstances, 8 AM on a Sunday morning would have qualified as too early. But this was one of those times when we chose to make an exception, and weren't we glad that we woke up on time to reach Jama Masjids Gate number five by 10 am.

While, like most of you, we were used to frequenting the bylanes of Old Delhi in the evening, we have to admit that there is a different charm to the place in daylight; especially since there weren't many people around. The walk was curated by chef Rajeev Goyal, who turned out to be quite the boisterous storyteller over the course of the next few hours. First stop was Shyam Sweets (estd 1910) where we gorged on Bedmi poori and aloo ki sabzi along with some Nagori halwa.

While the food was delectable, considering how every element was handpicked by the organisers, as is common on most foodwalks, the event was also about 'exploring the unexplored'. Goyal led us on an unconventional approach to tasting food, one which involved teasing our palates with the flavours to evoke several tastes from the same item. While the bedmi poori contained some earthy flavours, when we tasted it the first time, it had a different taste the next time we bit into it, after sampling some of the

On our way to the next stop,

disrupting the moderate Sunday

traffic, we got a chance to catch up with Goyal, who had enough time to tell us a little more about himself. "Back in 2010 I had founded foodtourindelhi.com, India's first food tour company, with the vision of helping others explore the flavours and unseen corners of this amazing city. Now, as president of the India Food Tourism Organisation, we seek to make the industry stronger with our sustained efforts. I am teaching others the tricks of my trade. While it is not good for my business, I am glad to be of use to my country and its people in any way possible," he chirped as we waited for the rest of the entourage to catch up with us,

Handing out platters of what looked like *dokhlas* to our non-nuanced eyes, Goyal proclaimed, "Ayurveda recommends eating water and drinking food to serve as good fuel to the furnace of our body, our belly. This is khaman, the sibling of dhokla, another item which originated from Gujarat. In a state which does not have many



many symbolical

India's culture,

in more ways

than we can

After having

to

changes

imagine."



sources of protein-rich food, khaman serves the role of a protein-rich food, made of fermented chickpeas-gram, which can be consumed as side-dish, as well as the main course."

Once we had our fill, we roceeded onwards to our next destination where we were served traditional kachori and sabzi. Goyal, who could very well pass off as an avid story teller, quipped as we munched on the kachoris, "Can you detect that distinct hing flavour? Let me tell you a little story. When hing or asafoetida powder first came to India from Afghanistan, it landed in the marketplaces of Agra in heavy-duty leather bags since leather was the only thing that could contain the pungent odour. You would not believe the quantities of hing that came in, there was enough leather to kickstart another industryshoemaking. Among many things, Agra is also known for its trade in footwear, that is all because of hing. Even today, one



in the city goes by the name 'Hing Ki Mandi, with should be reactivatover 5,000 shops. ed, not just Food has made so because of their heritage but because of their modern day, ecofriendly utility. And there

wastage of water, if that is our fill of kachoris, we trudged on. what you are think-ing. Water that fell into the basin would be lapped up by Along the way, Goyal pointed out numerous details that one would have walked past thirsty animals such as the thirsty steeds who pull carriages or streetdogs," he quipped. Next stop was Kuremal Kulfi Waale (estd 1906). The USP of this kulfi shop is that several times without realising $its\ significance.$

We stopped at a curious aquamarine window, with a basin, overwhelmed by the distinct ochre stains of betelnutlaced spittle, right in front of it. At first glance, we presumed it to be the workplace of one of the numerous paan-wallahs based in the city. But, as often is the case, there is always more to things than what meets the eye.

Goyal shared that this was the urban version of a waterhole, known locally as a piau. "Someone sitting behind the window would pour water to thirsty passers-by in a copper vessel. Copper, because of its anti-bacterial nature. Back then, water bottles were not as conveniently available. I would say we were ahead of times; giving water to those who need it is a great service and we did it without the menace that these useand-throw water bottles have

kulfi will do the talking for of the main markets for footwear turned out to become. I think them," he remarked with a grin. such establishments

would be no

USP of this kulfi shop is that

they serve ice cream made of

natural ingredients, without any

colouring or preservatives. While the establishment was

highly sought-after to serve

their wares in parties and other

gatherings, Goyal revealed that

they started retailing at his

behest. "I would say entrepre-

neurism runs in our blood.

Witness the innovative ways of

our ancestors wherein they used

something which would have

been considered waste, and

turned it into another industry

altogether with the Hing Ki

Mandi. Kuremal has a a remark-

able product, and they are envi-

ronment-friendly; they had to

start retailing and I am glad we

got them around. But don't let

me convince you. Their Mango

The kulfi came in a hollowed out mango, minus the seed. We got to know that this is how they serve all their kulfis. We got to witness how they broke the seal off the cap from one of the mangoes (it was sealed shut with atta dough which was rock-hard after being frozen) before peeling it to reveal the sumptious brainfreeze inducing goodness hidden underneath.

As we asked for our fourth helping of the lip-smacking ice cream, Goyal directed our gaze at the seemingly dilapidated building adjacent to the establishment. First-floor onwards the building seemed to be inhabited but the ground floor possessed a look which reflected neglect. Curiously perched on the doorway above the groundfloor was what could best be described as a balcony for a twoyear old. When we lent voice to our thoughts, Goyal laughed before saying, "Back then, if no men were present in the house, women would use that little window to check who was knocking at the door."

The food walk wrapped up after some Chole-bhature courtesy Giani's, but we weren't walking off with just a tummy full off sumptuous fare. We were wiser after the experience. As only Goyal could best put it, "Old Delhi's food is not just about the food, it is a surreal experience."



SANAK — HOPE UNDER SIEGE

Sanak is an action-thriller film, summarising the emotion and journey of a lone hero, who fights overwhelming odds in a restricted environment, to save his wife and other unfortunates, helpless hostages, from the perils of evil. It releases on October 15 on Disney+ Hotstar.



I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER

This Amazon Original is a horror series based on the 1973 novel by Lois Duncan and 1997 film of the same name. A group of teenagers are haunted and stalked by a brutal killer. First episode releases on October 15 on Amazon Prime Video.



