

**WORLD 7**ERDOGAN ORDERS  
REMOVAL OF 10 ENVOYS**MONEY 8**PETROL PRICE UP ₹36 A LITRE  
IN LESS THAN 18 MONTHS**SPORT 10**INDIA'S MEGASTARS READY TO  
POUNCE ON PAK'S PRETENDERS**Established 1864**Published From  
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# Shah tries to touch a chord with Valley

**Statehood after delimitation & polls to follow soon, says HM**

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday attempted to strike an “emotional” bond with the youth in Jammu & Kashmir as he invited them to embark on the journey of peace, development and prosperity in order to strengthen the “roots of democracy”.

During his maiden visit to J&K after the abrogation of Article 370, Shah also reiterated that the “Statehood” will be restored soon after the delimitation exercise followed by elections.

“Why should we stop delimitation? Delimitation will happen, followed by elections and then restoration of Statehood...I want to be friends with the Kashmiri youth,” Shah said while interacting with the members of the youth clubs.

Addressing the event, Shah said, “Kashmir has seen a new beginning — from fear, terrorism, corruption, and family-based politics to peace, development, and prosperity. The youth of Jammu & Kashmir has strengthened this change.

“Terrorism has reduced, stone pelting has become invisible and. I want to assure you



Union Home Minister Amit Shah visits the residence of late J&K Police Inspector Parvez Ahmed, who was martyred by terrorists last month, and met his wife Fatima Akhter in Nowgam on Saturday

PTI

that strict action will be taken against those who want to disrupt the peace and harmony of Jammu & Kashmir. No one can obstruct development here. It is our commitment.”

Soon after his arrival in Srinagar, the Union Home Minister went straight to the residence of late Parvez Ahmad, Inspector of CID, to condole his death and met his family and stayed there for around 20 minutes. Ahmad was killed by terrorists in June.

He also handed over an appointment order to the next of kin of the police officer on compassionate grounds.

Later, he chaired a high-

level security review meeting with the top brass of the Indian Army, BSF, CRPF, J&K Police chief along with Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan.

Official sources said, “Issues centring around radicalisation of youth, spurt in incidents of targeted killings of members belonging to the minority communities and cross border infiltration remained the focal point of threadbare discussions which continued for almost five hours.”

“Necessary directions were issued to the security forces to effectively tackle the security



situation on ground zero,” an official said.

Communicating with the youth, Shah urged them to introspect what did the previous Governments give to Jammu & Kashmir in 70 years?

“87 MLAs, 6 MPs and 3 families Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made it possible for about 30,000 elected representatives in the Panchayat elections, who are serving the people today.

“Post-independence, the Government of India helped Jammu & Kashmir, but the poverty, unemployment did not go away, infrastructure did not develop. Now poverty is going from here, people are getting employment opportunities,” he said.

Responding to the political voices which opposed handling of the situation post Abrogation of Article 370, Shah said, “People questioned curfew, internet suspension. Had

there been no curfew, I don't know how many lives would have been lost. Kashmir youth has been saved due to curfew, internet suspension...3 families ruled for 70 years...Why were 40,000 people killed?”

Late in the evening, the Union Home Minister inaugurated the Srinagar-Sharjah international flight. “We declare it open from today. This will help in boosting tourism and bring more investment in the Union Territory. We also declare the ‘Policy on Helicopter Operations in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir’ open from today.”

Shah also met in Raj Bhawan family members of

civilians and security personnel who lost their lives in the recent attacks in different parts of Kashmir valley.

Shah met the family of Kashmiri pandit pharmacist

Makhal Lal Bindroo, husband of school principal Supinder

# Singapore lifts Covid ban on Indian fliers

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Singapore removed India from its travel restriction list along with Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. It has announced the resumption of travel for India and certain other countries, including Pakistan and Bangladesh, from October 26.

However, arrivals from these regions will still be subject to strict border measures that are applied to areas deemed as high-risk from the virus. The US, the United Kingdom, Kenya, Canada, Germany, Russia, Kenya, Sri Lanka, the UAE, Mauritius, Iceland, Turkey, Egypt, Serbia, Uzbekistan and Italy are among the countries which allowed Indian travellers after slow-down in Covid-19 cases.

“All travellers with a 14-day travel history to Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka prior to departure to Singapore will be allowed to enter and transit through Singapore from 11.59 pm on Oct 26,” Singapore Government's website said.

Earlier, Singapore had allowed fully-vaccinated travellers from 15 more countries to enter without having to quarantine in dedicated facilities.

**Removes 5 other Asian countries from restriction from October 26**

ties. They include Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam and the United Arab Emirates.

Singapore has been witnessing over 3000 daily Covid-19 infections recently, with the country seeing a surge of 3637 cases on Friday. From this week, the so-called vaccinated travel lanes have been extended to vaccinated arrivals from Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Britain and the United States.

*Continued on Page 4*

# 3 lines of Delhi Metro OK'd for Cabinet nod

**Rithala-Bawana-Narela Metrolite, Lajpat-Saket G-Block, Inderlok-Indraprastha approved by Investment Board**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



expected to witness heavy passenger traffic, while the other two would have conventional high-capacity corridors.

In the fourth phase of Delhi Metro, three interchange stations will come up as part of the first corridor work—Madhuban Chowk (Red Line), Peeragarhi (Green Line), and Haiderpur Badli Mor (Yellow Line). Additionally, the corridor of Janakpuri West-RK Ashram Marg will have three more interchange facilities at Azadpur (with Yellow Line),

Majlis Park (Pink Line) and R K Ashram Marg (with Blue Line). A total of 15 stations will come on the Aerocity-Tughlakabad corridor.

Top sources said a PIB meeting chaired by the Finance Secretary approved the three metro lines. “The meeting was attended by senior officials of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Delhi Metro, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Department of Expenditure and Niti Aayog,” sources added.

*Continued on Page 4*

# Varun posts video of UP man setting fire to his crop

**BJP MP irks party over opposition to agriculture laws**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



Stepping-up his opposition to the Modi-Government's policies towards farmers, BJP Member of Parliament Varun Gandhi on Saturday shared a video purportedly showing a man setting fire to his paddy crop after his “vain efforts to sell it” and demanded a re-look at the agriculture policy.

Varun, who has been frequently raising issues which are unpalatable to the Government and also questioning its commitment to the people's well-being, has now again drawn attention to the “plight” of farmers who are not able to sell their agriculture produce in “mandis”.

“Samodh Singh, a farmer of Uttar Pradesh, had been running around mandis for the last 15 days to sell his paddy crop. When paddy did not sell, he in frustration put fire to it himself. Where has this system brought the farmers? The need of the hour is to rethink our agriculture policy,” he said.

This week, Varun also posted video criticising the

Yogi Government for doing little to help-out people faced by the flood in the Terai belt in the State.

*Continued on Page 4*

# PM discusses with jab makers ways to vaccinate all asap

**Make India vax innovator, help other nations with jabs: Modi**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other officials during a meeting with Covid-19 vaccine makers in New Delhi on Saturday

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Cadila, Biological E, Gennova Biopharma and Panacea Biotech — after India achieved the landmark of vaccinating over 100 crore citizens in the country.

He is also said to have asked the vaccine makers to work on innovation in the sector to ensure that India emerges as an innovative country.

This is the first meeting of the Prime Minister with the representatives from seven vaccine makers — Serum Institute of India, Bharat Biotech, Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Zydus

vaccine manufacturers with Prime Minister Cyrus Poonawalla from the Serum Institute, said that “he (the Prime Minister) went out of his way, made everyone move very fast... Had it not been for him... and driving the Health Ministry, today India would not have been able to make a billion doses.”

*Continued on Page 4*

# Priyanka pledges farm loan waiver, 20L jobs if voted to power in UP

VIRENDRA NATH BHATT ■ LUCKNOW

Congress general secretary Cand Uttar Pradesh in-charge Priyanka Gandhi Vadra flagged off three ‘Pratigya Yatras’ from Barabanki on Saturday to take to the people various resolutions adopted by the party ahead of the election for Uttar Pradesh early next year.

The seven major promises by the Congress are — allocation of 40 per cent of election tickets to women, Class 12 pass girls will get smartphones and girls who have cleared graduation shall get electric scooty. Complete waiver of farm loans, procurement of wheat and paddy at ₹2,500 per quintal and procurement of sugarcane at ₹400 per quintal, the electricity bill of consumers will be reduced by half and the



Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra flags off 'Pratigya Yatra' in Barabanki on Saturday

PTI

bills during the Covid-19 period will be waived and ₹25,000 for each household affected owing to the Covid-19 crisis. The last is the Government jobs to 20 lakh persons.

*Continued on Page 4*

# Lighting a match becomes costlier!

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Another blow of inflation — the price of the matchbox is going to increase after 14 years. Now you will have to pay double the price for a matchbox. Representatives of five major matchbox manufacturers have unanimously resolved to increase the maximum retail price (MRP) of a matchbox from ₹1 to ₹2 with effect from December 1.

Whether it is cooking food in the kitchen, or lighting a lamp or birthday candle in worship, everybody use matches every day

for some work or the other.

The last hike in matchbox prices had come in 2007 when the rate of a single box was increased from ₹50 paise to ₹1. Prior to that, the cost of each matchbox was increased from ₹25 paise to ₹50 paise in 1995. Currently, each of the boxes contains 40 matchsticks and a carton contains 600 matchboxes each.

According to matchbox manufacturers, 14 different types of raw materials are required to make a matchbox, including potassium chlorate, red phosphorus, sulphur, potassium bichromate, wax, white splints, blue match papers, cardboard for inner and outer boxes. The prices of many such materials have more than doubled in the past 14 years, leading to an increase in



matchbox manufacturing costs. More than four lakh people are directly and indirectly involved in the matchbox business in Tamil Nadu. Of the people directly connected, 90 per cent are women only.

India imported matchboxes from Sweden and Japan before the First World War. In 1910, Japanese immigrants started making matches in what was then Calcutta. The locals learned the skills, and a

few match factories sprung up in the city.

The first sulphur match that ignited when struck on a rough surface was made in South India in 1923, and the first safety match as known today was made in 1932. Wimco started its operations as a unit of the multinational Swedish Match Company in 1924.

In India, early labels with unfamiliar objects were

replaced by images from Indian mythology, art, religion and architecture. The top space of the Indian matchbox was adorned by designs that included borders, gods and goddesses, brides, flowers fruit, animals and modes of transport.

Currently, the hand-made safety matches had vanished as machinery had come in handy for increasing the production, according to the manufacturers.

## CAPSULE

**UP GOVT TO RENAME FAIZABAD RLY STATION**

**Lucknow:** The Uttar Pradesh Government has decided to rename the Faizabad railway station, a tweet by the office of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Saturday. It will be called the Ayodhya Cantt railway station, the tweet said. The CM's office said the Centre too has granted its consent.

**GIRL RAPED IN DELHI: ACCUSED SEEN ON CCTV**

**New Delhi:** A 6-year-old girl was allegedly raped in Delhi's Ranjit Nagar area, the police said on Saturday. The incident took place last morning when the girl had gone to eat at a langar in the neighbourhood. CCTV footage from the area shows the accused with the girl. In the video, the girl is seen following the accused.

**OSCARS: KOOZHANGAL IS INDIA'S OFFICIAL ENTRY**

**New Delhi:** Tamil drama “Koozhangal” (“Pebbles”), directed by filmmaker Vinodraj PS, has been selected as India's official entry for the 94th Academy Awards.



**HOME THEATRE**

# Vicky Kaushal will leave you charmed



**SARDAR UDHAM**  
Amazon Prime  
\*ing: Vicky Kaushal, Amol Parashar, Banita Sandhu, Shaun Scott, Stephen Hogan, Andrew Havill  
Rated: 5.5/10

This is a lean week when it comes to OTT and movie releases. Many filmmakers have now started going for theatrical releases and that means that people who were waiting for big films to release digitally will be in for a big disappointment. The COVID-19 appears to abate but we still need to follow protocol to keep the numbers in check and not let virus numbers escalate. For those who kissed watching Sardar Udham because they were busy watching Rashmi Rocket, they definitely need to see this. Here are five reasons why it makes for a must watch.

It is a biopic. This means that what unfolds happened even if it was somewhat dramatised— in parts. Biopics always find a connection with the audiences. The fact that we see actually happened truly resonates and when it

happens to be about Jallianwala Bagh and the sheer brutality that was unleashed on innocent unarmed civilians, it just makes your blood boil. The goose bumps and the tears refuse to go away.

Second, the absolutely brilliant performance by Vicky Kaushal. In fact, he is the reason why one should watch Sardar Udham. It is amazing to watch him bring Sardar Udham to life; it is truly mesmerising. Kaushal has played this role to a T. He has managed to bring out the sheer determination of a man who chased the Lt Governor of Punjab — Sir Michael O'Dwyer whom he shot him dead in 1940 — 21 years after the Jallianwala massacre. Through his character, you feel the anger and the helplessness he went through as he spent hours taking the injured to the hospital.

Three, Shoojit Sarcar should be given a medal for bringing the massacre alive. There have been so many films where the senseless massacre was carried out on April 13, 1919. But none have managed to bring out

the brutality that General Dyer fired on the people gathered. To see so much blood and the way people ran to save their lives but instead succumbing to the bullets will make you hate the British with a vengeance or at least you wished both O'Dwyer and Dyr were alive so that you could kill them with the same brutality all over again.

Four, the early 1900s era has been brought to life beautifully. If you didn't know better you would feel that it was happening right now. It does look that a lot of detailing had gone into research and get everything correct of how India was at that time and London from 1919 to 1940.

Finally, to get to see a slice of history; how common people gave up their lives just so that we can live in a free country and enjoy the perks of living in a free country. These people were willing to fight for knowing fully well that they may end up dying in trying to get us freedom. Sardar Udham Singh was 40 when he was hanged and Shaheed Bhagat Singh was only 23!

Shalini Sakseena

# ‘I got a lot of fame for playing Tanu, I’m grateful for this’

LEENA JUMANI, who plays Tanushree in Kumkum Bhagya, speaks with SHALINI SAKSENA about how she came aboard and how she got into acting

■How did you come on board for Kumkum Bhagya?

The makers were auditioning for Tanu's character for Kumkum Bhagya and they called me for it. I went and luckily, I got selected. I had worked with Balaji Telefilms before as well. In fact, my first show was with Balaji in a show called Bandini. My journey in the TV industry started with them, so they knew my work, my talent and my ethics. Also, they had a certain vision for the character of Tanu and I fit into it very well.

■What is the best part about playing Tanushree?

I love the fact that Tanu has many shades, especially being the antagonist on the show. Through her I get to essay many shades.

■How much do you relate to Tanu?

To be honest, I don't relate to Tanu in real life at all. She is completely different from me as a person and that's the best part of it. Kumkum Bhagya allows me to play a completely different personality on screen. This I leave at shoot and return back home as the real Leena.

■You have been in the show for seven years. Did you ever want to quit it?

As of now, I don't want to leave it. I am really enjoying the track as well as how important my character is. But I'll say no one has seen the future. If any actor is leaving or the creative writer or Ekta (Kapoor) ma'am decides to finish any character, there is nothing wrong in that as it would be about the larger scheme of things and for the show's betterment. There is nothing personal.

Sab apna kaam aur achha kaam karna chahte hai. My character was away for a bit too, but she was brought back. Now that my character is back and pivotal to the track, I am enjoying and want to continue being on the show till the time I can!



■How has this show changed your career graph?

To be honest, I have gained a lot of fame as Tanu. I'm grateful for that. The show has actually given me a lot and I am really thankful to my fans and followers who've been supporting me since day one.

■You were in the stock market. How did acting happen?

Yes, I always wanted to keep working and do something, so I started a boutique with my mother in Ahmedabad, after which I started working with my sister in a stock market firm. That's when my sister suggested that I try acting. I started with a photoshoot and Gujarati movies, after which one fine day I applied for a Balaji Telefilms show and surprisingly, I got selected.

■Did your family try to dissuade you to do otherwise?

No, never, they have always supported me. In fact, no matter what situation I'm going through, they've always been there for me, and I am grateful to have such a wonderful family. They're truly my pillar of strength.

■You have done films, TV shows and web, which is the platform you love?

I love all of them. More than platforms, I love playing different roles. I love my work and I don't consider acting as a job. It is more of a passion for me, so I try my best to keep working.

■How has the journey been so far?

It's been great. I have no complaints till date and I'm grateful. I have to thank God and thank everyone who saw my potential as an actor. It's because of you all that I am here today.

■What's next?

I am, at present, working on a few other projects as well, which I cannot reveal about, however when the right time is there, I'll surely share everything.

## TELLY TALE

### ‘BACHPAN KI YAAD AA JATI THI’

Ever since its premiere, Zee TV's latest fiction show, *Rishton Ka Manjha*, has made a remarkable impression on the audience through its intriguing plot and relatable characters like Arjun (Krushal Ahuja) and Diya (Aanchal Goswami).

The duo has received immense love from the viewers for their adorable chemistry, and they have also managed to keep them constantly intrigued through the numerous twists and turns in their tale. Naturally, Krushal and



Aanchal too have been working extremely hard to ensure their characters meet the mark and are nothing short of perfect to the audience.

A month into the show now, Krushal can't help but reminisce the moments that he had when he had just begun shooting for this show. As Krushal Ahuja said "Well of course we all have played badminton while we were children, maybe at our locality with our friends, or maybe in school. But I never really knew there was so much more to this game, until now. It's because of *Rishton Ka Manjha* that I've gotten the chance to know and learn the game properly, and I can say it ain't that easy.

### ‘AUTHENTIC LOCATIONS ADD GREAT REALISM’

Today, the best OTT platforms like Netflix and Hotstar and MX Player and SonyLIV are placing great importance on shooting their shows in real, beautiful places and locations across India.

