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 TO COMMAND RESPECT
 IN THE SIMPLEST WAY

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 ECONOMY ON PATH TO
 SWIFT RECOVERY: REPORT

NEW DELHI, TUESDAY OCTOBER 12, 2021; PAGES 12 33



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 MUCH WHILE
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5 jawans martyred in Poonch terror ambush

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

The Indian Army on Monday suffered a major setback after a heavily-armed group of terrorists "ambushed" a patrol party leading to the death of five soldiers, including a Junior Commissioner Officer (JCO), in a thickly forested area of Dera Ki Gali in Surankote tehsil of frontier Poonch.

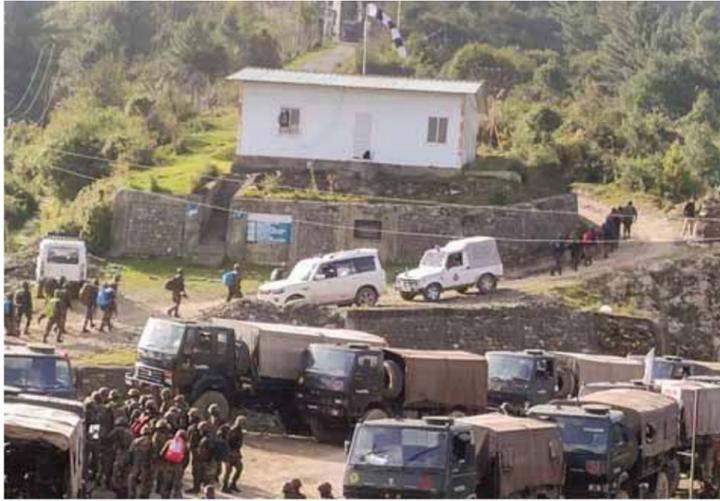
Among the martyred soldiers three hailed from Punjab and one each from Uttar Pradesh and Kerala.

The Army said during a cordon and search operation the soldiers received fatal injuries in the terror ambush and later succumbed.

It was after a gap of more than 17 months the Indian Army suffered such huge losses in one single operation in Jammu & Kashmir.

Earlier on April 5, 2020 Indian Army lost five soldiers, including three elite para-commandos in hand-to-hand combat with infiltrating terrorists in the Keran sector of Kupwara.

Later on May 3, 2020, a Commanding Officer (CO) of the Indian Army's elite counter-insurgency force was killed in action along with four other security personnel, including a



Security forces stand guard at the encounter site in Surankote area of Poonch district on Monday

PTI

Major and Sub Inspector of the Jammu & Kashmir Police, in Handwara town of North Kashmir's Kupwara district while they were attempting to evacuate civilians amid fierce gunfight with a group of foreign terrorists.

Unconfirmed reports claimed the weapons of the

martyred soldiers were also found missing.

The entire area witnessed heavy showers during the night and chances are that the patrol party could have taken shelter and rested for a while. It's when they reportedly came in close contact with the group of terrorists leading to a fierce

gunfight. A massive operation is being conducted by the Indian Army in the forward area to neutralise the group of terrorists.

The Army rushed in reinforcements to plug all the escape routes of the terrorists in the area.

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Shah holds meet as more States voice blackout fear

After Guj, Punjab, Raj, Delhi and TN, Bihar and Kerala too admit shortage of coal at power plants

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

With Bihar and Kerala also flagging the issue of coal shortage triggering fears of power crisis, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday held a high-level meeting with Union Power Minister RK Singh and Coal Minister Prahlad Joshi to take stock of the situation.

Shah's meeting with his Cabinet colleagues comes a day after the Union Power Minister on Sunday assured that there is "no threat of disruption" in power supply after States like Delhi, Rajasthan, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh expressed concerns over the shortage of coal supply to thermal power plants. India's coal-fired power stations had an average of four days' stock at the end of September, the lowest in years.

Sources said three Ministers reported to have discussed the availability of coal to power plants and the current power demands during the hour-long meeting. Officials made a presentation on the demand and supply of coal.

Power consumption of 3,900 mega units in October was the highest for month so far.

Sources said officials also informed Shah about a pre-bid conference for prospective bidders for the sale of 11 coal mines. Senior officials of ministries of coal and power and NTPC officials were present at the meeting.

After Gujarat, Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi, and Tamil Nadu, now Bihar and Kerala too have admitted that they are facing a shortage of coal at their thermal power plants, forcing them to purchase electricity at exorbitant prices or resort to power cuts.

"It is true there is a problem. As per our requirement, either we get it from NTPC or from private companies. But, the supply is affected now. There are some reasons due to which such situation has arisen. It's not only in Bihar, it's everywhere," Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said on Monday.

Meanwhile, Kerala will decide on October 19 whether or not to impose power cuts to mitigate the problem.

Continued on Page 2



Coal transportation under progress at the coal mines of Central Coal Limited (CCL) at Bharkunda area in Ramgarh district on Monday

PTI

Supply halved to 2K MW: Delhi Power Minister Jain

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday once again raised concern about a looming power crisis pointing to the fast diminishing stock of coal in city's power plants.

Kejriwal tweeted, "The situation is critical and many Chief Ministers have written about it to the Central Government. We all are working together to improve the situation."

Delhi Power Minister Satyendar Jain also sounded the alarm and said the NTPC has halved the power supply to the

city from the usual 4,000 MW.

He said the Central Government should answer that even when all NTPC plants are working at 50 to 55 per cent capacity, then why is the shortage of coal arising.

The Minister asked the Centre that if there is no power crisis, then why UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has written a letter to the Union Government.

Addressing the media, he also said the City Government has to depend on costly gas-based power and spot purchase at a high market rate.

Continued on Page 2

India-China new round of talks to defuse tension fail

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The 13th round of military talks between India and China on Sunday could not make any headway in resolving the remaining issues in Eastern Ladakh linked to the 17-month stand-off between the two countries and the PLA's (People's Liberation Army) bid to unilaterally alter the status quo on the ground.

The Indian Army on Monday said the "constructive suggestions" made by it at the latest round of military talks were neither agreeable to the Chinese side nor could Beijing provide any "forward-looking" proposals to resolve the issues.

In a statement in Beijing, the PLA, however, said that during the meeting, the Chinese side made "great efforts to promote the easing and cooling of the border situation and fully demonstrated China's sincerity of maintaining overall interests of bilateral military relations."

However, the Indian side



An Indian fighter plane flies over a mountain range in the Ladakh region

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Monday experienced a reverse "ghar wapsi" when ahead of the next year's Assembly polls, Uttarakhnd Transport Minister Yashpal Arya quit the saffron party and joined the Congress, his erstwhile party, along with his MLA son Sanjeev here as on the day the saffron party inducted former head of National Conference (NC) in Jammu Devender

Rana, who quit the NC on Sunday.

Yashpal Arya and his son, along with their supporters, joined the Congress in the presence of senior party leaders Harish Rawat, KC Venugopal and Randeep Surjewala.

Earlier in the day, they met former Congress president Rahul Gandhi at his residence.

His son Sanjeev Arya is an MLA from Nainital.

Continued on Page 2



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi welcomes Yashpal Arya and Sanjeev Arya into the Congress party in New Delhi on Tuesday

PM launches ISpA to push space reforms

Single window to open up sector to private firms

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched Indian Space Association (ISpA) and said it would act as a single-window and independent agency on matters related to space technology. The PM stressed that the Government was moving ahead with a "clear policy" regarding the public sector and is opening "most of these sectors" to private enterprises where the Government is not required.

The Prime Minister, who interacted with representatives of the space industry through video conferencing, said there had never been such a decisive Government in India as it is today, and major reforms that are happening in the space sector and space tech are an example of this.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with ISpA Director General Lt Gen AK Bhatt (Retd), ISpA Chairman Jayant Patil, Bharti Enterprises Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal, during the inauguration of Indian Space Association in New Delhi

PTI

The Prime Minister said the Government is moving ahead with a clear policy regarding public sector enterprises and the decision regarding Air India shows our commitment and seriousness.

"This the time for exponential, and not linear innovation. This is possible only when the Government plays the role of an enabler, and not the hinder. Today, the Government is

sharing its expertise, and providing launch pads for the private sector. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is being opened for the private sector," he said.

Space sector, the Prime Minister said, was once synonymous with the Government sector but his Government has worked to change this mind-set.

Continued on Page 2

CAPSULE

MODI TO PARTICIPATE IN G20 SUMMIT TODAY

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will virtually participate in a G-20 leaders' summit on Afghanistan on Tuesday that is expected to deliberate extensively on the overall situation in the war-torn country after its takeover by the Taliban. Announcing Prime Minister Modi's participation, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the agenda of the summit will include a discussion on response to humanitarian needs, security and the fight against terrorism and human rights in Afghanistan.

3 US-BASED ECONOMISTS RECEIVE NOBEL PRIZE

Stockholm: Three US-based economists won the 2021 Nobel prize for economics on Monday for pioneering research on the labour market impacts of minimum wage, immigration and education, and for creating the scientific framework to allow conclusions to be drawn from such studies that can't use traditional methodology. P8

Mundra drug haul fallout: Adani Ports not to handle cargo from Pak, Af, Iran

PNS ■ AGENCIES

In national interest, Adani Ports and Logistics will not handle containerised cargo originating from Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

It issued a trade advisory that effective from November 15 it will not handle "EXIM (export-import) containerised cargo originating from Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan."

The trade advisory will apply to all the terminals operated by APSEZ, including third party terminals at any APSEZ port until further notice.

In September, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized containers with nearly 3,000 kg of heroin from the Mundra port in Gujarat's Kutch, managed by Adani Ports. Imported from Afghanistan's Kandahar, the containers were addressed to a



trading firm based in Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh and arrived at Mundra from Iran's Bandar Abbas Port.

One of the country's largest commercial port operators, Adani Ports and Logistics has a presence across 13 domestic ports in seven States, including Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Odisha.

Ashish remanded in 3-day police custody

PTI ■ LAKHIMPUR KHERI

The Uttar Pradesh Police on Monday got three-day remand of Union Minister Ajay Mishra's son Ashish in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence case.

Eight people, including four farmers, were killed in the violence on October 3.

"Police had demanded a 14-day remand of Ashish. They have got three-day remand from October 12 to 15," senior prosecution officer (SPO) SP Yadav told reporters.

The remand will end on October 15 morning.

The police remand was granted by Chief Judicial Magistrate Chintaram, with the condition that Ashish Mishra will not be harassed and his lawyer will remain present during interrogation, Yadav said.

Earlier, a court had sent Ashish Mishra to 14-day



judicial custody.

Ashish was arrested on Saturday night after around 12 hours of questioning in connection with the Lakhimpur violence.

Continued on Page 2

No politician to be on stage during 'antim ardas' for farmers

Lakhimpur Kheri/Bahraich: No politician will be allowed to share the stage with farm leaders during the last prayers for the four farmers killed in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence, a BKU office-bearer said. Preparations for the "antim ardas" are underway at a field, away from the incident spot in Tikonia village.

Being a leader doesn't mean mowing down people with Fortuner car: UP BJP chief

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh BJP chief Swatantra Dev Singh on Sunday said that being a political leader doesn't mean that one "mow down anyone by a Fortuner car".

His remarks came amid allegations against Ashish Mishra, son of Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Mishra Teni, for mowing down farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri.

Aryan bail hearing in drug bust tomorrow

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's eldest son Aryan Khan and four others will have to cool their heels behind the bars for two more days as a special court under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act will hear their applications seeking bail in the mid-sea drug bust case on October 13.

The bail pleas of Aryan and four others — Arbaaz Merchant, Mohak Jaswal, Nupur Satija, and Munmun Dhamecha — came up for hearing before special judge VV Patil on Monday.

At the hearing, Aryan's senior advocate Amit Desai urged the court to schedule his client's bail application for Tuesday. However, special public prosecutor Chimlekar representing the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) urged the court



Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan's lawyer Satish Maneshinde outside a court in Mumbai on Monday

PTI

to hold the hearing on October 14. On his part, Chimlekar also sought seven days' time to file his plea in connection with the drug bust case.

After hearing both the sides, the special judge Patil went ahead and scheduled the bail pleas of Aryan and four other accused for Wednesday.

Continued on Page 2

Pilot hits out at Centre over farmers' issues

Jaipur: Farmers have been agitating for months against the Centre's farm laws and they are being killed under the BJP's rule, former Rajasthan deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot said on Monday, terming the party "anti-farmer".

The former UPA Government had enacted laws like MGNREGA and RTI but the current dispensation led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has brought farm laws which are being opposed by farmers, the Congress leader said.

"Our Government had made laws for Dalits, women and the unemployed. But what laws are being made now? Three farm laws were enacted but who will benefit from these," he asked. Addressing a function in Tonk, Pilot said agriculture is

a big business but farmers don't not do business, they just grow crops and sell the produce in mandis.

"Imagine what would happen if the control of this business went into the hands of five-six businessmen," he said.

"So many farmers are on the road. They are being killed. It is very sad. How will justice be done when violence is promoted and culprits are protected? How can an impartial probe happen when the responsible holding high posts do not quit," he asked.

Talking about the 'Prashasan Shehron ke Sang' and the 'Prashasan Gaon ke Sang' campaigns launched by the Rajasthan government, Pilot said people are being benefited by these.

Cases of harassment, murder of RTI applicants rising, their protection a challenge: Report

New Delhi: Cases of harassment and murder of RTI applicants are increasing across the country, and the biggest challenge in the upcoming years is to ensure their protection, according to a new report on the status of the implementation of the RTI Act.

The report by Transparency International India released on the eve of the RTI Day Monday said that in the last 15-16 years, at least 95-100 RTI applicants have been killed while 190 others attacked, while dozen committed suicide and hundreds of them reported being harassed from powerful lobby.

Besides, the Government does not maintain any data on the RTI activists and information seekers who lose their lives in the interest of the country, said the report titled 'State Transparency Report 2021' by the Transparency International India (TII), a non-government organisation.

"The biggest challenge in the upcoming years is to ensure the protection of information seekers as cases of harassment and murder of RTI applicants is increasing across the country," it said.

Considering the increasing number of RTI queries and applications with several public authorities, there is a dire need to create an agreed template to make proactive disclosure more effective and informative, the report said.

"The situation of implementation has improved over the years, several micro level studies still point out a wide gap in the usage of the Act among urban-rural masses," said the report released on the eve of RTI Day.

14 regional parties declare receiving donations through Electoral Bonds

New Delhi: Nearly 14 regional parties, including AAP, DMK and JD(U), have declared receiving donations through electoral bonds worth ₹447.49 crore in 2019-20, and this constitutes 50.97 per cent of their income. The total income of 42 regional parties analysed for the financial year 2019-20 was ₹877.957 crore.

In its latest report on analysis of income and expenditure of regional political parties for the year 2019-20, the Association for Democratic Reforms said that only 14 of the 42 regional parties that were analysed declared donations through electoral bonds amounting to ₹447.498 crore, which constitutes 50.97 per cent of their total income. These 14 parties are - TRS, TDP, YSR-C, BJD, DMK, Shiv Sena, AAP, JD(U), SP, JDS, SAD, AIADMK, RJD and JMM. The TRS reported having the highest income of ₹130.46 crore, which forms 14.86 per cent of the total income of all the parties analysed, it said. Shiv Sena had an income of ₹111.403 crore or 12.69 per cent and YSR-C ₹92.739 crore or 10.56 per cent of the total income of the 42 regional parties analysed in this report.

It said that out of 39 parties from the 42 political parties whose data is available for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 fiscals, 23 parties have shown an increase

in their income from 2018-19 to 2019-20, while 16 parties have shown a decline in their income during this period. The total income of the 39 parties decreased from ₹1087.206 crore in 2018-19 to ₹874.467 crore in 2019-20, a dip of 19.57 per cent or ₹212.739 crore, the report said. The poll rights body said that there are 24 regional parties which declared a part of their income as remaining unspent for the financial year 2019-20 while 18 political parties spent more than the income collected during the year.

The TRS has more than 83.76 per cent of its total income remaining unspent while AIADMK and JJP have 67.82 per cent and 64 per cent, respectively, of their income remaining unspent for the 2019-20 fiscal. "TDP, BJD, DMK, SP, JDS, AJSU, JVM-P, INLD, PMK, MGP, GFP, SDF, MNF, AIFB, NPF, JKPPD, IPFT and MPC are the 18 regional parties that declared spending more than their income. BJD has declared spending the highest amount of ₹95.78 cr or 106.01 per cent more than its income," the report said. The ADR said the 42 regional parties collected ₹ 676.326 crore or 77.03 per cent of their total income from voluntary contributions, including donations and contributions, and electoral bonds, for FY 2019-20. **PNS**

Ashish remanded...

From Page 1

Mishra was named in an FIR following allegations that he was in one of the vehicles that mowed down four farmers protesting over UP Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya's visit last Sunday.

While farmer leaders and opposition parties had been demanding Mishra's arrest, the minister and his son had denied the allegations.

Two BJP workers and their driver were allegedly lynched by angry farmers in the violence. Local journalist Raman Kashyap also died.

Aged around 35, Ashish Mishra, alias Monu, looks after political activities of his father in

his Kheri parliamentary constituency and was also vying for party ticket from the Nighasan seat to contest the upcoming UP Assembly polls.

The Supreme Court had on Friday questioned the non-arrest of the accused, directing preservation of evidence and mulled over transferring the probe to another agency.

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), which is spearheading the agitation against the Centre's three farm laws, had alleged that the violence was held under a pre-planned conspiracy and demanded the arrest of the minister and his son.

An "antim ardas" (final prayer) for the dead farmers will held on Tuesday at Lakhimpur Kheri's Tikonia village.

Aryan bail...

From Page 1

Twenty-three-year-old Aryan and four others --- Arbaaz, Mohak, Nupur and Dhamecha - were among the eight persons arrested by the NCB on October 3, a night after the NCB officials busted a rave party and seized 13 grams of cocaine, 5 grams of MD (Mephedrone), 21 grams of Charas, 22 pills of MDMA (Ecstasy) and Rs 1.33 lakh in cash from Goa-bound cruise ship off the Mumbai coast here.

Aryan and five other male accused, including Arbaaz, are currently lodged at the Arthur Road Central Jail, while the two women accused Mumun Dhamecha and Nupur Sarika are at Byculla Women's Jail.

The total number of arrests in the sensational drug bust case has gone up to 20, with the arrest of a foreign national and a local person. The arrested foreign national has been identified as Okara Quazma, a Nigerian, while the other arrested person is Shivraj Harihan, a resident of Santa Cruz in north-west Mumbai.

Aryan and four other accused have moved the special court after a Mumbai Esplanade

Court on Friday rejected the bail pleas of Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan and two others on the grounds of maintainability. Accepting the NCB's contention that only a special court had jurisdiction to hear the matter and not the Magistrate, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) RM Nerlikar had on October 8 rejected the bail applications of Aryan and other accused.

Meanwhile, in a plea made on behalf of Aryan before the Special Court, has among other things made a strong case for their client's bail on the grounds: that no recovery of drugs has been made from his person and that since the offences arraigned against Khan are Sections 8(c), 20(b), 27, 28, 29, 35 of the NDPS Act and that since no narcotic drugs or psychotropic substance has been recovered from him, the bar against grant of bail under Section 37 of the NDPS Act will not apply.

"Given that no narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances have been seized from Khan, assuming without admitting them to be true, would pertain strictly to small quantities, the bar under Section 37(1) of the NDPS Act will not apply," Aryan's bail plea states.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Tender Notice No.: PAY AND USE-MTJ-2021-4 Dated: 05.10.2021

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

E-tender on prescribed forms are invited by Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, North Central Railway, Agral on behalf of The President of India for awarding of Normal Pay & Use Toilet complex between PF 01 & 07 in front of GRP Thana & Third Entry Circulating Area New Toilet Complex at Mathura Jn. Railway Station on operation and maintenance (O&M) basis, North Central Railway for the period of three years under "Single packet tendering system". The details of particulars are as follows:-

Tender No.	PAY AND USE-MTJ-2021-4	Date:	05.10.2021
Name of work	Normal Pay & Use Toilet complex between PF 01 & 07 in front of GRP Thana & Third Entry Circulating Area New Toilet Complex at Mathura Jn. Railway Station on operation and maintenance (O&M) basis.		
Duration of work	3 Years		
Approx. cost of work	₹31,76,983/- (For 03 Years)		
Earnest Money Deposit	₹9,88,206/-		
Cost of Tender form	₹3,540/-		
Validity of offer	60 days from the date of tender opening		
E-Tender closing date & time	01.11.2021 up to 15:00 Hours		
E-Tender opening date & time	01.11.2021 up to 15:30 Hours		

For Full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railway Website www.ireps.gov.in. 1- Tender can be submitted only online on web portal www.ireps.gov.in. 2- Earnest money and tender document cost shall only be submitted on web portal www.ireps.gov.in by net banking.

1069/2021 V
NORTH Central Railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR

Supply halved to 2K MW: Delhi...

From Page 1

"No power plant should have coal stock of fewer than 15 days. Right now, most of the plants have 2-3 days of stock left. The Centre should explain that despite this, why is there a coal crunch in the country." After a meeting with his department officials, Jain said at one time electricity demand was more than 7,300 MW, which has come down to 4,562 MW in today's time.

"Even after the demand is low, we have to buy electricity at the rate of Rs 17 to 20. The Delhi Government has its most power purchase agreements with NTPC, but they have cut power production at their plants by 50 per cent," he said.

NOTICE

I have lost my Original Qualifying Certificate/ Marks Sheet of Secondary, Examination 10th Class of the year 2016 and Roll No.2303899 issued by CBSE. Now I am applying for its duplicate. Anybody having any objection may contact Principal DPS, Athwajan, Srinagar within a weeks time.

Aqeel Abbas Khan
S/O : Asif Ali Khan
R/O: Sector-10, Hyderia colony, Khomeni Chowk Bemina Srinagar.

Shah holds meet as more...

From Page 1

"The Kerala Government will take a decision on imposing power cuts after October 19. At present, the state is facing a shortage of 100 MW and is trying to meet the demand-supply gap through the automated management system, and by purchasing electricity at higher prices," the State Power Minister K Krishnankutty said. Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM) announced on its social media handle that many areas will have power cuts on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, former coal secretary Anil Swarup on Monday tweeted that Coal India Limited was without CMD for a year.

He further said Coal India Limited had reserves of over Rs 40,000 crore in 2015. Now around Rs 10,000 crore. It was trading at Rs 400 in 2016. Now below Rs 200. According to officials, October has always been a tough month for power generation companies, given that the annual all-India electricity peak demand is recorded during that month.

Besides, there are reasons why this October is different. The Ministry of Power has ascribed four reasons for the depletion of coal stocks at the power plants - the unprecedented increase in demand for electricity due to revival of the economy, heavy rains in coal mine areas during September impacting production as well as despatch, increase in prices of imported coal to unprecedented high level leading to a substantial reduction in power generation from imported coal-based power plants, and non-building of adequate coal stocks before the onset of monsoon. Besides the devastating second Covid wave impacted mining operations as well.

According to the data, the power consumption of 3,900 MU on October 8 was the highest this month so far (from October 1 to 9) which also became a cause of concern during the ongoing coal shortage. According to data provided, currently, there are 16 plants with a cumulative capacity of 16,880 MW that had the dry fuel for zero-days, 30 plants with 37,345 MW capacity had coal for just one day, 18 plants with 23,450 MW capacity had coal for two days as of October 7. Furthermore, there were 19 plants with 29,160 MW capacity which had coal for three days, nine plants with 7,864 MW capacity had coal for four days, six plants with 6,730 MW capacity had coal stock for five days, while 10 plants with 11,540 MW capacity had coal for six days, as per data provided.

Gain for BJP in J&K...

From Page 1

Both Nainital terai region and Bajpur has sizeable sikh population which have major participation against the three-farm laws passed by the Centre.

From 2007 to 2014, Arya was the president of Uttarakhand Congress and had been a former Speaker and a Minister in the Congress Government led by Rawat.

He had switched over to the BJP in 2017 ahead of the assembly elections in Uttarakhand. He currently represents the Bajpur Assembly constituency in the state and earlier represented the Mukteshwar Assembly constituency.

The BJP which has in the recent months admitted at least two Independent MLAs to its fold in Uttarakhand to fortify itself ahead of elections is caught by surprise by Arya's "ghar wapas".

On a day when the BJP lost one big-wig in Uttarakhand, it gained one in Jammu region.