SARDAR UDHAM

The story sets out how Udham Singh survived the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre on Baisakhi, which killed almost 400 people and injured around 1000, and avenges those who died. It releases on October 16 on Amazon



Bollywood actor Vicky Kaushal, director Shoojit Sircar and producer Ronnie Lahiri captured at Imperial Hotel, New Delhi, amid promotions for the forthcoming Sardar Udham Photos by Pankai Kumar



Working from office — mixed feelings

With workplaces calling employees back to work, stepping out of the bubble we had gotten used to might cause some mental discomfort, says Dr Santosh Bangar

The government's decision to relax the lockdown was received positively by people. There was both cautious excitement and nervousness at the same time. Even though the vaccination has provided a much needed shot in the arm, figuratively and literally, the masses are wary of the un-lockdown, especially due to the fear of contracting the novel Coronavirus. Exiting the safe bubble that our homes have grown to be in the past year and a half, going out to work at our respective workplaces might be stressful

Yesterday was World Mental Health Day, however, conversations around mental health should not be restricted to a few days in the year. One should be aware of, and address, anything that challenges our mental health and be consistent with the same.

During the pandemic, emotional and mental well-being has been negatively affected due to the social, per sonal and professional effects. There has been a rise in anxiety disorders, depression, sleep problems and alcohol misuse. People with previously stable mental illnesses have had a relapse

,needing extra support. For the majority, who had gotten used to working from home, going back to work may be an overwhelming experience. Certain levels of anxiety, nervousness is expected and can be considered a natural response. Readjusting to the office environment may become daunting, impacting your mental health. Another fear may be of







contracting the virus infection, especially while travelling. All these doubts may cross the mind making one more anxious.

However, getting back to work can bring some much-needed social interaction. If you are someone who is resuming work then follow these vital tips to stay calm and composed.

□Get atleast seven-eight hours of restful sleep.

Jot your thoughts down. This would help you be aware of what triggers you or what calms you down.

☐ Do not get worked up due to staff

shortage, focus on your work.

If you are feeling overwhelmed, seek professional help at the earliest. Do not suffer in silence.

☐ Regularly spend some quality time with your loved ones.

Exercise as often as you can, it can help you stay positive, stress-free and

(The author is a senior consultant psychiatrist at Global Hospital, Parel.)

TREND:

INSPIRED BY HIS FATHER: KAILASH KHER

Sufi exponent KAILASH KHER will recreate his famous hits with his stellar band Kailasa strumming along on the MTV show, Unacademy Unwind.

Going down the memory lane after his performance for the show, Kher recalls, "From my childhood, I knew I was destined for music. I have had an unquenchable thirst to transform my rich imagination into reality, taking inspiration from my father, who always ventured down an uncharted path.'



fairtalk

'More than validation, an award from a reputable institution lends some confidence to your own credibility. Your conviction in the fact that you are not in a rat race is strengthened. It restores your belief in your vision, makes you feel like you are on the right track. However, I have to admit that I was surprised when I found out that I was nominated for an Emmy.'

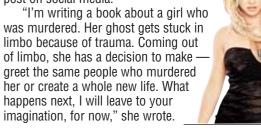


'Vidyut Jammwal always prepares differently for each film that we have done together. He has many ideas and he is constantly working, even when we are not shooting or even when the films are not planned. He is working round the year on new ideas for the actionsequences of his next film to make sure it surpasses everything he has done in the past.

BRITNEY IS WRITING A 'FICTIONAL' BOOK

Pop singer BRITNEY SPEARS plans on writing a fiction book that takes inspiration from her conservatorship battle, as per a post on social media.

"I'm writing a book about a girl who was murdered. Her ghost gets stuck in limbo because of trauma. Coming out of limbo, she has a decision to make greet the same people who murdered her or create a whole new life. What happens next, I will leave to your



PRISONER REFORMATION IN INDIA

Tanmaya Das explores the plight of inmates involved in the justice system

Persone has a past, and I don't want to waste any more time thinking about it or looking back. I've always found a way to improve my life and help others understand why they shouldn't commit crimes and how they are affected by them. I've always believed that persuading individuals with my words will help them make better life choices than falling into the traps of unlawful and anti-social activities," said Aman (name changed), an ex-inmate, who is now working as a volunteer in the Turn Your Concern Into Action (TYCIA) foundation,

Another ex-inmate, Radha (name changed), did not know sewing when she was in the prison; however, she completed a sewing course while she was there and began her new life after being released. She now earns ₹4,000-5,000 per month from tailoring and stitching work, which allows her to support her entire family.

People like Aman, Radha, and others hope to accomplish a set of goals in life, but we, as an institution, have failed to help them realise their dreams.

The National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) data reveals that the number of prisons at the national level has creased from 1,339 to 1,350 in 2019. The number of people imprisoned has risen from 4,66,084 in 2018 to 4,78,600 in 2019 (as of December 31 of every year). Uttar Pradesh has the most jail capacity, accounting for 14.95 per cent of total capacity, followed by Bihar (10.46 per cent) and MP (7.1 per cent). According to the data published in 2019, there are 4,58,678 male inmates and 19,913 female inmates. The states with the most prisoners are Uttar Pradesh, followed by MP, Bihar, Maharashtra, Punjab, and West Bengal. Several reasons such as illiteracy, ineffective laws and constitution in India, lack of parental care, drug consumption and so forth contribute to the increasing crime rates in India. Several prisons have denied basic human rights, leading to the mistreatment of

 $B_{
m November\ 12,\ the\ United}^{
m etween\ October\ 31\ and}$

Nations will host the UN

Climate Change Conference of

the Parties (COP 26) in

Glasgow, Scotland. The confer-

ence, which aims at bringing parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the

Paris Agreement and the UN

Framework Convention on

Climate Change (UNFCC), is

facing criticism from environ-

mental activists. Reasons are

exclusion of voices of commu-

by the climate crisis, voices

nous communities especially

women. It is primarily because

of travel restrictions imposed

Social impact of climate

environmental impacts of cli-

mate change formed the discus-

sion at these platforms.