Umesh Bisht, who directed the film *Pagglait*, produced by ALT Balaji and presented on Netflix, said, "Any creative process starts with a creative idea. *Pagglait* started as an idea about the story of a young widow. But the more I thought about Sandhya, the more it started to seem like she's coming from a smaller town with the kind of sensibilities which she has, and then, along with the character, her universe was defined as Lucknow.

Sayantan Mukherjee, speaking about the popular title *Ray*, said, "Location is the very first thing, like a



stage for a dancer to dance. So especially in films, whenever you're writing, a location with the characters in mind, forms the base. And then when you go to shoot, it often comes alive. And that's the first stage where your film gets the voice. It is the location that gives the voice to the film."

### ANITA RAJ BACK ON COLORS



continues to bring in more viewers by the day, the showrunners are about to bring back one such memorable character back into the storyline.

Now, to add another twist in the existing plot, Kulwant will make a comeback on the show. Played by the veteran actor Anita Raj, Kulwant's entry is set to bring major changes in Seher's life. The audience will see new dynamics in her character and her arrival will bring many twists and turns along. As in the upcoming episodes, Seher will be seen facing myriad of challenges and it would be exciting to see her reaction as her nani Kulwant comes back into her life.

Anita Raj, said, "I am thrilled to portray the fearless and dynamic character like Kulwant Kaur Dhillon's yet again in 'Choti Sarrdaarni'! Playing this character has given me immense and newer fan base. I am also looking forward to be reuniting with the cast and crew of the show. It will be gripping for viewers to watch Seher and Kulwant Kaur meeting at this crucial juncture of the show.

### TIME FOR LAXMI POOJA ON SET

Sony SAB's *Shubh Laabh - Aapkey Ghar Mein* embarked on the much-awaited festive season with great enthusiasm and grandeur as Savita (Geetanjali Tikekar), Nirranjan (Nasir Khan), and Divya (Chhavi Pandey) host Laxmi Pooja on the sets. The show continues to garner love and appreciation from the audience as it takes a step forward and paves the way for the viewers to strike the right balance between devotion and spirituality in their daily lives.

The theme of the show

### KARVACHAUTH IN WAGLE KI DUNIYA

Karvachauth celebration witnesses various twists in Sony SAB's immensely loved show *Wagle Ki Duniya*. The show continues to engage its audience and keep them glued with its refreshing storyline. The upcoming episodes bring alive the fervour and excitement of Karvachauth in the Wagle's and Joshipura's thoughtful styles.

The women of Sai Darshan society are all geared up and excited to keep the vrat for their husbands and celebrate Karvachauth. Whereas Sakhi

revolves around Savita's immense belief in Maa Laxmi who shows her the way for towards her self-transformation journey ahead. The festive season is the perfect time to celebrate Goddess Laxmi, seeking her blessings and welcoming her presence into our lives by transforming ourselves for the better. To commemorate the beginning of all things pure and good this festive season, the cast whole-heartedly performed a grand Laxmi Pooja on the set and experienced a divine feeling and positive vibes around.

(Chinmayee Salvi) too wants to keep a vrat for the good health of her friend Vivaan (Namit Shah). But Rajesh is not comfortable with this fact. At the same time, Yamini (Mansi Joshi) receives an offer to shoot for an advertisement on an urgent basis.

Being a supportive husband as always, Dakshesh (Deepak Pareek) goes along with Yamini to the studio. Will Rajesh and Vandana accept the fact that Sakhi has kept a vrat for Vivaan? Will Dakshesh support Yamini?

### ‘THE TITLE IS VERY CLOSE TO ME’

Actor Dev Singh says the title of his show *Aggar Tum Na Hote* is close to him. When I saw the camera while shooting this show it reminded me of the song *Hume aur jeene ki chahat na hoti agar tum na hote* from my struggling days. While shooting, it always reminded me of this song which reminds us of our college love and we like to dedicate the song to our love," he said.

He is playing the role of Dinkar jn the show. "He

is uncle (Mama) of the lead actor. He loves to call me Kattappa Mama. Our bond is similar to Baahubali and Kattappa. Also, my character is related to my sister Manorma and brother-in-law. Dinkar can do anything for family," he said.

Dev relates to the character because after he heard the character description, it was to play out the relationship between his sister, brother-in-law and his nephew.

### DESIGNER DUO ON STYLING



Designer duo Hetvi Gindra and Tanisha Chhajer are known for their styling work

in *Bigg Boss*. The duo runs a firm named *Stylebytaashvi*. In *Bigg Boss 15* the duo have designed for actress Vidhi Pandya. In their career they have worked with celebrities like Neha Kakkar, Shafali Jariwala, Akanksha Puri, Dipika Kakkar, Shoaib Ibrahim, Nikki Tamboli, Shakti Arora and Rohan Mehra.

## Plan Your Sunday

### IMPROV GOES ONLINE - SEASON 3

After successfully completing 30 weeks of improv sessions during 2020, we are back with Season 3. With new games, new scenarios and doubled up fun. For the first timers, **What is IMPROV?**

Improv or Improvisation is exactly what it sounds like. A type of performance art that is created at the moment, spontaneously — on the fly — without any preparation at all.

Lets' bring the joy of improv to

everyone. We aim to make improv fun, friendly, sociable, open and accessible to all.

We'll meet in a virtual room to play, create and connect. It will be all fun and games.

Lets' also use this hour to give ourselves a break from things, meet some new people, and have a massive laugh with improv!

**What:** Theatre & Arts  
**Where:** Online  
**When:** October 28, 2021  
**Time:** 8:45 pm



### SWEAT IT OUT FOR A PURPOSE

We at the Lunchbox Project India (<https://www.instagram.com/lunchboxprojectindia/>) are conducting a fitness workshop.

The workshop will be conducted by a GOLD'S GYM PERSONAL TRAINER. You can check him out at: [https://www.instagram.com/sameer\\_pt\\_goldsgym\\_ke/](https://www.instagram.com/sameer_pt_goldsgym_ke/).

The workshop is for everyone and anyone. It is a fundraiser for us to feed many people across the country. So see you there :). You may not be able to attend

the live session if you are late. You may face interruptions during the course of the live stream due to internet connectivity issues.

Show details and the artist lineup are subject to change as per the artist's discretion.

No refunds on purchased tickets are possible, even in case of any rescheduling.

**What:** Health & Wellness  
**Where:** Online  
**When:** October 24, 2021  
**Time:** 4 pm





# Capital close to winning dengue battle: Kejriwal



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday claimed that the city was close to winning the battle against dengue. He encouraged city people to participate actively in the '10 Hafte, 10 Baje, 10 Minute' campaign on Sunday to combat dengue.

Kejriwal said, "Delhi is now very close to winning the battle against dengue. Like previous weeks, this Sunday at 10 AM, let us all spend 10 minutes inspecting our homes and surrounding areas for any sign of stagnant water. If you do find water, drain it, replace it or cover with a small layer of oil. Together, let us all make Delhi dengue free."

The maximum number of

dengue cases are reported every year between September 1 and November 15.

"Dengue mosquito breeds only in clean water," CM Kejriwal said.

Dengue eggs are produced in clean water and those eggs turn into mosquitoes within 8 to 10 days. If we change that water before 8 days and destroy that egg, then mosquitoes will not be born.

"These mosquitoes cannot fly more than 200 meters. If you have dengue in your home, then you should assume that the mosquito is born nearby. Therefore, to eliminate dengue, the Delhi Government is appealing to every person living in Delhi to give only 10-10 minutes for 10 weeks," he added.

# Focus on unshackling children: Sisodia

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Practices "imposed" on children in the name of love, care and beliefs have actually "imprisoned" them in cages and they are losing their childhood, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said Saturday, asserting there is a need to unshackle them.

Speaking at the launch of the Children First -- Journal on Children's Lives by the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR), he said, "The next revolution will be about the equality of elders and children."

"Children will tell elders, 'You don't treat us as your property'. Everything is programmed inside the child and we should provide an ideal atmosphere," he said.

The topic of the first issue of the journal is -- 'Impact of Corona Pandemic on Children's Lives'.

Sisodia said the pandemic has shown how little is understood about the issues affecting the lives of children.

"This journal will work to sensitise people about the rights of children as well as develop an informed understanding towards issues among them. This journal would work to usher in a new revolution."

We need to analyse that today whatever we do, thinking about the betterment and well-being of our children, some of those practices are really bad



and we don't even have an idea," he said.

Hoping that the journal will also take up this aspect, he said many of these practices are not even accepted as being disadvantageous for children.

"The practices we have been imposing on our children in the name of love, education, care and beliefs passing on from one generation to another have actually imprisoned our children in cages and they are losing their childhood. For the betterment of the children, there is a need to give them a good environment and not impose anything on them," he said. The first issue of the DCPCR journal received submissions from over 100 authors from across the country, publishing 26 articles including research, commentary, articles and book reviews.

Supreme Court judge Justice Ravinder Bhatt, who was the chief guest at the event,

acknowledged the unprecedented attention the journal gives to the issues being faced by children who have lost their primary care givers.

The advisory Board of the journal was chaired by former Supreme Court judge Justice (retired) Madan B Lokur.

He also shared the future plans for the journal which will highlight the impact of the pandemic on education.

"The next issue will discuss the challenges faced by students and teachers, and an attempt to reduce the disruption of education in the unsettling era," Justice (retired) Lokur added.

DCPCR chairman Anurag Kundu said that the journal is an attempt to tell stories of the lived realities.

"We will continue to tell stories till those stories are altered or rewritten. This journal is an attempt to tell those stories till the time they exist," he said.

# Providing best education to children is greatest act of patriotism: Kejriwal

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday appealed to people to ensure the best education for their children, saying it is the greatest act of patriotism and will go a long way in making the country great.

Paying tributes to Maharshi Valmiki at an event hosted by Delhi Sanskrit Academy at Thyagaraj Stadium, Kejriwal said government schools are much better now and 2.5 lakh students from private schools moved there this year.

"Maharshi Valmiki and Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar, two great icons of Valmiki community, emphasised on learning and education. I ask you to send your children to schools and do not engage them in any other work," he told the gathering.

The chief minister also presented certificates and shields to 22 students of Delhi government schools who

scored over 90 per cent marks in Board exams.

"These children who have dreams in their eyes and they want to become IAS officers, doctors, engineers and go to other fields. Providing the best education to your children is the greatest act of patriotism and it will go a long way in making the country great," he said.

Kejriwal said his government not only ensured free coaching after Class 12, but also provided a loan of Rs 10 lakh for higher education. The government also bears the cost if any student wants to pursue doctorate or other courses from any foreign university, he said.

The event was also participated by Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, Mahamandaleswar Krishna Shah Vidyarthi, Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam and Delhi Assembly deputy speaker Rakhi Birlan.

# Asharam underpass construction: Avoid Mathura Road from Ashram to Badarpur

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Following the ongoing construction work of Delhi's Ashram underpass, the Delhi Traffic Police on Saturday advised commuters to avoid Mathura Road from Ashram to Badarpur in the city.

The traffic unit of the Delhi Police took to Twitter to inform people.

In its tweet the traffic police stated, "Due to the ongoing construction work of Ashram underpass, Mathura Road from Ashram to Badarpur is damaged and under repair. Only one lane is operational. In order to avoid congestion, commuters are advised to avoid this route."

"Vehicles coming on Ring Road from Sarai Kale Khan seeking to turn left towards Badarpur are advised to take C V Raman Marg-Mathura Road or Ashram flyover-Capt. Gaur Marg-Modi Mill flyover for Badarpur," traffic police said.

"Likewise, traffic on Mathura Road from Nizamuddin seeking to cross Ashram for Badarpur are advised to turn right and take Capt. Gaur Marg-Modi Mill flyover for their onward journey," it said in the tweet.

# Delhi court raps cops for threat to arrest man, warns of action

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi court has pulled up some police officials for creating fear in the mind of a man about his false implication and arrest in a case and asked why proceedings should not be initiated against them for their conduct.

Complainant Zakir approached the court alleging that a police official of Delhi's Dayalpur police station harassed him and his father and threatened to arrest the entire family without disclosing the contents of an FIR, a claim refuted by the police.

In a reply filed to his plea, the police submitted that no cognizable offence was found committed by Zakir and no FIR has been registered against him, adding that Zakir's father was not harassed rather he was intimidated about the complaint.

Noting that the police did not adopt the correct procedure, Additional Sessions Judge Sunil Chaudhary said that the act of the police officials deputised in the police station "created fear" in Zakir's mind about his false implication and arrest and forced him to approach the court.

"Thus, considering the facts, let show cause notice be issued to the officials of PS Dayalpur as to why proceed-



ings be not initiated against them for payment of compensation to the applicant for their conduct," the judge said in an order dated October 22.

He went on to say that under the law if a complaint discloses a cognizable offence then the police is duty-bound to register an FIR and investigate the allegations but according to the police's reply, the complaint did not disclose any cognizable offence.

"...In those events, if Station House Officer was of the impression that the complaint needs investigation then he has to seek the permission to investigate the matter from the Court concerned but he did not adopted the said procedure," ASJ Chaudhary added.

Notably, Zakir said that his father received a call from an official of the Dayalpur police

station on October 14 and was threatened to come to the police station and when his father enquired about the FIR, he did not disclose the same.

The complainant, through his lawyer, submitted that the police official harassed him and his father unnecessarily and that on October 15, some police officials visited his residence but did not disclose the purpose of the visit and threatened to arrest the entire family.

However, the police stated that on October 14, a man named Naimuddin gave a complaint about quarrels and beatings against Zakir. "Father of the applicant has not been harassed and no threat has been given rather he was intimidated about the complaint given against him," the prosecutor told the court.

# BJP to replace Goa CM two months ahead of Assembly polls: Sisodia

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aap Aadmi Party (AAP) on Saturday claimed that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is set to replace Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant two months ahead of Assembly polls as people in the State are unhappy with his performance.

Addressing the media, Sisodia said that he has learnt from "reliable sources" that the BJP is going to replace its Goa Chief Minister. "The BJP high command itself has admitted that Goa CM has done no work and it will be difficult to contest the Goa elections under his leadership. This would be the first time in the history of the country when the party in power would admit that his government has not done any work and the people are unhappy with him," he said.

"The BJP has decided to remove Sawant and appoint a new chief minister as it has understood that it will be very difficult for the party to join the fray under his leadership because he did not work during his term. People are very unhappy with the Pramod Sawant government," he added.

Sisodia asserted that his party will emerge victorious in

the upcoming assembly polls in Goa even after appointment of a new chief minister by the BJP.

"People will not be deceived just by changing their face. By replacing the current chief minister with someone else, the mood of the people will not be changed. People will give their mandate to AAP in the upcoming Assembly elections," he said.

The AAP leader said that the BJP believes that the current Goa CM failed to manage COVID-19 crisis. "When COVID cases were increasing rapidly in Goa, the state government was inactive, as a result of which the infection rate in Goa reached 50 per cent," he said.

He further said that the Goa government had announced that a pension of Rs 5000 would be given to those who lost the bread-earners in their families to COVID, but till now not even a single family has received this amount.

The AAP leader also said that no matter how many Chief Ministers the BJP may change, the mood of the people is not going to change. The people of Goa will uproot BJP from Goa in the coming elections and will bring AAP in power, he added.

# Rail, road network key to development of Sohna: Khattar

PARVESH SHARMA ■ GURUGRAM:

Haryana Chief Minister, Manohar Lal said that rail and road network is the key pivot for the development of the Sohna region.

The Chief Minister was addressing the gathering at 'Vikas Rally' organized in village Sarmathala of Sohna assembly constituency on Saturday.

Khattar while addressing the people said about 5 railway and road corridors coming out of the Sohna region, including KMP Expressway, Orbit Railway Corridor, Delhi-Mumbai Expressway, Western Dedicated Expressway, Gurugram-Alwar Highway including industrial development in the Sohna region, will ensure immense employment opportunities here in the region.

"These development networks will lead to all-round development and employment which also help to increase opportunities as well as prosperity in the area," he said.

Before addressing the rally, the Chief Minister also unveiled a 23 feet tall statue of Veer Shiromani Maharana Pratap in the village.

Apart from this the chief minister also sanctioned an amount of Rs 125 crore for about 50 development projects in the Sohna constituency.

# DDA allows its park for hosting art, cultural events

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Aiming at rejuvenating and enlivening the green spaces of the national Capital, the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has allowed educational institutions, private firms, NGOs, RWAs and general citizens to book its parks for hosting art and cultural events.

A senior DDA official said Indian citizens and agencies belonging to various categories will be eligible to book the parks for art and culture-oriented events in some of the designated parks of the DDA. The aim is to rejuvenate and enliven the green environment of the city," he said.

There are about 800 parks under the jurisdiction of the Delhi Development Authority, prominent ones being Swarn Jayanti Park, Ashta Kunj Park, Coronation Park, Hauz Khas Park, Mehrauli Archaeological Park, among others.

According to the policy drafted earlier, political functions and marriage ceremonies will not be allowed for booking in parks. Any Indian citizens; schools, colleges and universities; cultural and educational societies registered under Societies Registration Act 1860; registered non-government organisations; companies registered under the Companies Act 2013; and residents welfare associations duly registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 or DDA Management and Disposal of Housing Estates Regulations, 1968, can make a booking, officials said.

"The general public is invited to hold events as per the policy wherein promotion of art and culture is envisaged. This initiative is open for public with the aim of improving the quality of life of citizens and increasing the happiness index of the city," he said.

According to the official, the identified facilities at parks included under this policy, have been classified into two categories. The 'Category A' refers to open park area, clearly delineated for the purpose, while 'Category B' will entail specific facilities like amphitheatres, boat clubs within these parks and booking of DDA parks are available on the website, he said.