A day after resigning from the NC, Devender Rana, the former head of its Jammu division, along with another party leader Surjit Singh Slathia joined the BJP in the BJP headquarters.

Rana and Slathia joined the BJP in the presence of Union Ministers Dharmendra Pradhan, Hardeep Singh Puri and Jitendra Singh. Rana, who is a former MLA and the younger brother of Union Minister Jitendra Singh, has also served as a political adviser to former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister and National Conference (NC) leader Omar Abdullah.

BJP general secretary in-charge for Jammu and Kashmir Tarun Chugh and its Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Ravinder Raina welcomed them in the party.

Rana has been advocating for the Jammu declaration - a joint declaration of several political, social and business organisations, primarily demanding restoration of statehood for the Jammu region and not for the whole Jammu and Kashmir.

5 jawans martyred in Poonch...

From Page 1

Elite para-commandos were also rushed to neutralise the terrorists in the area. Till the time of filing this report, the encounter was going on in the area. Defence spokesman in Jammu Lt-Col Devender Anand in a statement said, "On the night of 10/11 Oct 21, a counter terrorist operation was launched by the Indian Army and Jammu & Kashmir Police in the area of Shahdara, near the boundary of Poonch-Rajouri districts in J&K". During the operation, terrorists brought down a heavy volume of fire on to Army troops leading to fatal injuries to one JCO and four soldiers, he said. The gallant JCO and soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty have been identified as Nb Subedar Jaswinder Singh, SM, Nk Mandeep Singh, Sep Gajjan Singh, Sep Saraj Singh and Sep Vaishak H.

Defence PRO said, "After the initial encounter, the terrorists fled to nearby Bhangai village, which falls in Rajouri district, and the encounter is still in progress".

The frontier districts of Rajouri and Poonch have been regularly witnessing encounters between the security forces and small groups of infiltrators. Three encounters were reported in the month of August in Thanna Mandi area of Rajouri.

In Kashmir valley, two terrorists were gunned down by the joint team of security forces at two different locations. Meanwhile, another operation was launched in Shopian late Monday evening to neutralise a group of terrorists.

According to a police spokesman, "During the intervening night of 10/11 October, on a specific input Bandipora Police conducted an anti-terrorist operation while as one chance encounter also took place in Anantnag resulting in the killing of two terrorists, including Imtiyaz Ahmad Dar of LeT (TRF) involved in recent Shahgund civilian killing".

रायगढ़ जिला अर्बन पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी

निविदा सूचना

कं. 1844/रा.जि.अ.प.स.सो./न.पा.नि./2021 रायगढ़, दिनांक 11/10/2021

रायगढ़ जिला अर्बन पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी द्वारा निम्न कार्य हेतु आनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की गयी है, जिसका विवरण निम्नानुसार है :-

System Tender No.	Description Project	Last date for online submission
85246	REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR SELECTION OF SERVICE PROVIDER FOR RUNNING MMU UNDER MUKHYA MANTRI SLUM SWASTHYA YOJANA FOR Nagar Palika Kharsia, Nagar Palika Sarangarh, Nagar Panchayat Kirodimalnagar, Nagar Panchayat Pussore, Nagar Panchayat Sanya, Nagar Panchayat Baramulla, Nagar Panchayat Ghanshoda, Nagar Panchayat Dharamagan, Nagar Panchayat Lalunga	25/10/2021

निविदा से संबंधित विस्तृत जानकारी निम्न वेबसाइट (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) के माध्यम से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। निविदा दरदस्तावेज जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 26.10.2021 तक सीधे पोस्ट/रजिस्टर्ड पोस्ट के माध्यम से सायं 05:00 बजे तक नगर पालिक निगम रायगढ़ कार्यालय में पहुंचना अनिवार्य है एवं दिनांक 28.10.2021 को निविदा खोली जायेगी।

नोडल अधिकारी (मु.स.द.दु.सो.)
रायगढ़ जिला अर्बन पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी
रायगढ़ (छ.ग.)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that I, Sarah Chawla W/o Late Sh. Anil Kumar Chawla R/o A-131, 1st Floor, Phase-2, Ashok Vihar, Delhi-110062, Owner of LIC Flat No.195-B, First Floor, Block-F, Dishad Garden, New Delhi-110095, have applied for freehold and certify copy of Possession slip and NOC for Obtaining Water and Electricity connection of the aforesaid property in DDA. The Original Possession slip and NOC for Obtaining Water and Electricity connection issued by DDA, have been lost or misplaced and is not traceable inspite of the best efforts. An FIR/NCR to this effect has been lodged in Crime Branch vide LR.No.660874/2020, dated 15.10.2020. Any person (s) claiming any rights, interest, having any objection, may write/contact with above named person at the above address/phone No. 9910399439, within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objections with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Director or Dy. Director LAB (H) DDA, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Yadav is hereby given that Meenakshi Yadav is the absolute owner of Property bearing No. 9/1, area measuring 120 sq. yds., out of Rect No. 18, Killa No. 7/3, 5/2, 6 and Rect. No. 19, Killa No. 1/2/1, 10, 1/2/2, situated in the revenue estate of Village Najafgarh, abadi known as Lakshmi Garden, New Delhi-110043 vide Sale Deed dated 16.06.2021 (doc. No. 376) executed by Rahul Gupta & Himat Gupta legal heirs of late Gulshan Gupta @ Gulshan Kumar, they acquired the same after the death of their father Gulshan Kumar vide Relinquishment Deed 11/6/21 (Doc. No. 355) executed by their mother Madhu Gupta, they are the only legal heirs of Late Gulshan Kumar, inherited the same after his death.

All persons having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage/equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise whatsoever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned.

Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate)
Shop No. 5 & B, Pkt-E, CSC, Mayur Vihar-II, Delhi-91, Mob. 9810083351

रायगढ़ जिला अर्बन पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी

द्वितीय निविदा सूचना

कं. 1846/रा.जि.अ.प.स.सो./न.पा.नि./2021 रायगढ़, दिनांक 11/10/2021

मुख्यमंत्री सरस्वती दवा दुकान योजना (श्री धनदारी योजना) के अंतर्गत रायगढ़ जिला के निम्न निदाओं के द्वितीय निविदा का विवरण :-

System Tender No.	Description Project	Last date for online submission
85253	Selection of Private Partner for Establishment of Fair Price Outlets for Medicines Consumables etc at Pussore city under state sponsored Mukhya Mantri Sasti Dawa Dukan Yojna (MMSDDY) (2nd Call) (कार्यालय नगर पंचायत पुसौर)	24/10/2021
85248	Selection of Private Partner for Establishment of Fair Price Outlets for Medicines Consumables etc at Kirodimal nagar city under state sponsored Mukhya Mantri Sasti Dawa Dukan Yojna (MMSDDY) (2nd Call) (कार्यालय नगर पंचायत किरौदमल)	24/10/2021
85247	Selection of Private Partner for Establishment of Fair Price Outlets for Medicines Consumables etc at Gharghoda city under state sponsored Mukhya Mantri Sasti Dawa Dukan Yojna (MMSDDY) (2nd Call) (कार्यालय नगर पंचायत घराघोडा)	24/10/2021
85249	Selection of Private Partner for Establishment of Fair Price Outlets for Medicines Consumables etc at Lalunga city under state sponsored Mukhya Mantri Sasti Dawa Dukan Yojna (MMSDDY) (2nd Call) (कार्यालय नगर पंचायत ललुंगा)	24/10/2021

निविदा से संबंधित विस्तृत जानकारी निम्न वेबसाइट (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) के माध्यम से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। निविदा दरदस्तावेज जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 25.10.2021 तक सीधे पोस्ट/रजिस्टर्ड पोस्ट के माध्यम से सायं 03:00 बजे तक नगर पालिक निगम रायगढ़ कार्यालय में पहुंचना अनिवार्य है एवं दिनांक 26.10.2021 को निविदा खोली जायेगी।

नोडल अधिकारी (मु.स.द.दु.सो.)
रायगढ़ जिला अर्बन पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी
रायगढ़ (छ.ग.)

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (WEST-II)/EE(T)

M-6, D-BLOCK, MOTI NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110015

"STOP CORONA: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand hygiene"
PRESS NIT NO: 03/EE(WEST)-I/EE (T)M-6 (2021-22)

S.NO	Name of work	TENDER COST(Rs.)	Earnest Money.Rs.	Tender fee.Rs.	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solution
1.	Replacement of old and Damaged sewer line by new 250 mm dia. DWC pipe sewer line in RP Block Pitampura, A.C-14, NW-III (Presently under ACE-M6) Tender ID: 2021 DJB 209463_2	26,22,653.00	0 (submit declaration form)	500.00	-0-
2.	Replacement of old & Damaged sewer line by new 250 mm dia. DWC pipe sewer line FROM h.No.01 to 112 in "SU" Block Pitampura, A.C-14, NW-III. (Presently under ACE-M6) Tender ID: 2021 DJB 209463_3	26,63,730.00	-0-	500.00	-0-
3.	Improvement of Water supply by replacement of old rusted and PVC/CI 100 mm dia and 150 mm dia water line LG and MIG flts. Nimri Colony Ward, Ashok Vihar Phase IV, Wazirpur AC-17 under EE (NW-III) (Presently under ACE-M6) Tender ID: 2021 DJB 209463_4	45,02,948.00	-0-	500.00	-0-

Further details in the regards can be sent at <http://delhi.govt.procurement.com>

ISSUED BY P.R.O.(WATER)
Adv.No. 476(2021-22)

Sd/-
(TRILOK CHAND)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (WEST)-II/EE(T)-M-6

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LAKHIMPUR KHERI VIOLENCE Congress leaders, workers stage maun vrat in protest



Delhi Congress chief Anil Kumar and former Ministers attended the protest. Pioneer photo

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
The Delhi Congress leaders and workers sat on a 'maun vrat' near the Lieutenant Governor's office here on Monday to protest the Lakhimpur Khairi violence and demanded the resignation of Union Minister Ajay Mishra. Delhi Congress president Anil Kumar and former Union Ministers Ashwini Kumar and Krishna Tirath were among those who attended the protest.

Eight people died in the October 3 violence and of them, four were farmers, allegedly knocked down by a vehicle carrying BJP workers. Infuriated farmers then allegedly lynched some people in the vehicles. The other dead included two BJP workers and their driver. Farmers claimed that Ajay Mishra's son Ashish was in one of the vehicles, an allegation denied by him and his father who say they can produce evidence to prove he was at an

event at that time. "Congress is staging 'maun vrat satyagrah' outside offices of governors and lieutenant governors in states and UTs, demanding resignation and arrest of Union minister of state for home (Ajay Mishra), who may influence the probe in the Lakhimpur incident," Kumar said before starting the protest. Indian Youth Congress leaders and workers also sat on a 'maun vrat' at the Jantar Mantar.

Chhath Puja to be celebrated grandly, says Delhi BJP amid ban on public gatherings

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The politics over the ban on Chhath puja celebrations at public places here intensified further on Monday with Delhi BJP chief Adesh Gupta declaring that the festival will be celebrated in a grand manner and the municipal corporations ruled by the party will make arrangements for it.

The Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) in an order last week prohibited Chhath Puja celebrations at public places, including riverbanks, water bodies and temples, in view of the Covid-19 situation.

Delhi BJP MP Manoj Tiwari has also started a 'Rath Yatra' to take the opinions of Purvanchalis (people of Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh settled in Delhi), and had also warned that the DDMA order will be defied if people are stopped for celebrating Chhath.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, however, had earlier alleged that the opposition was playing "dirty politics" over the issue. "The BJP declares that we will celebrate Chhath Puja, and arrangements will be made for it by the municipal corpo-



Delhi BJP MP Manoj Tiwari has also started a 'Rath Yatra' to take the opinions of Purvanchalis (people of Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh settled in Delhi), and had also warned that the DDMA order will be defied if people are stopped for celebrating Chhath.

rations," Gupta said at a press conference along with Tiwari. The BJP has vocally protested the Chhath Puja ban imposed by the Arvind Kejriwal government, and party leaders, including Tiwari, had been interacting with puja committees over the issue, Gupta said. "We will make arrangements along with Chhath Puja Samitis. Not just symbolically, Chhath will be celebrated grandly with BJP workers systematically making all the arrangements," Gupta said. Earlier, reacting to Tiwari's Rath Yatra against the Chhath ban, Kejriwal had said the decision to not allow celebrations at public places was taken in view of the safety of the people and opposition was doing "dirty politics" over a sensitive issue.

Ban on collection of non-segregated waste from Nov 1: NMC



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NMC) has decided to impose a complete ban on collection of non-segregated waste from November 1 onwards. In a review meeting chaired by NMC's Commissioner Sanjay Goel to know the progress of compliance of solid waste management rules 2016, all the concessionaires were directed to deploy staff at dhalaos to prevent the public from dumping non-segregated waste, the corporation said in a statement. During the meeting, NMC's Commissioner said that the civic body will collect only segregated waste from households/ shopping establishments

to achieve the target of 100 per cent segregation at source. He directed the officials to organise the public awareness campaigns with RWAs and market association to educate the public about the benefits of waste segregation and its positive impacts on society. Goel further asked officials to ensure that all the segregated waste shall be transported separately in different coloured green and blue bins for wet and dry waste respectively up to the processing facility by the concessionaires. He also directed official to prepare area specific strategies including slums and other settlements, commercial institutions and other non-residential premises for segregation of waste at source.

Delhi Govt gives ₹1cr to kin of IAF officer Mohanty killed in air crash

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government in Delhi provided a Samman Rashi of ₹ 1 crore to the family of flight lieutenant Sunit Mohanty who was killed while serving in the Air Force.

The Samman Rashi was handed over by Palam Vihar MLA Bhavna Gaur to SN Mohanty and Sanjukta Mohanty, parents of martyr Sunit Mohanty on Sunday.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said that we cannot do anything to compensate for the sacrifice made by our martyrs, but we will do whatever we can to support their families. Earlier on Friday, the families of Shaheed ACP Sanket Kaushik of Delhi Police, Shaheed Constable Vikas Kumar of Delhi Police, Shaheed Civil Defence Volunteer Parvesh Kumar and Shaheed Squadron Leader Meet Kumar of the Air Force were handed over cheques of Rs. 1 crore each by the Kejriwal Government. Mohanty, a resident of Dwarka Sector-7, South-West Delhi, was working as a Lieutenant in the Indian Air Force. Lt Sunit Mohanty (33895-G F P) was posted to 43 Squadron Air Force with effect from 24 June 2016.

Electoral office sets up help desk to bolster voter awareness

NEW DELHI: Delhi Chief Electoral Office has set up various help desks at special traffic police Lok Adalat sites in the national Capital to bolster voter awareness among general public especially the young electors. Chief Electoral Officer Dr Ranbir Singh on Monday said that 'Special Summary Revision (SSR) of electoral rolls will be commenced with 1st January 2022 as the qualifying date shall be from 1st November, 2021. During this SSR any person who would be 18 years or more on or before January 1st, 2022 will be eligible to enroll as a voter. The CEO also emphasized the need to adopt on-line mode of availing electoral services on www.nvsp.in or the Voter Helpline Mobile App in order to stay Covid-safe. For any queries or assistance, citizens can call the election help line number 1950 from 9.00 am to 9.00 pm on all days except national holidays. "Help desk were set to provide assistance like searching the name in the voter list, enrolment for voter ID card, etc. to the general public. This revolutionary step towards voter education and awareness will not only help the electors to get all possible help through the Office of CEO but will also give wings to the vision of 'No Voter To Be Left Behind,'" Delhi CEO office said in a statement. **SR**

ERADICATING STUBBLE BURNING AAP starts spraying bio-decomposer for free in farmlands of Delhi

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Aiming to eradicate stubble burning, city Government on Monday started spraying bio-decomposer for free in paddy fields of Delhi. This year, environment department received application for about 4000 acres to be sprinkled with the decomposer, last year 2000 acres of land was covered. Environment Minister Gopal Rai said those farmers who have not applied yet will be issued a contact number to avail this service free of cost. The number is- 96438 44287 and farmers can register themselves and we will provide our team to visit the farms and help with the process. "The number of farmers who are getting the bio-decomposer solution sprayed has doubled in Delhi as compared to last year; farmers are very excited because of its tremendous performance," Rai added. Mentioning about other factors contributing pollution in winter seasons, instance - road side dust, dust from construction sites, vehicular pollution, Rai said initiatives like anti-dust campaign, green war room have been taken. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) minister urged neighboring states should also



Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai spraying bio-decomposer in a field in Fatehpur Jat village in New Delhi on Monday. Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

encouraged farmers for the use of Pusa made bio decomposer and provide this solution free to the farmers. "The pollution inside Delhi increases during the winter season, and upon noticing, it has indeed started to increase as winters are approaching. It includes pollution from dust, vehicles, garbage burning, and biomass but the most crucial problem is 'stubble burning'. The smoke of burnt stubble starts from areas of Punjab and Haryana and reaches Delhi. To curb this issue of pollution, we started to sprinkle the Bio-Decomposer on farms located in Delhi and the results were appreciable. The decomposed stubble got converted into healthy compost and increased the cultivating capacity of the soil. This time the Delhi Government has decided to sprinkle twice as much decomposer on more farms in Delhi be it Basmati Paddy or Non-Basmati Paddy that are being harvested by carbines," he added.

Capital records 23 Covid cases, positivity rate stands at 0.05%

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The national Capital reported 23 new cases and one death on Monday while the positivity rate stood at 0.05 per cent, according to a health bulletin issued by the health department of the Delhi Government. A total of 46,843 tests — 38,889 RT-PCR tests and 7,954 rapid antigen tests — were conducted a day ago, the bulletin said. As per the bulletin, the Covid case tally in Delhi reached 14,39,218 of which over 14.13 lakh patients have recovered. The death toll has risen to 25,089. 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. Around 7,000 ICU beds are also being added at government healthcare facilities in Shalimar Bagh, Kirari, Sarita Vihar, Sultanpuri, Raghuvver Nagar, GTB Hospital and Chacha Nehru Hospital. The national capital has 10,000 ICU beds. According to government data, 1.83 crore vaccine doses have been administered in Delhi since the inoculation exercise started.

MCG yet to initiate action against C&D waste handling firm for flouting norms

PARVESH SHARMA ■ GURUGRAM

Even after demands of action by the councillors of the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) against IL&FS (the concessionaire for handling C&D waste) for flouting MCG norms during the second consecutive house meeting held on Monday and despite Mayor Madhu Azad who had also ordered an inquiry, the MCG is yet to take any action against the firm despite completion of two months. During the MCG house meeting, the MCG councillors created a ruckus and sought an answer from the corporation officials. Ward No-19 Councillor Ashwani Sharma alleged that in the show-cause notice to the corporation, the company officials fails to give any satisfactory answers. The councillors had alleged that the MCG had allotted the company to process the debris, but it is alleged that the company has given its work to some other agency, which is completely against the agreement. The MCG has signed a 20-year agreement with the company for the disposal of debris in the city. It is written in the agreement that the company cannot subcontract its work to any other agency, but despite this, the company has sublet the debris disposal work to any other agency which is completely against the norms. After the matter came to light, on July 30, Mayor Madhu Azad had ordered an inquiry which was submitted by August 4 at the Mayor office but even after two months, no action against the firm yet to be taken. "The firm had deliberately bypassed the agreement norms. In response to the show-cause notice of the corporation, the C&D waste handling firm written that it has nothing to do with other companies even though both the companies are owned by the same owner and the office address is also the same. Now it is expected that the MCG Commissioner will take concrete action in the matter," said Ashwani Sharma, Councillor, Ward-19.

6 proposals related to development of G'gram discussed in MCG meeting

PARVESH SHARMA ■ GURUGRAM

Under the chairmanship of Municipal Corporation Gurugram (MCG), Mayor Madhu Azad, an MCG house meeting was organised on Monday. In the meeting, 6 prime proposals related to the development of the city were discussed in detail. During the meeting, entire details of the approvals given under the Right of Way in the corporation area from January 2020 to September 2021 were placed before the House. MCG official said that during this period 98 approvals have been given and revenue of Rs 53.30 crore has been received. The MCG will also work towards preparing its infrastructure so that the revenue will increase. The House was apprised about the resolutions passed since the formation of the MCG till now regarding the takeover of builder license colonies in the corporation. Along with this, which colony is pending at which stage, the report of those colonies was presented before the House. Officials said that the government has decided to take over 8 colonies in the year 2016-17 and 11 colonies in the year 2019-20. In these 11 colonies, the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the deficient services will be prepared by the end of October. Apart from this, during the recent surprise inspection conducted by Mayor Madhu Azad of water ATMs installed for the availability of water at reasonable prices in the city, water ATMs installed at various places were not found in working condition.

Kejriwal launches 'Desh ke Mentor' for students on career choices

NEW DELHI: Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday launched a programme under which students of classes 9 to 12 of Delhi Government schools will be guided by dedicated mentors in exploring diverse career and life options. The 'Desh ke mentor' programme, which has Bollywood actor Sonu Sood as its brand ambassador, entails "adopting" up to 10 Government school students to be mentored by citizens who are successful in their respective fields. The mentors will take out 10 minutes every week to guide the students over phone. Interested citizens can adopt up to 10 children studying in the city's Government schools as part of the initiative. "Through this programme, the children will get an elder brother, friend or sister with whom they can share everything. Not only the people of Delhi but people from all over the country will become mentors of such children. A person living in any part of the country can become a mentor by registering on the Delhi government's app," Kejriwal said at the launch.



"If a child fulfils their dreams with your hard work, then you are doing the biggest deed of nation building," he added. Explaining the programme in detail, the chief minister said, "As a child grows up, they feel a variety of pressures from peers, family, siblings, and others. It is very difficult to deal with all of it as a child. This is why cases of depression and suicide are so high in the age group. We want these children to get a non-judgemental helping hand and a guiding light." This programme will see mentors enrol from across the country, Kejriwal said. **PTI**

480 cases of dengue reported in Delhi so far

NEW DELHI: At least 480 cases of dengue have been reported in the national Capital this season, including nearly 140 in October, according to a civic report released on Monday. The total number of cases till October 2 had stood at 341. Nearly 140 fresh cases have been recorded in the last one week. Of the total count of dengue cases in Delhi this year, 139 have been reported this month till October 9. In September, 217 cases were logged, the highest count for this month in the last three years. According to the civic report on vector-borne diseases released on Monday, a total of 480 dengue cases have been recorded this season till October 9, which is the highest count since 2018 for the same period. The number of cases reported for the January 1-October 9 period in the previous three years were 316 (2020), 467 (2019) and 830 (2018), as per the report. A total of 1,072 cases and one death, were logged in the entire year in 2020, according to the report released by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation, the nodal agency for tabulating data on vector-borne diseases in the city. Last year, 188 dengue cases were reported in the entire month of September, and 190 in 2019. In preceding years, the corresponding figures had stood at 374 (2018), 1103 (2017), 1,362 (2016) and 6,775 (2015), according to data shared by Delhi health department on September 22. However, no deaths have been reported due to dengue in the city this year till now, it said. Seventy-two cases were reported in August, as per the report. Dengue mosquito larvae breed in clear, standing water, while those of malaria thrive even in dirty water. **PTI**

Rickshaw passenger dies, 2 injured after car hits 2 vehicles

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 30-year-old rickshaw passenger died while three were injured after a car hit two vehicles on Monday morning near Yamuna Bank depot in east Delhi. According to Priyanka Kashyap, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), East district, on Monday at 10.57 AM, a police control room (PCR) call regarding fatal accident in front of Yamuna Bank depot was received following which an Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) was dispatched for the spot. "After reaching the spot, a rickshaw, one Tata Ace and a car were involved in accidental condition. Rickshaw rider Sanjeev Yadav (40), driver of the car and driver of Tata Ace Rampreet Das (35) got injured in the accident whereas one Nawal Kumar Yadav, passenger of the rickshaw, a resident of Juggi near Yamuna Bank Depot, succumbed to the injuries," said the DCP. "During initial investigation, it was revealed that the car was coming from Noida side and hit the vehicles. The car found registered in the name of Manoj Sharma, a resident of Sector-11 in Noida," said the DCP. "The condition of Yadav and Sharma is serious whereas Das is out of danger. The injured persons are being treated at LBS and GTB hospitals. A case under sections 279 (rash driving) and 304A (causing death by negligence) has been registered at Shakarpur police station against Sharma," said the DCP.