Recently, the emphasis has

shifted to the social implica-

tions that have arisen out of cli-

mate. The gendered impacts of

climate change need our imme-

diate attention. Based on the

statistics received from the

Indian Space Research Institute

(ISRO), the Indian Ocean has

limeters annually. By 2050, the

sea level could possibly rise by

which will force several indige-

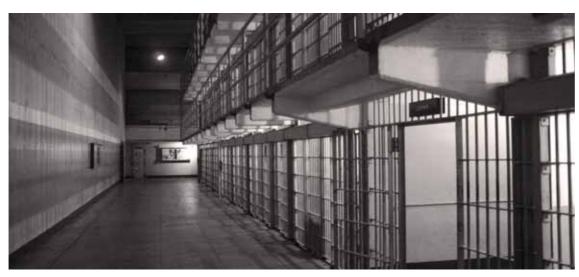
been rising at a rate of 2.5 mil-

In the past, economic, and

due to Covid.

change

from Global South, indige-



closed environments, it is up to the

superintendent or DG of the prison to

invite NGOs to work inside the prison,

so it is based on the prison administra-

tion's invitation, which is another chal-

NGOs encounter is fund administra-

tion for prison rehabilitation. There is

no government assistance for NGOs

who undertake prisoner reform pro-

grammes. Corporate sectors occasion-

ally assist us with finances, allowing us

ties of running a programme inside the

prison, such as misalignment of objec-

tives with jail authorities, the dynam-

ic nature of the geography, and fund

shortages, there are significant chal-

lenges of running a programme outside

the prison. A clash between NGOs and

the prison system has been a serious

obstacle. The co-founder and CEO of

Apart from the logistical difficul-

to start initiatives in the prison."

She added, "Another difficulty that

lenging issue."

Gauri, who is leading the prison reformation and rehabilitation domain at TYCIA foundation, expressed, "The through socioemotional and psychological issues due to the lack of connection with families, especially in few NGOs working in the case of any crisis. It was field of prison reform, it is difficult observed during the pandemic that they had minimal or no contact for them to succeed. Prisons are always

that impacted their overall well-being." She added, "Besides the issues of overcrowding, there is a lack of health facilities, recreational needs due to infrastructure and budgetary constraints. The quality of relationships formed with the prison officials is directly linked to the kind of opportunities being provided to an inmate by them. Inside the prison, they strengthen and work on the skills that can support them inside the prison and upon release. Mental health, strengthening of their well-being, emotional and adversity quotient, and working on their soft skills are the areas that are not addressed. In addition, there is a lack of preparedness before release concerning their employment opportunities, acceptance by society, family and

with their families, which led to stress,

anxiety, and several psychological issues

Similarly, Monika Dhawan, the

TYCIA foundation, Saanchi, reveals, director of Vision India Foundation, stated, "The idea of prison as a regulated environment, that promotes punishment as Many prisons in states like Delhi and Uttar a technique for discipline, can clash Pradesh are overwith the value system of a civil society organisation that operates on empathy, self-reflection, and healing, so prison crowded as a result of high crime rates; is observed as a correctional institute however, the population of Uttar Pradesh for rehabilitation. Moreover, staying persistent, passionate, and not losing is larger than that of the vision amidst difficult circum-Haryana, therefore it depends on the size of stances to bring systematic changes the state. As there are so may take years to move an inch."

Due to a lack of funding and official assistance, most NGOs find it difficult to carry out prisoner reformation programmes. Many NGOs operate rehabilitation programmes with the help of corporate financing. Saanchi pointed out, "Government must recognise NGOs working as key players and collaborators to bring about systemic change in the prisons along with encouraging, incentivising the participation of NGOs working on various domains in prisons to bring relief and resources through long-term interventions. The government must ensure continuity of impactful programmes in prisons, as project-based approach and donour dependence is insufficient

in prison settings." While looking into the solutions and finding several ways by which the government can assist the NGOs, Monika noted, "I believe the government should create a portal for NGOs working on prisoner reform as such platforms may help them in sharing their knowledge and work with other

NGOs there, allowing additional NGOs to collaborate to work inside the prison. Also, the government can sponsor NGOs, conduct credible background checks on them, and provide funding to them to carry out reform initiatives. Regular training programmes for jail personnel should be implemented. More NGOs are appearing to lend a hand, but transformation requires a regular training programme for prison officers."

Many NGOs give life skills training to assist convicts in resuming their normal lives. However, many underprivileged people, such as Aman, have difficulty getting back on their feet. He explained, "It is difficult for inmates to find work once the inmates are released, but many NGOs work to assist them in their efforts to find an employment. Several NGOs collaborate with other organisations to assist exoffenders in obtaining employment. As a result, the majority of NGOs want to keep their ex-inmates on board. The stipend or salary they receive from the support is insufficient, but we manage our family somehow."

Prisoner rehabilitation contributes to lower crime rates by creating a therapeutic atmosphere that includes gardening, meditation, and spiritual wellbeing. Introducing a variety of works and soft skills that contribute towards the development of a prisoner's personality and their ability to find work after their release. "The prisoners will reform through all of the rehabilitation activities. Here, the term, reform refers to cognitive, physical, and emotional well being, while using all these components skillfully to reintegrate into society. When they gain more understanding, they commit fewer crimes because they have a different perspective and skills that will empower them to run and learn a livelihood. So, if you want to reduce India's crime rate, reformation and well-being is essential for inmates." Monika expressed.

There are over four lakh people in prisons, and anyone who is inside will be released into the society someday. As a result, we must work together to ensure that the people we are releasing are reformers, or else we will see an increase in hostility and crime. As a consequence, prisoner rehabilitation is crucial, and we must all work together to lower India's crime-rate.



NAVARATRI: THE EMBODIMENT OF FEMININE POWER

The need of the hour is to change our attitude towards the girl-child, says RAJYOGI Brahmakumar Nikunj ji, while calling out the hypocrisy behind worshipping daughters

Navaratri is one such Indian festivals that is popular among people from all the age groups, be it children, youngsters or elders. It is a festival that celebrates Shakti, embodiment of feminine power. No other country in the world has a tradition where so many female goddesses are worshipped together for 9 days. Durga, Laxmi, Saraswati and Kali are considered the epitome of power, wealth, wisdom and might. Millions of people in India worship these goddesses and young girls during Navaratri festival in the hope of getting their blessings. Yet in this same land, we have men and women who deliberately choose to abort the birth of their child when they discover it is going to be a daughter. Such silent homicides are carried out blatantly by parents who feel giving birth to a daughter would mean a huge financial burden. This evil practice has emerged from a long prevalent social practice of dowry system which entails paying huge amounts of money by the girl's family to the groom's family to get her married.