People belonging to transgender community clean the banks of polluted Yamuna river

Ranjani Dimri | Pioneer



NSUI members stage a protest at a petrol pump over hike

Ranjani Dimri | Pioneer

# HC refuses to allow doctor to sit for exam after excessive leaves due to Covid

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has refused to allow a doctor, who is pursuing a super-specialty course, to sit for his end-term examination by condoning his "excessive leaves" on account of contracting Covid-19 while treating patients, saying that the requirements of training and attendance in profes-

sional courses of this nature are beyond its remit.

Justice Prateek Jalan dismissed the petitioner-doctor's plea for condonation of leaves and said that the court's decision did not emanate from a lack of gratitude for the service rendered by doctors during the pandemic, but from the limitations under the regulations governing the course.

The petitioner was working with the burns and plastic surgery department of a medical institute here and pursuing the three-year M.Ch. Degree course.

Since a candidate was permitted to take only a total of 102 days as leave during the three years, the petitioner was rendered ineligible to sit for the end-term examination after he

availed 226 days of leave, 194 days being medical leave due to COVID-19.

The institute told the high court that the applicable regulations, that is the Postgraduate Medical Education Regulations, 2000 by the Medical Council of India as well as its own ordinances, do not provide for any condonation of excess leaves.

# Body of man recovered from Yamuna ghat

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has recovered the body of a 51-year-old man from a ghat on Yamuna river in southeast Delhi's Kalindi Kunj.

According to a senior police official, after receiving information on Friday, a police team arrived at the spot and met Manish Tiwari, a relative of the deceased, who said his uncle and Burari resident Sanjay Kumar Rai had been missing since October 18.

"A missing person's report was filed at the Naraina police station. During the search for the man, a CCTV footage of the deceased jumping into the Yamuna from the Signature Bridge was obtained," said the senior police official.

# Kejriwal to visit Ram temple in Ayodhya on Oct 26: CMO

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Chief Minister of Delhi and Aam Aadmi Party supreme Arvind Kejriwal will visit Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh) on October 26. According to the Chief Minister's Office (CMO), Kejriwal is going there to offer prayers at Lord Ram's birthplace.

The Chief Minister earlier announced that if the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) forms the next Government in Punjab, it will provide free electricity up to 300 units and assured uninterrupted supply.

Kejriwal, who is on a two-day visit to poll-bound Punjab, made six promises to the people of the state, saying free health benefits will be provided to the public in hospitals.

The AAP leader also assured those public hospitals will be upgraded to offer better treatment.

"If our government is formed in Punjab, we will provide 300 units of electricity free of cost, we have done this in Delhi. We will provide 24 hours electricity, and have done it in Delhi," Kejriwal said while addressing the media in Ludhiana.

"All medicines, tests, treatments, and operations would be entirely free of cost if his party came to power in the state," he said.



# Maintain distance from Ram-drohis, says Yogi

**Lucknow:** Accusing Opposition parties of being against Lord Ram, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday said that such "Ram-drohis" not only harmed the faith but also disturbed the social fabric, impeded development and threw the State in the "fire of riots" during their rule.

"Those who are not the well-wisher of Lord Ram can never be your well-wisher," Adityanath said while addressing the members of the Vishwakarma community at a meeting organised by the BJP Backward Classes Front in the run-up to the Uttar Pradesh Assembly election.

"Maintaining distance from Ram-drohis (who are anti-Ram), who shield terrorists, embrace rioters, tear the social fabric would be better for your present and also for the bright future of your coming generations," he said.

The firebrand BJP leader, who has often been accused by the opposition of making

statements with communal overtones, alleged that under the previous Governments, there were riots before Hindu festivals.

"The masses were unable to celebrate and would live in fear in the shadow of curfew. And these people (opposition leaders) would shamelessly don skull caps and insult the people of the state," Adityanath said, asserting that all this has stopped under his Government.

He alleged that the Congress, SP and BSP were trying to harm Ram Setu, while the BJP protected it.

Had it not been for the sons of Lord Vishwakarma, Nal and Neel, it would not have been possible to build the Ram Setu, which Hindus believe was built for Lord Rama to reach then Lanka to rescue his wife Sita, as depicted in the epic Ramayana.

He was referring to the Sethusamudram shipping canal project controversy where the previous UPA Government

had contended before the Supreme Court that the Rama Setu bridge is not an "essential" and "integral" part of the Hindu religion.

The Chief Minister said that when the Congress-led UPA Government was formed in 2004, there was a competition between the SP and BSP to extend support to it.

"The SP had given support even without being asked and their intention was to hurt the Hindu faith by placing a gun on the shoulders of the Congress," he alleged.

"These people not only harmed the faith but also disturbed social fabric, harmed development and threw the state in the fire of riots," the BJP leader alleged.

He said the government is moving ahead with the plan to secure the present as well as the future.

"Some people created problems in Kashmir and Article 370, the mother of terrorism, was scrapped under the leadership of PM Modi. **PTI**



A swallowtail butterfly perches on a flower in Bengaluru on Saturday

PTI

## UP Govt to rename Faizabad railway station

**Lucknow:** The Uttar Pradesh Government has decided to rename the Faizabad railway station, a tweet by the office of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Saturday.

It will be called the Ayodhya Cantt railway station, the tweet said, adding that the decision was taken by the chief minister.

In another tweet, the CM's office said the Centre too has granted its consent to the decision and Adityanath has given green signal to issue a notification in this regard.

Earlier in 2018, the Yogi

Adityanath Government had renamed Faizabad as Ayodhya.

The BJP Government had also changed the name of Allahabad to Prayagraj and Mughalsarai railway junction as Pt Deen Dayal Upadhyay junction.

Meanwhile, the opposition dubbed the move as an attempt to "play with Hindu sentiments" for political benefits.

The Chief Minister, however, justified renaming, saying it is part of efforts to "restore the rich historical and cultural identity" of the place. **PTI**

## Uttarakhand: Bodies of 2 more trekkers recovered from near Himachal border

PTI ■ DEHRADUN/UTTARKASHI

Bodies of two more members of an 11-member trekking team which had gone missing on way to Chitkul via Harsil in Uttarkashi district were recovered on Saturday by ITBP personnel from near Himachal Pradesh border.

The bodies found near Lamkhaga pass are being brought to Sangla from where they will be taken to Uttarkashi, Uttarkashi District Magistrate Mayur Dixshit said.

The bodies were spotted on Friday, but could be recovered on the resumption of rescue operations on Saturday, he said.

They were identified as those of Upendra Singh (37) from Puroila in Uttarkashi and Richard Mandal (30) from Kolkata, District Disaster Management Officer Devendra Patwal said.

The bodies of five trekkers were brought down on Friday. Two are still missing while two surviving members of the team are under treatment in

Harsil and Uttarkashi.

Search operation for the missing trekkers has been halted due to bad weather at a height of 12,000 ft, the DM said, adding that it will be resumed as soon as the weather permits.

The missing have been identified as Puroila resident Gyan Chand (33) and Kolkata resident Suken Manjhi (43), Patwal added.

Meanwhile, aerial search continued on Saturday for five trekkers feared dead in Sundardhunga glacier of Bageshwar district.

"A helicopter carrying an SDRF team made two sorties up to Devikund near the glacier, but did not spot any bodies from above. Due to bad weather, the helicopter could not land in the area," Bageshwar District Magistrate Vineet Kumar told PTI.

Another SDRF team has also been sent on foot to the glacier in search of the trekkers. It will reach Devi Kund by Sunday, he said.

## Kerala records 8,909 new Covid cases, 65 deaths

**Thiruvananthapuram:** Kerala logged 8,909 new Covid-19 cases and 65 deaths on Saturday, taking the infection count to 48,97,587 and the death toll to 28,229.

A total of 8,780 persons recuperated from the disease, taking the tally of those cured to 47,97,409, leaving 80,555 active cases.Of these active cases, only 9.8 per cent patients are admitted to hospitals, according to an official release.

State Health Minister Veena George said 86,111 samples were tested in the last 24 hours and there are 211 wards across 158 local self-government bodies with a weekly infection population ratio above ten per cent.

Among the districts, Ernakulam reported the highest number of fresh cases-- 1,233, followed by Thiruvananthapuram with 1,221 and Thirissur-1,105.

Of those who were found infected today, 49 reached the State from outside, while 8,476 contracted the disease through their contact. **PTI**

## 27% OBC reservation in all India quota can't be subject matter of litigation again: DMK to SC

**New Delhi:** The DMK has told the Supreme Court that granting of 27 per cent Other Backward Classes (OBC) reservation in state contributed seats to all India quota in NEET cannot be a subject matter of litigation again and again when the court had already settled the issue.

The ruling party in Tamil Nadu told the top court that by the notification dated July 29, 2020 directing implementation of 27 per cent reservation for OBC (non-creamy layer) along with 10 per cent EWS reservation in 15 per cent UG and 50 per cent PG in all India quota seats-state contributed seats (SCS-AIQ), the Centre had set right the anomaly for OBCs after a period of 13 years. In a written submission filed in the pending petitions by some NET candidates challenging the July 29 notification, it said that after the 93rd constitutional amendment and introduction of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservations in Admissions) Act 2006, the Centre in 2008 provided 27 per cent reservations for OBC in AIQ in the central government contributed seats in central educational institutions.

It said, however, reservations in the SCS-AIQ were denied by the Union government for OBC despite states like Tamil Nadu having 50 per cent reservation under its state law of 1993.

"Thus, the OBC candidates have been deprived of thousands of seats by the Union of India in the previous years. Vide the impugned notice the Union has set right the anomaly for OBCs after a period of 13 years. The granting of impugned reservations of 27 per cent for OBCs in the SCSAIQ would benefit around 4000 students this year and would cause a positive domino effect on the society at large," the DMK said.

The party further said that social justice is a facet of equality which is a fundamental right and policy of reservations is to set off inequality, bridge the gap between equals and un-equals, remove manifest imbalance for those lagging behind, and remedy the past historical discrimination and injustice done to a social class of people. "It is an affirmative action and positive declaration. It is not 'sucking off seats' as described by the petitioner's counsel. Reservation is a right of share in education and employment in order to bring a level playing field. Policy of reservation is part of the State's duty to promote socio economic justice enshrined in the Preamble of the constitution and the fundamental rights," it said. **PTI**

### BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

Bid No. E-32/2021-22 E-Tenders Date : 21.10.2021

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only E-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence - S. No. Tender No. (Due Date), Description and Quantity. **S. No. 1.** 05216198A (15.11.2021), Drive Unit HD1, 01 Set. **S. No. 2.** 05215222 (15.11.2021), CC Insert: CNMG, 300 Nos. **S. No. 3.** 05215223 (15.11.2021), Three Phase Network Control Relay Range, 04 Nos. **S. No. 4.** 05215085A (18.11.2021), Lubrication Oil, 416 Ltr. **S. No. 5.** 05215224 (18.11.2021), Insert For Back Stop Facer, 50 Nos. **S. No. 6.** 06211761 (17.11.2021), TEMPERATURE SENSOR OIL CIRCUIT TRANSFORMER CAT NO. N/0/0122 C & D No./Stock No. 1026/001 3EHNA24142R3000 spec: ABB Drg./CLW Drg./Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/003/G 3EHNA24142R3000 To PL No. 29500035, Qty. 504 Nos. **S. No. 7.** 06211791 (16.11.2021), ALLUMINIUM CABLE CLEAT FOR TRACTION MOTOR FOR WAP7 CAT. NO. P/1/0086 C & D NO. T015/015 spec : CLW/ES/3/0039 ALT F To PL No. 29611702, Qty. 1602 Nos. **S. No. 8.** 06211775 (15.11.2021), Earthing Choke CAT. NO. P/0/0135 C & D No/Stock No. T020/001 Spec : ABB Drg./CLW Drg./Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0018/B to PL No. 29610310, Qty.-208 Nos. **S. No. 9.** 06210185 (16.11.2021), Spring Loaded Switch-1 (Foot switch for Sanding, Vigilance & Independent Brake) CAT. NO. N/0/0080 C & D No/Stock No. T019/002 spec : ABB Drg./CLW Drg./Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0032/F to PL No. 29700085, Qty. -1267 Nos. **S. No. 10.** 06211856 (18.11.2021), SET OF CABLE CLEAT WITH DIN RAIL FOR TM CAT. NO. P/2/0086 C & D NO./STOCK NO. T015/016 CLW/ES/3/0045/G Spec : CLW/ES/3/0045/G to PL No. 29720552, Qty. - 1503 Sets. **S. No. 11.** 06211172 (08.11.2021), LOW MAINTENANCE LEAD ACID BATTERY 8 V / 500 AH as per Drg. No. 10631528 ALT F spec : DEL/SPN/193 REV-R3 to PL No. 18640011, Qty.-24 Nos. **S. No. 12.** 06211880 (16.11.2021), SET OF CABLE DISCONNECTION TM-1 TO TM-6 (TERMINAL BLCKOK,TM-CABLES) spec : CLW/ES/3/0128/C OR LATEST to PL No. 29612810, Qty.-264 Sets. **S. No. 13.** 06211865 (17.11.2021), SET OF ROOF BAR ALONG WITH HARDWARES, CAT. NO. P/1/0078, C & D No./Stock No. T016/011, Spec : CLW Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0063/G to PL No. 29810115, Qty.-278 Sets. **S. No. 14.** 06211037 (08.11.2021), RESISTOR TO PRIMARY CURRENT TRANSFORMER CAT NO. P/0/0049 C&D NO. T016/017 spec : CLW SPECIFICATION NO. CLW/ES/3/0014/F to PL No. 29651001, Qty.-257 Nos. **S. No. 15.** 06211849 (12.11.2021), EARTHING SWITCH FOR VCB - with locking arrangement, CAT. NO. N/0/0082 C & D No. Stock No. T018/005 spec: SPEC NO. CLW/ES/3/0010/D to PL No. 29700073, Qty.-281 Nos. **S. No. 16.** 06211846 (12.11.2021), Resistor Harmonic Filter for WAG-9/WAP-7 loco specn : CLW/ES/3/0015/B to PL No. 29650033, Qty.-263 Nos. **S. No. 17.** 06211207 (08.11.2021), TERMINAL BAR 110V DC CAT NO. P/0/0066 C & D NO. T016/014 spec : CLW/ES/3/0046 to PL No. 29811004, Qty.-526 Nos. **S. No. 18.** 08211001 Advertise Tender (15.11.2021), Cyl. Roller Bearing DE \*NDE CAT NO. R/9/0057 C&D NO. T201/008 DRG. NO. 1209-01.411-020 Alt-1, 1209-01.411-021 Alt-1 as per Specn : CLW/MS/3/032 Alt-3 Qty-220 Sets (P.L. No. 29030110). **S. No. 19.** 08211126A Advertise Tender (15.11.2021), 1. Horizontal Damper Secondary YAW, (This is a safety item) as per Drg. No. 40057722 Alt-j Alt-h Specn : RDSO SPEC. MP.0.40.99.03 (Rev-03) QUANTITY-293 Nos. (P.L. No. 17452855) 2. Vertical Damper Primary (This is a safety item) as per Drg. No. 40123074 Alt-j Alt-h Specn : RDSO SPEC. NO. MP.0.40.99.03 (Rev-03) QUANTITY-1403 Nos. (P.L. No. 17454992) **S. No. 20.** 08210100 Advertise Tender (18.11.2021), HELICAL SPRING FOR WAG9 HC CAT NO. R/9/0105, C&D No. T-222/042, DRG. NO. IB 011-00842 Item-3, IB 011-00842 Item-1, IB 011-00843 Item-3, IB 011-00843 Item-1 as per Specn : CLW SPEC. NO. CLW/MS/SPEC/ELDO-BOGIE/004 ALT-1 Qty.-242 Sets. (P.L. No. 29041041) **S. No. 21.** 08211026 Advertise Tender (02.12.2021), Elastic Ring C&D No. T212/002, B212/002 Cat. No. S/9/0001 as per Drg. No. SKEL - 4717 ALT-4 ALT 3 as per Specn. RDSO SPECIFICATION NO.- RDSO/2007/EL/SPEC/0053 (REV-1) SEPTEMBER 2019 QUANTITY - 1121 Nos. (P.L.No. 29100010). **S. No. 22.** 09191058B (17.11.2021), Relay, to PL No. 18180036, 135 Nos. **S. No. 23.** 09211125 (18.11.2021), Surge Arrester, to PL No. 29750052, 256 Nos. The details of above Tenders are available on [www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in) and [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). **Corrigendum Notice - SI. No. 24. Tender No. :** 05211052 **Bid Inv. No. :** 24 **Existing due date :** 19.10.2021 **Revised due date :** 29.10.2021. **SI. No. 25. Tender No. :** 05211076 **Bid Inv. No. :** 25 **Existing due date :** 20.10.2021 **Revised due date :** 01.11.2021. All other terms & conditions remain unchanged.

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Website: [blw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://blw.indianrailways.gov.in)

## Landslides block Jammu-Srinagar highway Mughal, Simthan roads closed after first snowfall

**Banihal/Jammu:** The traffic on the 270-km Jammu-Srinagar National Highway and Mughal and Kishtwar-Simthan roads were suspended on Saturday as heavy rains and spells of hail storm lashed several parts of Jammu, with higher reaches experiencing first moderate snowfall, officials said.

Katra, the base camp for pilgrims visiting Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine in Reasi district, experienced the highest 90.7 mm of rainfall, between 8.30 am to 5.30 pm, but the pilgrimage continued without any disruption, they said.

The Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, was blocked by a massive landslide triggered by heavy rains at Cafeteria Morh near Ramban town, forcing suspension of traffic, Senior Superintendent of Police (national highway) Shabir Malik said.