3 held with 661 kg ganja worth ₹1 cr

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested three men, including the supplier of contraband, and recovered 661 kg of ganja worth around ₹1 crore in international market from west Delhi's Naraina area. Police said that the ganja was procured from Naxal infested area. The accused have been identified as Rafique Khan (22), a resident of Jaisalmer in Rajasthan, Raj Kishore (42), a resident of Samaypur Badli, and Chetan Gatan Khara (36), a resident of Odisha. According to Urvija Goel, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), West district, on September 29, information was received that two persons, involved in the drug peddling, would come in a truck from Delhi Cantt side and cross Naraina area for supplying ganja. "Police laid a trap under Naraina flyover and a truck was seen coming from Delhi Cantt side. The truck was stopped near DDA land and two persons in the truck were overpowered. The truck was laden with wooden logs and there was a secret chamber under the logs where 661 kg of ganja was recovered," said the DCP. "The accused persons disclosed that the ganja was ordered by one Shera and his partner Bahadur Singh. It has also been revealed that Shera purchased the contraband from Khara in Odisha," said the DCP. "Raids were conducted at the various places and hotels in Koraput, Odisha and Khara was arrested. Khara revealed that he arranged the recovered contraband on the requirement of Shera from tribal areas of Andhra-Odisha border. He also disclosed that these tribes cultivate Ganja in the area," the DCP said.

Man held for throwing stone at blind person which led to his death

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police has arrested a 22-year-old man for allegedly throwing a stone at a person leading to his death in northwest Delhi's Sultanpuri area. The accused has been identified as Imran (22), a resident of Aman Vihar. Police said that the accused was abusing the deceased after they collided with each other and when the deceased objected to his abuse, the accused threw a stone. According to Parvinder Singh, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Outer district, on October 6, information was received at Sultanpuri police station that a person threw a stone at a blind person. "Police reached the spot near Sultanpuri bus terminal where they came to know that the injured was rushed to Sanjay Gandhi Hospital. When police reached the hospital, the injured was found to be under treatment," said the DCP. "Later, he died during the treatment and a case of murder was registered on the statement of one eyewitness. The deceased was identified as Radhe Shyam, a native of Kushi Nagar district in UP. Shyam, who used to run a kiosk shop, sustained one injury on his forehead with blunt object," said the DCP. "During investigation, accused Imran, was arrested. Interrogation revealed that Imran works as a carpenter at a local furniture shop. He is a drug addict and on October 6 around 9.30 pm, he was present near Sultanpuri bus terminal," said the DCP. "As he was passing through the spot, he fell on the road after colliding with Shyam. He hurled abuses at Shyam and a blind woman who was also present near the spot. When they objected to his abuses, he got furious, picked up a stone and threw it towards Shyam. When Shyam fell on the road, he fled from the spot," said the DCP.

Modi, UK PM for unified global outlook on Taliban



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

At the head of the G-20 meet on Afghanistan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his British counterpart Boris Johnson on Monday agreed on the need for a coordinated international approach to engaging with the Taliban.

The leaders talked about the current situation in Afghanistan. They agreed on the need for a coordinated international approach to engagement with the Taliban, emphasising the importance of upholding human rights in the country, according to a statement by the British High Commission here following the telephonic discussion between the two PMs.

It said the Prime Ministers also welcomed the progress made on the 2030 Roadmap since it was agreed by Johnson and Modi in May.

"This includes areas such as trade and defence. The leaders looked forward to the upcoming visit of the UK Carrier Strike Group to India and the deepening of the UK-India strategic partnership," it said.



UK's recognition of Indian vax certification a welcome move: PM

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

PM Modi also welcomed the UK's recognition of Indian vaccine certification. The telephone talks came four days after the UK announced that Indian travellers fully vaccinated with both doses of Covishield or any other vaccine approved by it will not require to undergo a 10-day

mandatory quarantine on arrival from October 11, The British statement said the two Prime Ministers discussed the shared fight against coronavirus and the importance of cautiously opening up international travel. "They agreed the UK's recognition of Indian vaccine certification is a welcome development to that end," it said.

In a tweet, Prime Minister Modi later said, "Was a pleasure to speak to Prime Minister @BorisJohnson. We reviewed progress on the India-UK Agenda 2030, exchanged views on climate action in the context of the forthcoming COP-26 in

Glasgow, and shared our assessments on regional issues including Afghanistan."

Johnson underlined the importance of making concrete progress on climate change ahead of and at the upcoming COP26 Summit. "He noted that India

Fight against terrorism, human rights in Af, G-20 meet agenda, says MEA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on Tuesday virtually participate in a G-20 leaders' summit on Afghanistan to deliberate extensively on the overall situation in the war-ravaged country after its takeover by the Taliban.

Announcing Prime Minister Modi's participation, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the agenda of the summit will include a discussion on response to humanitarian needs, security and the fight against terrorism and human rights in Afghanistan.

"At the invitation of the Italian Presidency of the G-20, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the upcoming G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Summit on Afghanistan on October 12 in virtual format," it said.

The summit is being convened by Italy, the current chair of the G20 that comprises 20 of the world's major economies.

"The agenda of the meeting will include a discussion on response to humanitarian needs and access to basic services and livelihood; security and the fight against terrorism; and mobility, migration and human rights," the MEA said.

Modi had earlier participated in the SCO-CSTO (Collective Security Treaty Organisation) outreach summit on Afghanistan last month.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar participated in the meeting of G20 foreign ministers on Afghanistan on the margins of the UN General Assembly in New York recently.

The MEA said that G20 is an important platform to help build international consensus and facilitate a coordinated approach between multilateral organisations, including the UN and its agencies, and global and regional actors to address the worsening humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.

already leads the world in renewable technology and expressed his hope that they will commit to a more ambitious

Nationally Determined Contribution and to achieving Net Zero emissions," it added.

The Roadmap 2030 was adopted at a virtual summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his British

counterpart Boris Johnson at a virtual summit in May.

The roadmap is aimed at elevating bilateral ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership and guide cooperation over the next decade in the key areas of trade and economy, defence and security, climate change and people-to-people connect among others.

Jab highly effective in preventing severe Covid cases, says study



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Yet another but a vast study has said that vaccination is highly effective at preventing severe cases of Covid-19, even against the Delta variant. The research published on Monday — focusing on prevention of severe Covid and death, not infection — looked at 22 million people over 50 and found those who had received jabs were 90 percent less likely to be hospitalised or die.

The results confirm observations from the US, the UK and Israel, but researchers say it is the largest study of its kind so far.

Looking at data collected starting in December 2020, when France launched its jab campaign, the researchers compared the outcomes of 11 million vaccinated people with 11 million unvaccinated subjects.

They formed pairs matching an unvaccinated individual with a vaccinated counterpart from the same region and of the same age and sex, tracking them from the date of the vaccinated person's second jab to July 20.

Starting 14 days after a second dose, a vaccinated subject's risk of severe Covid was reduced by 90 percent, according to the research conducted by Epi-Phare, an independent medicines safety research group

Diabetes, obesity drugs might be used to treat Covid, says researchers

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Existing drugs used to treat diabetes, obesity and ageing can potentially be used to treat Covid-19, researchers from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal have claimed.

They have recently published a review of the biomolecular relationships among Covid-19, ageing and diabetes in the journal Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry and offers insight into future directions in Covid-19 therapeutics.

Dr Amjad Husain, Principal Scientist, and Chief Executive Officer of the Innovation and Incubation Center for Entrepreneurship (IICE), IISER Bhopal, along with researchers from the University of Arizona have presented that in addition to these drugs, some similar, naturally existing biomolecules can also be explored as potential drugs for Covid

treatment.

The review has been co-authored by Dr Udeep Chawla, Dr Manoj Kumar Kashyap and Dr Husain. Highlighting the research, the principal scientist at IISER said, "With the nearly-two-year-long Covid-19 pandemic continuing to ravage the world, we are beginning to slowly understand the virus and its functioning."

Effects of viral infections are severe on the ageing population and people with diabetic conditions, IISER Bhopal said, adding that studies are being conducted worldwide on the effects of aging and diabetes on the short and long-term outcomes of the Covid-19 infection.

The review shows that at the molecular level, there are intersecting pathways that are common to diabetes, ageing, and Covid-19. All three conditions are associated with oxidative stress and lowering of the immune response and complications.

that works closely with the French Government.

Vaccination appears to be nearly as effective against the

Delta variant, with 84 percent protection for people 75 and older and 92 percent for people 50-75.

Punjab, Hry record spike in farm fire: Data

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) data on paddy stubble burning showed that Punjab and Haryana have recorded a significant increase in farm fires after the withdrawal of the monsoon season from north India, though the situation so far is better than last year.

Between September 15 and October 10, Punjab recorded 764 incidents of crop residue burning in 2021 compared to 2,586 in the corresponding period last year, almost 80 percent drop in the paddy burning incident.

The detection of stubble burning by satellites was hampered due to scattered clouds over Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh states.

Haryana has recorded 196 farm fires so far against 353 logged during the period last year. The data shows the number of farm fires remained



considerably low till October 6, when the southwest monsoon started withdrawing from northwest India.

Punjab recorded only 63 stubble burning incidents from October 1 to October 5 as compared to 486 cases from October 6 to October 10. Similarly, Haryana recorded 17 such events from October 1 to October 5 compared to 172

cases from October 6 to October 10, the IARI data showed. Though stubble burning has increased since October 6, the daily number is still low as compared to 2020.

Vinay Sehgal, a scientist at IARI, said the number of farm fires remained low till the first week of October because of the delayed paddy harvesting on account of an extended mon-

soon season. "Even the farmers who had harvested their produce could not burn the straw because it was wet," he said, citing reports from the ground.

Sehgal said the IARI expects that there will be lesser farm fires this season compared to last year as Governments are more conscious about stubble management this time.

Punjab had recorded 1.02 lakh incidents of stubble burning in 2016. The number decreased to 67,079 in 2017; 59,684 in 2018 and 50,738 in 2019 from October 1 to November 30. The state logged 79,093 such incidents last year, according to the IARI. Haryana saw 15,686 farm fires in 2016; 13,085 in 2017; 9,225 in 2018; 6,364 in 2019 and 5,678 in 2020.

Punjab and Haryana attract attention during the paddy harvesting season in October and November.

Cong holds silent stir in States, seeks dismissal of Min Mishra

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress leaders on Monday staged a silent protest in different States demanding the dismissal of Union Minister Ajay Mishra in connection with the Lakhimpur Kheri violence.

In Lucknow, Congressmen, led by party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, sat on a 'maun vrat' in front of the statue of Mahatma Gandhi at State headquarters, demanding the dismissal of the Union Minister.

UP Minister Siddharth Nath Singh, however, said the law will take its own course and will not be influenced by any kind of pressure. Singh said if the Congress leaders want to sit on a 'maun vrat' or hold protests, it is their democratic right.

In an apparent jibe at Manmohan Singh, the UP government spokesperson said a prime minister had been on 'maun vrat' for 10 years.

Delhi Congress leaders and workers, led by Delhi Congress president Anil Kumar, sat on a 'maun vrat' near the lieutenant governor's office. Former Union ministers Ashwini Kumar and Krishna Tirath were among those who attended the protest.

The Indian Youth Congress leaders and workers also sat on a 'maun vrat' at the Jantar Mantar in the national Capital.

Several Punjab Congress leaders sat in protest. Punjab Congress working president Sukhwinder Singh Danny, MLA Inderbir Singh Bolaria, party's state unit general secretary Yoginder Pal Dhingra

along with other Congress workers held the silent protest at Amritsar. They carried placards seeking justice in the case. Similar protests were also held in Phagwara and Jalandhar.

The grand old party had asked all its state and Union Territory chiefs to observe a three-hour 'maun vrat' on Monday as part of their protest demanding the immediate removal of Union minister Ajay Mishra amid the arrest of his son Ashish Mishra in connection with the Lakhimpur Kheri violence.

To mount more pressure, the party has also sought time from President Ram Nath Kovind to apprise him about the loopholes being made deliberately to help the Lakhimpur Kheri violence accused which involves son of the Union minister.

Left: Sack Minister for Lakhimpur



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Left parties CPI(M) and LCPI on Monday reiterated that Union MoS Home Ajay Mishra should be sacked from Cabinet as his son is found as prime accused in the "massacre" of farmers in Lakhimpur.

Addressing the media, CPI(M) General Secretary said that as son is a prime accused and his father can't be a Minister of State in Union Home Ministry any more.

"Minister Ajay Mishra Teni must be immediately sacked from the Union Cabinet for his role in this barbaric atrocity in which eight people have lost their lives, including four farmers and a journalist. Justice cannot be delivered with his continuation as Minister. The large volume of the recorded footage of the incident clearly shows the deliberate manner in which this brutality was executed. The prime accused can be identified in this footage. We demand immediate dismissal of Minister Ajay Mishra and stringent action against Ashish Mishra on charges of brutal cold-blooded murder," said Yechury.

CPI also demanded the dismissal of Mishra from Union Cabinet. Delegation of CPI leaders led by party Uttar Pradesh state council secretary Dr Girish Chandra Sharma visited Lakhimpur. "Few days before the incident, the Union minister of state for home affairs had threatened to crush the farmers' movement. His son acted to put that into practice. Though the route of the farmers' protest demonstration had been diverted, son of the minister along with his gang came out with a caravan of vehicles to the place where the kisans had already finished their peaceful protest. They had tied a six-foot long bamboo lathi in front of the T har Jeep so that the protesters could be flattened to the ground and then crushed by the vehicles," said CPI in a statement demanding Mishra's dismissal from the Union Ministry.

Ministry extends date of sending suggestions for amendments in Forest Act

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Environment Ministry has extended the deadline for submitting comments and suggestions on the proposed amendments to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 till November 1. The earlier date of sending in suggestions was October 15.

It had put out a consultation paper on the same ten days ago, seeking people's views. The Ministry's consultation paper had drawn much criticism for the proposed amendments and the barely 15 days given for people to send in comments and suggestions.

Several activists had also demanded that the Consultation Paper be made available in all 22 official languages of the state. Sources in the Environment Ministry said, even that will be done soon. Earlier, the Consultation Paper too had been posted online on October 4, but it was dated October 2, thus effectively leaving just 13 days for comments/suggestions.

Among other activists, environment conservationists and founder members, Social Action for Forest and Environment (SAFE), Vikrant Tongad demanded the Consultation Paper be made available in 22 languages. Tongad was instrumental in

The Ministry's consultation paper had drawn much criticism for the proposed amendments

getting the Ministry to translate the draft of a similar proposed amendment in the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Act in 22 official languages, according to news agencies.

"If it is for public comments, this needs to be put out in all regional languages. There needs to be widespread publicity for the material to reach a large number of people, the real stakeholders," Tongad said, and added, "If not, then the basic question is, why is it not opened for public consultation?"

Students Islamic Organisation of India (SIO) had on Sunday written a letter to the Union Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav, demanding extension of the consultation window for proposed amendments to the Forest (Conservation) Act and availability of the proposed draft in non-English languages as well.

52% birds not only ate plastic but accumulated plastic's chemical components in bodies: Study



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Across 32 species of seabirds sampled from around the globe, an international team from 18 institutions in seven countries found that up to 52 per cent of the birds not only ate plastic, but also accumulated the plastic's chemical components in their bodies.

The alarming results published in Environmental Monitoring and Contaminants Research also predicted that by 2050, 99 per cent of seabird species will have ingested plastics.

"Globally, approximately 400 million metric tons of plastics are produced each year, and a portion of these escape into the environment, eventually find their way into the oceans," said corresponding

author Hideshige Takada, professor in the Laboratory of Organic Geochemistry (LOG), Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology. "When floating on the sea surface or stranded on beaches, plastics are exposed to UV radiation from the sun and break down into smaller fragments."

These fragments, as well as resin pellets used as plastic feedstock that also make their way into the waterways, are not biodegradable nor do they sink. They are similar in size to seabirds' natural prey of small fish and insects, and they are light enough to float or move with the currents.

"Consequently, huge amounts of plastics are available to a suite of consumers in the world's oceans," Takada said. "As of 2020, 180 species of

seabirds, corresponding to half of the total species of seabirds around the globe, have been reported to have ingested plastics. While eating plastic can cause physical damage and be a direct cause for seabird death, according to Takada, little is known about the biological consequences of consuming the chemicals added to bind, stabilize or otherwise improve plastic used in food packing, fishing gear and more.

"It was believed that additives are not easily available for leaching or accumulation in biological tissues as they are kneaded into the polymer matrix during plastic production," Takada said. "However, it has been demonstrated that oily components in digestive fluids can act as organic solvents to facilitate additive

leaching."

As a result, Takada said, plastic additives can be accumulated in seabirds' tissue.

"In this study, we aimed to understand the spread threat of plastic-mediated accumulation of chemical additives to seabirds on a global basis," Takada said.

The researchers analyzed oil from the preen gland, located just above the tail, from 145 seabirds in 16 different locations around the world. By examining the chemical concentrations in this oil, the researchers can determine the contaminant burden of the bird's internal fat stores. They procured the oil by wiping the gland, which can be done without harm to the bird. They also examined the preen gland oil and stomach contents of 54 bird carcasses found on the beaches.

The researchers found one additive accumulated in 16 of the birds, and other additives in 67 of the birds.

"High concentrations of additives were detected in seabirds that also contained large, ingested plastic loads," Takada said, noting that the birds could also receive additives initially ingested by their natural prey, these occurrence patterns suggest that additives are derived mainly from directly ingested plastics. "The detection of additives demonstrated that significant portions of the world's seabirds — 10 to 30% — are likely to accumulate chemicals directly from ingesting plastics, but the health consequences of this are not fully understood."

CBI registers case against pvt firm for cheating SBI

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has registered a case against a private company Trimax IT Infrastructure & Services Ltd (TIISL), Surya Prakash Madrecha and others for allegedly cheating SBI and other consortium member banks to the tune of ₹862.06 crore during the period 2009 to 2017.

The CBI on Monday conducted searches at the premises of the accused.

The case was registered on a complaint from State Bank of India (SBI) against the private company and others. "It was further alleged that during the period 2009 to 2017, the accused were sanctioned credit facilities under consortium banking which were enhanced from time to time," the agency said in a statement.

The accused directors of the company, in conspiracy with others, manipulated the books of accounts, diverted the funds released by banks and thereby cheated seven consortium member banks including State Bank of India to the tune of ₹862.06 crore, it said.

Searches were conducted at nine locations including residential and office premises of the accused at Mumbai and Kolhapur.

'Child marriage kills more than 60 girls a day globally'

New Delhi: Child marriage kills more than 60 girls a day globally and six girls a day in South Asia, according to a new analysis released on the International Day of the Girl Child that claimed over an estimated 22,000 girls a year are dying from pregnancy and childbirth resulting from child marriage.

The report by Save The Children said South Asia sees 2,000 child marriage-related deaths every year (or six every day), followed by East Asia and the Pacific with 650 deaths (or two every day), and Latin American and the Caribbean, with 560 annual deaths (or nearly two a day).

"More than an estimated 22,000 girls a year are dying from pregnancy and childbirth resulting from child marriage. Child marriage kills more than 60 girls a day, globally and 6 girls a day in South Asia," the report noted.

However, West and Central Africa has the highest rate of child marriage in the world and accounts for nearly half (9,600) of all estimated child marriage-related deaths globally, or 26 deaths a day.

The regional teenage maternal mortality rate is four times higher than anywhere else in the world.



"Although nearly 80 million child marriages globally have been prevented in the last 25 years, progress had stalled even before the Covid-19 pandemic, which has only worsened inequalities that drive child marriage."

"With school closures, health services under strain or closed, and more families being pushed into poverty, women and girls face an increased risk of violence during lengthy lockdowns. A further 10 million girls are now expected to marry by 2030, leaving more girls at risk of dying," the report said.

Inger Ashing, CEO of Save the Children International, said child marriage is one of the worst and deadliest forms of sexual and gender-based violence against girls. Every year, millions are forced into wedlock with men who are often much older, robbing them of an opportunity to keep learning, be

children, and in many cases, to survive.

"Childbirth is the number one killer of teenage girls because their young bodies aren't ready to bear children. The health risks of children having children cannot, and must not, be ignored. Governments must prioritise girls and ensure they're protected from child marriage and premature childbirth-related deaths. This can only happen if girls have a say in the decisions that affect them," Ashing said.

Sudarshan, CEO, Save the Children, India said, "We at Save the Children India; Bal Raksha Bharat would like to see child marriage confined to museums and history. It is our collective failure that even in this century such a crime against humanity is prevalent and perpetuated. All those who are not a part of the solution should consider themselves a part of the problem."

"To deny children, and more specifically the girl children their basic right to learn, and enjoy a happy and carefree childhood is a human rights violation and needs to be condemned. It should not be dismissed as a cultural element and instead seen as a denial of basic right to life and liberty," he said. **PTI**

Delhi HC's respite for Didi's niece-in-law in coal scam appearance

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

In a big respite for Rujira Narula Banerjee the wife of Trinamool Congress MP and its national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee, the Delhi High Court on Monday exempted her from personal appearance in multi-core coal scam case at the Delhi office of Enforcement Directorate one of the agencies investigating the case.

The Bench of Justice Yogesh Khanna granted permission to Narula via a lawyer before adjourning the matter for October 29. The Court is also examining Abhishek Banerjee's petition challenging several summons to the couple by the ED.

Earlier the wife of Abhishek Banerjee who is also the nephew of Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had moved the Delhi High Court challenging a lower

court order directing her to appear before it physically on October 12. Earlier she had appeared virtually on the grounds that she was a mother of small children and her venturing out of Kolkata during corona times could be a health risk for them too.

While Solicitor General Tushar Mehta appeared for the ED and strongly opposed the petition filed by Abhishek Banerjee and his wife challenging ED summons the Banerjees were represented by senior lawyer Kapil Sibal.

Narula Banerjee had pleaded before the High Court that she had not only cooperated with the investigating agency appearing before its officials in Kolkata whenever summoned but also the ED had faulted in summoning her out of Kolkata without conducting any preliminary investigating against her.

Vasudevan Nair honoured with AKKITHAM award



KOCHI: Eighty eight year old MT Vasudevan Nair, literary icon of Malayalam language, turned nostalgic on Sunday as he was presented with the first Akkitham Achuthan Nampoothiri Award for his contributions to arts, culture and literature over the last six decades.

The award was in memory of Akkitham Achuthan Nampoothiri, the Jnanapeeth Award winning Mahakavi of Malayalam language who breathed his last in 2020. It turned out to be a special event for Vasudevan Nair, popularly known in the sphere of arts and culture as MT, himself a Jnanapeeth Award winner.

"It was Akkitham who inspired and encouraged me to read literature. He also taught me how to write poems," said MT while accepting the award presented to him by Prof P G Haridas, president, Tapasya, the oldest socio-cultural organization in Kerala of which Akkitham was one of the founders.

The award carries a cash prize of ₹One lakh, citation and a plaque.

Kerala court convicts man for killing wife using snake

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Sooraj, who murdered his wife Uthara by getting her bitten by a cobra was found guilty by the Kollam District Additional Sessions Judge M Manoj on Monday. The judge declared that the prosecution has proved beyond any doubt that Sooraj was guilty of murdering his wife Uthara under Sections 302, 307, 328 and 201 of the Indian Penal Code.

The judge said it was the rarest of the rare cases as Sooraj's earlier attempt to murder his wife by making her bitten by a viper ended in fiasco. "Even as his wife was being treated for snake bite in the Intensive Care Unit of a hospital, Sooraj was busy planning his next operation with another snake," said the judge. When the judge asked Sooraj whether he has something to tell, the murdered said no and remained impassive. While the prosecution asked the judge to give the severest of the punishment, the defence lawyer claimed that Sooraj was innocent.

The punishment would be pronounced on Wednesday.

The murder which shook the conscience of Kerala took place on May 7, 2020, Uthara, a homemaker was found dead in the bedroom of her husband's house.

Sooraj and his parents claimed that it was a natural snakebite. But Uthara's parents smelled foul play in the death as that was the second time in as many months that she was bitten by a poisonous snake.

The skepticism arose from the fact that the deceased has been repeatedly subjected to harassment from her husband and his family for dowry. They argued that it was impossible for a snake to find its way into a closed air-conditioned room, particularly since the floor was tiled.

LAKHIMPUR KHERI KILLINGS

No politician to be on stage during 'antim ardas' for farmers

Lakhimpur Kheri/Bahraich (UP): No politician will be allowed to share the stage with farm leaders during the last prayers for the four farmers killed in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence on October 3, a BKU office-bearer said.