In most countries of the world,

there are approximately 105 female births for every 100 males as compared to India, where there are less than 93 women for every 100 men in the population. Surprisingly, the preference for a son is not limited to poor families alone; it is rooted in the social norms and cultural beliefs of the bourgeois middle class families, too. The issue of female foeticide is a complex one because it is connected with social mores, tradition, economic con-



straints, and so on. The patriarchal society in India has always meted out unfair treatment to girls and women. From childhood itself, little girls are made to feel inferior to boys, unwanted and as if they are a life-long liability. They are under-fed, purposely under-educated and under-privileged most of their lives. They cannot remain single because of financial considerations and social ostracism. They are forced to live through a bad marriage and suffer physical and mental abuse by their in-laws and husbands. Nowadays, even educated women find it quite difficult to lead a single life in our male-dominated society, and it's a bitter fact that nobody really wants to accept.

Today, people find it easier and probably less sinful to do away with an unborn foetus than to kill a born girl-child, which amounts to infanticide. Even though detection of the gender of an unborn child is banned in India, still scores of clinics have mushroomed in places where preference for a son is high. Very little has been done over the years to end the rampant violation of laws that prohibit sex-determination tests and give tough punishment to violators. We fail to understand that every human being has a right to live and humans cannot give or snatch others' lives as and when they wish. Don't forget that the law of karma is infallible. Hence, every soul is born in a new human body, according to its previous karma. The family in which a soul takes a new birth is decided by its own karma. So, denying a soul the right to take birth by using illegal means is ing the fundamental spiritual laws which will definitely lead

Today, the need of the hour is to change our attitude towards the girl-child, rather than making new laws and legislations. This change will, however, come only when something is done to curb the evil of the dowry system, because at the root of all these wrongdoings is greed. We must understand that temporal laws can only limit the crime to some extent but people have to be made aware of a higher law i.e. the law of karma that decides the destiny of their

Religious and spiritual leaders can play a vital role in empowering women by developing their innate values and strengths by creating awareness in their communities and issue directives to stop this inhuman practice. The feminine power was considered very sacred and powerful in many ancient cultures. The Shakti and Devi are still invoked for various powers by millions of devotees across the world. Remember, in a world that is being torn apart by increasing fragmentation at all levels of existence, it is the feminine values like tolerance, sacrifice, patience and compassion that will ultimately create lasting peace and harmony on earth. But our spirituality and devotion to female goddesses would be considered a hypocrisy if we do not take steps for emancipating girls and women from centuriesold suffering and bondage. The first step towards emancipation must begin with giving the girl child the right to be born and to live with dignity. So let us all pledge this Navaratri that we would give every girl child the right to take birth in this beautiful world and allow her to live life with freedom and dignity.





Women amid changing climate

Rachana Priyadarshini explains the impact of environment on gender

nous communities to leave their native places and migrate. Among these displaced communities, women are going to be worst affected. It is crucial that women representatives must raise their concerns in the forthcoming COP 26.

Women are more sensitive to climate change

According to the United Nations Population Fund, women in developing countries are more vulnerable to the dangers of climate change as they play an important role in natural resource management in their families. Eight out of 10 women in lower-and middleincome countries are responsible for collecting water for their households. In India, women account for more than 65 per cent of the agricultural workforce. Since women are

integral to farming and animal husbandry, they are more sensitive to climate change, yet no reliable data is available to measure the role and involvement of women in climate change adaptation.

As per the United Nations, women, as compared to men, are much more likely to lose their lives during extreme natural hazardous events. Women are often the first victims of droughts, floods, tsunamis, and other disasters. As per a study, there was a drop of 20 per cent in the enrollment of women in colleges because of the droughts and floods in the 1970s. In such a scenario, it is likely that, as the effects of climate change worsen, women and girls will fall behind in the race for development. The challenges faced while performing household chores and the time they consume might result in girls dropping out of school

A study conducted by Britain's University of East Anglia (UEA) stated that men in Asia and Africa, due to climate change, are leaving their farmlands and migrating to cities in search of work. As a result, burden increases on women who are left behind as the whole responsibility of children and farms falls on their shoulders. Living under such extreme circumstances, their health gets deeply affected. This report was published in an international journal, *Nature*

Climate Change.
Girls' education and health are also being negatively affected because of lack of water and fuel. Wherever these issues are more complex, the rate of female school dropout is higher, as is the rate 25 studies in 11 African and

of child marriage and crimes against women. The condition of women, on average, is worsening with the change in the climate.

Effects of climate change on rural women

It is likely that climate change affects women in the rural areas more than their urban counterparts. Climate change induced floods and droughts make it difficult for agriculture-dependent rural Due to deforestation, crop damage, and the crisis of natural resources, families are left with insufficient diets. In such circumstances, while fulfilling nutritional needs of their families, rural women fail to take care of their own diet and suffer malnutrition.

The destruction of the environment leads to a scarcity of natural resources. This, in turn, creates pressure on existing ecosystems, increasing the strain on humans. Women and girls in underdeveloped areas are responsible for arranging water, fodder, and fuel. At times, women often become victims of violence and sexual abuse. Recently, there have been instances where the absence of water and toilets in a household has led to sexual abuse of a women member of that household.

Nitya Rao, a gender and development professor from the University of East Anglia, who has conducted more than that climate change is exacerbating the problems of women. Therefore, the fight to prevent climate change will be unsuccessful without women's participation. According to Aditi Kapoor,

Asian countries has concluded

member of OneWorld Foundation India, usually people do not believe that there is a correlation between climate change and gender issues. In reality, women perform more than 70 per cent of agriculturplanning commission, the majority of work-related to fodder and resources from forests are also done by women. Consequently, when climate change affects our natural resources, women are the most affected.