He said falling of stones from hillock overlooking the highway along with mudslides were also reported from several places between the Ramban-Banihal sector, including Kela Morh and Moumpassi.



A view of the snow covered Gulmarg during the season's first snowfall, in Baramulla district on Saturday

PTI

"The incessant rains are hampering the restoration work on the highway.

It will take at least five hours to clear the landslide in Cafeteria Morh area after the rain stops," Malik said, adding that the agencies concerned have kept their men and machines ready to carry out the road clearance operation.

As there was no let-up in the rain and the weatherman predicting its continuation for Sunday, the traffic department ordered closure of the highway for Sunday as well.

Officials said the traffic on the Mughal Road, an alter-

nate link connecting the twin districts of Poonch and Rajouri in the Jammu region with south Kashmir's Shopian district, was also suspended due to moderate snowfall at Peer Ki Gali and adjoining areas overnight.

Besides Peer Ki Gali along the Mughal Road, reports of first moderate snowfall were also received from higher reaches of Ramban, Doda, Kishtwar, Poonch, Rajouri and Reasi districts, the officials said, adding that at least a dozen stranded persons were evacuated to safety in Peer Ki Gali area. **PTI**

### 3 lines of Delhi Metro...

From Page 1

After the PIB approval, the proposals would be put up before the Union Cabinet for further approval. According to sources, approval of all the investment plans with an estimated costing of ₹100 crore and more fall under the purview of PIB and it is mandatory to get nod of such projects.

The Delhi Government had given its final approval to all the six proposed corridors in December 2018, but the Centre only approved three priority corridors in February 2019.

While work on all three corridors - Janakpuri West-RK Ashram (28.9km), Aerocity-Tughlaqabad (20.2km) and Maujpur-Majlis Park (12.5km) - is going on simultaneously, Maujpur-Majlis Park corridor, an extension of Pink Line is expected to be completed first.

Delhi metro's phase IV projects are expecting to miss its 2025 completion target due to Covid-19 pandemic, restrictions and lockdown imposed in the national Capital. In a reply to Lok Sabha, Union Housing and Urban Affairs minister Hardeep Singh Puri had stated that Delhi metro has suffered a loss of around Rs 1,609 crore due to the closure of metro services in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Delhi Metro services, which were shut on March 22 to contain the spread of novel coronavirus, resumed on September 7 in a phased manner.

### Varun posts...

From Page 1

Much to the BJP Government's discomfiture in the poll-bound State, the BJP MP from Pilibhit, said "much of the Terai is badly flooded. ... It's painful that when the common man needs the system the most, he's left to fend for himself. If every response is individual-led then what does 'governance' mean?" The BJP has, so far, not reacted to Varun's comments but is unlikely to ignore them any longer given the fact that they are drawing enough attention from the rival political parties and providing fuel to the agitating farmers, demanding scrapping of three central farm laws.

The agitating farmers apprehend that the laws would put an end to the traditional "Mandi system" of selling and buying their agriculture produce and may also phase-out Minimum Support Price (MSP) mechanism.The Supreme Court has put central farm laws under suspended animation.

The BJP MP who has been indirectly backing the protesting farmers, has, so far, not explicitly spoken against the controversial laws which have otherwise polarised non-BJP political parties against the BJP.

### 2 NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tendering Notice

Sr. Divisional Materials Manager, N.E. Railway, Varanasi for and on behalf of President of India, invites tender through E-Procurement system "Open Tender" for the supply of the following item. Complete description of the item and other terms and conditions are available on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) **Sr. No.-1.** E-Tender No.: 50215521. Due Date: 18-11-2021. Description: Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of HASSDAC, as per RDSO Spec No.-RDSO/SPN/177/2012 (Ver 3.0). Qty Required: 14 Nos.. Earnest Money: ₹ 2.23,350/-

**Note:-** The Firms, who desire to participate in e-tender are advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a Class-III Digital signature Certificate Authority Licensed by CCA of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be considered.

**Sr. Divisional Materials Manager** **Varanasi**

About any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No.: 09794849555

Do not smoke Bid/Cigarette in train.

### PM discusses with jab makers...

From Page 1

Adar Poonawala, CEO, Serum Institute who was also in the meet echoed similar views saying "discussed with the Prime Minister about capacity enhancing, taking vaccine industry forward to prepare for future pandemics."

Pankaj Patel who heads Zydus Cadilacompany (Cadila Healthcare) based in Gujarat said the biggest factor behind development of his company's DNA vaccine against Covid-19 is the Prime Minister.

Patel whose pharma company has developed world's first Covid-19 vaccine that uses circular strands of DNA to prime the immune system against the virus SARS-CoV-2 said, "Our scientists and all co-workers developed this DNA vaccine and the biggest factor behind that has been the Prime Minister. He encouraged us a lot from the start and assured us that the Government is with you and it will support you whenever you face any difficulty. And due to that only we have been able to develop this vaccine"

So far, three vaccines -Covishield manufactured by Serum Institute of India, Bharat Biotech's Covaxin and Sputnik V -are being used in the country's Covid vaccination drive.The cumulative Covid-19 vaccine doses administered in the country has exceeded 101.30 crores, according to the Health Ministry data updated at 7 am.

More than 75 per cent of India's adult population has received at least one dose of the Covid-19 vaccine, with nine states and union territories administering the first dose to all eligible people.Over 31 per cent of the country's around 93 crore adults have been administered both doses, according to the Health Ministry officials.So far, all adult population in nine States and Union territories-Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Lakshadweep, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Dadra and Nagar Haveli -have received at least one dose of the Covid vaccine.

## Priyanka pledges farm loan waiver, 20L jobs if voted...

From Page 1

The three yatras - from Barabanki to Bundelkhand, Saharanpur to Mathura and Varanasi to Rae Bareli - will run till November 1. The Congress leader, who had earlier announced to give 40 per cent tickets to women in the 2022 UP Assembly elections besides smartphones to Class 12 pass girls and an e-scooty to graduate girls, also unveiled other resolutions of the party.

"Some key promises of our

manifesto are free e-scooty and mobile phones for school-girls, farm loan waiver, Rs 25,000 per year to poor families, electricity bill half for all and full waiver of pending electricity bills of Covid period," said Priyanka while kicking off the yatra.

Former MP Pramod Tiwari will lead the Varanasi to

Rae Bareli route that will cover the Awadh region, while the Barabanki-Bundelkhand route will be led by PL Punia and former Union Minister of State Pradeep Jain Aditya.

The western front, cover-

ing the Saharanpur-Mathura route, will be led by former Union Minister Salman Khurshid and senior party leader Acharya Pramod Krishnam. During these rallies, the Congress will communicate its "seven pledges" to the people in the State, apart from its election manifesto. The yatra will cover 12,000 kilometres. Various Press conferences, "nukkad sabhas", temple visits, road shows, Jan Sabhas, etc will be held during the yatra.

Priyanka has been taking on the UP Government on a number of issues, including the death of eight persons including four farmers at Lakhimpur Kheri earlier this month. This week she was detained by police (for the second time in a month) after she tried to visit the family of a man who died in police custody in Agra.

Priyanka was earlier held - - illegally, she claimed -- by police who were ordered to stop her from visiting the families of the four farmers who were run over in Lakhimpur.

### Singapore lifts Covid ban on...

From Page 1

People of these countries can enter Singapore without quarantine if they pass Covid-19 tests.

The announcements came after the task force said on Wednesday that the tighter curbs currently in place -- including restricting group sizes for dining in to two people -- will be extended for a month till November 21, 2021. Among these, from Jan 1, 2022, only employees who are fully vaccinated, or have recovered from Covid-19 within the past 270 days, can return to the workplace.

However, the Singapore Health Ministry also stated these travellers will be undergoing the tightest of the quarantine rules. As per the statement, "travellers from these countries will be subject to Category IV border measures. They will still be required to serve their 10-day stay-home notice (SHN) at dedicated SHN facilities." The Ministry said in a release that it has reviewed the Covid-19 situation in the six South Asian countries it was previously closed off to.

The United Kingdom earlier wasn't allowing Indian travellers to enter its borders stating Covishield is not a valid vaccine under the Government's travel policy. However, Covishield is essentially Astra Zeneca being developed by Oxford and is produced in India by SII. Following India's strong criticism over the UK's refusal to recognise Covishield, London has included the vaccine in its updated international travel advisory.

## GOVT. OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT PUBLIC NOTICE

### Allotment of Electric Auto Rickshaw (TSR) in Delhi

- *Are you holding a driving license of LMV in Delhi? If yes, you can apply for allotment of E-Auto-rickshaw in Delhi.*
- *Online applications are invited for registration of 4261 electric-Auto Rickshaw (TSR) in the NCT of Delhi at [transport.delhi.gov.in](http://transport.delhi.gov.in).*
- **Special provision for women drivers (1406 E-Autos reserved for women applicants).**

#### Who can apply

- Any person having a valid driving license holder of Light Motor Vehicle (LMV) (car, jeep etc.) or holder of TSR driving license.
- Should be a resident of Delhi,with Aadhaar address in Delhi.
- **Help-line number - 1076.**

**Attend Electric Auto Mela at IDTR Sarai Kale khan and IDTR Loni Road from 25.10.2021 to 01.11.2021**  
**Last date of applications: 01.11.2021**

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DIP/Shabdarth/0369/21-22

**Jt. Commissioner (Transport)**



# India-B'desh ties deeper than any other partnership: Shringla

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

Ties with Bangladesh have grown over the years and India remains a committed partner in Bangladesh's socio-economic growth and development, Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla said on Saturday.

In his remarks at the "Swarnim Vijay Varsh Conclave: 2021" on "Humanitarian, Political and Diplomatic Facets of the 1971 War", Shringla also lauded the role of the Indian Air Force in the war, saying it played a crucial role in supporting the valiant struggle of the Mukti Bahini.

India-Bangladesh relations today are deeper than any other strategic partnership and a "role model" for ties between two neighbouring countries, he said.

Having served in Bangladesh, Shringla said he has heard many brave accounts of the dogfights that IAF pilots engaged in over Dhaka, which greatly inspired the Bangladeshi people watching this from their rooftops.

Shringla asserted that 1971 was as much a moral and political victory as it was a decisive military victory for India. "We stood on a high moral and ethical ground and history proved us right as the people of Bangladesh vindicated their

self-respect and honour and won their fight for freedom and human rights," the foreign secretary said.

Never before in the recent history of our region, has humanity ever witnessed an act of "calculated genocide", Shringla said, pointing to the atrocities committed by Pakistan on the people of the then East Pakistan.

"Operation Searchlight, on which I think we do need more contemporary research and attention, unleashed a reign of terror. Innocent women, children, academics and intellectuals were treated as weapons of war," he said.

Shringla said he considers India's humanitarian response

**Shringla also lauded the role of the Indian Air Force in the war, saying it played a crucial role in supporting the valiant struggle of the Mukti Bahini**



to the refugee issue during that time to be one of the most sophisticated and empathetic in contemporary history.

"This may well have repre-

sented one of the first instances of the

UN's concept of the 'Responsibility to Protect'. If judged by today's

standards of human rights and international humanitarian law, the perpetrators would have received a drastically different fate," he said.

Almost the entire burden of supporting the displaced people fell upon the government and people of India, he noted.

"While internally we dealt with this issue in the best conceivable manner, Indian diplomats launched an outreach around the world in various capitals highlighting the plight of the people of East Bengal," he said.

As a result, a number of countries came forward to support the cause of the people of Bangladesh, he said.

On December three, 1971, India was "unwittingly" drawn into a war that was not of its own making, he said.

"We can all now mull over if the situation would have been different if the international community had been able to exert pressure on Pakistan to stop the rampage against its own citizens and if the legitimate aspirations of the people of East Bengal were met," Shringla said.

He said contemporary India-Bangladesh relations have taken great strides forward, especially in recent years. Two major pillars of Indian diplomacy -- Neighbourhood First and Act East policies -- find expression in India's

vibrant ties with Bangladesh, Shringla said.

Noting that this year is of special significance for India-Bangladesh relations, Shringla quoted Prime Minister Narendra Modi as saying this year marks a "Triveni" of events of epochal significance -- the golden jubilee of the Liberation War of Bangladesh, the birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the 50th anniversary of our diplomatic ties.

The spirit of friendship, understanding and mutual respect engendered during the liberation of Bangladesh continues to permeate different aspects of this relationship, he asserted.

## Top police brass to discuss security issues at DGP/IGP meet in Lucknow

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

The annual meet of all Director Generals of Police (DGPs) and Inspectors General of Police (IGPs) will be held in Lucknow from November 20-22 where vital national security priorities will be brainstormed by the top police brass.

The three-day event, organized annually by the Intelligence Bureau, will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla among others.

The chiefs of Intelligence Bureau and Research and Analysis Wing, heads of the Central Police Organizations and Central Armed Police Force will also attend the meeting.

Around 250 officers in the rank of DGP and IGP from all states, Union Territories and Central paramilitary and CPOs will participate in the brainstorming sessions to address the current future policing challenges.

Spiral in the low intensity

- ◆ The three-day event, organized annually by the Intelligence Bureau, will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla among others
- ◆ Around 250 officers in the rank of DGP and IGP from all states, Union Territories and Central paramilitary and CPOs will participate in the brainstorming sessions to address the current future policing challenges
- ◆ Amid the Covid-19 pandemic last year, the annual conference was held virtually. Earlier, the conferences were held in Guwahati, Rann of Kutch in Gujarat, Hyderabad, Tekanpur in Madhya Pradesh and Pune

conflict in Jammu and Kashmir, cyber terrorism, online radicalization, Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, Maoist issue and emerging threats, including on the economic front, are the key issues that will be delved in meeting, sources said.

During the last year conference held virtually and the , the role of police during the Covid-19 pandemic was discussed and the discussion was held on increasing the knowledge and capabilities to handle natural disasters of the police in detail and the state police chiefs shared their experiences in handling the pandemic and how the police have helped distressed people and migrant

workers during the nationwide lockdown.

The DGPs and IGPs conference is an annual affair where senior police officials of the states and the Centre meet and discuss issues of importance.

Amid the Covid-19 pandemic last year, the annual conference was held virtually. Earlier, the conferences were held in Guwahati, Rann of Kutch in Gujarat, Hyderabad, Tekanpur in Madhya Pradesh and Pune.

Before 2014, the annual event was organized in the national capital. However, the Modi government has been organising it in various other cities.

## Daily Covid toll sees big jump as Kerala reconciles data

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

Kerala on Saturday reconciled 292 fatalities from a previous period which led India's death toll to climb to 4,53,708 with overall 666 daily fatalities. Else, the State reported 99 deaths in the last 24 hours.

India reported a single-day rise of 16,326 new Covid-19 cases, taking the tally to 3,41,59,562, while the active cases have declined to 1,73,728, the lowest in 233 days, according to the Union Health Ministry's data updated on Saturday.

The daily rise in new coronavirus infections has been below 30,000 for 29 straight days and less than 50,000 daily new cases have been reported for 118 consecutive days now.

The active cases have decreased to 1,73,728 comprising 0.51 per cent of the total infections, the lowest since March 2020, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate was recorded at 98.16 per cent, the highest since March 2020, the health ministry said.

A decrease of 2,017 cases has been recorded in the total active number of COVID-19 cases in a span of 24 hours.

Also, 13,64,681 tests were conducted on Friday, taking the

total cumulative tests conducted so far for detection of Covid-19 in the country to 59,84,31,162.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 1.20 per cent and the weekly positivity rate was also recorded at 1.24 per cent, according to the health ministry.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 3,35,32,126, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.33 per cent.

India's Covid-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on



September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on

November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on December 19.

The country crossed the grim milestone of two crore on

May 4 and three crore on June 23. The Ministry stressed that more than 70 per cent of the deaths occurred due to comorbidities.

## States asked to speed up 2nd dose administration

**New Delhi:** The Centre on Saturday asked the States and UTs to speed up the Covid vaccination programme, with focus on the second dose, across the nation.

The decision comes against the backdrop of the country achieving the milestone of administering 100 crore vaccine doses on October 21.

Highlighting the sizeable number of eligible beneficiaries who have not received their second dose, Union Health Secretary Rajesh

Bhushan urged the states and UTs to focus on those beneficiaries who are waiting for this after their interval period between the two jabs got over.

Chairing a review meeting with state/UT Health Secretaries and Mission Directors of the National Health Mission, he asked the states and UTs to improve the momentum and accelerate the coverage as the country moves forward to vaccinate all the eligible population by the year-end under the mass vaccination drive.

So far, 71.24 crore first vaccine doses covering 76 per cent of the eligible population and 30.06 crore second doses covering 32 per cent of the eligible population has been administered.

The Health Secretary noted that the detailed line-lists of due beneficiaries can be utilised for preparing a district-wise 2nd dose administration plan involving the District Magistrate for execution in a time-bound manner.

He suggested the progress of such district-wise plan be

reviewed daily to ensure saturation of all eligible beneficiaries.

The states were also advised to identify and prioritise districts having low coverage for focused action and explore requirement for mobilisation efforts, addressing local challenges, need for additional vaccination centres, and improving access in rural areas. They were also requested to share their strategies to enhance second dose coverage.

**IANS**

## Some courts function out of dilapidated buildings, judicial infra vital for access to justice: CJI Ramana

**Mumbai:** Judicial infrastructure is important for improving access to justice, but it is baffling to note that its improvement and maintenance was being carried out in an ad-hoc and unplanned manner in the country, Chief Justice of India N V Ramana said on Saturday.

Noting that an effective judiciary can help in the growth of the economy, the CJI said courts are extremely essential for any society that is governed by rule of law.

CJI Ramana was speaking at the inauguration of two wings of the annexe building at the Aurangabad bench of the Bombay High Court.