Preparations for the "antim ardas" (final prayers) are underway at a field, away from the spot where the violence took place in Tikonia village.

"The 'antim ardas' for all the dead farmers will be held on Tuesday at Tikonia," BKU-Tikait's district president Amandeep Singh Sandhu said on Monday.

On whether politicians will be part of the prayers, BKU-Tikait district vice-president Balkar Singh said, "No political

leader will be allowed to share the stage where only Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) leaders will be present."

The SKM is an umbrella organisation of farmer unions spearheading the protest against the Centre's three contentious farm laws, which were enacted last year.

"Farmers and leaders of various farm unions from other states and districts of Uttar Pradesh will participate in the 'ardas' and 'bhog' programme in Tikonia," Sandhu said, adding that "no other programme has been communicated so far".

According to a report, a "paath" for the Sikh farmers killed in the violence has been kept at the Kaudiyala Ghat gurdwara in Tikonia village. **PTI**

Rename Bahraich village after victim: Kin, Sikh community

Bahraich (UP): The Sikh community of Bahraich and relatives of a farmer killed in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence have demanded that the victim's village be named after him.

Bahraich's Gurdwara Guru Singh Sabha president Mandeep Singh Walia said the demand to rename Moharnia village as "Gurvinder Nagar" has been made to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath through the state minorities commission. An 11-member delegation, led by commission member Parvinder Singh, had met families of the violence victims last week.

The delegation also included people from the Bahraich Gurdwara Management Committee. Walia said relatives of farmer Gurvinder Singh "Giani ji" and the Bahraich gurdwara committee gave a letter to the commission, demanding naming the village after the victim. **PTI**

MVA, BJP exchange barbs on Maha bandh

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

As the "Maharashtra bandh" called by the ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) protest against the Lakhimpur Kheri incident evoked a good response across the State on Monday, the ruling alliance partners and the Opposition BJP exchanged barbs over the "success" of the bandh.

While Shiv Sena spokesperson and MP Sanjay Raut termed the bandh a "100 per cent success", leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly Devendra Fadnavis charged that the ruling MVA had "threatened" and "coerced" the traders and businessmen into downing their shutters on the bandh day.

Though the bandh was by-largely peaceful across the state, there were sporadic incidents like stoning eight BEST and one leased bus in Mumbai and a clash that broke between the ruling MVA and Opposition

BJP workers at Bhusawal in north Maharashtra.

"The people across the State have wholeheartedly participated in the bandh. True. Some minor incidents have taken place during the bandh. Such minor incidents take place during protests all over the world," Raut said.

Hitting out at the ruling MVA, Fadnavis said: "This is nothing but a state-sponsored bandh that has been imposed on the people and implemented with the help of the State administration. The ruling coalition misused the police to impose the shutdown on people."

"Since the Supreme Court and Bombay High Court had earlier banned the bandhs and even imposed fine on the Shiv Sena, we urge the high court to take cognisance of today's developments," Fadnavis said.

The buses, taxis and autorickshaws went off the roads, hotels, business estab-

lishments and markets remained by and large closed across the state. However, few shops and eateries remained open during the day.

Maharashtra Minister and NCP leader Jayant Patil stated that essential services had been exempted from the shut down

and the bandh passed off peacefully!

Distancing the MVA government from the bandh, the senior minister said: "The government had nothing to do with the bandh. The three parties - Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress had called the bandh.

Fadnavis' wife flayed for insensible tweet

Mumbai: Maharashtra's former Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis' banker wife Amruta Fadnavis stirred up a hornet's nest in the state political circles through a controversial tweet, wondering whether "extortion" was continuing in the state or not. Taking an "indirect" dig at the Shiv Sena, Amruta - known for controversial statements and tweets - wondered: "Will someone tell me if the extortion is continuing or has stopped (on the bandh day)?"

Hitting back at Amruta, who is a singer, for her tweet, NCP's state women wing chief Rupali Chakankar tweeted: "As much is the case with her songs, these days she (Amruta Fadnavis) strikes a wrong cord both in her tweets and speeches. Her tweet is a combination of lack of sensibility and half knowledge."

Leaders from other MVA constituents also came down heavily on her "insensible" tweet that contained a "baseless" allegation against the ruling dispensation.

APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR CELEBRATION OF MAHARISHI VALMIKI JAYANTI

Government of NCT of Delhi is inviting applications for celebration of Maharishi Valmiki jayanti on 20-10-2021 under "Scheme for Celebration of Birth/Death Anniversary of Eminent personalities".

Government of NCT of Delhi will provide assistance through empanelled agencies to the Organizations desiring to celebrate the event in the form of arrangement for tentage, sound, system, lighting, banners, chairs etc,

Eligibility:- NGOs / Organizations involved in social activities are eligible for the assistance.

Procedure for applying:

The Organizations desiring to avail the assistance may submit their application duly recommended by area MLA submitted by the NGOs/Organization to the Department for the Welfare of SC/ST/OBC, GNCT of Delhi, B Block, 2nd floor, Vikas Bhawan, I.P.Estate, New Delhi-02, by 14-10-2021 positively. Applications received thereafter will not be considered.

Selected NGOs/ Organizations have to provide photographs of the event organized by them and abide by stipulations of the department for proper organization of the event. Organizers will also be required to submit a declaration to the effect that Govt. guidelines/SOP applicable for organizing religious/cultural functions will be followed scrupulously to prevent spread of Covid-19.

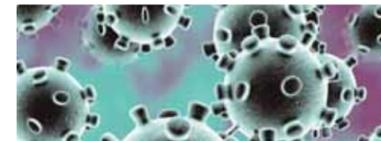
Note:- The celebration of Valmiki Jayanti on 20-10-2021 is subject to the existing DDMA Guidelines related to prevent spread of Covid-19 pandemic and modifications, if any, in existing Guidelines. The assistance will be provided to only those organizations who will be able to produce the necessary permission as per DDMA guidelines from the concerned District Magistrate and other concerned agencies.

DIP/ Shabdarth/ 0355/21-22



Women priests perform rituals of Goddess Durga during 'Maha Shasti' of Durga Puja festival, in Kolkata on Monday **PTI**

Kerala clocks 6,996 fresh cases, 84 deaths



Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala on Monday recorded a steep fall in Covid-19 cases, logging 6,996 infections and 84 deaths, taking the caseload to 48,01,796 and fatalities to 26,342 till date. The State had logged 10,691 cases on October 10.

With 16,576 more people recovering from the virus since Sunday, the total recoveries touched 46,73,442 and the active cases dropped to 1,01,419, an official press release said.

As many as 66,702 samples were tested in the last 24 hours, the release said.

Among the 14 districts, Ernakulam recorded the highest number of cases with 1,058, followed by Thiruvananthapuram (1,010) and Kozhikode (749).

The State has been showing a decline in the daily fresh cases after crossing the 30,000-mark post-Onam festival in August.

Of the new cases, 35 were health workers, 40 from outside the State and 6,588 infected through contact with the source of it not being clear in 333. There are currently 3,54,720 people under surveillance in various districts, of whom 3,42,367 are in home or institutional quarantine and 12,353 in hospitals. **PTI**

Malayalam cinema's iconic artist Nedumudi Venu is no more

KOCHI: Nedumudi Venu, Malayalam cinema's czar of acting is no more. The 73-year old actor, whom critics of global cinema had rated as the Total Artist, breathed his last in a corporate hospital at Thiruvananthapuram on Monday noon. He was ailing for some time and has hospitalized last week.

In a career spanning more than four decades, Venu perfected many roles with poise and elan. He began his film career with G Aravindan, the Man with the Midas touch who cast him in his movie Thampu (Malayalam for The Circus Tent) and since then there was no looking back for him. Venu leaves behind more than 500 myriad roles, ranging from hero, supporting artist, comedian and villain.

Venu had won three National Awards and six Kerala State Film Awards besides a host of other reputed honors. Born at Nedumudi village in Alappuzha, Venu was selected by Kavalam Narayana Panicker, who is credited with carving out a distinct style of drama, popularly known as Thanathu Natakam. While the other dramatists failed to make any impact in the highly competitive theatre in the State, Panicker and his team that included Venu reached the pinnacle. Venu's contemporaries include Gopi and Murali both national award winning artists. **PNS**

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PAPER WITH PASSION

What for?

The US has once again created ambiguity around the role and purpose of the Quad

The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, Quad for short, is a non-defence, non-military arrangement, the United States has said. Has the grouping of India, Australia, Japan and the US just been down-graded? Or is it being re-purposed because of the emergence of AUKUS that comprises the US, the UK and Australia? The third question that completes the picture is: Where does that leave India which is steadfastly against any military overtures? At an event in Mumbai, visiting US Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman claimed that Quad is meant to discuss soft issues, like vaccines, supply chains, and climate. The American "clarification" comes after Quad's four heads of State met in the US in-person and stressed the rule of law and regional security. It also comes just days before Quad's second phase of the Malabar naval exercise in the Bay of Bengal. The first phase was conducted in the Western Pacific in August, with the US deploying the pride of its navy, the over 100,000-ton Nimitz Class super aircraft carrier, USS Carl Vinson. The US chief of naval operations Admiral Mike Gilday said the exercise will help create an inclusive, free and open rules-based order and will increase "our interoperability for decades to come as well as maintain security, stability and prosperity". For good measure, between the two phases of the Malabar exercise, India conducted AUSINDEX, the bilateral naval exercise with Australia and JIMEX, with Japan. The second phase will see complex exercises involving anti-surface, anti-air and anti-submarine drills. In what respect, then, and how,



is Quad non-defence and non-military? Even the simple act of protecting supply chains is a maritime security issue. The right to navigational rights in the Indo-Pacific region is a maritime security issue as well.

It may be recalled that before the Prime Minister's US visit, foreign secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said Quad was separate from AUKUS, and for that matter, was not lined with the Malabar exercise either, though the same nations were involved in both the Quad and Malabar. It was assumed at that time that India was trying to downplay the role of Quad to assuage any jittery nations in Asia. Is Sherman's iteration to be seen in the same light? This is in sharp contrast to the statement of former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo who in Tokyo last September minced no words saying that Quad collaborates to protest "our people" from China's "exploitation, corruption and coercion". The Quad nations came together in the backdrop of China's modernisation of its military, intrusions into the Taiwan Strait, and its force projections even though they have refrained from taking China's name formally either as an opponent or challenger in the Indo-Pacific region. The ambiguity about China being the adversary, thus continues. India and Japan have border disputes with China but it is The US' superpower image that brings it to the region. Is it a case of an absent military arrangement for an absent adversary?

PICTALK



A worker sprays bio-decomposer at a field in Fatehpur

PTI

Heed caution

Kerala could be rushing things as schools are set to reopen amid COVID-19

A sense of desperation is discernible among parents of students in Kerala as the day of reopening of schools and colleges approaches. Come November 1, the day the State of Kerala was formed in 1956, educational institutions would reopen after 21 months of COVID-induced lockdown. Students are thrilled at the prospect of going back to classes which would come alive with their lovely presence. The sullen



silence that had enveloped schools is sure to give way to a sense of energy and positivity, a refreshing change. But the question being asked by the medical community in Kerala is whether the State is ready to play dice with the health of children. Kerala is yet to rid itself of the tentacles of the pandemic. The daily caseload has declined, says Veena George, the Minister. But doctors point out that bureaucrats and policy makers are fudging the figures. The Test Positivity Rate is hovering around 13 per cent and the number of samples tested per day is less than one lakh. This is in stark contrast to neighbouring Tamil Nadu which tests on

an average 1.5 lakh samples per day.

Though schools have reopened in Tamil Nadu, the State continues with online classes to help those who prefer to stay indoors. Kerala is yet to learn from its mistakes of tampering with guidelines issued by the Indian Council of Medical Research. While it is easy to manage grown-up students in colleges, children in schools would need individual care. According to Government doctors, the State need not have opened at least the schools. "We have already lost more than half of this academic year to the pandemic. Instead of reopening the schools, the Government could have waited for another six months for the pandemic to subside," opines a senior doctor. He feels that it would be a tough job to ensure that children do not contract the virus. Yet another disturbing factor is a post-COVID syndrome like 'memory fog'. Those who were immobilised by COVID-19 assert that they were suffering from memory loss. Utmost care must be taken to protect students from this virus which would likely leave them short of memory. Overcrowded temples, liquor outlets, markets, public transport and ring roads in the State do not augur well for trouble-free education. As of now, the adage 'better late than never' suits the State well.

To command respect in the simplest way

Gandhiji gave up the traditional Gujarati kurta and pyjama and underwent an image makeover to identify himself with the 'Daridra Narayanas'



KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

While the whole nation was busy observing Gandhi Jayanti on October 2 (the day Mahatma Gandhi was born) and preparations are in full swing to celebrate his 155th anniversary that falls in 2024 with grandiose plans, an event was held in Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore sans any fanfare by an industrialist that went unnoticed.

It was the centenary of the Mahatma switching over his attire from the traditional Gujarati kurta and pyjama to the poor man's dress - the loin cloth (*dhoti*). The Father of the Nation who was on an all-India tour left his traditional costume on September 21, 1921, at Madurai at the end of a cross country tour. He was moved over by the poor farmers across the sub-continent struggling to cover themselves with a piece of cloth. On that eventful day at Madurai, the temple city of Tamil Nadu, Gandhiji gave up wearing the customary costume and underwent an image makeover to identify himself with the "Daridra Narayana". He also made it a habit to weave the loin cloth for himself with the help of a charkha (spinning wheel).

In independent India, after the Gandhi era, the 'dhoti' lost its dignity somewhere along the line as the new generation preferred fashionable trousers, jeans and bermudas, though people in Tamil Nadu and Kerala continued with the *dhoti* made of cheap cotton.

It was Tirupur based KR Nagarajan, a matriculate, who took it as a mission to make people wear *dhotis*. Nagarajan was a victim of the prejudiced mindset of the glitterati towards the traditional attire as he himself was turned away from a five-star hotel for daring to wear a *dhoti* instead of the prescribed dress code - three-piece suit! He launched Ramraj Cotton, the company that is credited with manufacturing India's first branded *dhoti*. Even business rivals agree that there was no looking back either for Nagarajan or the *dhoti*. The year 2015 saw the then Chief Minister J Jayalalitha issuing an order making it a criminal offence to prevent persons wearing *dhoti* entering public or private places including Government establishments.

Nagarajan's brand name Ramraj itself is a tribute to the



Father of the Nation who had dreamt of establishing 'Ram Raj'. To mark the centenary of the Mahatma's rebooting of his image, Nagarajan inaugurated Dhoti 100, as a tribute to the country's millions of poor people and weavers who make *dhotis*.

Nagarajan, who is always seen in his *dhoti* and shirt, is of the view that the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi would get global recognition when people begin respecting *dhoti*. "The *dhoti* clad man should get the same respect and recognition which people in western outfits get. The Government should seriously think of declaring *dhoti* as India's national attire," said Nagarajan.

Hundreds of weavers drawn out from western Tamil Nadu were honoured as part of the Dhoti 100 event while dancers from Chennai's Kalakshetra performed a dance "Gandhiyini Vazhiyil Ramraj" (Tamil for Ramraj in the path of Gandhi).

Recounting the history of his unit, Nagarajan said it was the hardship faced by weavers in the region that made him set up a weaving unit. "They were

earning ₹2 per day as wages for weaving and for that too, they had to walk more than 10 kms from their villages to Tirupur town. It was to help them earn more that I gave up the job of a clerk in the office of a Sait and launched the weaving cooperative. I am the first employee of this company," said Nagarajan.

R Chandran, a Tirupur businessman, said the Ramraj Mills played a significant role in turning the fortunes of more than 50,000 weavers. "Nagarajan has every right to observe the centennial celebration of Mahatma Gandhi's decision to change over to *dhoti*. He is the true Gandhi of modern times," said Chandran.

Nagarajan, whose unit has never seen any kind of labour unrest, is content with the achievement made by him. "We have transformed the attire of the Mahatma into a national identity. If the number of youngsters wearing *dhoti* is any indication, the day is not far off when people all over the country would prefer *dhoti* and shirts as their attire," said Nagarajan.

Clad in white *dhoti* and shirt all the time, Nagarajan practices what he preaches. The day in the weaving units and the corporate office begins with prayers and promises...promises to make the world a better place to live. There is no unhappiness around as weavers are paid suitably and taken care of. Nagarajan himself is content with the size of the unit he owns. "Let others launch such units so that more and more weavers get benefitted," he said even as he honoured the weavers by offering them *dhoti* and miniature charkhas.

Nagarajan's could be the rare example of the building block of village republics visualised by the Mahatma. "Self-reliant villages form a sound basis for a just, equitable and non-violent order," the Mahatma had said, setting the tone for a new economic order for the world free of any "isms". It is valid even in the era of satellite phones and genetically modified foods.

(The writer is a Special Correspondent with The Pioneer. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CAN SPACE UNITE THE WORLD?

Sir — Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Indian Space Association (ISpA), an industry body aspiring to be the voice of the Indian space sector to make the dreams of Dr Abdul Kalam come true. PM Modi also interacted with representatives of the space industry on this occasion. The ISpA will undertake policy advocacy and engage with all stakeholders in the Indian space domain, including the Government and its agencies. Echoing the Prime Minister's vision of 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat', the ISpA will help in making India self-reliant, technologically advanced and a leading player in the space arena.

The 20th century tendency of trying to rule space has divided the countries of the world. But now, in the 21st century, India will have to ensure that space plays an important role in uniting and connecting the world. The Government is moving ahead with a clear policy regarding public sector enterprises and is opening most of these sectors to private enterprises where Government intervention is not required. The decision regarding Air India shows its commitment and seriousness.

MIR Jayanthi | Chennai

DHONI HAS STILL GOT IT

Sir — The magical moments of MS Dhoni came out with a quick knock as Chennai Super Kings needed Doni's bat to rage on Sunday. Chennai Super Kings were on course chasing 171 in the first qualifier of the Indian Premier League 2021 when they lost three quick wickets. Suddenly, the Delhi Capitals were on fire in the field and experts said it could be anyone's game. When the going was not good for CSK and the asking run rate was mounting up, MS Dhoni sauntered out and played a captain's innings and CSK sailed into the finals. Dhoni was being criticised for his slow scoring all these years and received brickbats on the social media for some time. He silenced all his critics as CSK needed 24 runs in two overs and Dhoni did the trick with a 6 ball 18 including a six and three boundaries, which ulti-

The 'dirty' game in politics



Kudos to Priyanka Gandhi for delivering a sharp rebuke to UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath who expressed audacity enough to belittle the service and sentiments of innumerable people associated with the profession of sweeping. CM Yogi earlier took a dig at Priyanka's act of sweeping the floor during her detention and said that the people wanted to make the Congress leaders worth doing that. In a befitting reply, Priyanka asserted that crores of women, Dalits and sweepers do this work with self-

respect every day. Every profession is entitled to dignity and people should be judged based on their honesty, efficiency, devotion to duty and work ethics; not blindly based on their academics and social stature.

The Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister's distasteful comment highlights that his outfit not only indulges in politics of religion and language; it is class-conscious to vulgar infinity as well. Last but not the least. The "who's who" of the ruling party and the Union Government often indulges in the spectacle of sweeping various premises. Why doesn't Yogi mock his very own by stating "The people wanted to make them fit for this, and they have made them fit for this"? Is it because the saffronites allegedly take up "sanitised, expensive and brand new" brooms to sweep cleverly-planted "clean garbage" by informing the media beforehand so that they can be ready with cameras before the "circus" starts?

Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata

mately decided the game in favour of CSK.

Dhoni pulled the fourth ball for final runs and sent the crowd and the CSK dugout into a frenzy. The cameras panned to Sakshi Dhoni and she was in tears as she hugged her daughter. Those who were talking about Dhoni hanging his boots once for all received a befitting reply with his furious hitting in the final over. With Robin Uthappa and Rituraj Gaikwad doing the hard yards, Dhoni gave his usual finishing touch. This time he hit a four, he might have saved the six for the final.

CK Subramaniam | Mumbai

IS A COAL CRISIS LURKING?

Sir — With several States sending warnings of a developing power crisis due to shortage of coal, the Central Government on October 10 pressed all resources at its command to ensure power plants have enough feedstock to generate electricity. The Union Power Minister reviewed the coal stock position at all thermal power plants, including those units that supply

electricity to distribution companies in the national capital, and ample quantities of coal are available in the country to meet the demand. That is a very clear message and the panic created is just blaming the Central Government.

In a year when the country produced record quantities of coal, excessive rains in the coal-producing belt hit the movement of fuel from mines to power generation units, impacting power generation in many states including Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi and Andhra Pradesh. When the State Governments are demanding stardom, they want more power and when there is power shortage, these States need the assistance of the Centre to overcome the situation. After allegations about shortage of oxygen cylinders and ventilators, now the complaints have changed to a different route.

Krishnan Ramani | Kozhikode

SOUND BITE

People are not going to vote on the basis of BJP's emotive issues. The people's issues will dominate the elections in Chhattisgarh.



Chhattisgarh Chief Minister —Bhupesh Baghel

For the first time since February 2020, our unemployment rate is below 5 per cent. That is progress.

US Vice President —Kamala Harris

Women have to take power in their own hands and shape the perception of how a girl should view herself.

Bollywood debutante —Manushi Chhillar

When your only option is winning, and losing is not an option, then your performance reaches another level.

RCB captain —Virat Kohli

Being a political leader doesn't mean that you loot, it doesn't mean that you mow down anyone by a 'Fortuner'.

UP BJP chief —Swatantra Dev Singh

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



FIRST COLUMN LESSONS FROM CHINA'S ENERGY MELTDOWN

Renewable energy sources alone can make future Indian economic targets viable



KOTA SRIRAJ

The unusual energy crisis facing China in nearly 10 provinces is proving alarming both for the leadership and the people. Power outages, some day-long, are the norm in cities like Shengyang. Water supply and phone signals went dead too, and so did traffic signals, plunging urban traffic into nightmarish snarls. People in packed high-rises, especially the elderly, were the most affected as elevators froze. These conditions are almost unheard of in these modern times, that too in a nation aspiring to be a global economic superpower. The power crisis was by no means sudden. The energy crunch was building up through the summer and the recent imposition of long power cut in north-eastern provinces and rationing of power to factories was an early indication. The industry, especially the ones involved in making smart phones and auto components is the most impacted. Even



Apple and Tesla products supply chains may be affected. This has captured global attention and India too must derive critical lessons in this context. The prevailing conditions in China have shown that adopting a "silo-based" planning for progress ultimately leads to disaster. The lack of coordination between economic growth policies and resource planning strategies in China has resulted in over-dependence on coal driven energy generation to fuel economic growth. As the global markets bounced back after the severity of COVID-19, Chinese industry was flooded with orders but since the coal demand kept increasing, the prices of coal kept going up and the supply of the same proportionately went down. These conditions and an abrupt cessation of coal imports from Australia added to China's energy woes. To compound the situation, the lack of dependable alternate energy resource meant that China did not have a Plan B to fall back upon. Whatever hydro-electricity option was available for the nation was put paid to by the recent droughts in South-Western region where the hydel-Power plants are located. This increased the dependence on coal again. Today's Chinese energy meltdown is a classic case-study on how the state must not manage its economic growth strategy especially in relation to utilisation of natural resources for energy generation. Additionally, the pressure to "ensure" blue skies ahead of Winter Olympics due to be held in Beijing in 2022 is making the nation try and cut back on coal usage. But it is easier said than done, as 50 per cent of China's power generation is coal-dependent. India is also helplessly dependent on coal for its energy generation needs and does not have a scalable and sustainable energy generation alternative. Even though coal is responsible for 40 per cent of carbon dioxide emissions, India still utilizes coal to generate 70 per cent of its electricity. Despite the damning evidence of coal's role in climate change, India uses coal for energy generation because it is cheap. State-owned Coal India is the largest coal mining company in the world. This environmentally devastating narrative of India's image must change. India has still not been able to develop solar, wind and other renewable sources to take over from coal. India should shrug off the preferential treatment given to coal and remove taxes, duties and bottlenecks hindering the proliferation of renewable sources of energy. The experience of China is a valuable takeaway for India's energy planners and strategists and those involved in related policy planning. The writing on the wall is clear, coal cannot be relied upon to deliver India to the next level of economic growth only renewable energy that is viable, scalable and sustainable can do so.

(The writer is an environmental journalist. The views expressed are personal.)