Climate change indirectly violates human rights and increases gender inequality. While formulating any policies on climate change by the administration, women need to be at the center, so that, in addition to addressing the threat of climate change, gender inequality can be eliminated. In the forthcoming COP 26, not only the dangers that loom large at women due to changing climate need to be discussed, but also the traditional ecological knowledge that women hold should be focussed. This has helped the past generations coexist with their natural environment; this will help the current and future generation

—Charkha Features

15-36 centimeters, considering that the seas around India keep rising at this rate. A rise in the sea level will lead to inevitable inundation of many areas

Beware the barrenness of a busy life.

—Socrates

DEALING WITH MENTAL HEALTH IN INDIA

It's nearly two years since the Covid-19 pandemic struck the world. Yet the fear and anxiety it brought, especially in those who suffered from the infectious disease, forced to remain in isolation at

home, lost their near and dear ones and were left jobless for months, is hard to let go However, with Covid easing and India reopening, it is time to open up and start mingling with people with

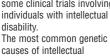


proper precaution, bring happiness back in your life and shun depression and anxiety, health experts said, ahead of the World Mental Health day on October 10.

"While we are not yet out of the pandemic and must adhere to Covid-appropriate behaviour, one also needs to be cognisant of physical and mental health, do exercise/yoga and spend good time with family", advised Dr Vipul Rastogi consultant neuropsychiatrist at Medanta hospital, Gurugram "Don't bottle-up your emotions. Share your feelings and if it doesn't help, seek professional aid," he added.

APP THAT CAN HELP TRACK ADHD SYMPTOMS

Asmartphone-based Application, called iBehavior, can help improve the accuracy of data in some clinical trials involving individuals with intellectual disability



disability are Down syndrome and the fragile X syndrome. The goal, said the researchers at University of California-Davis Health in the US, is to track symptoms related to executive function, often associated with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), using the new smartphone app. The study will focus on children and young adults with intellectual disability

"The app uses what we call an ecological momentary assessment, where a parent or teacher observes the child or voung adult and provides ratings of behaviour much closer to the time the behaviour occurred," said David Hessl, a professor in the department of psychiatry and behavioural sciences at UC Davis MIND Institute. He was awarded a two-year \$431,000 grant from the NIH for the project.

WOMEN AND YOUTH MOST AFFECTED: LANCET

The pandemic has led to a significant rise in major depressive I and anxiety disorders globally, affecting women and younger people more in 2020, a global estimate of Covid-19 impact on mental health has revealed.

The study, published in *The Lancet*, suggests that an additional 53 million cases of depressive disorders and 76 million cases of anxiety disorders were due to the pandemic. Countries with high Covid infection rates and major reductions

in the movement of people — a consequence of measures such as lockdowns and school closures --- had the greatest increases in prevalence of major depressive disorders and anxiety disorders

Even before the pandemic, mental healthcare systems in most countries have historically been under-resourced and disorganised in their service delivery.

"Meeting the added demand for mental health services due to Covid-19 will be challenging, but taking no action should not be an option," said lead study author Dr Damian Santomauro

IT MIGHT BE A 'WET' DURGA PUJA IN BENGAL

Bengalis might experience another 'wet' puja this year.

The Alipore Meteorological department has predicted that the formation of a depression in the sea of Andaman might create favourable conditions for showers in South Bengal, including

Kolkata, between October 13-15. The four days of Durga Puia starts in West Bengal on October 12 and ends on October

The cyclone, formed in the Bay of Bengal, has

lost its strength leading to sunny days in South Bengal, but the MeT department has said that another low depression is set to be formed in the seas of Andaman from Sunday which will gradually gain strength and move towards North Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. The department also predicted that sky in Kolkata will be partly cloudy from Friday and there is a possibility of light to moderate rainfall with thunderstorms

WHO DEFINES THE POST-COVID SITUATION

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has issued a clinical case definition of post-Covid situation to ensure better treatment and care for affected person. People with post-Covid conditions can experience lingering symptoms

for months after recovery, said global health body WHO in a tweet, adding that the symptoms may begin right after being sick with Covid-19 or later, and may come and go.



The WHO has developed the definition by Delphi methodology that states, "Common symptoms include fatigue, shortness of breath, cognitive dysfunction but also others and generally have an impact on everyday functioning. Symptoms may be new onset following initial recovery from an acute Covid-19 episode or persist from the initial illness. Symptoms may also fluctuate or relapse over time"

India lose 3rd

PTI ■ GOLD COAST

T20l by 14 runs

The Indian women's

L team committed bat-

ting harakiri despite a fine

half century from opener

Smriti Mandhana to lose

the third and final T20

International by 14 runs as Australia clinched the

multi-format series by 11-

5 margin.

CSK MAKES IT TO ANOTHER IPL FINAL

¬he ageless Mahendra Singh Dhoni produced a nostalgic little innings to take a band of old men from Chennai Super Kings into their ninth Indian Premier League final after beating Delhi Capitals by four wickets here on Sunday.

DC though will get another shot at making it to the final when they meet the winner of the eliminator between KKR and RCB scheduled Monday.

Needing 13 off the last over, Dhoni hit a square cut, got a bit of luck going his way and then pulled DC's best bowler Tom Curran for the most celebrated T20 boundary of recent times. Before that, he had just slapped Avesh Khan for a six over mid-wicket.

Curran and Avesh weren't bad but it was one of those days, the cricketing Gods wanted the 40-year-old to finish it

Ít was 18 not out in six balls that helped CSK reach 173 for 6 in 19.4 overs.

It was all about turning the clock back for the former India captain who has struggled to finish for years but 'Cometh the Hour, Cometh the Man' as he did once more for his favourite cricket team.

Robin Uthappa (63 off 44 balls) turned the clock back to his halcyon days being the pace setter in company of the irresistible Ruturaj Gaikwad (70 off 50 balls).