The CJI said today's success should not blind us to the issues that exist.

"We are faced with certain hard facts like several courts do not have proper facilities. Some courts function out of dilapidated buildings. Judicial infrastructure is important for improving access to justice," he

said.

"It is baffling to note that the improvement and maintenance of judicial infrastructure is still being carried out in an ad-hoc and unplanned manner," CJI Ramana added.

He further said that the building that was inaugurated at Aurangabad on Saturday was envisioned in 2011.

"That it has taken 10 years for this vision to be implemented is extremely worrisome. This is a deeper problem that has plugged our judicial infrastructure planning in our country since the Independence," the CJI said.

"An effective judiciary can aid in the effective growth of the economy," he said.

The CJI said he has sent a proposal for the establishment of the National Judicial Infrastructural Authority to the Union Minister of Law and Justice, and added that he was hoping for a positive response and the issue is taken up dur-



ing the upcoming winter session of the Parliament.

CJI Ramana said many ideas of social revolution that have resulted in the freedom and liberty that we all take for granted today have been born out of this fertile and progressive land.

"Be it the extraordinary Savitri Phule or the pioneering feminist Jyotirao Phule or the legendary Dr Bhimrao

Babasaheb Ambedkar. They always aspired for an egalitarian society where every individual's right to dignity is honoured. Together they have set in motion an irreversible social change which has finally evolved in our Constitution," CJI Ramana said.

He added that it is a common notion that only criminals and victims approach court and people take pride in stating that they have never visited or seen a court building in their lifetime.

"But it is high time we take the efforts to remove this taboo for the affirmation of a citizen's rights. The common man deals with multiple legal issues during his lifetime. One must never hesitate to approach the courts. After all, people's faith in the judiciary is one of the biggest strength of democracy," the CJI said.

He added that courts are extremely essential for any society that is governed by

rule of law as they actively assure the constitutional right to justice. Courts in India have always stood up whenever an individual or society is at the receiving end of executive excess, he said.

"It is an assurance that an individual, howsoever weak, need not worry about the might of a state," CJI Ramana said.

Also speaking at the function, Supreme Court Justice D Y Chandrachud said the flip-side of their work is they are confronted with the extent of justice and injustice faced by citizens across the nation.

Justice Chandrachud added that while the judiciary is celebrating the inauguration of the building but at the same there has to be introspection from the judiciary on how to address the issue of pending cases in the state and country.

"As on date, there are over 48 lakh cases pending in

Maharashtra with around 21,000 cases being more than three decades old. These are some of the problems we have to face. This calls for some introspection," Justice Chandrachud said.

Justice Chandrachud said the building at Aurangabad is a landmark in the history of Maharashtra.

"This building is a symbol of the ethos of Maharashtra. It represents the value of diversity, tolerance and plurality of culture in this state," Justice Chandrachud said.

He also emphasized the need to have virtual courts so that every citizen across the nation can have access to court proceedings.

"Our citizens are entitled to know how court proceedings are being held, how long judges sit, and why some cases get adjourned. This is their right to know," Justice Chandrachud said.

**PTI**

## One arrested for forging Parliament pass

**New Delhi:** A Man from Bihar was arrested for forging Lok Sabha pass required to enter Parliament building complex, Delhi Police said on Saturday.

According to the crime branch, it was learnt that Lok Sabha pass for the personal

assistant or secretary of Member of Parliament (MP) in the name of Babloo Kumar Arya has been made without the recommendation of concerned MP. Babloo Kumar Arya was neither the PA or PS to any Member of Parliament nor his name was recommended for issuance of Lok Sabha Pass.

A case under Indian Penal Code was registered at the Crime Branch, New Delhi and investigation was taken up.

During investigation, it was revealed that the forged

pass was prepared after editing the Lok Sabha pass which was already issued to Jyoti Bhushan Kumar Bharti. Babloo Kumar Arya turned out to be known to Jyoti Bhushan Kumar Bharti and belonged to the same Gopal Ganj in Bihar.

Both Bharti and Arya were interrogated in the case.

"It was found that the alleged pass was issued to Jyoti Bhushan Kumar

Bharti for the period of June 18, 2019 to December 31, 2019. In July 2019, Bablu Kumar Arya had taken the original pass from Jyoti Bhushan Kumar Bharti from his house at Gopalganj, without his knowledge. He had prepared the alleged forged pass in a cyber cafe in Bihar after scanning the original pass and editing the details," police added.

**IANS**

## Climate change can lower nutrition, increase toxicity in food chain

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

Climate change impacts will just not be limited on change in weather or rise in temperature. Global warming's adverse effect on freshwater systems can lower nutrition and increase toxicity at the base of the food web too, according to a team of researchers from Dartmouth College and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

Their research, published in Scientific Reports, focused on the effects of warming water temperatures and browning—a discoloration of water caused by increased dissolved organic matter—using controlled outdoor environments known as mesocosms.

"Climate change scenarios predict increases in temperature and organic matter supply from land to water," said

Pianpian Wu, a postdoctoral fellow at Dartmouth and lead author of the study. "For the first time, we used manipulated mesocosm systems to test the effects of warming and browning."

Under the expected climate scenario of more warming, changing precipitation patterns, and higher levels of dissolved organic matter, the study looked at the fate of nutritious polyunsaturated fatty acids and toxic methylmercury in the food chain.

The research found that a combination of warmer, browner water resulted in the higher transfer of methylmercury from water to phytoplankton at the base of food web. Lower concentrations of essential polyunsaturated fatty acids in phytoplankton were also observed.

Long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids—such as



omega-3 and omega-6—support the growth and survival of animal and plant life by providing energy and by regulating immune systems. Methylmercury is a form of mercury that is easily absorbed by living organisms and acts a

potent neurotoxin.

"The reduction of polyunsaturated acids at the end of the mesocosm experiment with both warming and browning effects was concerning," said Wu, who began the research as a PhD candidate at the Swedish



University of Agricultural Sciences.

"This study shows that the food quality at the base of aquatic food webs deteriorates with climate change," said Kevin Bishop, professor at the Swedish University of

Agricultural Sciences and the senior researcher of the study. "The research is important because it places food web investigations within the context of active global change processes."

While previous research

on browning and warming has been conducted in natural environments, this is the only study to rely entirely on controlled mesocosm environments.

"The use of mesocosms to investigate questions related to ecosystem effects of climate change is particularly important," said Celia Chen, research professor at Dartmouth and a co-author of the study. "The effects of factors such as temperature and browning can be tested individually and in combination while controlling other environmental conditions. Mesocosms also eliminate the need to travel long distances for field investigations."

The study was conducted at the WasserCluster Lunz research facility outside of Vienna using lake water from Lunzer See in Lower Austria.

Martin Kainz and Katharina Winter, from WasserCluster Lunz-Biologische Station; Fernando Valdés, Uppsala University; Siwen Zheng and Rui Wang, Tongji University; and Brian Branfireun, Western University all served as co-authors of the study.



## ZILA PARISHAD, PANCHAYAT SAMITI POLLS

# Raj: Over 55% voter turnout in 2nd phase

**Jaipur:** Over 55 per cent voter turnout was recorded till 5 pm in the second phase of polling for zila parishad and panchayat samiti elections in Rajasthan's Dholpur and Alwar districts on Saturday, the State Election Commission (SEC) said.

The first phase of polling was held on October 20. An SEC spokesperson said that 55.97 per cent voter turnout was recorded till 5 pm in the second phase of voting in Dholpur and Alwar. State Election Commissioner P S Mehra said that in the second phase, 9.73 lakh voters were eligible to exercise their franchise in both districts and 1,312 polling stations had been set up.

The zila parishad and panchayat samiti elections in Dholpur and Alwar are being



held in three phases. In the first phase, 64.24 per cent voter turnout was recorded. Polling for the third phase will be held on October 26.

Counting of votes will be done at district headquarters on October 29. **PTI**

# BJP leaders making ‘unrestrained’ comments against State Govt: Gehlot

## RAJ BYPOLLS

**Jaipur:** Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Saturday accused BJP leaders of making “unrestrained” statements against his Government during campaigning for bypolls to Dhariyavad and Vallabh Nagar Assembly seats.

He also expressed confidence that the Congress will win both the seats.

“I have heard the BJP will come fourth in Vallabh Nagar... so they (BJP) are a little nervous and keep giving unrestrained statements,” Gehlot told reporters here when asked about the saffron party targeting the State Government over law and order and other issues.

Polling for the two seats will be held on October 30, while counting of votes will take place on November 2. “We do our work. We are talking on the basis

of the achievements in the last two-and-a-half years. This is our agenda to work further.

“We are making a promise with the people that they give us one more chance so that the Government becomes strong and works for development. This is our theme in Vallabh Nagar and Dhariyavad. There is a good response and hopefully we will win both the seats,” the chief minister noted.

Gehlot also met veteran Gandhian S N Subbarao, who is admitted at SMS Hospital here, and enquired about his well-being. Commenting on the alleged custodial death of Arun Valmiki, he said,

“The incident is very unfortunate. In Uttar Pradesh, you are

aware that such incidents keep happening. The way the policemen from Agra took Valmiki’s relatives away from Bharatpur (in Rajasthan)...is wrong and unfortunate.”

“I understand that I should write a letter to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. I have sought complete information from the Inspector General of Police concerned,” he added.

Valmiki, a sanitation worker, was accused of stealing ₹25 lakh from the storage room of Jagdishpura Police Station in Agra on Saturday night.

He allegedly fell sick and died during a raid on Tuesday at his house in Agra that police conducted to recover the stolen money. Police has since said he died of a heart attack citing a post mortem report. **PTI**

# Bypoll: Karnataka CM asks Siddaramaiah to visit villages in Hanagal to see development there

**Hubballi:** Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Saturday challenged veteran Congress leader Siddaramaiah to visit the villages in Hanagal Assembly constituency to see the development there before inviting him for a debate on a public platform.

“The Legislative Assembly itself is a big public platform, where we had debated in the past and will do so in the future as well,” Bommai told reporters on the sidelines of an event here, a day after Siddaramaiah challenged him for a public debate on the issue of development of Hanagal and questioned his ability to be the State CM.

Bommai, who is campaigning for the BJP candidate

Shivaraj Sajjanar contesting the Hanagal assembly bypoll, said Siddaramaiah is building a ‘canopy of words’.

“He is only erecting a ‘canopy of words’. We can also join him to play with words but before that, I ask him to visit the Taluk (Hanagal Taluk) and see for himself the development taken place there,” the Chief Minister said.

He added that he had read out the names of villages on Friday where the development works took place, which Siddaramaiah can visit. “Let him please visit those places and see for himself the works done by us there. It is not good to give statements by relying on supporters,” Bommai said. **PTI**

# Tug of war between Sasikala, Palaniswamy

**KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI**

An application submitted to Tamil Nadu Government by the followers of VK Sasikala, former aide to late J Jayalalithaa, to garland the statue of Muthuramalinga Thevar on October 29, in connection with Guru Puja has evoked a furore in the State’s political landscape.

The tug of war between Sasikala and former Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswamy has reached the peak.

The letter submitted to the Ramanathapuram district states that Sasikala would be garlanding the Thevar statue in her capacity as general secretary of the AIADMK. But the rival camp claims that she was eased out of the post in August

2017 and she was no longer a member of the party.

Sasikala was unanimously elected as the general secretary of the AIADMK in the last week of December 2016 following the demise of Jayalalithaa.

There was a clamour in the party for her appointment with M Thambi Durai, the then Lok Sabha deputy speaker, writing to the party cadre in his official letter head that Sasikala alone would be able to lead the AIADMK. Similarly, another senior leader C Ponnaiyan, who had served in the Ministries headed by MGR (party founder) and Jayalalithaa had produced the copy of a fixed deposit account made by Jayalalithaa in a nationalised bank in which she had nominated Sasikala as the beneficiary.

“Chinnamma (as Sasikala is addressed by party cadre) is our leader,” Ponnaiyan had declared standing in front of Jayalalithaa’s tomb.

The duo of Panneerselvam and Edappadi Palaniswamy led the senior party leaders to Veda Nilayam and handed over the party resolution unanimously electing Sasikala as general secretary. Within days, Thambi Durai released another letter in his official letter head demanding that Sasikala should take over as the chief minister.

“That was the precedence in the AIADMK till now and Chinnamma should come forward to lead the State,” Durai has said in the release.

Durai’s letter led to the election of Chinnamma as the legislative party leader. The “palace astrologers” fixed

February 15, 2017 as the auspicious date for her swearing in as chief minister. But the Supreme Court on February 13 upheld the Bangalore Special Court verdict which had sentenced Sasikala to four years imprisonment and ₹50 crore as fine along with her nephew and niece in the Disproportionate Asset case. Sasikala surrendered before the Parappana Agrahara Central Prison on February 15 but she had hand-picked Edappadi Palaniswamy as chief minister before she left for Bangalore.

When TTV Dhinakaran, nephew of Sasikala made his intentions to contest the by-poll and take over the chief minister’s post, Palaniswamy and Panneerselvam buried their hatchet and eased Sasikala and the former from the party.

A case challenging that

decision is pending in Madras High Court.

“The AIADMK has not won a single election under the dual leadership of EPS and OPS. Both of them have proved their incompetence in leading the party and it is time they move out.

It was Sasikala who was the de facto head of the AIADMK when Jayalalithaa was alive. Hence she had every right to lead the party,” said Sam Rajappa, veteran commentator.

The BJP’s central leadership had played a major role in the patch up between EPS and OPS. Sam Rajappa is of the view that if the AIADMK fails to accept the leadership of Sasikala, the party is likely to end up in the dustbin of history by 2022, the golden jubilee year of its formation.



A couple poses for a photograph in front of the Taj Mahal in Agra on Saturday

PTI

# Raj Thackeray, mother, sister test Covid positive

**TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI**

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray — who had steadfastly refused to wear a face mask all through the pandemic period — and his mother Kunda Thackeray and sister Jayawanti have tested positive for Covid-19.

Raj, Kunda and Jayawanti were rushed to Lilavati Hospital, after three of them tested for minor symptoms of Covid-19.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### CHANGE OF NAME

This Public Notice is to inform all concerend and public in general, that my Client Mr. Nitin Kumar S/o Mr. Ramkumar Singh Chauhan, Resident At: 7/116, Shraddhapuri, Meerut, Kanker Kherra, Uttar Pradesh, 250001, has changed his name from Nitin Kumar to Nitin Chauhan.

He will now be known by the name of Nitin Chauhan.

**Anurag Kumar Singh (Advocate)**

PBA, Post Office Lane, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-54

Mob.: 9801007652, 0120-4563859

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Monika Arora, D/O Sh. Harpal Singh and voicees of Mr. Sahil Jain who is S/o Mr. Bharat Bhushan Jain & Mrs. Sadhna Jain with last known address 6/39, Mahila colony, Geeta Colony, Delhi-110031 is requesting on behalf of her children (Ruira and Varnika Jain) to locate their father. This is a request for Mr. Sahil Jain, his parents and/or the general public that if he is alive or anyone is aware of his whereabouts/ information about him or his parents may contact Shri. Varun Saini, Advocate and Legal counsel of the above mentioned on mobile no. 0901564115 from 9am to 5pm within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice

### PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Vishal Tandon, do hereby declare that my father Sh. Suresh Kumar Tandon S/o Lt. Sh. Tarlok Chand R/o WA-718A, Mother Dairay Road, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092, Smt. Kiran Tandon and Mrs. Neetu Tandon has jointly purchased two units in Supertech Supertowers, 3603 & 3604, Nova West Tower, Sector 16, Noida. Unfortunately, Sh. Suresh Kumar Tandon passed away on 13/06/2019 in New Delhi. I requested Supertech realtors Pvt. Ltd. to remove his name and issue new documents in favor of Mr. Vishal Tandon, Smt. Kiran Tandon W/o Lt. Sh. Suresh Kumar Tandon and Mrs. Neetu Tandon W/o Vishal Tandon as co-applicants. If anybody has any objection, he/she may contact Mr. Vaishav Mittal of Supertech realtors Pvt. Ltd. E-Square, C-2, Sector-16, Noida within 15 days of this notice being published. Vishal Tandon S/o Lt. Sh. Suresh Kumar Tandon. Mayank Kumar Pandey Advocate 8826507911

**रायगढ़ जिला**  
**अर्वन पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी**  
**निविदा संशोधन सूचना पत्र**  
 क्रं. 1887/राजि.प्र.सं.सो./म.प.2021 सखद दिनांक 23.10.2021  
 निविदा क्रं. 841119 का आनलाइन सब मिशन दिनांक 22.10.2021 तक था। जिसे बढ़ाकर 26.10.2021 आनलाइन जमा किये जाने हेतु बढ़ाया जाता है, एवं फिजिकल टेंडर खोला पोस्ट/रजिस्टर्ड डाक के माध्यम से 27.10.2021 तक नगर पब्लिक निगम रायगढ़ कार्यालय में साब 03:00 बजे तक जमा करने हेतु बढ़ाया जाता है।

नोडल अधिकारी  
 (मु.स.द.उ.यो.)  
 रायगढ़ जिला अर्वन पब्लिक  
 सर्विस सोसायटी  
 रायगढ़ (छ.ग.)