Why Modi does not repeal the farm laws

The farm laws will open up multiple options for farmers, enabling them to realise a price of their choice which could be even more than MSP



UTTAM GUPTA

Even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi has demonstrated resilience while navigating other reform measures, he has refused to budge on the three farm laws despite the nearly 10-month-long protest by farmers demanding their repeal.

The "Situation Assessment of Agricultural Households and Land and Livestock Holdings of Households in Rural India", SAS in short, released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), covering the period July 2018 to June 2019, reveals widespread dissatisfaction among farmers with the price realized from sale of their produce; it varies depending on the commodity. The shares of farmers dissatisfied are cereals — 25 per cent, fruits — 28 per cent, pulses — 32 per cent, oilseeds — 35 per cent, vegetables — 44 per cent, tuber crops — 47 per cent, flower crops — 84 per cent.

The Survey also brings out the level of dissatisfaction amongst farmers — mainly due to shortfall in price realization — depending on who the buyer is. The latter are placed in eight broad categories. These are Agricultural Produce Market Committee or APMCs (these are mandis — a nickname for marketplace notified by the State Governments under their APMC Act), private local market, Government agencies, cooperatives, farmers producer organizations (FPOs), purchase by firms under 'contract farming', private processors, input dealers.

The dissatisfaction with sales in the APMCs (a mere 5.4 per cent of the farmers sell their produce here) is highest. The next in the order is 'private local market' where 77.5 per cent farmers sell. The dissatisfaction level with other outlets (sans input dealers) is low but only 17 per cent farmers sell on these platforms.

The low price realisation from sale in APMC has to do with what may be termed as 'strangulation of farmers on this platform' under the extant arrangements. Put simply, the farmers in a given area are required to bring their produce to the 'designated' mandi. They cannot take it to any other place even within the same state. If, any farmer does this, she or he runs the risk of violating the law.

On entering the mandi, he faces two sharks; one, the arthiyas — local term for commission agents who arrange for the auction and delivery of the produce to the buyers — and two, the licensed trader at the mandi who alone is authorized to buy the produce. They collude with each other to ensure that the farmer faces a deadly cocktail of low price, rejections, weighing less, delayed payment, etc. Levies such as market fee of three per cent, arthiyas' commission 2.5 per cent and rural development cess (RDC) three per cent (as in Punjab) further add to their woes as these come out of farmer's pocket only.

Come to the local private market. Why is the farmer not getting a good



THE THREE FARM LAWS HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF FARMERS FROM ONE OF DOING BUSINESS UNDER SUBJUGATION — LIKE A CAGED PARROT AND CONTENDING WITH WHAT THE OWNER OF THE CAGE GIVES THEM — TO ONE WHERE THEY ARE THEIR OWN MASTERS FULLY EMPOWERED TO SELL ON THEIR TERMS

(The writer is a policy analyst. The views expressed are personal.)



price here? This too links up with prohibition on sale outside the mandi. If, the law of the land were to be followed in letter and spirit, there cannot be any sale outside the notified place (read: mandi). Yet, de facto, it is happening on a massive scale.

This has to do with collusion between the traders/commission agents and corrupt bureaucrats and politicians. While the former force the hapless farmers — especially small farmers who don't have access to APMC markets — to part with their produce at throwaway prices (as they have no other place to go), the latter who have the responsibility of enforcing the rules look the other way. If a farmer dares to sell to anyone other than this cartel (read: traders/commission agents), he is scared away saying 'he could be booked' for violating the law.

Clearly, an overwhelming percentage of farmers — 83 per cent — selling in the mandis and local market get a raw deal fundamentally because they are shackled by APMC laws. The only way they can get a fair deal is to unshackle them by amending these laws to make way for selling (albeit legitimate) in the private market. Yet, majority of the State governments have not done it.

The Modi Government responded to this dire need by enacting The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020 along with two other supporting laws namely, The Farmers

(Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020 and The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020. These laws legitimize sales on all non-APMC platforms without disturbing APMC mandis (these anyway are within the jurisdiction of the States) while fully safeguarding farmers against any wrongdoing by the buyers.

The farmers can sell to a buyer of their choice and get the 'intended' price. If, a farmer feels he will not get a good price by selling to a non-APMC outlet, he can shift to the APMC and vice versa. The laws have the potential to transform their lives from one of doing business under subjugation — like a caged parrot and contending with what the owner of the cage gives them — to one where they are their own masters fully empowered to sell on their terms.

Yet, if the farmers do not want these laws, this will throw any logical mind into a state of bewilderment. They also want a minimum support price (MSP) — for every grain they sell — guaranteed by law. This demand is even more bizarre. It is utopian and won't ever see the light of the day — irrespective of whether the central laws are repealed or permanently stayed.

If the laws are repealed, then farmers' access to non-APMC platforms gets barred. When, there are no takers of the produce, any talk of guaranteed price is meaningless. Even if the laws stay enabling access to those platforms, then

also, given the risk of going to jail (in case, payment is less than MSP) which trader will dare to buy? Do they want the Government to buy?

Already, it is buying through its agencies such as the Food Corporation of India (FOCI) for meeting the requirements of the Public Distribution System under the National Food Security Act. Even at the current procurement level, FOCI and others do not have space to store and capacity to handle. Think of the nightmare if the agencies were to buy, handle, and store all that the farmers offer.

Look at food subsidy. At current purchases, during 2020-21, the Government spent over ₹500,000 crore. Now, if the Centre were to agree to what the farmers want, it will end up spending all of its revenue on supporting them only. From where will it get resources for all other activities like law and order, general services, welfare, infrastructure, and development?

The only 'logical' and 'practical' way forward is to stay with the three laws sans legal guarantee for MSP. These will open up multiple options for farmers enabling them to realize a price of their choice which could even be more than MSP. However, farmers' leaders do not accept this. How do we come out of the logjam?

The key is with the Supreme Court. In January 2021, it had stayed implementation of these laws. It had also set up a committee which submitted its report in March 2021. It should give its verdict 'urgently' on what is 'right'.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THE BANDH WAS 100 PER CENT SUCCESSFUL. PEOPLE HAVE WHOLEHEARTEDLY PARTICIPATED IN THE BANDH.
—SHIV SENA LEADER
SANJAY RAUT



TODAY'S BANDH IS NOT TO SHOW SOLIDARITY OVER THE LAKHIMPUR KHERI INCIDENT, BUT TO GET POLITICAL BENEFIT.
—BJP LEADER
DEVENDRA FADNAVIS

The splendour of Udayagiri caves

India has many architectural and cultural marvels, centuries and sometimes millennia old, that are not so well known or frequently visited

The buildings and monuments of past centuries, carefully preserved, are one of the most important and visible aspects of a people's history and their cultural legacy, that constantly makes them aware of their past and gives them a sense of identity and meaning that cannot be falsified. Many of India's ancient monuments are famous and visited by many; some of them are even inscribed on the World Heritage List of UNESCO. But there are many, many more of such architectural and cultural marvels, centuries and sometimes millennia old, that are not so well known or frequently visited by people, apart from those belonging to the rarefied circles of historians, scholars and



PARTHA SARATHI SEN SHARMA

(The writer is a senior IAS officer, posted in Delhi as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India. The views expressed are personal.)

archeologists.

The relatively lesser-known archeological sites — a Sankisa in Uttar Pradesh, a Kesariya in Bihar or a Krishnagiri Fort in Tamil Nadu — have always fascinated me more and I have found myself compelled to explore them, to walk on the roads less travelled.

Last month, I had the opportunity to visit the Udayagiri caves of Vidisha in Madhya Pradesh. It is an ancient city of the Mauryan times to which the queen of Emperor Ashoka belonged. Today, as one walks on the narrow streets and lanes of Vidisha to reach the Udayagiri rock cut cave temples, one can only imagine what splendours it would have held in those times, sit-



uated as it was on the crossroads of important trade routes. Ashoka was still not on the throne of Magadha and was still the prince-governor at Ujjain — another ancient city.

Vidisha's Udayagiri hill cave temples were of the Gupta period and mainly of Vaishnava inspiration. To the left of the main street, scat-

tered over low hills, lay many rock-hewn caves, most of them temples once, showing ancient statues and busts of gods and goddesses of the Hindu pantheon — Vishnu, Shiva, Kartikeya, etc. Aboard of the Archeological Survey of India forms that it was during the reign of Emperor Chandragupta II of the Gupta dynasty, known in legend as Vikramaditya, that these temples were built and carved and that one of his ministers had visited the site.

To my naive eyes, the most beautiful piece of carving was that of Lord Vishnu in his famous Varaha Avatar (the incarnation of a boar), holding up mother earth, shown here as a woman rather than a sphere, on his tusks. It is a beautifully and

wonderfully detailed piece of art carved on a rock face, and shows apart from the principal characters, beautiful carvings of goddess Ganga on her crocodile and goddess Yamuna on her Tortoise, among many others. Another exquisite and massive piece of sculpture was that of Lord Vishnu lying down on Sheshnaga.

The Heliodorus column that stands a couple of kilometers away from the hills and was erected some two thousand years ago by a Greek Ambassador in the honour of a Hindu god — Vasudeva — itself is a testimony not only to the antiquity and importance of this ancient land, to the connection across modern boundaries and civilisations and to

the height of metal craft in those ancient days but also to the fact that in those ancient times the world was so much interconnected and that the acceptance of 'otherness' — the other's way of living, thinking, their beliefs and faiths and even of their gods, was so prevalent that a Greek ambassador was putting up a huge pillar in honour of a god belonging to India.

I left Udayagiri hills and Vidisha and travelled back to Delhi but those ancient carvings and sculptures and the stories and legends depicted in them never quite left me so I was almost shocked when only a few days later, as I was climbing up the stairs of the India International Centre in Delhi, to attend a book launch, I came face to face

with a huge black and white photograph of exactly the same sculpture of Varaha Avatar of Udayagiri hills with Lord Vishnu carrying mother earth on his tusks. It was too much of a startling coincidence and stunned me for a while.

As I continued on my way, there was a strange feeling of oneness in me. It was as if we were all bound together as one across centuries with those forgotten artists who had chiseled out that great pieces of art, with the kings and ministers who had financed it, with those countless devotees who would have worshipped at the feet of their god, to the archeologists who would have, centuries later, diligently preserved and conserved them for antiquity.

Taliban: US will provide humanitarian aid to Af

AP ■ ISLAMABAD

The US has agreed to provide humanitarian aid to a desperately poor Afghanistan on the brink of an economic disaster, while refusing to give political recognition to the country's new Taliban rulers, the Taliban said.

The statement came at the end of the first direct talks between the former foes since the chaotic withdrawal of US troops at the end of August.

The US statement was less definitive, saying only that the two sides "discussed the United States' provision of robust humanitarian assistance, directly to the Afghan people."

The Taliban said on Sunday that the talks held in Doha, Qatar, "went well," with Washington freeing up humanitarian aid to Afghanistan after agreeing not to link such assistance to formal recognition of the Taliban.

The United States made it clear that the talks were in no way a preamble to recognition of the Taliban, who swept into power August 15 after the US-allied Government collapsed.

State Department spokesman Ned Price called the discussions "candid and professional," with the US side reiterating that the Taliban will be judged on their actions, not only their words.

"The US delegation focused on security and ter-



rorism concerns and safe passage for US citizens, other foreign nationals and our Afghan partners, as well as on human rights, including the meaningful participation of women and girls in all aspects of Afghan society," he said in a statement.

Taliban political spokesman Suhail Shaheen also told *The Associated Press* that the movement's interim foreign minister assured the US during the talks that the Taliban are committed to seeing that Afghan soil is not used by extremists to launch attacks against other countries.

On Saturday, however, the Taliban ruled out cooperation with Washington on containing the increasingly active Islamic State group in Afghanistan.

ISIS, an enemy of the

Suu Kyi pleads not guilty to breaking coronavirus rules

AP ■ BANGKOK

Ousted Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi and former President Win Myint pleaded not guilty Monday to violating Covid-19 restrictions, their lawyers said, as the pair were formally indicted after the army seized power.

Each was charged with two counts under the Disaster Management Act for failing to observe pandemic restrictions during last year's general election campaign. Each count carries a penalty of up to three years in prison.

Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party won last November's election in a landslide, but was unable to take a second five-year term in office when the military seized power on Feb. 1. Suu Kyi and leading members of her government and party remain under arrest.

The military said it acted because of widespread voter fraud, an assertion for which it has presented little proof. The takeover met with massive popular resistance, which is continuing despite deadly repressive measures by security forces.

The special court in the capital Naypyitaw is also trying Suu Kyi for illegally importing walkie-talkies and unlicensed use of the radios, as well as incitement — spreading false or



inflammatory information that could disturb public order. Suu Kyi, Win Myint and the former mayor of Naypyitaw, Myo Aung, late last month pleaded not guilty to incitement, and are expected to be indicted next week in connection with the radios.

An indictment allows a trial to proceed to a second stage, after the court hears the prosecution's case and determines that it has merit. The defense then can present its case.

Suu Kyi's supporters and independent analysts say the charges are an attempt to discredit her and legitimize the military's seizure of power.

Suu Kyi also faces corruption charges in a separate trial recently begun, an offense that carries a penalty of up to 15 years in prison. She is set to be tried soon for violating the Official Secrets Act, which carries a maximum term of 14 years.

Russia's Covid deaths near all-time highs

AP ■ MOSCOW

Russia's daily coronavirus infections and deaths hovered near all-time highs Monday amid sluggish vaccination rates and the Kremlin's reluctance to toughen restrictions.

Russia's state coronavirus task force reported 29,409 new confirmed cases — the highest number since the year's start and just slightly lower than the pandemic record reached in December.

After registering the highest daily death toll since the start of the pandemic at 968 over the weekend, it reported 957 new deaths on Monday.

Russia already has Europe's highest death toll in the pandemic — more than 217,000, according to a government task force. The state statistics agency, which uses a different way of counting including when the coronavirus wasn't considered the main cause of death, has reported about 418,000 deaths of people with COVID-19.

A sharp rise in infections and deaths began last month with the government attributing it to a slow vaccination rate. Deputy Prime Minister Tatyana Golikova said Friday that 47.8 million Russians, or almost 33% of the nearly 146 million population had received at least one shot of a coronavirus vaccine, and 42.4 million, or



Medical workers carry a patient suspected of having coronavirus on a stretcher at a hospital in Kommunarka, outside Moscow, Russia on Monday AP

about 29%, were fully vaccinated.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov voiced concern about a surge in infections and deaths and noted that hospitals in some regions are close to their capacity.

"The vaccination level we have is too low, impermissibly low," Peskov said in a conference call with reporters. "That is why we have mortality numbers that are so high. We are using every opportunity to make a simple call on all citizens — go ahead and get the shot."

But while deploring the laggard pace of vaccination, Peskov rejected the idea of imposing fines on those who fail to get the vaccine and emphasized that it's up to

regional authorities to decide whether to tighten coronavirus restrictions.

Some regions have limited attendance at large public events and restricted access to theaters, restaurants and other places to people who have been vaccinated, recently recovered from COVID-19 or tested negative in the previous 72 hours.

However, life remains largely normal in Moscow, St. Petersburg and many other major cities, with businesses operating as usual and mask mandates loosely enforced. On Monday, the authorities in Moscow announced the expansion of free coronavirus tests in shopping malls across the city, saying it should help stem contagion.

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client (1) Mr. Ajit Kumar Gandhi (also known as Sh. Ajit Gandhi having 5.56% share), (2) Mrs. Indira Bhatia (also known as Mrs. Indu Bhatia having 5.56% share), (3) Mrs. Chanchal Ashik Kumar Chhangani (also known as Mrs. Kamal Chhangani having 5.56% share), (4) Mr. Ravi Khehwa (having 8.33% share), (5) Mrs. Vinu Rao (having 8.33% share), (6) Mr. Deepak Dhanwan (having 16.67% share), (7) Mr. Lali Dhanwan (having 16.67% share), (8) Mrs. Sagna Kapoor (having 16.67% share) and (9) Mrs. Meera Sahni (having 16.67% share) are the lawful owners of DDA BUILT-UP FREEHOLD SFS Flat No.29B on First Floor ALLWORTHY SCOOTER GARAGE, CATEGORY-II, situated at POKKET-C, SIDHARTHIA EXTENSION, NEW DELHI-110014 having acquired the same on the basis of registered Will dated 10.03.2015 executed by Mrs. MEERA KESWANJI (also known as MIRA KESWANJI) and Mrs. MEERA KESWANJI died on 30.11.2020 and after her death my client became the owner of above referred property and except my client there is no claimant in the above referred property and now intends to sell the same. If anybody including Bank, Financial Institutions, persons, relative has any claim, right, interest whatsoever in the said property shall also inform within 15 days to the undersigned with documentary evidence. In the event of no response to this notice, then our client shall procure that title of the said property is unencumbered and clear.

Kamail Singh, Advocate,
K-8, Basement, Jangpura Extension New Delhi
Contact No. 9911163363 & 9953683363

AXIS BANK
Retail Assets Centre, Axis Bank Ltd. Sco-8, Huda Shopping Centre, Sector-16, Faridabad, AXIS BANK LTD, Axis House, Sector-128, Noida Expressway, Jaypee Greens Wishtown, Noida (U.P.)-201301, Axis Bank Ltd. B-6, Lalpat Nagar-II, Noida (U.P.)-201301, Axis Bank Ltd. Tower T-2, 2nd Floor, I-14, Sector-128, Noida (U.P.)-201301
Corporate Office: Block-B, Bombay Dyeing Mills Compound, Pandurang Budhakar Marg, Worli, Mumbai-400 025, Registered Office: "Trishul", 3rd floor, opposite Samartheswar Temple, Law garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-380006

DEMAND NOTICE
Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors mentioned hereunder had availed the amount of advances from Axis Bank Ltd. We state that despite having available financial assets, the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset on the respective dates mentioned hereunder in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of Axis Bank Ltd. under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers (guarantors/mortgagors) to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with their interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices. The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same.

Name of the Borrower / Address/ Co-Borrower And Guarantor Name	1. NPA Date 2. Demand Notice Outstanding Amt (Rs.) As On Date of Notice	Property Address of Secured Assets
1. Mr. Adarsh Kumar, S/O Sh. Chandra Gupta House No. D-146, Swarn Nagar, Sector-31, Greater Noida, I.A Surajpur, Gautam Buddha Nagar, U.P.-201306. Also At: Mr. Adarsh Kumar D-146, Village-Swarn Nagar, Eachachhar Kasna, J.P Golf Course, Greater Noida, U.P.-201306 Also At: Pacific II Consulting Pvt. Ltd. C/O: Mr. Adarsh Kumar D-92, Sector 63, Noida, U.P.-201301	1. 12-May-2021 2. 29-June-2021 3. Rs.61,59,806/- 4. Rs.1,00,000,000/-	Residential House No-100, Block -C (Cassia Estate) total super area measuring 200 Sq. Meter, Covered area 140.94 Sq. Meter, situated at Sector- Omicron-1A, Greater Noida, District Gautam Buddha Nagar, (U.P.)
2. Mrs. Kanti Devi D-146, Village-Swarn Nagar, Eachachhar Kasna, J.P Golf Course, Greater Noida, U.P.-201306 Also At: Mrs. Kanti Devi House No. D-146, Swarn Nagar, Sector-31, Greater Noida, I.A Surajpur, Gautam Buddha Nagar, U.P.-201306	1. 7-May-2021 2. 15-June-2021 3. Rs.3,52,818/- 4. Rs.6,60,000/-	LIG Flat No-133A, In Pkt-A2, On Ground Floor in Situated in The Colony Named As Omnia Heights Aarogya Proportionate, Drawing/ Dining Room, 1 Toilet / 1 Bath, Kitchen, Open Varana And Passage, Boundaries As Per Title Deed East: As Per The Sale Deed West: As Per The Sale Deed North: As Per The Sale Deed South: As Per The Sale Deed
1. Mr. Dinesh Kumar Gutam, S/O Sh. Mahendra Prasad, R/O: H- No. 104, Pragati Vihar, Khyobha Colony, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201014 Also At: Mr. Dinesh Kumar Gutam, S/O Sh. Mahendra At: New Delhi Municipal Council, Amrit Bhawan, Water Testing Laboratory, Vinay Marg Chankeyapur, Delhi-110021 Also At: Mr. Dinesh Kumar Gutam, S/O Sh. Mahendra Prasad, LIG Flat No-133A, In Pkt-A2, On Ground Floor Situated In The Layout Plan of Kondli Ghatali Mayur Vihar Phase -III, Delhi-96	1. 12-May-2021 2. 15-June-2021 3. Rs.12,89,041/- 4. Rs.14,54,539/- 5. Rs.20,58,520/- 6. Rs.20,40,508/-	LIG Flat No-133A, In Pkt-A2, On Ground Floor in Situated in The Colony Named As Omnia Heights Aarogya Proportionate, Drawing/ Dining Room, 1 Toilet / 1 Bath, Kitchen, Open Varana And Passage, Boundaries As Per Title Deed East: As Per The Sale Deed West: As Per The Sale Deed North: As Per The Sale Deed South: As Per The Sale Deed
1. Mr. Raj Kumar Sharma S/O Sh. Sarwan Lal Sharma House No. 17, Block No. 10, Spring Field Colony, Sector-31, Faridabad, Haryana-121002. Also At: House No. 843, Krishna Colony, Palwal, Haryana-121002, Also At: Omnia Ltd. Plot No. 18, Behind Hotel Crown Plaza, Okhla, Phase-1, New Delhi-110020	1. 12-May-2021 2. 15-June-2021 3. Rs.12,89,041/- 4. Rs.14,54,539/- 5. Rs.20,58,520/- 6. Rs.20,40,508/-	Unit Bearing No. 103, Admeasuring Super Area 109.81 Sq. Mtrs. Approx (1182 Sq. Ft.) Situated On First Floor, Pacific Tower, Block-25 Situated In The Colony Named As Omnia Heights Aarogya Proportionate, Drawing/ Dining Room, 1 Toilet / 1 Bath, Kitchen, Open Varana And Passage, Boundaries As Per Title Deed East: As Per The Sale Deed West: As Per The Sale Deed North: As Per The Sale Deed South: As Per The Sale Deed
2. Mrs. Kusum Sharma W/O Sh. Raj Kumar Sharma House No. 17, Block No. 10, Spring Field Colony, Sector-31, Faridabad, Haryana-121002 Also At: House No. 843, Krishna Colony, Palwal, Haryana-121002	1. 12-May-2021 2. 15-June-2021 3. Rs.12,89,041/- 4. Rs.14,54,539/- 5. Rs.20,58,520/- 6. Rs.20,40,508/-	Unit Bearing No. 103, Admeasuring Super Area 109.81 Sq. Mtrs. Approx (1182 Sq. Ft.) Situated On First Floor, Pacific Tower, Block-25 Situated In The Colony Named As Omnia Heights Aarogya Proportionate, Drawing/ Dining Room, 1 Toilet / 1 Bath, Kitchen, Open Varana And Passage, Boundaries As Per Title Deed East: As Per The Sale Deed West: As Per The Sale Deed North: As Per The Sale Deed South: As Per The Sale Deed
1. Mr. Praveen Chauhan S/O Sh. Harpal Singh Chauhan House No. 751, Sector-37, Faridabad, Haryana-121003 Also At: Shree Balaji Fabric B-231/C, G.K-1, New Delhi-110048 2. Mrs. Shanti Chauhan W/O Sh. Praveen Chauhan House No. 751, Sector-37, Faridabad, Haryana-121003	1. 27-April-2021 2. 19-Feb-2021 3. 26-April-2021 4. 3. Rs.32,891.52 5. Rs.65,000.00/-	House No. 751, Sector-37, Urban Estate, Faridabad, Haryana area Measuring 187.77 Sq Yards with all rights therein to the plot.

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with the amount of outstanding dues together with the costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank as not tendered before publication of notice for sale of the secured assets by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty. Please also note that if the entire amount of outstanding dues together with the costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank is not tendered before publication of notice for sale of the secured assets by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty, you may not be entitled to redeem the secured asset(s). Please note that under Section 13(1) of the said Act, No Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Date : 12-10-2021
Place: Delhi & Delhi NCR

Sd/-,
Authorized Officer,
Axis Bank Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Joginder Singh S/o Sh. Sant Singh R/o E-232 Tagore Garden Extn., New Delhi-110027 declare that date of birth of my son Arshdeep Singh has been wrongly written as 28.02.2007 in his school records. Actual date of birth of my son Arshdeep Singh is 28.02.2005, which may be amended accordingly for all purposes.