After Faf du Plessis was bowled by Kagiso Rabada, Uthappa decided to counter attack with such ferocity that it caught the Delhi Capitals completely unawares. Here was a player, who has been out of circulation for quite some time



before a nice catch by Axar in deep off Avesh Khan made it

25 off 11 balls before Dhoni

from his buddy Shimron

Hetmyer (37 off 24 balls) as the

duo added 83 runs for the fifth

wicket with some breathtaking

shots towards the end of the

Pant hit three fours and two sixes as Delhi Capitals

didn't ultimately pay the price

for playing a specialist batter

short as they capitalised on a

blazing start provided by

opener Prithvi Shaw (60 off 34

balls), who took the opposi-

tion on with seven fours and

Pant got an ideal support

but with in-form Gaikwad (70 off 50 balls), he added 110 runs as DC looked down and out after the first 10 overs.

There were drives, the reverse sweep, the Uthappa pull-shot and those shots while he also shimmied down the track to unsettled the line of the

In all, he hit seven fours and two sixes before a brilliant piece of fielding by Shreyas Iyer at long-on boundary off Tom Curran. Iyer almost collided with Axar Patel but kept his balance to throw the ball in and catch it on second attempt.

Gaikwad still played his shots despite a mini-collapse

Coming together at 80 for 4, Hetmyer and Pant initially just nudged around for a few singles and doubles before the flamboyant Caribbean pulled a short one from Moeen Ali for a six. He then bisected the offside field off Dwayne Bravo for

a boundary.

Pant, who was being kept quiet by the spinners, finally showed some spark with his trademark one-handed six off Shardul Thakur.

Once they had put on a half-century partnership, Pant and Hetmyer did start throwing their bats around at the back-end when the pacers once again were back in operation.

If Hetmyer thumped Josh Hazlewood (4-0-29-2) over his head, Pant whipped him towards deep mid-wicket to bring up the 150 for the team.

Deepak Chahar's second over turned out to be a nightmare for the seamer as he was smashed for four boundaries -- first a streaky inside edge followed by two square cuts on either side of a flick.

While Shikhar Dhawan (7) and Shreyas Iyer (1) were dismissed by Hazlewood within the Powerplay, Axar Patel (10) was promoted without much success

As Shardul Thakur reached his fifty off only 27 balls, he was piercing the off-side field regularly even as Axar perished failing to get the desired dis-tance while trying to loft Moeen Ali.

The seasoned pair of Moeen Ali (1/27 in 4 overs) and Ravindra Jadeja (1/23 in 3 overs) suddenly stifled the runs post Powerplay with some measured bowling which led to Shaw trying to loft the left-arm

HEAD TO HEAD: OVERALL:

Matches: 28 Kolkata Knight Riders won: Royal Challengers Bangalore won:

THIS SEASON'S MATCHES: Royal Challengers Bangalore beat Kolkata Knight Riders by 38 runs at Chennai

Kolkata Knight Riders defeated Royal Challengers Bangalore by 9 wickets at Abu Dhabi FOR THE RECORD:

Rahul Tripathi with 377 runs at an average of 31.41 in 13 innings of 14 matches is the highest run-getter for Kolkata Knight Riders in this season Virat Kohli who hit 896 fours in 303 innings of 318 matches, needs four more fours to become the second Indian and seventh batsman overall to complete 900 fours in Twenty-20 matches.

Royal Challengers Bangalore have won four and lost one in last five matches played against Kolkata Knight Riders.

ROAD TO ELIMINATOR: **KOLKATA KINGHT RIDERS:**

- Beat Sunrisers Hyderabad by 10 runs at Chennai Lost to Mumbai Indians by 10 runs at Chennai
- Lost to Royal Challengers Bangalore by 38 runs
- Lost to Chennai Super Kings by 18 runs at
- Lost to Rajasthan Royals by 6 wickets at
- Beat Punjab Kings by 5 wickets at Ahmedabad

- Lost to Delhi Capitals by 7 wickets at
- Beat Royal Challengers Bangalore by 9 wickets
- Beat Mumbai Indians by 7 wickets at Abu Dhabi Lost to Chennai Super Kings by 2 wickets at Abu
- Beat Delhi Capitals by 3 wickets at Sharjah
- Lost to Punjab Kings by 5 wickets at Dubai Beat Sunrisers Hyderabad by 6 wickets at Dubai
- Beat Rajasthan Royals by 86 runs at Sharjah

ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE:

- Beat Mumbai Indians by 2 wickets at Chennai Beat Sunrisers Hyderabad by 6 runs at Chennai
- Beat Kolkata Knight Riders by 38 runs at
- Beat Rajasthan Royals by 10 wickets at Mumbai
- Lost to Chennai Super Kings by 69 runs at
- Beat Delhi Capitals by 1 ru ay Ahmedabad
- Lost to Punjab Kings by 34 runs at Ahmedabad Lost to Kolkata Knight Riders by 9 wickets at
- Abu Dhabi Lost to Super Kings by 6 wickets at Sharjah
- Beat Mumbai Indians by 54 runs at Dubai
- Beat Rajasthan Royals by 7 wickets at Dubai
- Beat Punjab Kings by 6 runs at Sharjah Lost to Sunrisers Hyderabad by 4 runs at Abu
- Beat Delhi Capitals by 7 wickets at Dubai

For Australia, rightarm pacer Nicola Carey (2/42) was the pick of the bowlers, while Ashleigh Gardner (1/22), Annabel Sutherland (1/13) and Georgia Wareham (1/15) scalped a wicket each.

India thus ended their Australia tour heartbroken, having already lost the three-match ODI series 1-2 before drawing the rain-

T20 World Cup: USD 1.6 mn for winners 2 drinks interval of two and half mins per innings

PTI DUBAI

The winners of the ICC men's T20 World L Cup will take home a winners cheque of USD 1.6 million while the runners up will get half that amount, the International Cricket Council confirmed on Sunday.

All 16 competing teams will receive a part of the USD 5.6 million allocated as prize money for the tournament, which will be played in the United Arab Emirates and Oman from October 17 to November 14.

The two losing semi-finalists will

taking place on November 10 and 11.

The teams confirmed to be competing in the Super 12 stage are Afghanistan, Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, and the West Indies. The eight teams who will lose out on a semi-final berth will get USD 70,000 each while teams knocked out in the first round will take USD 40,000 each.