**Public Notice**  
 This is to notify all that I, Pravin Kumar, S/o Late Sh. Dasinder Lal Kumar, R/o 1235, Urban Estate, Sector 4, Gurugram, Haryana, have actually lost Possession Letter, Possession Slip and NOC for Water & Electricity Connection of my DDA MIG Flat no. 635, Sector A10, Pocket 2, Group 1, Narela, Delhi. LR No.: 846497/2021, on 21/10/2021 at Delhi.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 Notice is hereby given to the general public that Mrs. Rajan Shri is the owner of Property bearing No. 10-A, 100 sq., Yds., out of Kharsa no. 14/12, Khata No. 159, Village Matiala, Sewak Park, Block E, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi "Said property" by virtue of Gift Deed dated 02.11.2020. Registered as Doc No. 15442. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner wants to mortgage the said property to our client Fullerton India Home Finance Company Limited. If anybody has any objection/s upon the said property, and its ownership / its Title / Mortgage, etc. the kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

**Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)**  
 201, 11nd Floor, 25, Shivaji Marg, Nadi Nagar, N. Delhi-25  
 Ph: 011-41112527-28 kumarassociatesadvocates@gmail.com

**छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल**  
 पर्यावास भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19,  
 नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला-रायपुर (छ.ग.) 492002  
**// सर्व संचित को सूचना //**

भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली की अधिसूचना दिनांक 14.09.2006 (यथा संशोधित) के तहत सर्व संबंधित को सूचित किया जाता है कि श्री संतोष सिंह रायपूर ( भैंसों डोलोमाईट खनो ), ग्राम-भैंसों, तहसील-पामगढ़, जिला-जांजगीर-चांपा स्थित खसरा क्रमांक 1652/1, कुल क्षेत्रफल-4.497 हेक्टेयर में प्रस्तावित डोलोमाईट (गोण खनिज)उत्खनन क्षमता-1,00,553 टन प्रतिवर्ष के पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृती हेतु लोक सुनवाई बाबत छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल में आवेदन किया गया है। उक्त प्रस्तावित परियोजना के संबंध में आपत्ति/सुझाव/टीका-टिप्पणी इस अधिसूचना के जारी होने के दिनांक से 30 दिवस के अंदर क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, बिलासपुर के कार्यालय में मौखिक अथवा लिखित रूप से कार्यालयीन समय में प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है। इस परियोजना के लिए लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 26.11.2021, को समय प्रातः 11:00 बजे, स्थान-ग्राम पंचायत भैंसों के हाईस्कूल परिसर, "केराव कुंज मैदान" (धान खरीदी केन्द्र),ग्राम-भैंसों, तहसील-पामगढ़, जिला-जांजगीर-चांपा (छ.ग.) में निम्न की गई है। यह भी सूचित हो कि लोक सुनवाई के दौरान भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली के ऑफिस मेमोरेडम F.No. 22-25/2000/IA.III दिनांक 14.09.2020 तथा कोरोना वायरस के नियंत्रण एवं रोकथाम हेतु शासन द्वारा जारी समस्त दिशा-निर्देशों का अक्षरशः पालन कराया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचना दिनांक 14.09.2006 (यथा संशोधित) के प्रावधानों के अनुसार डाफ्ट ई.आई.ए. रिपोर्ट, कार्यपालक की सार की प्रति (हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी में ) एवं इसकी सी.डी. (सॉफ्ट कॉपी) जन समान्य के अवलोकन/पठन हेतु कार्यालय कलेक्टर, जांजगीर, जिला-जांजगीर-चांपा कार्यालय मुख्य कार्यपालन अधिकारी, जिला-पंचायत जांजगीर-चांपा, कार्यालय महाप्रबंधक, जिला व्यापार एवं उद्योग केन्द्र चांपा, अनुविभागीय अधिकारी (राजस्व) पामगढ़, जिला- जांजगीर-चांपा, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, व्यापार विहार प, दीनदयाल उपाध्याय पार्क के पास, बिलासपुर, सरपंच/ सचिव कार्यालय,ग्राम पंचायत-भैंसों, तहसील- पामगढ़, जिला- जांजगीर-चांपा (छ.ग.), डॉयरेक्टर पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन, वायु विंग, जोरबाग रोड, नई दिल्ली, आतिरिक्त प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय (पौधक मध्य क्षेत्र ), पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भू-तल, पूर्व विंग, नया सचिवालय भवन, सिविल लाईन्स, नागपुर (महाराष्ट्र) एवं मुख्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, पर्यावास भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, रायपुर (छ.ग.) में रखी गई है।

सदस्य सचिव  
**छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल,**  
 नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.)

# Three more held in Lakhimpur violence case, 13 so far

**PTI ■ LAKHIMPUR KHERI (UP)**

Three more arrests were made on Saturday in connection with the Tikonika violence here which had left eight people, including four farmers, dead during a protest by farmers on October 3, officials said Saturday.

This takes to 13 the total number of arrests made so far, also including Union minister Ajay Mishra’s son Ashish, in connection with the violence.

A senior police officer identified those arrested Saturday as Mohit Trivedi of Singahi town, Ranku Rana of Barsola Kalan and Dharmendra of Chimma Tanda both under Tikonika kotwali limits.

The arrests were made after their names emerged during the interrogation of other accused in police custody, the officer added.

All the three accused would be produced in the court later in the day and the investigators would request for their 14 days police remand for further interrogation,he said.

Ashish was arrested on October 9 and is presently in police custody. The nine other arrested accused include BJP ward member Sumit Jaiswal, Ankit Das, Latif alias Kale, Shekhar Bharti, Shishu Pal, Satya Prakash Tripathi alias Satyam, Nandan Singh Bisht, Ashish Pandey and Lavkush Rana.

Barring Ashish Pandey and Lavkush Rana, all other seven are in police custody for interrogation. An FIR was lodged at the Tikonika police station on October 3.

The next day, a counter-FIR was lodged at the same police station on the basis of a complaint by Sumit Jaiswal, who has now been arrested.

The SIT constituted by the state police is probing the case.

# Voting for Cong, Left same as pressing NOTA button: Abhishek Banerjee

**Gosaba:** TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Saturday claimed that voting for the Congress and Left Front would be in no way different from opting for the NOTA button as he sought to woo electorate here ahead of the October 30 bypoll to four Assembly seats.

He also slammed the BJP for "thrusting by-election" on two of the four seats that will go to polls.

Addressing a rally at Gosaba in South 24 Parganas, Banerjee pointed out bypoll was necessitated here and in Khardah following the death of two TMC candidates, but the circumstance under which elections are being held in Shantipur and Dinhata are different.

"Winning BJP candidates Jagannath Sarkar (Shantipur) and Nisith Pramanik (Dinhata) resigned as MLAs even after being elected by people. They dishonoured the verdict of people to retain parliamentary berths. The BJP is seeking votes again in those two seats. They will be rejected by people," he claimed. The senior TMC leader also asserted that his party will make a "4-0 sweep" in the by-elections. Hitting out at the Congress and Left, he said the two parties had firmed up alliances with the aim to stop Mamata Banerjee from winning elections, and ended up as "losers".

"Over the past seven years, the Congress had only conceded defeat to the BJP all over the country, while Mamata Banerjee thwarted all challenges posed by communal and undemocratic BJP," he said. "The Left and the Congress had even tied up with the ISF but the electorate of

Bengal chose Mamata Banerjee over any other party. Voting for them is the same as pressing the NOTA button," the West Bengal ruling party's number two leader underlined.

The TMC supremo is emerging as the undisputed leader from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, the "spear-head" to fight and defeat the Modi-Shah regime in the next general election, Banerjee insisted.

"Our party is making its presence felt all over the country. It has established its place among the top four to five national parties. We will win the assembly polls in Goa in a few months from now; we will dislodge the Biplab Deb government in Tripura 2023," he contended. Alleging that the BJP has "trampled democracy" in states where it is in power, Banerjee said, "Wherever the BJP has crushed opposition views, the TMC will go and fight them."

Holding the Biplab Deb government in Tripura responsible for assault on his party members, Banerjee noted that Rajya Sabha MP Sushmita Dev was "attacked in the state" by the BJP on Friday. "Should that happen in a democracy? We will not cower down before them. We will drive out the BJP from Tripura, carrying a picture of Mamata Banerjee," he said. Banerjee claimed that the BJP "harasses" anyone who airs views against them, with help from central agencies, but "they cannot silence the TMC".

"I was summoned several times, interrogated for nine hours. You can interrogate me for hours and hours but that will not stop me from

speaking against you (BJP leaders). If you slit my throat, I will still shout 'Jai Hind', 'Jai Bangla'. Truth is on my side," he maintained.

Taking a dig at Amit Shah, he said, "The former BJP national president and current home minister had promised to dole out Rs 2 lakh crore for the development of Sunderban and carve out a separate district during his campaigns for assembly polls some months ago. "They are still holding power in Delhi but you won't hear about any follow-up initiatives from them." The Diamond Harbour MP further noted that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, in contrast, "kept her promises and rolled out schemes such as Lakshmir Bhandar". "Here lies the difference between the BJP and the TMC. No one got Rs 15 lakh in their bank account, as promised by Narendra

Modi in 2014. But all our social welfare projects -- Krishakbandhu,

Swastha Sathi, Kanyashree and Lakshmir Bhandar -- are benefiting crores of people already," he said.

Banerjee, who is also the nephew of the CM, continued its tirade against the Centre, stating that the Narendra Modi government did not release funds required for relief operations after back-to-back cyclones in West Bengal.

"Don't worry, Mamata Banerjee will be on your side with all her might and resources," he said.

Hitting out at the Centre over its 100-crore vaccination feat, he quipped that the BJP-led NDA government "hit double centuries", the first one with the hike in prices of petrol and diesel. **PTI**

# Overcoming vaccine hesitancy a challenge: Maha Min

**Jalna:** Around 70 per cent of eligible beneficiaries in Maharashtra have got the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine, while the remaining people may be showing vaccine hesitancy, state health minister Rajesh Tope said in Jalna on Saturday.

Speaking to reporters, he said getting these people to overcome their hesitancy was the health department's biggest challenge now.

"Around 70 per cent people have got the first jab. The remaining are reluctant. It is a challenge for the health department to pursue them to take the vaccine dose," he said.Queried about speculations around a booster dose (third shot), Tope said there are no guidelines at present on this topic from the Indian Council of Medical Research, adding that the state government cannot take a decision on it. **PTI**



Female candidates arrive to appear in RSMSSB Patwari Exam 2021, at MS College in Bikaner on Saturday

PTI



# Roadside bombing targets Taliban

Kills Afghan civilians

AP ■ KABUL

A roadside bombing targeting a Taliban vehicle in eastern Afghanistan killed at least two civilians on Saturday, including a child, Taliban and health officials said. Four others were wounded.

Two bombs detonated as a Taliban vehicle was passing by, killing one child, district police chief Ismatullah Mubariz said, adding that no Taliban fighters were harmed.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack but the Islamic State group is active in eastern Nangarhar province, where it has launched frequent attacks targeting the Taliban.

A local hospital official said two bodies and four wounded civilians were transferred to the hospital after the attack. The official spoke on condition of anonymity



Taliban fighters inspect at the site roadside bombing in Jalalabad east of Kabul, Afghanistan on Saturday

because they were not authorised to brief the media.

Recently, ISIS has shown signs of expansion in Afghanistan, with attacks in the north, the south and the capital of Kabul.

The group's ability to launch frequent attacks has cast doubt over the Taliban's ability to maintain security and stability in the embattled

country.

Last week, ISIS claimed responsibility for a deadly suicide bombing on a Shiite mosque in southern Afghanistan that killed 47 people and wounded scores more. It was the deadliest since the dramatic US exit from the country, which allowed the Taliban to seize control of the Afghan capital.

## Top al-Qaida leader killed in drone strike: US

AP ■ WASHINGTON

The US military says it killed a senior al-Qaida leader in an airstrike on Friday in north-west Syria.

Army Major John Rigsbee, a spokesman for US Central Command, said in a statement that Abdul Hamid al-Matar was killed by a drone strike.



Rigsbee said the killing of al-Matar will disrupt al-Qaida's "ability to further plot and carry out global attacks threatening US citizens, our partners, and innocent civilians." He said al-Qaida "uses Syria as a base for threats reaching into Syria, Iraq and beyond."

The drone strike came two days after a US military outpost in southern Syria was hit by a coordinated attack that included drones and rockets. US officials said no American troops stationed there were injured or killed.

## 2nd key suspect behind B'desh violence against Hindus held

PTI ■ DHAKA

Bangladesh's security agencies on Saturday arrested a man in his 30s, who is believed to be the second key suspect behind the recent slew of violence against Hindus and mob attacks on temples in Bangladesh during the Durga Puja festivities, police officials said.

Shaikat Mandal, one of the masterminds behind the October 17 mayhem in Pirganj sub-district of northwestern Rangpur, and his accomplice was arrested from Gazipur, on the outskirts of Dhaka on Saturday, Elite anti-crime Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) officials said.

Mandal had gone live on Facebook, which incited people and triggered a wave of violence, a RAB official said.

At least 70 houses and shops of the Hindus were torched in attacks at Pirganj following Mandal's Facebook post on October 17.

His arrest comes a day after police had nabbed Iqbal Hossain, 35, the key suspect from Cox Bazar area, and the man who had allegedly placed the Quran at a Durga Puja

venue in Cumilla.

Hossain is currently placed under a seven-day police remand as other security and intelligence agencies would join to interrogate him.

So far, police have arrested nearly 600 people from various parts of the country for inciting violence against the Hindus during the Durga Puja festivities. In a related development, Mohammad Fayeze, who was charged under Bangladesh's Digital Security Act (DSA) for inciting people via social media was sent to jail on Friday evening, the *Daily Star* newspaper reported.

Meanwhile, members of minority religious communities staged a mass-hunger and sit-in demonstration at central Dhaka's Shabagh area and other parts of the country under the banner of Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Unity Council.

"Several thousand people have joined the mass-hunger and sit-in protests in Dhaka's Shabagh, Andarkilla of south-eastern port city of Chattogram and other parts of the country," Council's joint secretary Monindra Kumar Nath told the

media. Nath said a large number of social and cultural groups and followers of the Islamic faith have also joined the rallies to express their solidarity with the members of the minority communities.

The attacks on the Hindus in Bangladesh have been widely condemned by the United Nations.

Mia Seppo, the UN's resident coordinator in Bangladesh, said in a Twitter post on Monday that the attacks on Hindus are against the values of the Bangladesh constitution and need to stop.

On Tuesday, Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina instructed her home minister to initiate immediate action against those who incited violence using religion as she asked the people not to trust anything on social media without fact-checking.

The Foreign Ministry in a statement underlined that the Government of Bangladesh "unequivocally condemned those incidents and took serious note of the reactions from within and outside the Hindu community."

## A moving 'reunion' for descendants of Holocaust survivors



Anna Salton Eisen holds up a photo of Emil Ringel, father of Barbara Ringel, for a Zoom video call during a gathering for families of Holocaust survivors in East Brunswick, N.J., on Sunday, September 26, 2021. Seventy-six years after American soldiers cut down the barbed wire and fulfilled the prisoners' impossible dream of freedom, Eisen brought together survivors' loved ones

AP ■ WESTLAKE

Anna Salton Eisen found the old pictures of Jewish prisoners who survived the Holocaust in a folder her late father, George Lucius Salton, kept most of his life.

The Texas woman recognized the names of some of the teens and young men from stories her father told. For three years, the baby-faced captives lived among the dead and dying in barracks and boxcars as Nazi captors moved them from Poland to France to Germany.

But suddenly, the familiar names had faces.

"Seeing the faces of all of them really brought the story to life," said Eisen, who discovered the photos while moving her mother, Ruth Salton, 99, from Florida to the Dallas area this past summer.

Eisen, 62, said she felt compelled to learn more about the confidants who had meant so much to her father, who died at age 88 in 2016.

George Salton was 17 when the US Army liberated the Wobbelin concentration camp in Germany on May 2, 1945. Over the next few years, the survivors scattered around the world. Most lost touch with each other.

## Libya FM: Security, stability necessary to usher in Govt

AP ■ TRIPOLI

Libya's chief diplomat says the Transitional Government is working to hold long-awaited elections later this year, but security and political and economic stability are necessary for a peaceful transition to a new Government.

Foreign Minister Najla Mangoush spoke with *The Associated Press* late on Friday in the capital, Tripoli, a day after the Libyan government hosted a high-level conference aimed at resolving the country's thorniest issues ahead of elections in December.

## 575 inmates escape in latest Nigeria jailbreak

AP ■ LAGOS

Gunmen have attacked a prison in southwest Nigeria, freeing around 575 inmates, officials said on Saturday.

The third jailbreak in Africa's most populous country this year raises more concerns about how safe detention facilities are in the West African nation where authorities have struggled to stem rising violence. A handful of security facilities, especially police stations, have been attacked in a similar manner in the past year.

## Saudi pledges 2060 target of net-zero emissions

AP ■ DUBAI

One of the world's largest oil producers, Saudi Arabia, announced on Saturday it aims to reach "net zero" greenhouse gas emissions by 2060, joining more than 100 countries in a global effort to try and curb man-made climate change.

Although the kingdom will aim to reduce emissions within its own borders, there is no indication Saudi Arabia will

slow down investments in oil and gas or relinquish sway over energy markets by moving away from the production of fossil fuels. Energy exports form the backbone of Saudi Arabia's economy, despite efforts to diversify revenue as the world increasingly looks to transition away from reliance on fossil fuels. The country is forecast to make \$150 billion in revenue this year from oil alone.

## UN fears 'mass atrocity crimes' in northern Myanmar

AFP ■ UNITED NATIONS

The UN said on Friday it feared an even greater human rights catastrophe in Myanmar amid reports of thousands of troops massing in the north of the Southeast Asian country, which has been in chaos since a February coup.

"We should all be prepared, as the people in this part of Myanmar are prepared, for even more mass atrocity crimes. I desperately hope that I am wrong," said UN Special Rapporteur on Myanmar Tom

Andrews. More than 1,100 civilians have been killed in the country's bloody crackdown on dissent and more than 8,000 arrested since the coup, according to a local monitoring group.