Metro Railway, Kolkata
Tender notice for e-tendering is invited by Principal Chief Engineer, Metro Railway for the following work: Through rail changing from Station KCEM (ex) to Station KMLK (mc) i.e. Km 7/14 to km 16/18 on both UP and DN lines as specified in the scope of work. Tender value : Rs. 3,03,12,067.07. Cost of Document : Nil. Earnest Money : Nil. Completion Period: 18 months. Date & time of closing : 17.11.2021 at 12.00 hrs. For full details visit www.ireps.gov.in
Abridged e-Tender Notice No. Civil-2371-2021 (Open)

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that the Certificate for 40 Equity Shares, Folio No. 05059224, Certificate No. - 39902 and Distinctive No. - 31462891-31462930 of Ultratec Cement Limited standing in the name of Tejaswini Guha, Satyabrata Guha and Swagata Guha have been lost or mislaid and the undersigned have applied to the Company to issue duplicate Certificate for the said shares. Any person who has any claim in respect of the said shares should write to our Registrar, KFin Technologies Private Limited, Selenium Tower B, Plot 31-32, Gachibowli, Financial District, Hyderabad-500032 within one month from this date else the company will proceed to issue duplicate Certificates.
TEJASWINI GUHA and SWAGATA GOEL
Date : 12/10/2021

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that we have lost the following original sale deed situated at E-13, Preetam Park Main, New Delhi.

Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency
First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatiraj, Opp-IT Park, Sahasthradhara Road, Dehradun
संख्या : 1901 / आर्डी-02(xvii) / ITCO / यूआरआरडीआर / 21 दिनांक : 11 अक्टूबर, 2021
PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice (First & Third Call)
The General Manager (Project), BRIDCUL on behalf of URRDA Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system (First & Third Call) for construction of Roads and Bridges under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Beringar (District-Pithoragarh) & Barkot (District-Uttarkashi) for 03 number of Package with estimated cost totalling to Rs. 1113.34 Lakh including their maintenance for 5 year from the eligible contractors registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent.
Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement : 13-10-2021.
Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission : The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.
The bidders are required to submit original affidavit correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with the Projects related to Garhwal Mandalal at Office of BRIDCUL HQ opp. Govt. ITI Majra, Niranjanpur, Saharanpur Road, Dehradun-248001 & Projects related to Kumaon Mandalal at Office of BRIDCUL PMGSY PIU-Garur, Bageshwar, First Floor, CSD Canteen Mandalsara, Bageshwar- Pin 263642 on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.
Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement : 27.10.2021 01:00 PM for Sr. no. 1 and 03.11.2021 01:00 PM for Sr. No. 2 to 3
For further details please log on to www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in
Chief Engineer
URRDA, Dehradun
* Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.
Note : For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2522941 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM. in any office days.

Austria swears in new chancellor

AP ■ BERLIN

Austria got a new chancellor on Monday, two days after former leader Sebastian Kurz resigned amid corruption allegations, but the direction of government policy was not expected to change.

Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen swore in Alexander Schallenberg, the former foreign minister, as chancellor. Career diplomat Michael Linhart became the country's new foreign minister.

Schallenberg, 52, told reporters later Monday that he would do "everything to refill the trenches" caused by the recent government crisis and also "do everything in my power to serve our beautiful country of Austria."

'Selective pronouncements' on human rights are immoral: Imran on Chinese atrocities on Uyghurs

AP ■ ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday said "selective pronouncements" on human rights were "immoral", reacting to allegations against Pakistan's all-weather ally China's human rights violations on its Uyghur Muslim population in the restive province of Xinjiang.

In a wide-ranging interview with London-based online news outlet, Middle East Eye (MEE), Khan denied pressure from Gulf countries to recognise Israel and that the international community's failure to engage with the Taliban in Afghanistan could push the state by 20 years, the Dawn newspaper reported.

Khan described the 70-

year-old relation between Pakistan and China as one that had "stood the test of time".

In the interview with MEE, Khan said "selective pronouncements on human rights" were immoral, reacting to the allegation on China.

He said Pakistan had spoken to China about the Uyghur issue and had been provided with an explanation. "Our relationship with China is such that we have an understanding between us. We will talk to each other, but behind closed doors because that is its nature and culture," he said. The US and UK have criticised China for its alleged treatment of Uyghur Muslims in Xinjiang, with some top officials going as far as calling it a "genocide". PTI

3 US-based economists win Nobel for research on wages, jobs

AP ■ STOCKHOLM

US-based economist won the Nobel prize in economics Monday for pioneering research that transformed widely held ideas about the labor force, showing how an increase in the minimum wage doesn't hinder hiring and immigrants do not lower pay for native-born workers. Two others shared the award for creating a way to study these types of societal issues.

Canadian-born David Card of the University of California, Berkeley, was awarded half of the prize for his research on how the minimum wage, immigration and education affect the labor market. The other half was shared by Joshua Angrist from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and

Dutch-born Guido Imbens from Stanford University for their framework for studying issues that can't rely on traditional scientific methods.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said the three have "completely reshaped empirical work in the economic sciences."

Together, the three helped rapidly expand the use of "natural experiments" or studies based on the observation of real-world data. Such research made economics more applicable to everyday life, provided policymakers with actual evidence on the outcomes of policies, and in time spawned a more popular approach to economics epitomized by the blockbuster best-seller "Freakonomics," by Stephen Dubner and Steven Levitt.

Iraq says it has arrested top leader in ISIS

AP ■ BAGHDAD

Iraq said on Monday it has detained a top leader of the Islamic State group and a longtime al-Qaida operative in a cross-border operation. Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi tweeted the news, identifying the man as Sami Jasim, who oversees the Islamic State group's financial operations and served as the deputy leader of IS under the late Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

Al-Kadhimi described it as "one of the most difficult" cross border intelligence operations ever conducted by Iraqi forces.

Jasim has a \$5 million bounty on his head, which describes him as having been "instrumental in managing finances for

Tigray forces say Ethiopia has launched a major offensive

AP ■ NAIROBI

Tigray forces say Ethiopia's government has launched its threatened major military offensive against them in an attempt to end a nearly year-old war. A statement from the Tigray external affairs office alleged that hundreds of thousands of Ethiopian "regular and irregular fighters" launched a coordinated assault on several fronts.

It blamed Ethiopian forces and those from the country's Amhara region, where much of the recent fighting has occurred after Tigray forces retook much of their own region in June.

CAR BOMB IN MARKET OF SYRIAN TOWN KILLS 4

Beirut: A car bomb exploded in a northern Syrian town controlled by Turkey-backed Syrian Opposition fighters on Monday, killing at least four people, rescue workers and a war monitor said. The bomb exploded in a market in the town of Afrin in Aleppo province. Volunteers with the Syrian Civil Defence, rescuers who operate in opposition areas, said the death toll would likely rise.

SCRIBE KILLED IN BOMB ATTACK IN BALOCHISTAN

Karachi: A 35-year-old Pakistani journalist was killed in an attack believed to have been carried out by the banned Balochistan Liberation Army in the country's restive Balochistan province, media reports said on Monday. Shahid Zehri, who has been associated with Metro 1 News, was travelling in a car in the town of Hub in the province when he was attacked.

A bird stars in rare feel-good tale about Afghan evacuations

Abu Dhabi: The mynah bird squawks from a new cage in the French ambassador's sunlit living room in Abu Dhabi, a far cry from its life as the pet of a young Afghan woman who has since found refuge in France.



French Ambassador to the UAE, Xavier Chatel speaks, as Juji, a rescued yellow-beaked mynah carried into the UAE by a fleeing Afghan refugee, sits in a cage, in Abu Dhabi AP

Talkative, yellow-beaked "Juji" had a brief start turn on social media, its story of survival amid the frenzied evacuations from Taliban-run Afghanistan striking a nerve with a global audience.

While seeing scenes from the American-led airlift from Kabul after 20 years of war — such as those of Afghans falling to their deaths after trying to cling to the wheels of a military transport jet — gripped the world, France also was intensely involved in evacuating those who had risked their lives to cooperate with its Govt over the years.

Chatel was scrambling to support the efforts at Al-Dhafra air base in the United Arab Emirates. Thousands of Afghan evacuees flooded the base near the UAE capital, along with military bases across the region, to be screened by American, French and other authorities over 12 sweltering days in August. AP

Indian eco on path to swift recovery: Fin Min report

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Strategic reforms and the rapid vaccination drive has placed the country on the path to swift recovery by enabling the economy to "navigate the ravaging waves" of the Covid-19 pandemic, according to the Finance Ministry's Monthly Economic Review.

Sustained and robust growth in agriculture, sharp rebound in manufacturing and industry, resumption of services activity and buoyant revenues suggest that the economy is progressing well, the September review said.

India is well-placed on the path to swift recovery with growth impulses visibly transmitted to all sectors of the economy... Strategic reforms undertaken so far along with new milestones in vaccination drive have enabled the economy to navigate the ravaging waves of the COVID-19 pandemic," it said.

The external sector continues to offer bright prospects to India's growth revival as the country's merchandise exports crossed the USD 30-billion mark for the sixth consecutive month in fiscal year 2021-22, it said.

With merchandise trade deficit also rising in September,



there is clear evidence of consumption and investment demand is also picking up in India, it said, adding, the external debt-to-GDP ratio continues to remain comfortable, declining to 20.2 per cent at the end-June 2021, from 21.1 per cent at the end-March 2021.

In tandem with growth impulses witnessed across the economy, the report said, the rate of growth of bank credit stood at 6.7 per cent YoY in the fortnight ending September 10, 2021 compared to 5.3 per cent in the corresponding period of the previous year.

With restoration of supply chains, improved mobility, and softening food inflation, consumer price index (CPI) inflation retreated to a four-month low of 5.3 per cent in August 2021, clearly demonstrating that inflationary tendencies are pandemic-induced and transitory.

However, it said, volatile prices in the international crude oil markets and upward-bounced prices of edible oils and metal products may continue to pose concerns.

Comfortable levels of systemic liquidity and softening of inflationary pressure have also lent stability to G-Sec yields in September 2021. The 10-year yield remained unchanged at 6.2 per cent compared to August.

Latest trends in high-frequency economic indicators in August and September further indicate a broad-based recovery evidenced in sustained improvement in power consumption, rail freight activity, e-way bills, robust GST collections, highway toll collections posting a 21-month high, sequential uptick in air freight and passenger traffic, and quantum leap in digital transactions.

Icra slashes growth forecast for auto components industry to 17-20% for FY22

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Ratings agency Icra on Monday revised downwards by 300 basis points the growth forecast for the auto components industry for the ongoing fiscal year citing the impact of semiconductor shortage on domestic vehicle manufacturers as well as on exports revenues.

According to Icra, the components industry is now expected to grow at 17-20 per cent in 2021-22, partly aided by "the low base of last year and commodity passthrough" besides growth driven by domestic OEM, replacement and export volumes.

"The healthy volume growth would, however, come on a low base of FY2021. The growth forecasts have been revised downward by 300 bps from the earlier estimates due to the impact of semiconductor shortage on domestic OEM and export revenues," Icra said in a statement.

The operating profit margin (OPM) of auto ancillaries (excluding tyre manufacturers) will remain lower than normal levels (FY2020), it said, adding the industry's exceptionally weak performance during first quarter of 2020-21 due to the strict lockdown, dragged last year's profit margins.

"Though this will result in year-on-year (YoY) improvement in margins optically, with the operating margins expected to expand by 75-125 bps due to improved operating leverage, a possible third COVID wave and further lockdowns are downside risks to Icra's estimates," the ratings agency added.

Icra Assistant Vice President Vinutaa S said the underlying demand remains strong, though near-term challenges on supply-chain and commodity inflation persist.

"While sequential moderation is likely, most domestic OE (original equipment) segments are expected to witness healthy demand in FY2022, with preference for personal mobility and pick-up in infra activity being the growth drivers," she said, adding pent-up demand and increase in economic activity will support aftermarket revenues.

Part of the revenue growth for the components industry would also come in from commodity pass-through.

India eco poised to attain double digit growth in FY22: PHDCCI

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The economy is poised to achieve 10.25 per cent GDP growth in FY 2021-22 on the back of effective Government policies, Reserve Bank's accommodative policy stance and improved business sentiments, industry body PHDCCI said on Monday.

The Reserve Bank last week retained the GDP (gross domestic product) forecast for the current financial year at 9.5 per cent and flagged global semiconductor shortages, elevated commodity prices and potential global financial market volatility as downside risks to economic growth.

The National Statistical Office, the official agency of the government, on August 31, had said the real GDP growth for the first quarter of 2021-22 was at 20.1 per cent. The RBI projected the GDP growth for the first quarter of the next financial year at 17.2 per cent.

In its June policy review, the central bank had lowered the country's growth projection for the current financial year to 9.5 per cent from 10.5 per cent estimated earlier.

Govt issues LoI to Tatas for sale of Air India

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Monday issued a letter of intent (LoI) confirming the sale of its 100 per cent stake in loss-making Air India to Tata Group for ₹18,000 crore, a senior official said.

Last week, the Government had accepted an offer by Talace Pvt Ltd, a unit of the holding company of salt-to-software conglomerate, to pay ₹2,700 crore in cash and takeover ₹15,300 crore of the airline's debt.

Subsequent to that, an LoI has now been issued to Tata confirming the government's willingness to sell its 100 per cent stake in the airline.

"Letter of Intent has been issued today," DIPAM Secretary Tuhin Kanta Padney told PTI here.

Tatas now have to accept the LoI, post which the Share Purchase Agreement will be signed. Conditions precedent to the transactions would need to be satisfied by Tatas before they actually take over the operations.

"Normally within 14 days

of acceptance of LoI, the SPA is signed. We expect the SPA to be signed fairly fast," he said.

Pandey said the deal is targeted to be closed by December end. After SPA is signed, the regulatory approvals will have to come in following which the handover process starts.

"When they give the Letter of Acceptance, they will give payment security of 1.5 per cent of EV value which is Rs 270 crore. Rs 270 crore will be payment security in bank guarantee which will be received by us along with acceptance letter to the LoI," Pandey added.

The cash component of the deal, he said, will come in on the day of handover which will be by December end.

The deal also includes the sale of Air India Express and ground handling arm AISATS.

Tatas beat the Rs 15,100-crore offer by a consortium led by SpiceJet promoter Ajay Singh and the reserve price of Rs 12,906 crore set by the government for the sale of its 100 per cent stake in the loss-making carrier.

RBI may hike rates in March quarter of 2022; coal, chip shortages a worry: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank is likely to change the stance of its monetary policy and hike rates from the first quarter of 2022, a Japanese brokerage said on Monday.

The central bank will start with liquidity normalisation moves this month, narrowing the difference between the rate at which it funds the system and at which it absorbs excess liquidity in December, Nomura said.

It can be noted that the latest move by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) last week to narrow the excess liquidity in the system through stated targets is being seen by some as the normalisation of the policy, which has been very accommodative since the onset of the pandemic to boost growth.

The brokerage upped its consumer price index (CPI) inflation target for 2022 to 5.2 per cent from 5 per cent earlier.

Demand remains strong in India, but there are supply-side headwinds in areas like chips which is bothering the auto sector and coal shortages which threatens to put parts of the country into darkness, it said.



The country is reporting coal shortages and power sector companies face the prospect of importing coal at significant cost.

With power demand likely to rise amid the continued economic normalization and upcoming festive sales, supply-side disruptions pose an important near-term downside risk to growth momentum, it warned.

For the week ended last Sunday, its Business Resumption Index rose to 105.1 from 103.4 in the prior week.

"If power outages become more widespread, then industrial output could suffer in the near term, while higher energy costs may squeeze firms' margins and add to consumer price inflation," the brokerage said in the report.

Rupee slides by 37 paise to 15-month low of 75.36 against dollar as crude oil spikes

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee slid by 37 paise to close at a 15-month low of 75.36 against the US dollar on Monday as crude oil zoomed towards seven-year high and the greenback hardened in the overseas markets.

The Indian currency for the first time this year settled below the 75 level as fears of high import bill due to costlier crude oil and forex outflows due to firming US bond yields weighed on the local unit. The rupee had fallen by 20 paise to end at 74.99 on Friday.

"The rupee traded weak again, as Black Gold keeps riding north, touching USD 84.20 and inching closer to USD 85.00 per barrel. Going ahead the rupee can be in the range of 75.00-75.60," said Jateen Trivedi, Senior Research Analyst at LKP Securities.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened lower at 75.11 and witnessed an intra-day high of 75.06 and a low of 75.39 against the US dollar in day trade.

The local unit finally settled down by 37 paise at 75.36 a dollar, a level not seen since July 14, 2020, even as the domestic equity market touched record levels.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, advanced 2.08 per cent to USD 84.10 per barrel as oil producers restrained supplies and leading energy consumers India and China grappled with energy crisis.

The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.23 per cent higher at 94.28.

"The Indian rupee continued bearish momentum on the back of a stronger dollar, following higher US Treasuries, and a surge in crude oil prices," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

Parmar further said that even after a better risk-on sentiments market with domestic benchmark index at all-time high, rupee is driven by the rising dollar and crude oil prices. The absence of central bank intervention is also weighing on the rupee.

Sensex, Nifty capture new heights; auto, power, banking shares shine

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmarks Sensex and Nifty on Monday scaled new peaks by continuing their winning run to the third session in a row, propelled by gains in mainly auto, power and banking shares.

After scaling a new intraday high of 60,476.13 during the session, the 30-share Sensex closed 76.72 points or 0.13 per cent higher at 60,135.78 - marking its new closing high as well.

Similarly, the Nifty rose 50.75 points or 0.28 per cent to its all-time closing high of 17,945.95. Intraday, the NSE gauge touched a new peak of 18,041.95.

Maruti was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, rallying nearly 4 per cent, followed by PowerGrid, ITC, NTPC, SBI, M&M, Kotak Bank and HDFC Bank.

Finance Ministry releases ₹9,871 cr grant to 17 States

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry on Monday said it has released ₹9,871 crore of revenue deficit grant to 17 States.

The States which will receive money from the grant as recommended by the 15th Finance Commission are Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

"The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance has released 7th monthly installment of Post Devolution Revenue Deficit (PDRD) Grant of Rs. 9,871.00 crore to the States here today.

With the release of this installment, a total amount of Rs 69,097.00 crore has been released to eligible states as Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant (PDRD) in the current

financial year," an official statement said.

The grants are released as per the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission in monthly installments to meet the gap in revenue accounts of the states post devolution. The Commission has recommended this grant to 17 states during 2021-22.

The eligibility of states to receive this grant and the quantum of grant was decided by the Commission based on the

gap between assessment of revenue and expenditure of the State after taking into account the assessed devolution for the financial year 2021-22.

"The 15th Finance Commission has recommended a total Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant of Rs 1,18,452 crore to 17 States in the financial year 2021-22.

Out of this, an amount of Rs 69,097.00 crore (58.33 per cent) has been released so far," the statement added.

'TRAI discussion paper soon on licensing framework for satellite earth station gateways'

New Delhi: TRAI will soon release a discussion paper on licensing framework for satellite earth station gateways, an area that requires "complete transformation" to facilitate establishment of earth station by any satellite operator, thus enhancing investments and satellite capacities, Chairman PD Vaghela said on Monday.

COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT
E-Tender Notice No.: AP/EL/03/21-22/RT. Dated: 04-10-2021. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: Tender No.: AP/EL/03/21-22/RT. Name of Work: Comprehensive annual maintenance contract of Greaves Cotton make generator car for schedule maintenance including A,B & C checks of Diesel engine, their operation to stand power supply during maintenance and escorting service in the power car of Train No. 15483/84 Mahananda Express for two year. Tender Value: ₹ 97,38,477.30. Date & Time of Closing of Tender at 15:00 hrs. on 26-10-2021. For details please visit in website www.ireps.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General public that Mrs. Rekha Rani is owner of Plot No. 8, area measuring 270 sq. yds., out of Kharsa No. 195/30m, situated at Rahul Vihar Phase-II, Village Mirzapur, Pargana Loni, Tehsil & Distt. Ghazipur, (U.P.), vide sale deed dated 24-12-2020 registration No. 4043. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner along with M/s Vikas Traders want to take a Loan from Fullerton India Credit company Ltd. If anybody has any objection/s in respect of the said property its sale /mortgage, and any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present. For Mrs Praseon Lata, Advocate, SG Associates (Law Firm) Unit No 7, Basement, Plot No C 78, Sector 2, Noida, UP 201301. EMAIL: sgassociatespl@gmail.com. Ph: 7011127264, 8130200837

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE
Tender No. 558-Sig/16/Tele/AMC/574/2021-22 Dated : 11.10.2021

S. No.	Name of work with its location	App. Cost of the work (in Rs.)	Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased	Tender Document Fee (in Rs.)	Earnest Money to be deposited (in Rs.)	Date & Time for submission of tender & opening of tender	Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.
1	Comprehensive AMC of SIP Exchange of 5000 subscribers installed at Railway Board and SIP Exchange for 6 subscriber installed in RPF control, DRM office for security Help line 182 for one year.	₹ 3574056 only.	Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-C, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055	Nil only	Nil only	Tender Uploading/ Closing date & time 10.11.2021 15:00 hrs.	See the N.Rly. website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice Board at S&T Branch, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, State entry road, New Delhi-110055

ICICI Bank PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, 3 rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh, Delhi-110005

Notice for sale of immovable assets
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of movable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (f) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Mr. Rajivinder Singh Bedi (Borrower), Mrs. Anu Sharma (Co-Borrower)	5th Floor Tower-D, Chintels Paradiso, Sector-109, Flat No-D-504, Gurgaon, Haryana, 122005 Area 2630 Sq. Ft.	₹. 95,87,104/- as on September 30, 2021	₹. 1,30,00,000/- From 12:00 Noon to 02:00 PM	October 21, 2021, 12:00 Noon to 11:00AM Onwards	November 03, 2021, 11:00AM Onwards

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
General public is hereby informed that one male namely **Unknown S/o Unknown R/o Unknown Age** about 44 years, Height 5'6", Complexion Shallow, Face Oval, Wearing Grey T-shirt & Black Pant was found dead at Jhuggi JJ Camp, Village Badli, Delhi on 27.09.2021. In this regard a DD No. 49-A dated 27.09.2021 has been lodged at PS Samaipur Badli, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this deceased male may kindly inform to the undersigned at the address or telephone nos. given below. SHO PS Samaipur Badli, Delhi Ph. 011-27854799, 27899222

APPENDIX IV
[See rule 8 (1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED**(CIN:L65922DL2005PLC136029) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated 03.06.2021 calling upon the Borrower(s) **SUBHASH CHANDER ANSARJ** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being Rs.28,01,900.70/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh One Thousand Nine Hundred and Paise Seventy Only) against Loan Account No. HHLRHO0389053 as on 01.05.2021 and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice

The Borrower (s) having failed to repay the amount, Notice is hereby given to the Borrower (s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on 08.10.2021

The Borrower (s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED for an amount of Rs.28,01,900.70/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh One Thousand Nine Hundred and Paise Seventy Only) as on 01.05.2021 and interest thereon.

The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

PROPERTY NO - JJR/W01/0661, KHEWAT NO-3819/3578, KHATA NO-4333,KILA NO 34/2, TADADI KILA NO-34/2, MAUJA NAGAR PAILIKA, JHAJJAR-124100, HARYANA, WHICH IS BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS.

EAST- AS PER TITLE DEED WEST- AS PER TITLE DEED
NORTH- AS PER TITLE DEED SOUTH- AS PER TITLE DEED

Date : 08.10.2021 Authorized Officer
Place : JHAJJAR INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Office of the Superintending Engineer
2nd Circle, Public Works Department, Nainital-263002
Phone/Fax: 05942-235728/ 232030 Email: sepwntnl@rediffmail.com

Letter No 4696/41M 2/2020-21 National Competitive Bidding(E-Tendering) Dated 11-10-2021
Superintending Engineer, 2 Circle, Public Works Department Nainital on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites e-tender (Two bid system). For further details please log on to <https://www.uktenders.gov.in> from 14.10.2021.