Teams who will strive to make Super 12s are Bangladesh, Ireland, Namibia, Netherlands, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Scotland, and Sri Lanka. Just like in 2016, there will be a bonus amount for every

match that teams win in the Super 12 stage. The victors in each of the 30 games in that phase will this time win USD 40,000. Drinks break introduced

Meanwhile, there will be two scheduled Drinks Intervals in each game instead of usual one. Each break will last for two minutes and 30 seconds and will be taken at

the midpoint of each innings.

The introduction of official drinks break will help the broadcasters earn advertisement revenue worth five minutes and for India matches, the rates are expect-

in upcoming men's T20 World Cup

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Decision Review System (DRS) will make its ▲ debut in The men's T20 World Cup to be held in Oman and UAE starting this month, after the ICC approved its usage in the tournament. The ICC announced the introduction of DRS at the upcoming showpiece in the playing conditions for the event released by it earlier this week.

The men's T20 World Cup will be held from October



November14.

According to an ESPNcricinfo report, each team will get a maximum of two reviews per

The governing body had confirmed in June last year an additional unsuccessful DRS review for each team in each

innings of a match across all formats, "keeping in mind that there may be less experienced umpires on duty at times" owing to COVID-19-related reasons.

Hockey India's decision to withdraw from 2022 CWG

Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur on Sunday came down heavily on Hockey India's decision to pull out of the Commonwealth Games Birmingham,

England next year, saying that this is not the federation's decision alone to make.

Speaking to reporters here, the minister said the government should have been consulted before announcing such a major decision.

"I think any federation should refrain from passing these kinds of statements. They should discuss it with the government first. It is not the federation's team that is going. It is the country's team that goes for

Bottas finally got the

winning feeling again when

he overtook Ferrari's Charles

Leclerc with about a dozen

laps left, clinching his first

victory since the Russian

GP in September last year. "Haha, yes!" Bottas shouted after his 10th career

win and a much-needed one

during a frustrating last sea-

son with Mercedes before



try of 130 crore, there just are not 18 players who can represent the country. I believe Hockey India should consult with the government and the Sports department,' Thakur said.

"There is no shortage of talent in hockev in our coun-

try. If you see cricket, the IPL is going on and then there is the World Cup. If they can't play, then why cannot the same be done in other sports? I understand Asian Games is being prioritised, I am not going into this issue. I am just saying where India will be playing just does not lie with the federation; it lies with the government as well," he



PTI ■ AARHUS

India, London Olympics bronze medallist Saina had to concede her match after losing the first game 20-22 against Spain's Clara Azurmendi as she developed discomfort in her groin area. However, Malvika Bansod

ensured that India quickly recovers from the opening game reversal as she dished out a dominating 21-13 21-15 win over former world No. 20 Beatriz Corrales to bring India at level par with the Spanish team.

Tanisha Crasto and Rutaparna Panda then produced an equally impressive display, completely outplaying Spain's Paula Lopez and Lorena Usle 21-10 21-8 as India grabbed a 2-1 lead in the five-match

In the third singles, Aditi Bhatt gave ample display of her talent during the 21-16 21-14 win over Spain's Ania Setien in the third singles as India sealed the contest 3-1.

Qatar may be his last

Commonwealth Games bronze medallists N Sikki Reddy ce shuttler Saina Nehwal was and Ashwini Ponnappa, however, pair of Azurmendi and Corrales, losing 18-21 21-14 17-21 in the second women's doubles match. India will face Scotland in

their second group B match on Saina was forced to walk out

from the court after feeling a sudden pain in her groin midway through the first women's singles "There was a certain catch in

my groin. I was surprised at how it happened. I was trying to get back my rhythm and I couldn't get it and I had to give it up because it was hurting when I was taking long lunges," Saina was quoted as

saying by olympics.Com.

The 31-year-old from
Hyderabad said she will monitor her injury in the next few days.
"I think let us see the next

three, four days, how it is. There are two more matches, so I just want to see how it goes. I don't want to take any sudden decision at the moment because my body feels good but this groin issue has to go."

It was, however, a delightful sight to see the young-

for 2021-22 Ashes, Buttler included Meanwhile, all-rounder,

London: The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) on Sunday named the strongest available squad for the 2021-22 Ashes with wicketkeeper and vice-captain Jos Buttler joining captain Joe Root in committing to the tour of Australia, starting in November. Of the 17-member squad,

ten will be touring Australia in an Ashes series for the first time.

As anticipated, Ben Stokes was not considered for selection as he continues to take an

indefinite break from cricket to manage his well-being. The allrounder's absence is no surprise but leaves a huge hole in loe Root's team as they attempt to reclaim the Ashes and win in Australia for the first time in eleven years.

England name full-strength squad

Stuart Broad, who tore a calf after the first Test against India in August, has also been included subject to proving his fitness in a pre-departure training camp at Loughborough. It will be training Broad's fourth Ashes tour.

Saina retires after injury,

India beat Spain 3-2

Sam Curran was not considered for selection after a second scan confirmed that he has a stress fracture in his lower back.

England's fast-bowling attack is set to lack the variety due to injuries to Jofra Archer and Olly Stone. Mark Wood is the only genuine pace bowler and Ollie Robinson, Craig Overton Broad, James Anderson, and Chris Woakes have also been included in the

SINGLES SHUBHANKAR LIES FIFTH AT OPEN DE ESPANA

Madrid: Indian golfer Shubhankar Sharma carded a sedate one-under 70 in the third round to slip two places to lie tied fifth at the ACCIONA Open de España here. Sharma, who shot 67-64 on first two days, had just two birdies against one bogey in the third round to lie at 12-under. He shared the fifth place with overnight leader Wil Besseling (72), Alexander Levy (65) and Richard Bland (64). Sharma, who has been showing good signs over the past few weeks, is looking at his first Top-5 or better in this season and also a comfortable place in the Top-60 for Race to Dubai's World Tour Championships later in the year. Sharma birdied seventh and 14th and dropped a shot on 11th. Rafa Cabrera Bello carded a bogey free 64 to take a two shot lead into the final round. The former World Top-50 player moved to 17-under. Cabrera Bello has won this event at every age level from underseven to under-18 as an amateur but now a win as a professional event would rank very highly in his list of career highlights.