Andrews, who was presenting the findings of an annual human rights report on Myanmar to the General Assembly, said that he had received information that tens of thousands of troops and heavy weapons were being moved into restive regions in the north and northwest.

The findings, he said, also indicated that the junta had engaged in probable crimes against humanity and war crimes.

"These tactics are ominously reminiscent of those employed by the military before its genocidal attacks against the Rohingya in Rakhine State in 2016 and 2017," Andrews said.

About 740,000 Rohingya fled Myanmar's Rakhine state in 2017 after security forces launched a clampdown that the UN has said may amount to genocide.

## Indian-origin techie among 2 foreigners killed in Mexico shootout

Los Angeles: A 29-year-old California-based Indian-origin woman techie, who travelled to Mexico to celebrate her birthday, was one of the two foreign tourists killed in a shootout between two drug gangs in the Caribbean coast resort of Tulum, according to media reports.

Anjali Ryot was killed along with another German tourist on Wednesday night in the crossfire, *Californianewstimes.Com* news portal reported.

## N Korea slams US for supporting Taiwan in nod to ally China

AP ■ SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

North Korea on Saturday accused the Biden administration of raising military tensions with China through its "reckless" backing of Taiwan, and said that the growing US military presence in the region constitutes a potential threat to the North.

In comments carried by state media, North Korea Vice Foreign Minister Pak Myong Ho criticized the United States for sending warships through the Taiwan Strait and providing Taiwan, a self-ruled island that China claims as part of its territory, with upgraded weapons systems and military training.

The United States' "indiscreet meddling" in issues regarding Taiwan, which the North sees as entirely a Chinese internal affair, threatens to touch off a "delicate situation on the Korean Peninsula."

Pak's statement came a day after President Joe Biden told a *CNN* townhall event that the United States was committed to coming to Taiwan's defense if it comes under attack from China. While that seemed to blur Washington's long-held stance of maintaining "strategic ambiguity" on whether it would intervene if China were to attack Taiwan, White House spokeswoman Jen Psaki said Biden had no intent to convey

a change in policy. China and Taiwan split amid civil war in 1949, and although it maintains formal diplomatic relations only with Beijing, the US remains committed by law to ensure Taiwan can defend itself from outside threats.

North Korea has increasingly criticized the broader U.S. security role in the Indo-Pacific amid an intensifying competition with China, Pyongyang's major ally and economic lifeline. Last month, the North threatened unspecified countermeasures following the Biden administration's decision to provide nuclear-powered submarines to Australia.

"It is a well-known fact that the U.S. troops and its military bases in (South Korea) are in use to put pressure on China and that the huge forces of the US and its satellite states, which are being concentrated near Taiwan, can be committed to a military operation targeting the DPRK at any time," Pak said, using an abbreviation of the North's formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

He said the increasing military presence of US-led "hostile forces" in the region was based on a "lame assertion" that North Korea and China would cause trouble in Taiwan and the Korean Peninsula.

## 16 ultras, 2 soldiers killed in Pakistan raids

AP ■ QUETTA

Pakistan's security forces say they killed 16 militants in separate shootouts during raids against extremists and separatists on Saturday, with two soldiers killed in the process.

One raid was conducted in the Mastung area of Baluchistan province, the provincial counterterrorism department said in a statement. Earlier in the week, a bomb attack killed a police officer and wounded 19 others in the same area. The statement said militants opened fire on police triggering a gun battle that left nine "terrorists" dead. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack but

the bombing earlier in the week was claimed by the Pakistani Taliban. The statement said the raid also yielded nine Kalashnikov assault rifles, explosives and rocket-propelled grenades.

In the evening, security forces say they killed six separatists in another raid in the Harnai district of Baluchistan. They spoke on condition of

anonymity because they weren't authorised to release the information.

Earlier in the northwest, two soldiers and a militant were killed in an exchange of fire during a separate raid, according to a military statement. That raid took place Friday in Miran Shah, the main town of the North Waziristan tribal district bordering Afghanistan.

## GLOBE TROTTER

### SALVINI ON TRIAL IN ITALY OVER 2019 MIGRANT SHIP

Palermo: Italy's right-wing former interior minister, Matteo Salvini, went on trial Saturday charged with kidnapping for refusing in 2019 to allow a Spanish migrant rescue ship to dock in Sicily, keeping the people onboard at sea for days.

### IRAN PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR SLAPPED

Dubai: The new governor of a northwestern Iranian province found himself slapped in the face by an angry man during his inauguration on Saturday, an unusual breach of security in the Islamic Republic during a ceremony attended by the country's interior minister.

### BIDEN TO MEET POPE AMID SOME RIFTS

Washington: There's an intriguing subplot to President Joe Biden's upcoming meeting with Pope Francis. The world's two most prominent Roman Catholics will be celebrating a shared outlook on church teaching and vital social issues even as Biden faces unwavering opposition from many US Catholic bishops over his stances on abortion and LGBTQ rights.

### SECRECY SHROUDS AFGHAN REFUGEES

Washington: The US is welcoming tens of thousands of Afghans airlifted out of Kabul but has disclosed little publicly about a small group who remain overseas, dozens who triggered potential security issues during security vetting and have been sent to an American base in the Balkan nation of Kosovo. Human rights advocates have raised concerns about the Afghans diverted to Camp Bondsteel in Kosovo over the past six weeks, citing a lack of transparency about their status and the reasons for holding them back. It's unclear what might become of any who cannot be cleared to come to the United States.

### UZBEK PRESIDENT HEADS TO NEW TERM

Tashkent: Uzbekistan's President, who has relaxed many of the policies of his dictatorial predecessor but has made little effort at political reform, is expected to win a new term by a landslide against weak competition in an election Sunday.

### AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR THREATENS LOCKDOWN

Vienna: Unvaccinated people in Austria could face new lockdown restrictions if coronavirus case numbers continue to rise, Chancellor Alexander Schallenberg said. The news came after a Friday evening meeting between Schallenberg and state-level leaders to discuss their response to rapidly increasing case numbers. "The pandemic is not yet in the rearview mirror," Schallenberg said. "We are about to stumble into a pandemic of the unvaccinated."

## Aromatherapy spray manufactured in India found to contain bacteria that sickened four people in the US: CDC

PTI ■ NEW YORK

An aromatherapy spray, manufactured in India and being sold in the US, has been found to contain a bacteria that sickened four people earlier this year, of which two persons died, America's public health agency has said. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said laboratory testing has identified the bacteria *Burkholderia pseudomallei* in the aromatherapy spray 'Better Homes & Gardens Lavender & Chamomile Essential Oil Infused Aromatherapy Room Spray with Gemstones.'

This is the same type of bacteria that sickened four people in the United States earlier this year. CDC said the spray was found on October 6 in the home of a Georgia resident who became ill with melioidosis in late July.

"CDC is continuing testing to see if the genetic fingerprint of the bacteria in the bottle matches those of the bacteria identified in the four patients — one each in Georgia, Kansas, Texas, and Minnesota.



### APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified person **Namely** : Unknown **S/o** Unknown **R/o** Unknown **Age** : about 20-25 years, **Height** : 5'7", **Complexion** : Wheatish, **Built** : medium, **Face** : Long, **Injury** : Head shredded from neck and vein of both wright are sliced **Identification** : VINOD KUMAR written on right hand **Wearing** : Yellow colour full baniyan and grey colour pant, Chocolate colour sleeper in feet has been found dead at Under bridge Railway line Sadar Bazar, Delhi on 20.10.2021. In this regard a case vide DD No. 3A dated 20.10.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about this dead found person may kindly inform to the following:- **SHO : P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi** **Tel. No. 011-23961522, 23980685**

DP/347/RLY/2021

Office of the Superintending Engineer, Construction Circle Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Kathgodam, Haldwani. (E-mail : sepeyjal_ntl@yahoo.co.in, Phone :- 05946-298296)		
E-Tendering/Tender Notice		
Letter No. 4558 / 613 / 370		Date: 23/10/2021
Name of Work :- Pipe Line, FHTC & Apprutenant works in following Water Supply Schemes		
Name of Scheme	Estimated cost	Period of completion of work:
1 Nausar - Mohammadpur Bhudiya MVS W/S Scheme	Rs. 212.85 Lakh	06 months
2 Bhudiya Tharu MVS W/S Scheme	Rs. 301.93 Lakh	06 months
3 Chanda MVS W/S Scheme	Rs. 161.07 Lakh	06 months
4 Bhagchuri MVS W/S Scheme	Rs. 163.54 Lakh	06 months
5 Mundeli MVS W/S Scheme	Rs. 209.35 Lakh	06 months
6 Tukari MVS W/S Scheme	Rs. 206.09 Lakh	06 months
7 Salmata MVS W/S Scheme	Rs. 224.98 Lakh	06 months
8 Pipaliya Pistaur MVS W/S Scheme	Rs. 213.81 Lakh	06 months
9 Saraunja MVS W/S Scheme	Rs. 163.42 Lakh	06 months
Key Dates-		
1 Date of Online Publication	25.10.2021 at 17:00 hrs.	
2 Document Download : Start Date	26.10.2021 at 10:00 hrs.	
3 Document download : End Date	08.11.2021 at 17:00 hrs	
4 Pre Bid Meeting	02.11.2021 at 14:00 hrs.	
5 Bid Submission : Start Date	26.10.2021 at 10:00 hrs.	
6 Bid Submission : End Date	08.11.2021 at 17:00 hrs.	
7 Offline Submission of Document (Cost of bidding document, Bid Security, Original Affidavits & all the Supporting Documents in support of qualification)	09.11.2021 upto 17:00 hrs.	
8 Date of Technical Bid Opening	11.11.2021 at 11:00 hrs.	
9 Date of Financial Bid Opening	To be announced Later	
10 Details of tender, corrigendum or cancellation etc. may be obtained at web site: <a href="http://www.uktenders.gov.in">www.uktenders.gov.in</a>	Superintending Engineer	



# Power Min lays rules for sustainability of sector

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Power on Saturday announced new rules to sustain economic viability of the sector, ease financial stress of various stakeholders and ensure timely recovery of costs involved in electricity generation.

The Ministry notified rules for the sustainability of the electricity sector and promotion of clean energy to meet the India's commitment towards climate change, a statement said.

Investors and other stakeholders in the power sector had been concerned about the timely recovery of the costs due to change in law, curtailment of renewable power and other related matters.

The rules notified by the Ministry of Power under Electricity Act, 2003 are in the interest of the electricity consumers and the stakeholders, it added.

The rules include Electricity (Timely recovery of costs due to Change in Law) Rules, 2021. The other rule is Electricity (Promotion of generation from renewable sources of energy by addressing Must Run and other matters) Rules, 2021.

The ministry explained timely recovery of the costs due



to change in law is very important as the investment in the power sector largely depends upon the timely payments.

"At present, the pass through under change of law takes time. This impacts the viability of the sector and the developers get financially stressed. The rules would help in creating investment friendly environment in the country," it stated.

"The energy transition is happening across the globe. India has also made commitments to bring about energy transition. India has also announced international commitment to set up 175 GW of RE capacity by 2022 and 450 GW by 2030," the ministry said.

The ministry said these rules will help in achieving the targets of RE generation. This will ensure that the consumers get green and clean power and secure a healthy environment

for the future generation.

A formula has been provided to calculate adjustment in the monthly tariff due to the impact of change in law.

The rules also provide that a must-run power plant shall not be subjected to curtailment or regulation of generation or supply of electricity on account of merit order dispatch or any other commercial consideration.

The electricity generated from a must-run power plant may be curtailed or regulated only in the event of any technical constraint in the electricity grid or for reasons of security of the electricity grid.

For curtailment or regulation of power, the provisions of the Indian Electricity Grid Code shall be followed.

In the event of a curtailment of supply from a must-run power plant, compensation shall be payable by the procurer to the must-run power plant at the rates specified in the agreement for purchase or supply of electricity.

The RE generator is also allowed to sell power in the power exchange and recover the cost suitably. This helps in realisation of revenue by the generator and also the power is available in the electricity grid for use of consumers.

# Petrol price up ₹36 a litre, diesel 26.58 in less than 18 months

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Petrol and diesel prices were hiked for the fourth consecutive day on Saturday by 35 paise per litre, pushing the total increase in rates on petrol to ₹ 36 per litre and on diesel to ₹26.58 since early May 2020 when taxes on the two fuels were raised to record levels.

Petrol in Delhi now costs ₹107.24 a litre and diesel comes for ₹95.97, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

The latest increase that follows the unrelenting hike in international oil prices has pushed pump rates across the country to their highest-ever levels. While petrol is above ₹100-a-litre-mark in all major cities, diesel has crossed that level in more than a dozen states.

The total increase in petrol price since May 5, 2020 decision of the government to raise excise duty to record levels now totals ₹35.98 per litre. Diesel rates have during this period gone up by Rs 26.58 per litre.

The government had raised excise duty on petrol and diesel to mop up gains that would have otherwise accrued to consumers from international oil prices crashing to as low as USD 19 per barrel. While inter-

national prices have since recovered to USD 85, excise duty has remained at Rs 32.9 per litre on petrol and Rs 31.8 on diesel.

Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Friday equated demand for cutting excise duty to 'axing one's own feet', saying such levies funded government schemes to provide free COVID-19 vaccines, meals and cooking gas to millions amid the pandemic.

"I think this simplistic political narrative we get in India (that), 'prices have gone up, why don't you reduce your taxes'... So every time price goes up due to something else, it says you axe your own feet in the process," he had said late on Friday.

He was asked a question on whether the government would cut taxes, which make up for 54 per cent of the price of petrol and over 48 per cent of diesel, to ease the burden on consumers.

"Yesterday (on October 21) we completed vaccinating one billion (against COVID), we fed 90 crore people for one full year (during the pandemic) providing 3 meals in a day, we did Ujjwala scheme (of providing free cooking gas LPG refill to 8 crore poor beneficiaries). All this and much more with that Rs 32 a litre

excise duty (levied by the central government)," he had asserted.

The money collected from tax also goes into building roads, constructing houses for the poor and other social welfare schemes.

"I am not the finance minister therefore it is not an appropriate answer for me to give," he said on demands for cutting taxes. "That Rs 32 a litre that we collect provides us the ability to provide all these welfare services, including 1 billion vaccines."

The increase in fuel prices has stoked concerns over inflation as diesel is the mainstay fuel used for transporting goods, including agri commodities.

Opposition parties including Congress have been critical of the government over the price hikes and have demanded a reduction in taxes.

Puri had said that while the centre levies specific excise duty on petrol and diesel, which does not change if the oil prices fall to USD 19 per barrel or rise to USD 84, state governments levy ad valorem rate of VAT whose incidence goes up with every hike.

He said petrol price was decontrolled in 2010, effectively making it linked to world markets.

# DFC to finance \$50 million to Biological E to expand Covid vaccine manufacturing capacity



PTI ■ HYDERABAD

The U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) will finance USD 50 million to Biological E Limited to increase its Covid-19 vaccine manufacturing capacity.

A media invitation from the US Consulate here said Chief Operating Officer of the DFC David Marchick and Biological E. Limited Managing Director Mahima Datla will formalize the financing agreement on October 25.

"On October 25, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) Chief Operating Officer David Marchick and Biological E. Limited Managing Director Mahima Datla will formalize a USD 50 million financing agreement to expand the com-

pany's capacity to produce COVID-19 vaccines," it said.

The agreement will help bolster near-term COVID-19 response efforts and will also benefit long-term global health in India and throughout the Indo-Pacific region, the US Consulate's invitation said.

DFC is America's development bank and partners with the private sector to finance solutions to the most critical challenges facing the developing world currently.

Earlier in March at the Quad Leaders Summit, the United States, through the DFC, said it will work with Biological E Ltd., to finance increased capacity to support the city-based vaccine maker's effort to produce at least one billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines by the end of 2022 including the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

# Industry demands leather park scheme to boost growth

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Council for Leather Exports (CLE) on Saturday urged the government to bring a leather park scheme for boosting production amid expectations that many large brands and manufacturers may increase sourcing from India.

CLE Chairman Sanjay Leekha also said that the benefits of the Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) should also be extended to the leather sector.

"A leather park scheme could provide the needed impetus. Hence, the leather sector may be covered in a leather park scheme on similar lines of scheme announced for textile parks, as there is substantial similarity between textile and leather industry," he said in a statement.

To enhance exports, reinstatement of the Basic Customs Duty exemption on wet blue, crust and finished leathers was also requested by the chairman.

"In order to meet the additional working capital requirements of the industry to meet their export commitments, additional credit with lower interest rates and flexible repayment options may be considered," he added.

He was speaking at an

event where Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Anupriya Patel laid the stone for the International Testing Laboratory for leather sector in Kanpur, an initiative aimed at helping the testing requirements of export products as per the stipulations of the overseas buyers.

The minister assured all kinds of support and redressal of concerns as raised by the leather fraternity, the council said.

Kanpur is the largest manufacturing base of industrial safety boots, saddlery and harness items in the country and it is also a major production centre for finished leather and value added products and footwear.

The leather industry in Kanpur cluster has taken a significant step for increasing production levels by taking initiatives for establishment of mega leather, footwear and accessories development cluster (MLEAC).

Speaking at the occasion, P R Aqeel, Chairman, Leather Sector Skill Council, said that the council is playing a vital role to facilitate development of skilled human resources required for sustained growth of the leather and leather products industry.

# Demand pickup, infra creation to grow logistics sector

**New Delhi:** A pick-up in demand along with reforms and construction of support infrastructure is expected to grow India's logistics sector by 10-12 per cent CAGR.

At present, India's logistics market is pegged at \$250 billion.