Sl. No	Name of work	Earnest money (in Lakh Rs)	Cost of Tender	Validity of tender	Time of completion	Contractor's category of Registration
1	Re-Construction/ repair of roads in Municipal area of Haldwani Constituency Distt Nainital under Hon'ble Chief Minister Announcement No 326/2020 (Improvement of internal roads of Heeranagar and B.J.P office Street by DBM/BC)	4.10	5000+ 18% G.S.T	120	06	Registered in Class "A" and above in any State Govt./ Central Govt. or any Govt. under taking in Road work
2	Re- Construction/ repair of roads in Municipal area of Haldwani Constituency Distt Nainital under Hon'ble Chief Minister Announcement No 326/2020 (Improvement work by PC) (Length 5 Km)	3.56	5000+ 18% G.S.T	120	09	
3	Re- Construction/ repair of roads in Municipal area of Haldwani Constituency Distt Nainital under Hon'ble Chief Minister Announcement No 326/2020 (Improvement work by PC) (Length 4.579 Km)	4.44	5000+ 18% G.S.T	120	09	

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link- <https://disposalhub.com>) of our auction agency **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited**. The Mortgagee's/noticee are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **November 02, 2021 before 05:00 P.M** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at **ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh, Delhi-110005** and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before **November 02, 2021 before 05:00 P.M** along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at **ICICI Bank Limited, 3 rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh Delhi-110005** on or before **November 02, 2021 before 05:00 P.M**. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Delhi

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact **ICICI Bank Limited on 8657476284** or **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited on 9710029933/9810029926/01244233933**

Please note that Marketing agencies 1. **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited**. 2. **Augeo Asset Management Pvt Ltd.** have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property.

Date: October 12, 2021
Place: Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited



MINDBENDER

Adolescents who had received a mental health disorder diagnosis were often excluded from the labour market and education as young adults, finds a new study published in the British Journal of Psychiatry



AVOID STRESS FOR HEALTHY BABY

In order to prevent stress from affecting baby's brain development, it is important to exercise, eat right and get a good sleep, says DR ARCHANA DHAWAN BAJAJ

Pregnancy is an exciting time in the life of every woman. Every expectant mother strives to take good care of their health in every possible way so as to have an uneventful pregnancy and a healthy baby.

While some amount of stress is expected during those nine months, however, high levels of anxiety that interferes with the woman's ability to successfully go about her day-to-day chores and responsibilities appear to have a direct effect on the way the fetal brain is being sculpted and organised in utero. Fetal brain scans have also documented the effects of stress during pregnancy on the developing brain of an unborn child.

Several studies have found a direct correlation of maternal stress on a baby's future development. Additionally, fetuses of expectant moms facing higher levels of stress were more likely to have stronger connections between parts of the brain connected to emotional and behavioural controls and weaker connections between two brain areas involved in executive and higher cognitive functions.

Stress results in flooding of fight-or-flight hormones originally meant to help us escape from imminent dangers. Today, we live with chronic stress, and the pandemic has further multiplied the levels of this stress. Those chemicals, which include the stress hormone cortisol possess the ability to cross the placental barrier between mom and baby and have deleterious effects on the unborn child.

WAYS TO COPE

Research has found that COVID-19 has doubled or even tripled stress for pregnant women. Also, parents and other caregivers are equally stressed and in poorer health due to pandemic. While we do not have a control on the spread of the virus, expectant women can certainly control the levels of stress and its effects on their baby's development and better manage their stress during this pandemic and beyond. The risk factors of stress, anxiety and depression are modifiable, says a study.

Exercise, eat right, and good sleep are by far the top three ways to keep stress at bay and prevent so many diseases. Exercise has a role to reduce stress and helps prevent common pregnancy discomforts. Some other ways to cope with pregnancy related stress is to cut back on activities that don't need your attention, practice relaxation activities like prenatal yoga or meditation. Childbirth education classes help to know what to expect during pregnancy and when your baby arrives, especially first-time pregnancy.

Stress related problems during pregnancy have a long-lasting effect on the baby in the months and maybe years down the line.

The writer is Gynecologist Obstetrician and IVF Expert, Nurture IVF Centre



Due to the lack of awareness about breast cancer and in absence of a screening programme, the majority of these cases are diagnosed at a relatively advanced stage increasing the risk of mortality, says DR AKTA BAJAJ

As there is an early onset of breast cancer with an average age dropped from 50 years to late 30s, breast cancer has become the commonest cancer not only in urban Indian women but also the second most common in the rural females. Due to the lack of awareness of this disease and in absence of a breast cancer screening programme, the majority of breast cancers are diagnosed at a relatively advanced stage increasing the risk of mortality. It has become imperative for being breast aware for all women, and regular self-examination should be part of one's health routine to spot any changes in the breasts. The earlier cancer is detected, the better the chances for treatment and survival.



Doctors say that breast cancers usually occur when some breast cells begin to grow abnormally. These cells divide faster than healthy cells and continue to accumulate thereby forming a lump or mass. The cells can metastasize through the breast to one's lymph nodes and then to other parts of the body. According to research and study breast cancer usually begins in the milk producing ducts of the breasts and is initially called invasive ductal carcinoma. Another common region where breast cancer can begin is the glandular tissue called lobules which is diagnosed as invasive lobular carcinoma.

CAUSES

Other than that doctors claim that five to 10 percent of breast cancers are linked to gene mutations passed through one generation to another within a family. The most well-known breast cancer genes are BRCA1 and BRCA2. Through BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene, it produces proteins that help repair damaged DNA and provides a shield from certain cancers. However, when there is a genetic abnormality, it restricts the healthy functioning of these genes and increases the risk of cancer.

According to a data published in the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, about 3% of breast cancers (about 7,500 women per year) and 10% of ovarian cancers (about 2,000 women per year) result from inherited mutations in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes.

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A HEALTHY DIET WITH FRUITS, VEGETABLES, NUTS, VIRGIN OLIVE OIL, WHOLE GRAINS AND LEGUMES AS WELL AS FISH INSTEAD OF RED MEAT WILL REDUCE THE RISK

OTHER WARNING SIGNS

- Change in the size, shape and appearance of the breast
- Formation of dimple or changes in the skin around the breast
- A breast lump or thickening which feels different from the surrounding tissue
- Redness or pitting like the skin of an orange over your breast
- Crusting, peeling, scaling or flaking of the pigmented area surrounding the nipple (areola) or breast skin
- A newly inverted nipple

RISK FACTORS

- Age: The older you are the more prone you are to developing breast cancer.
- Family and personal history: If someone in your family had breast cancer or if you have had a breast biopsy that detected lobular carcinoma or atypical hyperplasia you have an increased risk of having breast cancer.
- Radiation exposure: If you have received radiation treatment to your chest as a child then you're at a higher risk of breast cancer.

- Hormone therapy: Women who take hormone therapy medications which combine estrogen and progesterone to treat the signs and symptoms of menopause have an increased risk of breast cancer.
- Obesity: People who are overweight are at a greater risk of breast cancer
- Period: Girls who get period before the age of 12 are at greater risk of breast cancer
- Menopause: Women who get menopause at an older age are at a greater risk of breast cancer
- Childbirth: The women who give birth to their child after the age of 30 have an increased risk of cancer
- No pregnancy: Women who have never been pregnant are at a greater risk of developing cancer than the ones who have been pregnant
- Alcohol consumption: Drinking alcohol increases the risk of breast cancer

PREVENTION

When it comes to breast cancer prevention, it's essential to stay aware and pay attention to your own health. Here are some of the ways you can prevent breast cancer in its initial stage.

Opt for regular breast cancer screenings: A session with your doctor will help you understand whether or not to go for clinical breast exams and mammograms as you will be able to weigh down the pros and cons of the screening.

Self-exam: It's the simplest way to diagnose breast cancer and can be performed by inspecting your breasts for any potential lumps or other unusual signs.

Limit alcohol: Restrict the use of alcohol to not more than one drink a day

Regular exercise: Exercising regularly will reduce your risk of breast cancer. So aim for at least 30 minutes of exercising each day.

Healthy diet: A healthy diet with fruits, vegetables, nuts, virgin olive oil, whole grains and legumes as well as fish instead of red meat will reduce the risk of breast cancer. It will also help you maintain your weight and not consume more calories than you should.

Avoid hormone therapy: Some women cannot deal with menopause and opt for hormone therapy, which can be detrimental to their health and makes them prone to breast cancer. One must consult with their doctor and if they permit only then they should go for the lowest dose.

The writer is Senior Consultant and Head, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Ujala Cygnus Group of Hospitals

Heart attacks getting younger

There has been an increase in the number of cases of cardiovascular diseases in the younger age group. DR RAJEEV AGARWALA shares ways to prevent it

Over the last few years, cardiovascular diseases have become one of the leading causes of mortality in India. According to a 2019 study, one in four deaths in India were caused by cardiovascular diseases. While cardiovascular diseases are known to affect all age groups, there has been an increase in these diseases being reported in the younger population.

In fact, studies show that there has been an increase in the presence of cardiovascular diseases in people not older than 30. Factors such as increased stress levels can influence the occurrence of heart disease in the young, leading to complications such as heart failure.

Heart failure is a condition which occurs when the heart is unable to pump sufficient blood around the body, thus affecting the supply of



necessary oxygen and nourishment to the rest of the body. It can also result in fluids building up in the lungs, leading to difficulty in breathing. It is often caused by underlying medical conditions which may have caused damage to the heart, including coronary heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and high cholesterol, anemia, kidney disease, among others.

This disease affects about 1-2 per cent of our adult population, with an increased predisposition in older age. People of our South-Asian ancestry carry nearly 80 per cent relatively higher risk of heart-failure. While the risk of heart failure increases in older age, our population bears an increased risk of premature cardio-metabolic diseases, and as a result, may also develop heart

failure relatively earlier. Several modifiable aspects like uncontrolled hypertension, diabetes, obesity, high lipid-levels, smoking, tobacco consumption, and stress, may predispose to developing heart-disease prematurely, in younger age.

Today's youth is caught in an imbroglio of hectic schedules, high-pressure jobs, demanding academic regimes, poor dietary choices, and lack of physical activity. This is leading to reduced sleep, poor quality of sleep, increased incidence of smoking and frequent alcohol intake, along with increased stress levels. Prolonged stress has long-term consequences that inhibit the body's ability to recover and relax. Such a maladaptive state may lead to increased blood pressure, metabolic derangements, and health-complications.

The writer is DMCardiology, Director, Jaswant Rai Speciality Hospital

IN BRIEF

ISCCM pays homage to COVID martyrs

Commemorating their 28th Foundation Day, Indian Society for Critical Care Medicine (ISCCM) organized a two-day research conclave with an endeavor to put Indian physicians in the fore-front of clinical research in the near future. The brain storming session witnessed a gathering of over 150 participants including physicians, specialists, nurses and technicians.

The entire medical fraternity paid homage to the brave soldiers whose lives were unfairly cut short amid the pandemic and also pledged to support their bereaved families through their loss.

The session highlighted the importance of a critical care unit in hospitals which act as lifelines in salvaging patients from moribund conditions and the dire need for skilled and technically updated facility which can never be over emphasized.

The purpose, aim and goal of the ISCCM, all rolled into one, is continued education, research, spread of knowledge and skill development in the field of Critical care medicine. The primary function is to provide a platform to all practitioners of Critical care medicine to brain-storm new concepts and ideas alongside regular discussions of academic interest. The theme of the ISCCM day celebration this year has been in keeping with the devastation of the COVID 19 pandemic on the medical fraternity.

DOCYARD

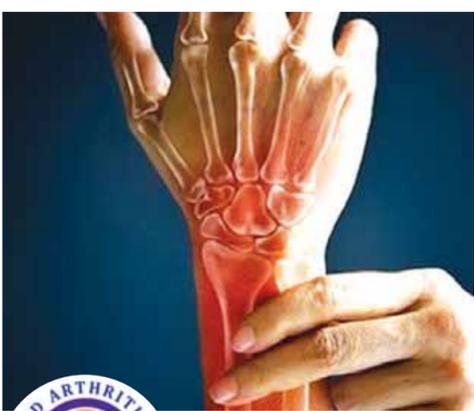
DR BIREN NADKARNI

Sr Consultant Orthopedic and Joint Replacement Surgeon

SITARAM BHARTIA INSTITUTE AND HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL, NEW DELHI



Don't delay and inhibit movement



Every year World Arthritis Day falls on October 12, this year's theme is Don't Delay, Connect Today. It is observed to raise awareness about this condition, an inflammatory condition that causes pain and stiffness in joints that can worsen with age. It can affect one joint or multiple joints. Arthritis affects millions across the world. It is a debilitating condition that restricts your range of movement and affects your functional life. If left untreated, it may inhibit your movement altogether.

Symptoms: Joint pain, Stiffness and swelling in joints, Your range of motion may also decrease, Redness of the skin around the joint, Unexplained joint pain usually accompanied by fever, Difficulty in carrying out daily chores due to joint pain, Pain killers also cannot cure joint pains

Common type: There are more than 100 different types of arthritis, with different causes and treatment methods. Two of the most common types are osteoarthritis (OA) and rheumatoid arthritis (RA).

Osteoarthritis affects older people especially after the age of 50 years. It is a degenerative joint disease in which the pain or swelling occurs due to the progressive loss of cartilage in the joints.

Rheumatoid arthritis can occur at any age, it can occur in younger people also as young as 30 years and mostly found in between 30-50 years of age.

People prone to it: People who are overweight or obese are more likely to develop arthritis. The more weight you put on, the more is the amount of burden you give to your hips, back, and feet.

Consumption of over processed foods like Sugar and white flour and the o can lead to weight gain, which is hard on sore joints. Replace them with fruits, nuts, and whole grains.

Texting frequently and holding your phone in the exact same position can cause smartphone thumb. Texting stresses joints in your hands, especially your thumbs. So, if you want to keep arthritis at bay — minimise thumb texting or use the voice function to keep texting hands-free. Texting can be bad for your shoulders and neck, too.

Wearing high heels all the time places your feet in an awkward position that stresses joints, strains muscles, and can throw your back out of alignment. So, women who wear heels daily must keep this point in their minds that this habit may increase their risk of developing osteoarthritis and foot pain.

Injuries also act as risk factors. People who injured a knee in adolescence or young adulthood were three times more likely to develop osteoarthritis in that knee, compared to those who had not suffered an injury.

Treatment: Arthritis can be treated through occupational or physical therapy, exercise, and over-the-counter pain relieving medication. Alternate medicine like Ayurveda, massages with medicinal oils and homeopathy also offer relief to some people in the early stages of arthritis.

Surgical options for the treatment of arthritis include arthroscopy, synovectomy, osteotomy, and total joint replacement. While the first three offer relief from pain, they cannot cure the condition. The only cure for arthritis is joint replacement surgery.

- Lifestyle changes: Maintain a healthy body weight, Keep injuries at bay, Pay attention to your posture, avoid high heels, Keep a regular tab on your vitamin B 12 and vitamin D 3 levels, the latter being slightly more important in case of arthritis, Eat a good diet, include nuts and seeds like walnuts, cashew nuts, and pistachios in your diet. Also include more vegetables such as garlic and onions into your diet, When it comes to your rotis, try those made of jowar, nachani, raagi and bajra. These are great for your arthritis-ridden joints because they contain nutrients that help ease your pain.

SUMMER COOLER

BROCCOLI: Did you know that all foods that cruciferous veggies like cauliflower, cabbage and kale contain cancer-fighting properties.

Interestingly, broccoli is the only one with a sizable amount of sulforaphane, a compound that boosts the body's protective enzymes and flushes out cancer-causing chemicals.

Not only this, but this vegetable is packed with vitamins, minerals and nutrients. Broccoli also contains measurable amounts of the antioxidants lutein and zeaxanthin, which may prevent oxidative stress and cellular damage in your eyes. contains various bioactive compounds that have been shown to reduce inflammation in your body's tissues.



KEEPING INDIA'S CRAFTS ALIVE

In addition to textiles of *kotpad* and *kalamkari*, the Dastkari Haat Diwali Crafts bazaar at Gallery 1AQ, Mehrauli, also has on display the ancient tribal art-forms of *sanjhi*, *dokra* and *warli*, thus, preserving culture, says KHUSHBU KIRTI

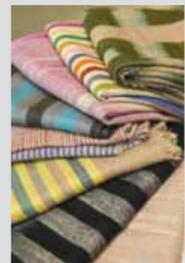
As I entered the premises of the Qutub complex, the haat, backed by the majestic historicity of the Qutub Minar, showcased myriad colours and unique regional crafts in numerous stalls. An art enthusiast would go gaga over the aberrant designs and the diverse culture that was being displayed all over the haat. Textiles from Bihar, kalamkari from Andhra Pradesh, embroideries from Gujarat, ikat from Andhra, *goan* paintings from Madhya Pradesh, *patek* from West Bengal — all were exquisitely exhibited, and shone brilliantly.

One could spot, from afar, furnishings and block painted bedsheets by artisans all the way from Rajasthan, items like colourful baskets, dresses and jewellery made from waste *gamcha* fabric, striking wire-craft comprising *jali* cutwork wire lamps, *pichwais* made of gold, silver, and natural colours, terracotta items, and I can keep going on.

I approached the first stall of beautiful mats and plates made of what looked like *mudarkathi* grass. The work was from Midnapur, West Bengal. Showing me a picture of some elderly artisans engulfed in their craft, Sagar, from the NGO called Munami foundation, told me, "These women engaged in the work are using *madur* (golden) grass. They make mats and runners out of this. Our NGO supports these artisans and, in turn, they make these aesthetic designs."

As I spoke with more artisans, I was made aware of the noble causes behind their efforts. In addition to earning their bread, not only did they support sustainability, but also women empowerment.

Khetaram, working on another stall with delicate and vibrant suits, saris and bedsheets, that had artwork and embroidery on them done by artisans from Barmer, Rajasthan, told me they had 5,000 women working with their organisation called Mudra Mahila Vikas



Sansthan.

Sanjay Shirram, sitting amidst dazzling colours, explained that the craft displayed was called leather puppetry, a hallmark of Andhra Pradesh art and crafts. "I make all the table, door and wall hangings, paintings, and clocks that you see here, on leather."

Kalpna, from Rangeela Dhaga, who made handloom *gamcha* from West Bengal, said, "We stitch and weave on the *gamcha*, and make handbags, hangings, table-linen. We are 25 women working together, at the moment, in Bengal and Delhi."

Another artisan, who also had received a national award by APJ Abdul Kalam for his product in 2003, shared his story, "Our dupattas and saris are vegetable-dyed handloom, and we also utilise cow dung in the process. The tradition of making *kotpad* saris has been handed over to us by our oldest of generations. It is the pride of Odisha's rich tribal history and culture. We are tribal weavers of the Mirgan community of Kotpad village, in Odisha. The vegetable dye is natural as it is manufactured from the aul tree grown in our region."

As I progressed further, I realised, on looking at the artisans and hearing their stories, that this fest was a beacon of hope

for these craftsmen. Displaying their talent and skills, and selling them was their only way of livelihood. These traditional artists are showcasing beautiful products that are also hand-made.

The Dastkari Haat Samiti has become the backbone of the crafts community, building a thriving artisan-buyer ecosystem for almost 35 years now. They have worked with artisans since the first day of the lockdown to provide adequate ration and support.

In a conversation with Jaya Jaitly, the founder of Dastkari Haat Samiti, she expressed, "Our organisation commenced in 1986. We have been holding bazaars all over the country for many years. With that temporary bazaar situation, we want to create a permanent place for temporary people. That's how we came up with Dilli Haat. It is one of our proudest achievements. We are very committed to issues that are far more serious, like the sustenance of livelihood. Heritage gives us all that we need to have, whether it's music, dance, theatre, painting, textile, weaving, which is greater than any country in the world. We, ourselves, have neglected it because of colonial rule. But now, we are waking up to all the treasures that we've had all along but didn't value."

"Lakhs of people in the craft-sector also deserve to earn, but they don't have businesses, they don't have capital. But what they do have is a heritage that has been passed on to them for generations. And they have been taught a skill that is disappearing. They are very much a part of the market economy," she concluded.

Another stall displaying little idols and other show-pieces in brass held my attention. On asking Rajeev Kumar, who belonged to West Bengal, about the craft, he answered, "*Dokra* art is a tribal art, an ancient casting process in the country. Our unit works under KVIC (Khadi and Village Industries Commission), a government organisation. We have a self-help group of women who make the jewellery items and others."

Once you realise that everything the artisans are making is completely eco-friendly, you come to the conclusion that these are the people who are going to sustain the planet, when fuels run out completely. Not only do they use conscious and sustainable practices, they also build each other up.

Khadi, which everyone thinks is only a homage to Mahatma Gandhi, actually involves, right from the farmer cultivating pure and organic cotton, to the spinner,

and a dozen weavers to work on the cloth. It requires an entire tribe to execute just the production of the cloth. So, here you have it — the roots of problems that India, and a lot of other nations, face — unemployment, pollution, exploitation of resources, global warming, consumption of junk, and so much more, getting resolved.

"India always had the science and technology to industrialise. We did not do it, consciously. Gandhi said if we were to industrialise that one little isle of nation that has had to destroy the whole planet, we would have to destroy many planets, which is why he turned crafts into a symbol of independence," explained Vandana Shiva, a bio-diversity expert from Navdanya.

I felt forlorn that the importance of this sector has always been casually neglected and never been taken seriously.

On the topic of extremely rare and almost extinct art-forms, I came across a *sanjhi* artisan named Ram Soni. His art-pieces were mind-blowing, and I usually do not go to the extreme of using a raw adjective like that for anything. The art sketches are formed by intricate scissors-cuts to create elaborate patterns. His family, according to him, has been employing

the craft for 350 years. Originally from Mathura, he resides currently in the Alwar district of Rajasthan. The highly skilled artisan had received a national award in 2002 and regularly conducts workshops and participates in exhibitions.

"I am from Maharashtra and am a *warli* artist. *Warli* art is a traditional tribal art-form. The *warli* paintings are made on mud walls with the help of white paste. This white paste is a mixture of ground-rice and water, and gum is used as a binding on the same. We usually show village scenes to make them relatable. The background is done with cow dung and then the painting is implemented," a yet another unique craft's practitioner shared.

An elderly but extremely experienced artisan described his organisation, "Our NGO, Jawala Leather Association, has been working for the past 40 years. We're still somehow keeping it alive. Our handicrafts are entirely made of leather."

Shiva had casually said, in a conversation with Jaitly, which I had the good chance to hear, that any person — an environmentalist, a health conscious enthusiast/expert, anyone who is concerned about livelihood — should and must be a part of exhibitions like these, and I most sincerely agreed.

In 2017, when Dayanita Singh won the PhotoBook Of The Year prize in Paris, the American fine art photographer, Mitch Epstein, said, "Dayanita Singh has extended the concept of what a book might be with *Museum Bhavan* that explore an Indian motif from printing presses to the administrative archives. Her work is a sophisticated merger of east and west sensibilities and celebrates the democratic possibilities of the offset multiple."

Last month, Dayanita launched a delightful series of photographs on Pritzker winning architect, Bal Krishna Doshi, in an epic book titled, *Portrait of a House*. Shot in Ahmedabad in his own den, as it is across three houses designed by Doshi, represents a journey that nestles between spaces, stories, and conversations about the photographs themselves.

The photographs in the book is an odyssey of sensorial emotions, as it unravels an evolving narrative of photography. She doesn't get into humongous toms that look like white elephants on a coffee table; she prefers erudite editions, compact, and exemplifying the adage, 'small is beautiful'.

In an interview with Kriti Saraswat Satpathy, she expresses, "Something about the houses Doshi built (Kamala House, Maneesha House, and Tejal House) that have always drawn me back in time and the realisation is that it is not just the architecture, but a space where the thought of people live, love, and grow in. I, somehow, feel a strong connection to these houses, where relationships are nurtured; there is warmth, ease, and lights created its magic."

In the sophisticated merger of architectural and human sensibilities, she celebrates multiple possibilities of the new begin-

Glimpse of heritage

Photographer, DAYANITA SINGH, captures the magnificent works of the veteran architect, Bal Krishna Doshi, in a book, *Portrait of a House*. By UMA NAIR



ning. Here, Doshi and Dayanita explore new forms and subjects of nooks, passageways around the three houses with Doshi's family, creating a syntax of spirited punctuation.

When Dayanita captures subjects, such as hands, the congregating of feminine aura, the simple acts of reverie, and languor in a set of staircase, she delves into the balance between what is private and what is elusively public.

The small size of the book with satin-smooth pages, and the design by the legendary, Rukminee Guha Thakurta, create a symphony of quietude. It represents dulcet glimpses of photography as a way of cataloguing the work and collective experiences between two artists, who have collaborated to create a seminal journey.