LAHIRI SLIPS ON THIRD DAY AT SHRINERS OPEN Las Vegas (US): Struggling a windy day, Indian

golfer Anirban Lahiri slipped down the leaderboard from Tied 30 to 54 after carding a one-over 72 at the Shriners Children's Open, here. Lahiri had shot 65 and 70 on the first two days. Adam Schenk (64-65-66) was the leader at 18 under while Matthew Wolff (64-67-65) was second at 17 under. Chad Ramey, Sam Burns, and Andrew Putnam are tied for third at 16 under. On a day when it was windy and not very easy, Lahiri missed the few chances that came his way but he also managed a few tough pars on Saturday. He looked like getting off to a good start with a birdie on the second from 14 feet but a miss from inside five feet and then from 13 feet meant he dropped back-toback bogevs.

AFGHANISTAN ALL SET FOR T20 WORLD CUP

Dubai: ICC Acting CEO Geoff Allardice on Sunday made it clear that there is no threat to Afghanistan's participation in the T20 World Cup but said it will keep a close watch on how things unfold after the change in regime in the strife-torn country. There were reports that ICC might forbid Afghanistan from participating in the showpiece event if the team decides to play under the Taliban flag amid the ongoing turmoil in the country. "They are a full member at the ICC and the team is preparing for the event (World Cup) at the moment (and) will be playing in (the) Group league. In terms of their participation, it is proceeding as the normal," Allardice said at a virtual con-call. With Taliban taking over of the country's political setup, Afghanistan cricket team has been in a state of chaos. Last month, Taliban had replaced Hamid Shinwari with Naseed Zadran Khan as Afghanistan Cricket Board's Chief Executive.

AMANDEEP FALTERS IN FINAL ROUND Tourettes (France): India's Amandeep Drall

faltered on the final day with a five-over 77 card and plummeted from overnight second position to finish tied-11th at the Terre Blanche Ladies Open golf tournament here. Vani Kapoor, the other Indian in the field, also shot 77 and finished T-26 after being T-11 overnight. Sweden's Linn Grant rounded off an excellent week, producing a final round of 72 to win the title by four shots. Heading into the final day, the 22-year-old held a six-shot lead after rounds of 68 (-4) and 66 (-6) on her first two days. The former Arizona State University player ensured she produced a level-par final round to finish on 10-under-par and win her first tournament as a professional. In second place was Danish amateur Amalie Leth-Nissen, who shot a final round of 69 (-3) to be four shots behind Grant. Scotland's Rachael Taylor ended the tournament in the fourth place after a final round

Bottas wins Turkish GP, Verstappen reclaims title lead joining Alfa Romeo next

 $M_{
m Bottas}^{
m ercedes}$ driver Valtteri Grand Prix for his first victory of the season on Sunday, while Red Bull's Max Verstappen finished second to reclaim the overall lead from title rival Lewis Hamilton.

Sergio Perez capped a strong day for Red Bull by finishing in third place. He wiped away Hamilton's twopoint lead and now leads the Mercedes driver by six points with six races left in a thrilling title battle that could go all the way to the final race in Abu Dhabi.

Defending champion Hamilton lost valuable points by finishing fifth after coming in for a late tire change, despite telling his team he wanted to stay on track when still in third. Hamilton was getting

increasingly agitated as he fell behind Leclerc and with Pierre Gasly's AlphaTauri gaining on him. "Just leave it alone," he snapped to his race engineer

when informed of Gasly's

To cap it off he clocked

the fastest lap on the 5.3-kilometer (3.3-mile) Istanbul Park circuit beneath a grey sky amid persistent drizzle.

did not agree with the decision. "Why did you give up that place?" a frustrated Hamilton barked on team using radio expletive.Leclerc came in earlier than Hamilton and placed fourth, missing out

And McLaren's Daniel Ricciardo started from the back after complete engine changes. Sainz Jr. Managed to finish a commendable

Ferrari's Carlos Sainz Jr.

on a 14th career podium.

AP ■ SAO PAULO

Brazil star Neymar says next year's World Cup Hamilton finally came in Qatar could be the last of in for new tires on Lap 51 but his career.

The comments by the 29-year-old striker were made in the documentary "Neymar & Damp; The Line Of Kings," produced by DAZN. An excerpt was published on the channel's Twitter feed on Sunday.

"Man, I think it will be my last World Cup," Neymar said. "I am facing it like the last World Cup because I

endure more soccer.

possible to get there very well," he added. "I will do all I can to

Neymar says World Cup in

win it with my country and realize my dream, the biggest since my boyhood. I hope I can achieve it."

"I will do everything

Colombia in a World Cup qualifying match. The Seleção leads the 10-team round robin competition with 27 points after nine

play in Thursday's 3-1 Brazil win at Venezuela don't know whether I will due to suspension. be able to, mentally, to

Barranquilla will mark

2-0 win against Peru on Sept. 10, in which he turned in a key Brazil performance with an assist and a goal. Despite his efforts, Neymar made clear

Neymar's return since the

after the match that he is Neymar will play with Brazil later on Sunday at upset with the treatment he gets at home. "I don't know what else I need to do with this shirt for people to respect Neymar," he said. Local

media accused the striker The striker did not

of being out of shape in the 1-0 win at Chile earlier in September, which prompted the striker to walk around shirtless during training to show how

Australia won four of the six white ball games (three WODIs and three WT20Is) which paved way

for an easy series win with Indians playing well only in patches. Chasing a challenging 150-run target, Mandhana smashed 52 off 49 balls and shared 57 runs with Jemimah Rodrigues (23 off

26) for the second wicket to set the platform for India before the visitors lost four wickets in a span of 10 runs to lose the plot.

marred lone historic day/night Test.
India's run chase start-

ed on a disappointing fashion as they lost hard-hitting opener Shafali Verma (1) early, caught by Vlaeminck at short fine-leg off Gardner in the second over.

receive USD 400,000 each from the games DRS to make debut | Sports Minister questions