While the architectural images are a steal, what stands apart are the portraits of the women together. Rare beauty is the peahen who is the pet of the house. Dayanita captured her in a moment of naturalality, her presence being a darwinian

bleeding as stands on a marble top table more than 70 years old, yet another image has her listening to Doshi in conversation. These images make us realise that Dayanita is a rare being of sheer depth and sensitivity of purpose. Man and nature both co-exist in a domestic environment as the minutes flow like the currents of a river.

This book invites the human gaze as a handcrafted object, made in manufacture as a work of art. The insignia of the individual is paramount because it fosters intellectual engagement and encourages the physical exploration of its pages. Rukminee is a designer of pedigree; her design dictates are pristine in terms of image association and summation. The opening pages of mathematical squares unravel the architect's draught board as well as Dayanita's precision and cutting edge tightness as an editor, who is critical of her own standardisation. For lovers of books, this is a catalyst for wiping away pandemic blues.

As I entered the open-air theatre on the seventh floor of the Select Citywalk, a young bald man, wearing a black suit and trouser, exclaimed, "bullied" and "abused," while performing on a tiny raised platform. In the corner, I noticed a small group of people standing and enjoying every element of the performance; I sat somewhere on the second row next to a lady in a white dress, who was saying, "Beautiful play."

The ambience was excellent, and the small raised platform was surrounded by four artificial pillars that were beautifully decorated. The lovely lighting on the rooftop added beauty to my first open-air theatre experience in Delhi. Even though it was a little dim when I arrived because the performance had already begun, the reactions of the audience were vibrant.

The Laughter In Progress (LIP) service is a collection of a few short comic playlets presented by Theatreclan, which is recognised by the BBC4 as the most prolific youth theatre company. Due to the pandemic, theatres were shut, but the slow revival of the economy brought back some normalcy. Amidst the tough time, Theatreclan arranged zoom theatre for the actors. "One can always feel the emotions in live performances, the love that comes from the audience is something unique, and live theatre cannot be parallel to the digital format," said Tathagata Chowdhury, from the Theatreclan.

The majority of the audience was young and middle-aged. The playlet consisted of six plays, each with a different theme inspired by a real-life event. The first play was *To Be A Quizzer*, in which the participant always responded to the next question, which was the answer to the former one, reflecting on how the same answers might lead to diverse interpretations. This performance reminded me of the stark contrast in how adulthood treats people at different times of their lives. In some way, all of us could feel relatable to



Bundle of laughs

TANMAYA DAS explores the charm of an open-air theatrical play being staged in Delhi for the first time

the characters and the circumstances.

The second play was *To Be A Delhihite*, a silent play in which two women constantly compared their lifestyles in silence, ultimately spreading the message aloud, "In Delhi, size matters." The play reflected amazing circumstances, such as one woman was picking up a small book to read, whereas another woman was taking out a gigantic encyclopaedia. Similarly, the comparison of a 'glass' of water to a 'jug' water demonstrates how Delhi residents constantly compare themselves to one another.

Oh Gurgawa! was the third play, and it highlighted how Gurgaon differs from Noida and Delhi. The plot drew a parallel idea between how we don't always receive what we desire in life and instead get surprised by something that happens out of context. "This is very true; Gurgaon is in a separate time zone," one woman said, who was sitting behind me, to which another woman whispered, "Yes, I feel like we live in a different world." "The one with the parallel universe in *Oh Gurgawa* had tickled my ribs," Phoolkumari stat-

ed after the play.

Tinder was the fourth play, in which a man and a woman met on a dating app, each with a different level of comprehension, and the app was guiding them through their relationship. The play reminded that my friend had experienced the same and concluded that dating apps portray the characteristics of another person, but meeting that person makes you feel more intriguing since you get to know the true self. In that scenario, you can see how dating apps and AI can be used to manipulate people these days.

The fifth drama, *As you Like It*, was taken from David Ives's, *Sure Thing*, demonstrated how various aspects help us in gaining different perspectives of life, only after a great deal of misinterpretation of various circumstances.

The last play, *Hypnotist, Glutton, and Waitress*, illustrated systematics double standards of society through several characters. The play began with a song, *Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram*, and with gluttony sitting a chair alongside the hypnotist, who showcased avarice and materialism along

with ambition and aspirations in life. Similarly, the character of gluttony reflected how society put someone down in awful times; and the waitress represented *aam janta*, influenced by the two mediums. This piece was pertinent in today's concept, where Aryan Khan, a scapegoat, is currently facing adversity, and the *aam janta* is protesting against him for no cause other than linking the issue to SSR's death case. The drama concluded with a modified version of the song.

This play was one of my favourites since each character represented all facets of society in great detail. For example, the gluttony claimed that he was tormented and abused as a child for being too skinny, so to be a part of society, he began over-eating, and that led him to be a subject of ridicule. The hypnotist exaggerated the features of the distressed person, so the phrases, bullied and abused, were chosen. Similarly, the waitress showed the common citizen enjoy the magnification without acknowledging the consequences of their actions on the victim.

Throughout the performances, the audience applauded enthusiastically and laughed loudly. Around 9:30 pm, the show ended, and some of them left, while others stayed for brief interaction and discussion about the play. "All actors did brilliant jobs; I enjoyed watching theatre after a long time," said Vidushi Singh from Delhi.

CLIMATE CHANGE PLAYSHOP
 A 60 minutes playshop will be held on credo.fun platform where kids will learn what climate change is and why talking about it is important. Kids will also understand how they can contribute to the cause of climate action, as the officials from UNESCO MGIEP will address their emotional reactions to it and help them explore the relationship between humans and nature. Kids who are above 12 years of age can, further, take a free course on climate change with UNESCO MGIEP, after the playshop.
When: October 13, 4 pm
Where: www.credo.fun/workshop



401 REASONS TO FALL IN LOVE WITH DELHI
 The book is designed for both the *dilliwala*, as well as those who are new to the city. The collection is skillfully integrated into a book, written by well-known travel writer, Fiona Caulfield.
 Over a period of time, Andaz Delhi has taken inspiration from this book and has realised some of the experiences on the premises, so that guests and patrons can literally experience the book itself. From coffee tasting with local coffee roasters to yoga sessions with professional yoga masters, in recent months, every aspect of the book has been explored as a liveable experience.
 Reason number 22 of 401 Reasons To Fall In Love With Delhi is the art-form called Lettering. Learn to write fun and iconic Delhi quotes in beautiful flowy calligraphy font.
When: October 17, 12:30 pm-3:30 pm
Where: AnnaMaya in Andaz Delhi



UNSEALED CHAMBER, THE TRANSIENT IMAGE
 The year 2021 marks the 195th anniversary of the first successful experimentation with photography as a novel form, and patented as a new invention by the French practitioner, Joseph Nicéphore Niépce, in 1827. To honour this occasion, Unsealed Chamber: The Transient Image is presenting four contemporary artists working with both analogue and digital methods.
 Through newly made productions, Aparna Nori, Arpan Mukherjee, Indu Antony and Philippe Calia explore a sense of creative hybridity by melding both manual techniques and new media to reflect on questions of self, society, ecology and representation.
 The exhibition seeks to exhume an original art-form, its appropriation, manipulation and evolution in the transient object. Working with multiple surfaces, like glass, paper and cloth, they undertake an introspective journey to different paradigms of reality.
When: October 14-November 3, 6 pm
Where: Galerie Romain Rolland, Alliance Française de Delhi, 72 Lodi Estate, New Delhi



SOULSCAPES
 Dr Prithpal Singh Sethi, a general physician who is also a passionate artist, is presenting his first solo exhibition of abstract art titled SoulScapes. A self-taught artist, Dr Sethi presents SoulScapes as a series of paintings dedicated to 'celebrations in hope' where the colours spread the cheer. During the lockdown phase, where every day was chaotic and challenging for him professionally, Dr Sethi found paintings as an escape route from despair. Art became a symphony of inner music wherein nuances of colour and variations of stroke create magical and dreamlike visuals on blank canvases. He has experimented in giving speech and life to mute landscapes, waterscapes, mindscapes and skyscapes. Paintings like Migration 2020, Night Vigil, The Sacrifice, and more will be displayed.
When: October 12-20, 11 am-8 pm
Where: Shridharani Art Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam



KKR SETS Q-2 DATE WITH DC



PTI ■ SHARJAH

Sunil Narine gave glimpses of his 'old mystery' with the ball and then topped it up with three monster sixes as Kolkata Knight Riders' four-wicket victory in an exciting 'Eliminator' dashed Virat Kohli's dream of winning an IPL trophy while leading Royal Challengers Bangalore.

KKR will now meet Delhi Capitals in the second Qualifier on Tuesday to decide Chennai Super Kings' rivals for the title clash on October 15.

Narine, who had to remodel his action after coming under the scanner due to a suspect action multiple times, singlehandedly 'eliminated' Royal Challengers Bangalore with bowling figures of 4 for 21.

He then produced a crucial 26-run knock off 15 balls that made a tricky chase of 139 slightly easier in the end. KKR got

home with two balls to spare. Kohli, who was captaining RCB for the last time, did make a contentious decision by opting to bat on a sluggish surface which also offered turn.

Narine (4/21) sent RCB's biggest guns back in the dug-out as Kohli, AB de Villiers and Glenn Maxwell had no answer to his turning deliveries under pressure situation.

With Varun Chakravarthy (0/20) not conceding a single boundary and Shakib Al Hasan (0/24 in) also keeping the batsmen on a tight leash, the KKR's spin trio gave away only 65 runs with four boundaries in 12 overs. Defending a low score was never easy but save Harshal Patel's all-time highest-wicket tally (in a single edition) of 32, RCB had nothing to write home about as another season that started with a bang ended in a whimper. Once again, captain Kohli's inability to win pressure matches and big-ticket tournaments was proved by

KKR's spinners, who were successful in tying the batters in knots. Not to forget the skipper not being at his best during middle overs in any of the games.

KKR's chase could have been a bit dicey but Narine just chanced his arms in the 12th over to muscle Dan Cristian for three sixes, which proved to be decisive in the end.

However the evening did start well for RCB when Devdutt Padikkal (21 off 18 balls) and Kohli (39 off 33 balls) got off to a great start by adding 49 runs in the first five Powerplay overs.

The opening duo attacked an under-pressure Shivam Mavi with as many as five boundaries coming in those first few overs.

However it was Lockie Ferguson (2/30), whose extra pace did Padikkal in as the left-hander, trying to cut, dragged a delivery, pitched well outside off-stump.

RCB's last league match hero Kona Bharat (9 off 15 balls) was clearly troubled because of the slowness of the track with spinners getting the ball to grip off the surface. He was Narine's first of the four victims when he tried to loft the spinner over long-off but didn't reach to the pitch of the delivery and holed out in the deep by Venkatesh Iyer.

Kohli, who has had good starts in most games but lost the momentum post Powerplay overs with the field spread, once again went into a shell.

The shot that got him out had desperation write large over it as the slog sweep to a fuller delivery from Narine was never on. The result was a pegged back leg-stump which also spelt doom for RCB.

AB de Villiers (11) has had his worst IPL season and it was a real beauty from Narine -- a classical off-break that went through the gate to embarrass the legendary Proteas.

RCB's best player of the season Maxwell (15) was supposed to have a bad day as per 'Law of Averages' and did catch up with him trying to slog sweep Narine's off-spinner which ballooned to short third-man to make it a dream day for the Trinidad man.

Tom Moody interested in coaching Indian team

PTI ■ SYDNEY

Former Australia all-rounder Tom Moody is expected to apply for the high profile job of Indian cricket team's next head coach for a fourth time, following the conclusion of the upcoming T20 World Cup, according to a media report.

"It's understood the former World Cup-winner and well-travelled coach is eyeing the Indian coaching job, which is set to be vacated by (Ravi) Shastri following the impending T20 World Cup," Foxsports.Com.Au reported. The 56-year-old Moody, who currently serves as IPL side Sunrisers Hyderabad and Sri Lanka's director of cricket, has expressed his desire to coach the Indian side before, applying thrice for the top job in the past, including in 2017 and 2019, but has never been considered. Shastri's contract as India's head coach is set to end after T20 World Cup and the 59-year-old has already confirmed that he won't be seeking an extension, leaving the BCCI to look for candidates for the top job.

Moody, who was Sunrisers' coach for seven years from 2013 to 2019, led the franchise to their only IPL title in 2016 with compatriot David Warner as skipper.

He was replaced by former England World Cup-winning coach Trevor Bayliss before being named the franchise's director of cricket. Moody has also coached Sri Lanka. According to the report, Moody's aspiration to coach Team India led to the decision to strip Warner from captaincy earlier this season and then drop him from the playing XI in the last few games.

If you think too much while batting then you mess your plans: Dhoni



PTI ■ DUBAI

Mahendra Singh Dhoni walks the talk when he speaks about having an uncluttered mind while doing the finishing job for Chennai Super Kings, something he did with elan on Sunday against Delhi Capitals to take his team to the record ninth IPL final.

Dhoni scored 18 off six balls to ensure CSK's smooth passage into the final against DC in a successful chase of 173.

"I've not done a lot in the tournament, so wanted to look for the ball and see what the bowler can do. I was batting well in the nets. But wasn't thinking too much, if you think too much while batting then you mess your plans up," Dhoni said at the end of the match.

He praised DC for bowling well and exploiting the big boundaries to good effect.

"My innings was a crucial one. Delhi has a very good bowling attack. They exploited the conditions well, so we knew it would be tough. My plan was simple, see the ball, hit the ball," Dhoni said that he keeps his chats with team's premier batter Rituraj Gaikwad simple.

"Whenever Rituraj and I have a chat, it's a simple chat. Want to know what he was thinking. Its good to see how well he has improved. He is someone willing to bat 20 overs," he said.

On promoting Shardul Thakur to No. 4, Dhoni said that he wanted to check out if he can get a couple of boundaries which can make a difference when the gap between runs required and balls left is 15 to 20.

"Shardul has done decent batting, as has Deepak. He/they are allowed to go for the shots from first ball unlike other top-order batters."

It was the situation that prompted him to send Robin Uthappa at No. 3 instead of Moeen Ali.

"Robin enjoys batting at the top but Moeen has been excellent at No. 3. But we have created a situation where either of them could bat at No. 3 depending on the situation and the opposition."

Dhoni feels the kind of practice they got the last season after being knocked out of play-offs helped this season as it was evident with Rituraj scoring 600-plus runs with one more match to go.

"Last season was the first time we didn't qualify into play-offs. But we wanted to just make use of the 3-4 games left last season and a lot of our batters made use of that. That is the reason why we have come back strongly this season."

DC skipper Rishabh Pant was disappointed with the outcome but vowed to come back strongly in next game.

"Obviously, it is very disappointing, and I can't have enough words to describe how we are feeling."

The decision to use Tom Curran in the 20th over was based on his performance during the first three overs in which he got two for 14.

"I thought Tom bowled beautifully throughout the match, and so I thought better to use him for the last over. The score was decent, and they got off to a flier. That was the main difference. We are going to rectify our mistakes, learn from it and hopefully, we can move on and play the final."

Devendro, Suranjoy back in Indian boxing team



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Commonwealth Games medal-winners M Suranjoy Singh and L Devendro Singh, whose stellar boxing careers were cut short by injuries, have been roped in as coaches for men by the national federation ahead of this month's world championships.

The 29-year-old Devendro and the 35-year-old Suranjoy are among

14 coaches that have been short-listed for the national camp in Patiala, starting this week. The world championship, featuring over 600 boxers from more than 100 countries, begins on October 24 in Belgrade, Serbia.

The other prominent names in the coaching staff are head coach Narendar Rana, former junior coach M S Dhaka, the seasoned Dharmendra Yadav and former boxers Diwakar Parsad and Torak Kharpan among others.

The development was confirmed to PTI by BFI Secretary General Hemanta Kalita.

Interestingly, both Suranjoy and Devendro have trained under Dhaka at the junior level.

Additional tickets for ICC T20 World Cup go on sale



PTI ■ DUBAI

Keeping in mind the presence of a large expat community in both Oman and the UAE, more tickets have been made

available for all games at the ICC men's T20 World Cup.

The additional tickets went on sale on Monday 11.

The International Cricket Council and the tournament's

official host BCCI have worked closely with the authorities in UAE and Oman, where the matches will be held, to ensure fans can be welcomed in a safe environment.

COVID-19 protocols will apply at all venues.

Chris Tetley, head of events, ICC said: "We know Oman and the UAE are packed with sports fans from all 16 nations competing at the event, so we're delighted to be able to release more tickets for all games."

"We've worked closely with our hosts, the venues and our partners to ensure as many fans as possible can be part of what is going to be such a fantastic event. "The expat community in

the region means every team can enjoy home support and with tickets from just 10 OMR (Omani rial) and 30 AED (Emirati Dirham), we hope to see stands full of passionate cricket fans cheering their team on.

"Demand is always incredibly high for tickets to ICC events, so I'd urge fans to be patient and we look forward to welcoming them to the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021."

Tickets went on sale last week, with thousands being snapped up in record time. However there are now tickets available for games across all four venues of Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah and Muscat.

India blank Netherlands 5-0 in Thomas Cup

PTI ■ AARHUS (DENMARK)

The Indian men's badminton team blanked lower-ranked Netherlands 5-0 in its opening Group C tie to make a winning start at the Thomas Cup Final here.

Taking the court first, Kidambi Srikanth beat Joran Kweekel 21-12 21-14 in a men's singles clash on Sunday night



before the doubles duo of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty sailed past the Dutch pair of Ruben Jille and Ties van der Lecq 21-19 21-12 to hand India a 2-0 advantage.

World championship bronze-medallist B Sai Praneeth then demolished Robin Mesman 21-4 21-12 in just 27 minutes in the second singles match to give India an

unassailable 3-0 lead.

MR Arjun and Dhruv Kapila next defeated Andy Buijk and Brian Wassink 21-12 21-13 in the second doubles tie before Sameer Verma made the clean sweep, beating Gijs Duijs 21-6 21-11 in the third and final singles match.

Earlier on Sunday, ace shuttler Saina Nehwal was forced to retire midway

through her opening match but India's young women's team produced a clinical display to notch up a fine 3-2 win over Spain in the Uber Cup Final.

India's men's team will next play another weak opponent in Tahiti in the Thomas Cup on Tuesday, while the country's women shuttlers will be up against Scotland in Group B.

Chhetri scores 77th goal as India beat Nepal 1-0

PTI ■ MALE

Talismanic captain Sunil Chhetri equalled legendary Pele with his 77th international goal as his 83rd minute strike helped India beat Nepal 1-0 and saved his side from the verge of elimination in the SAFF Championships here on Sunday. The 37-year-old Chhetri, playing in his 123rd match for India, struck a late goal to place himself on even keel with the Brazilian great (77 goals from 92 matches).

He is now on joint third with UAE's Ali Mabkhout (77) in the list of highest scorers among active footballers, behind Cristiano Ronaldo (112) and Lionel Messi (79).

Substitute Farukh Chaudhary somehow managed to win a header from a long throw in and directed it towards the centre of the six-yard box where Chhetri found himself at the right place to fire the ball past Nepal goalkeeper Kiran Limbu late in the match.



Seven-time champions India are now at third spot with five points from three matches in the five-team table, below Maldives (six points from three matches) and Nepal (six points from three matches).

India will still need to win their final round-robin league match on Wednesday against hosts Maldives if they have to make it to the October 16 final.

A draw against Nepal would have put India on the verge of elimination.

The Indian team and its head coach Igor Stimac had been under the pump after drawing against lower-ranked Bangladesh (1-1) and Sri Lanka (0-0) in their previous matches.

Chaudhary had come into the field as substitute of Mohd. Yasir in the 70th minute.

India kept on creating chances in the match and were the dominant team throughout. But they were not able to make the finishing touches in a few chances they got. Chhetri had also missed a big opportunity to score in the first half. India had drawn against Nepal 0-0 and beat the Himalayan nation 2-0 in the previous encounters this year before Sunday's win.

Kenkre FC look for hat-trick of wins in I-League Qualifiers

PTI ■ BENGALURU

In-form outfit Kenkre FC will look for a hat-trick of wins in the I-League Qualifiers as they come up against Corbett FC here on Tuesday. Corbett FC will line up for their final match in this year's Qualifiers, having been knocked out of the reckoning for the final round, with a tally of just one point from their first three games.

Corbett FC head coach Caetano Pinho reflected on his side's overall performance ahead of its last group stage match, insisting that his side will carry valuable experience from its debut campaign.

"Overall, the results have not gone in our favour. However, we have performed according to our plans and competed well in each game. As the head coach, I take full responsibility for our showing in the Qualifiers so far.

"Moving forward, we have been able to identify some areas where we need to focus, train harder and improve on. As we have more time to prepare and train



together, we will give a better account of ourselves in the future," Pinho said.

He insists that the current standings will have no impact on how Corbett FC approach their next match against Kenkre FC.

The mood in the Kenkre FC camp is full of positives at the moment, as the Mumbai based side narrowly edged out the opposition in their first two matches.

However, head coach Akhil Kothari believes that his side cannot rest on past laurels and must

keep up the same level of performance in their upcoming matches.

Kothari said, "We have been performing well, and I am happy to gain maximum points out of our first two matches. Our approach is to make further progress in this competition by focussing on our set plan."

Depending on the outcome of other matches in Group B, Kenkre FC can confirm their berth in the final round of the I-League Qualifiers with a solitary point against Corbett FC on Tuesday.

SINGLES

BOSTON MARATHON TO BEGIN AFTER PANDEMIC

Hopkinton (US): Fast-moving, light rain and weather in the 50s greeted the runners gearing up for the Boston Marathon, which is happening Monday for the first time since the pandemic began. It's been 30 months since athletes raced 26.2 miles (42.2 kilometers) to Copley Square in Boston, the 125th edition of the Boston Marathon, which is the world's oldest and most prestigious annual marathon. Race Director Dave McGillivray sent a group of about 30 from the Massachusetts National Guard that walks the course annually out at 6 a.m., announcing the start of the event. McGillivray said after that he was relieved to finally be back. "It's a great feeling to be out on the road," he said. "Everyone is excited. We're looking forward to a good day."

RCB RELEASE PLAYERS FROM BIO-BUBBLE

Dubai: Royal Challengers Bangalore on Monday released all-rounder Wanindu Hasaranga and pacer Dushmantha Chameera from the team's bio-bubble to join the Sri Lankan squad ahead of its T20 World Cup qualifiers next week. Hasaranga and Chameera were roped in as replacement players for Australians Adam Zampa and Daniel Sams by the franchise ahead of the second leg of ongoing season. While Hasaranga featured in two matches, Chameera was not picked in the playing XI for any of the games. The duo will miss RCB's Eliminator against Kolkata Knight Riders in Sharjah on Monday. "Wanindu Hasaranga and Dushmantha Chameera have been released from the RCB bio bubble as they join up with the SL team for their #WT20 qualifiers."

FERNANDEZ BEATS 9TH SEED

Indian Wells: Leylah Fernandez outlasted ninth-seeded Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 5-7, 6-3, 6-4 to reach the third round of the BNP Paribas Open. Fernandez, the U.S. Open runner-up, fought off a break point in the eighth game of the third set for a 5-3 lead. Pavlyuchenkova held to trail 5-4 before Fernandez served out the match in which she trailed a set and a break. Fernandez is winning in doubles, too. She and partner Coco Gauff have reached the quarterfinals. Iga Swiatek routed 25th-seeded Veronika Kudermetova 6-1, 6-0. Swiatek has dropped just five games in two matches during her first visit to the combined ATP and WTA tour event.

KO'S WI AT FOUNDERS

West Caldwell: Jin Young Ko finished off a wire-to-wire victory in the Cognizant Founders Cup with her 14th consecutive round in the 60s that matched a 16-year record held by Annika Sorenstam. Even in a steady rain at Mountain Ridge, the 26-year-old South Korean star made it look easy.

JHAWAR WINS LG'S GOLF CUP TOURNAMENT

New Delhi: Rohit Jhawar won the 21st DDA Lt. Governor's Golf Tournament 2021 which concluded at Qutab Golf Course today. Shri Shiv Raj was the Runner's up. In the ladies category, Sonu Kalkat was the Winner, Nazam Prasad was the Runner's up. For the first time, Qutab Golf Course held a tournament for caddies a week before the I.G. Cup. Winner of the caddies tournament was Rinku Rakesh. Speaking on the occasion the Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi impressed upon the overwhelming response the tournament had got with the participation of over 700 golfers.