The growth is expected to be supported by the shift from organised to the unorganised sector (90 per cent currently).

According to Motilal Oswal Financial Services, the demand for value added services is also on the rise.

"Most logistics spends are towards transportation, followed by warehouse."

"Based on the reforms undertaken over the last few years, the industry is expected to grow faster over the next few years. Some new business models like '3PL' and 'Express Logistics' would grow faster than the overall sector."

Accordingly, the brokerage house said that driven by reforms such as GST and the construction of support infrastructure will shift the perspective of logistics from just transportation to a specialised function.

"The transport industry is highly unorganised with several small local fleet operators. With GST taxing all levels of



value added, the industry would gradually move towards formalisation."

"The higher levels of compliance with GST, along with the reduction in cost competitiveness, would result in smaller players moving out of the system and market share moving towards organized players."

Besides, it predicted that organised players, with large warehousing capacity and the ability to invest would see strong market share gains going forward.

Furthermore, it said that e-commerce and organised retail sector has accelerated the growth of '3PL' market in India.

This segment was largely dominated by the automotive sector, wherein, there is a heavy requirement for warehousing and transportation.

In the past few years, the '3PL' segment is estimated to have clocked over 20 per cent CAGR, with increasing customer adoption and more players entering this space. IANS

# Insurance sector M&A to boost IRDAI's revenue

**Chennai:**Whether the insurance mergers and acquisitions (M&A) benefits the acquiring company or not, it certainly boosts up the revenue of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), said a senior official.

For the year ended 31.3.2020, IRDAI had earned a sum of about ₹7.19 crore as amalgamation fee, the official not wanting to be quoted told IANS.

For the current year, the one mega deal that IRDAI has to give its nod is the amalgamation of Exide Life Insurance with HDFC Life Insurance.

To a question raised by IANS, HDFC Life Insurance MD and CEO Vibha Padalkar on Friday said applications have been sent to IRDAI and the Competition Commission of India (CCI) for their nod to merge Exide Life Insurance.

Queried on the quantum of transaction processing/amalgamation fees paid to IRDAI she said the company has not come to that stage yet.

The general insurance sector saw stake sale/purchase last year. Paytm acquired Raheja QBE, HDFC Ergo

acquired Apollo Munich, Sachin Bansal bought DHFL General Insurance, and Bharti Axa General was acquired by ICICI Lombard.

The IRDAI gets an amalgamation fee of 1/10th of one per cent of Gross Direct Premium written in India by the transacting entities during the financial year preceding the financial year in which the application is filed with it subject to a minimum of Rs 50 lakh and maximum of Rs 5 crore.

The primary revenue for IRDAI is annual licence renewal fee from the insurers.

According to IRDAI, the insurers pay a licence renewal fee of 1/20th of one per cent of the gross direct premium underwritten in India subject to a minimum of Rs 500,000 and a maximum of Rs 10 crore.

The IRDAI oversees the insurers including their financial health, market activities and others.

When queried on the rationale for charging an amalgamation fee from the transacting companies over and above the licence renewal fee, senior IRDAI officials had no valid answers. IANS

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified deadbody of male **Age** : About 40-45 years, **Height** : 5'5", **Complexion** : Wheatish, wearing violet colour T-shirt and black colour pant, was found dead in train accident on 20.10.2021 at Km. Pole No. 16-8/16-10 DN Line near Nangloi Railway Station, Delhi.

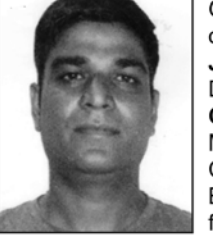
In this regard a DD No. 33-A dated 20.10.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Sarai Rohilla Railway Station, Delhi.

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

**SHO - P.S. Sarai Rohilla Railway Station, Delhi**  
Tel. No. : 011-23693611, 23691106

DP/350/RLY/21

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



P.S. Mayur Vihar, Delhi since 05.10.2021 at 8:30 AM. In this regard a **DD No. 95A, Dated 06.10.2021 has been registered at P.S. Mayur Vihar, Delhi.**

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

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>  
E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Fax: 011-24368639  
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641  
**P.S. Mayur Vihar, Delhi**  
**DP/745/ED/2021 Ph. No.: 011-22710335, 8750870627**

# Housing sector, infra spend to boost FY22 cement demand

**New Delhi:**Faster-than-expected recovery in the Housing sector along with Government's thrust on infrastructure spending is expected to boost cement demand by 10-12 per cent in FY22.

The growth comes after cement demand declined in FY20 by (-) 1 per cent and (-) 11 per cent in FY21.

"Pent-up demand and low interest rates have driven the realty sector amid the pandemic, and the government's push towards big-ticket infrastructure projects has increased the growth momentum for the high-ways sector," said ratings agency Brickwork Ratings (BWR).

"An improvement in these two sectors, which are among the largest consumers of cement, indicates a strong recovery path for the cement sector."

According to the agency, growth momentum is likely to continue, and production is expected to grow by lower double digits in FY23.

"A strong demand recovery shall support cement prices as the prices of raw materials such as limestone and pet coke have already witnessed an upward trend."

"Furthermore, with an

increase in power, freight and logistics costs, BWR expects overall cement prices to increase by 6-8 per cent year-on-year."

As per the agency, limestone price account for around 60 per cent of the total raw material cost.

"As of August 2021, limestone prices had increased by 30-32 per cent in FY22 from FY21 levels. Apart from these overheads, the increase in fuel, power and freight costs has also weighed on the profit margins."

"The recent increase in diesel and pet coke and coal prices has had a major impact on cement companies' Earnings before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation, and Amortisation (EBITDA) margins."

Besides, in FY22, BWR expects the EBITDA margins for cement players to contract by 40-60 bps on account of the rise in input costs for the companies.

"Although the companies have also raised cement prices, the increase in these prices is not in the same proportion as the input costs; the companies are, therefore, taking a hit on the margins to safeguard higher volumes." IANS


**Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**

(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)  
 Corporate Identity Number: U410PB2010SGC33813  
 Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in), (Contact Number 96461-18774)

Tender Enquiry No. MQP-190/2021-22/PR

Dated: 13.10.2021

CE/Metering, PSPCL, C-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for procurement of 1050 no. -J5 Amp, 11KV/110V, DLMS Compliant AC, 3 Phase, 4 wire CT/PT operated fully Static and AMR compatible HT Tri vector Feeder Energy meters (CATEGORY A) of accuracy class 0.2S and Empanelment of technically eligible firms for private sale of above material.

For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 13.10.2021 (02:00 PM onwards).

Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

RO No. 76155/12/505/2021/9186

C383/21



**UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED**  
 (A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)  
 Corporate Identity No. U4A0109UP2001SGC025867 / 2356  
 Victoria Cross Vijeta, Gabar Singh Ujja Bhawan, Kanwal Road, Dehradun-248001  
 Telephone: (0135) 2763672-76, Fax: (0135) 2760289

**CORRIGENDUM TO E-TENDER NOTICE**  
 This office e-tender specification no. CCP-II/16/2021-2022, invited previously, for supply of 50 Nos. 500 kVA, 11/0.433KV, Copper wound, Distribution Transformer is hereby extended due to unavoidable reasons. The e-tender can be purchased and submitted upto 17:00 hrs. of 08.11.2021. Part-1 of the e-tender shall be opened on 09.11.2021 at 15:45 hrs.  
 For further details, please visit our website [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in).

No.: 441/EE(CM)/UPCLA-2 Dt.22.10.2021

Superintending Engineer  
Corporate (C&P-II)

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION" Use LED bulbs to save Electricity. (Toll Free No. 1912) "Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from [www.upcl.org](http://www.upcl.org)". (For information on Electricity theft, Informer may report to Toll free No 1800 180 4185/ No. 0135-2760911)



**Uttarakhand Co-operative Dairy Federation Ltd., Haldwani**  
 पञ्जाब 1381-83 / गुजराती 1381-83 / हिन्दी / 2021-22

**Tender Notice**  
**Short Term E-Tender Notice no. 10(1-6)/UCDF/2021-22, Date-23.10.2021**  
 Short Term E-tenders are invited by the undersigned, from experienced, reputed and financially sound Authorized Manufacturers/Dealers for the following items so as to reach this office on or before 01.11.2021 upto 5.00 PM. The tenders will be opened on 02.11.2021 at 11.00 AM.

Item No.	Name of work	Details
1	Supply of Three Layered Laminated Plain Polythene Film	Tender fee,
2	Corrugated Boxes for 500 gm Pack	EMD, and
3	Pharma Grade Sugar	other related
4	Supply of SMP Standard Grade	details can be
5	Rate Contract cum Empanelment for Supply of Liquid Milk	seen E-
6	SIT & C of Pre-fabricated Milk cold Room	tender portal

Tender documents may be downloaded/uploaded from E-tender portal <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>

Managing Director


**UJVN LIMITED**  
 H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006,  
 Tel.: 0135-2763808, Fax- 0135- 2763508,  
 CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: [www.ujvnl.com](http://www.ujvnl.com)

पत्र सं. 782
 

**Tender Notice**

दिनांक 23.10.2021

Office of the Executive Engineer-II (EM-LWR), Vyasi Project, Dakpathar, UJVN Ltd. invites sealed tenders from interested party's Brief summary of tender is given below

**Tender No:** 06/EE (E&M-II, LWR) VP/2021-22

**Name of the work:** SITC of 12.5-meter-high mast with LED flood Light at Vyasi Project Dam site, Juddo, Vikasnagar, Dehradun

**Estimated Cost:** Rs. 22,12,271.19 (Plus GST extra)

**Date of availability of bid document on website :** 25.10.2021 15:00 Hrs

**Last date for submission of tender :** 09.11.2021 up to 17:00 Hrs

For fuller & further details kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's web site "[www.ujvnl.com](http://www.ujvnl.com)"

**Executive Engineer-II (EM-LWR)**

**"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"**

WESTERN RAILWAY			
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/37/2021 Date 21.10.2021			
S.N.	Short Description of Item	Quantity	T.O.D.
923	Servoplex SHC-120	6910 Kg	08.11.2021
924	Rubber Spring Plate for Draw and Buff Gear	2338 Nos	10.11.2021
925	UIC Type Rubber Vestibule Arrangement	150 Nos	10.11.2021
926	Roof Mounted Air Conditioning System	120 Nos	10.11.2021
927	Hermetically Sealed Compressor	227 Nos	11.11.2021
928	Modified Transition Screw Coupling	301 Nos	12.11.2021
929	Permanent Field Diverter	24 Set	12.11.2021
930	EP Contractor Complete	57 Nos	16.11.2021
931	Brake Gear Bush	156555 Nos	17.11.2021
932	Spare Part Kit	776 Set	19.11.2021
933	Body Side Lower Panel of Lavatory	1411 Nos	19.11.2021
934	Complete Brake Gear Arrangement	80 Set	19.11.2021
935	Rheostatic Braking Resistor	23 Set	22.11.2021
REVERSE AUCTION			
3	Seat profile complete (3 seater & 2 seater)	6880 Nos	10.11.2021
4	Rly Signalling Cable Size 12 Core x 1.5 Sq.mm	1191 Km	16.11.2021
5	6 Quad 0.9mm Dia Cable	585.90 Km	30.11.2021
Corrigendum :- Please read Qty as 20 Nos instead of 10 Nos. at Sr. No.906 (High Reach Pantograph) of <b>Tender Notice No.S/36/2021 Dt.11.10.2021.</b>			
Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website <a href="http://www.irps.gov.in">www.irps.gov.in</a> and <a href="http://www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in">www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in</a>			
0506		For Principal Chief Materials Manager	
Like us on: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly">f facebook.com/WesternRly</a>		follows us on: <a href="https://twitter.com/WesternRly">t twitter.com/WesternRly</a>	



# BONE DEEP

According to the studies conducted among women across the country, it is estimated that among the 230 million people expected to be over the age of 50 years, 46 million are women with osteoporosis. SUPRIYA RAMESH speaks with experts to bring you a report



World Osteoporosis Day is observed on October 20, every year.

Osteoporosis is a bone-related condition that weakens bones and causes fractures more easily. Similar to a honeycomb, the inside of a healthy bone has small spaces. In this condition, the size of these spaces enlarges, resulting in the weakening of bones, losing strength and density. Moreover, the outside of the bone grows weaker and thinner. Bones become so brittle that a fall or even a mild stress such as bending over or coughing can cause a fracture. It is quite common later on in life, even more so in women after menopause. Osteoporosis-related fractures most commonly occur in the hip, wrist or spine.

According to the studies conducted among women in India across the country, it is estimated that among the 230 million Indians expected to be over the age of 50 years, 46 million are women with osteoporosis.

“In a country like India, most of the osteoporotic cases go untreated and even undiagnosed. Therefore, it is necessary for both men and post-menopausal women to have adequate measures to prevent osteoporosis in later years in life,” Dr Biren Nadkarni, Senior Consultant Orthopedic and Joint Replacement Surgeon, Sitaram Bhartia Institute, New Delhi, tells us.


Osteoporosis is further classified as primary and secondary. Primary includes type I and II. It is observed in post-menopausal women and men and women over 70 years of age due to ageing. Whereas, diseases like systemic diseases, endocrine diseases, and malignant neoplasms cause secondary osteoporosis. Treatments or idiopathic could also lead to the same.

**WOMEN MORE PRONE THAN MEN**


Women are four times more likely to develop the disease than men because of the rapid bone loss in the first 10 years post-menopause, which results in slower production of estrogen, a hormone that protects against excessive bone loss. Over time, the risk of fracture increases as older women lose more bone than they replace. “Younger women who stop menstruating which is very common today or girls with anorexia also have compromised bone density. Having both ovaries surgically removed, called a bilateral oophorectomy, may also cause osteoporosis and low bone density,” Dr Nadkarni says adding that men over the age of 50 are more likely to have an osteoporosis-induced bone break than to get prostate cancer.

**SENILE OSTEOPOROSIS**

“Senile osteoporosis represents a condition of significantly diminished bone mass due to a long-standing imbalance between bone resorption and bone formation,” Dr Shubhang Aggarwal, Orthopaedic and



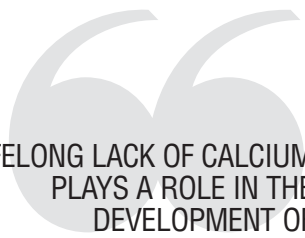
NORMAL BONE



OSTEOPOROSIS

A LIFELONG LACK OF CALCIUM PLAYS A ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OSTEOPOROSIS. LOW CALCIUM INTAKE CONTRIBUTES TO DIMINISHED BONE DENSITY, EARLY BONE LOSS AND AN INCREASED RISK OF FRACTURES. EATING DISORDERS CAUSING SEVERE RESTRICTION OF FOOD INTAKE AND BEING UNDERWEIGHT WEAKENS BONE IN BOTH MEN AND WOMEN. FOR FEW WOMEN ESTROGEN REPLACEMENT THERAPY HELPS REDUCE OSTEOPOROSIS

— DR LOVELEENA NADIR, SENIOR GYNAECOLOGIST, ROSEWALK HOSPITAL, PANCHASHEEL PARK, NEW DELHI



**Main reason for osteoporosis in women is estrogen deficiency, bone loss accelerates after menopause. Over time, the risk of osteoporosis and fracture increases as older women lose more bone than they replace**

— DR BIREN NADKARNI  
Sr Consultant Orthopedic and Joint Replacement Surgeon, Sitaram Bhartia Institute, New Delhi

Robotic Joint Replacement Surgeon, Director, NHS Hospital, Jalandhar, tells us.

**OSTEOPENIA**

Osteopenia is when your bones are weaker than normal but not so far gone that they break easily, which is the hallmark of osteoporosis. “Osteopenia is a condition that initiates with loss of bone mass and bones becoming weaker. This happens when the inside of your bones become brittle from a loss of calcium. This is the precursor to osteoporosis,” says Dr Loveleena Nadir, Senior Gynecologist, Rosewalk hospital, Panchasheel Park, New Delhi.

**TREATMENT**

There is no cure for osteoporosis but it is advisable to get tested on a regular basis for the diagnosis at an early stage. Taking proper treatment and precautions before it is too late can help in controlling the breaking and thinning of bones. Delaying or avoiding proper treatment can worsen the disease and the weakening of bones can higher the risk of fractures.

Dr Aggarwal tells us how the testing process works and what possible treatments can be given. “The identification of symptoms and confirmation of diagnoses can be done with an X-ray and Dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DEXA) scan, an imaging test that measures bone density (strength). Really severe calcium deficiency is incidentally picked up in the blood test,” he says.

He adds that treatment starts with adequate calcium intake in diet and supplements in the form of tablets. Adequate vitamin D supplementation, regular stretching exercises to encourage intake and absorption of calcium into the bones and other medication which are used for bone-building like Biswas for nets, Salman calcitonin spray and in very severe cases of osteoporosis, injections like teriparatide are used. These are to be used under the expert supervision of an orthopaedic surgeon.



**FIND YOUR WAY**

- ◆ Maintain a healthy lifestyle
- ◆ Stay away from tobacco and heavy drinking
- ◆ Engage in weight-bearing exercise. Weight-bearing and muscle-strengthening exercises stimulate bone formation and slow age-related bone loss
- ◆ Eat plants based diet and fermented foods
- ◆ Get enough sleep
- ◆ Calcium rich food like dairy products, dark green leafy vegetables, fish with bones and soy products, such as tofu besides calcium-fortified cereals and orange juice
- ◆ Vitamin D enhances the body's ability to absorb calcium and improve bone health
- ◆ Massage with oils can also tone up the muscles, encouraging calcium absorption. Another important factor may be the identification of upset digestion that can prevent calcium absorption even if the intake is proper

Another important factor may be the identification of upset digestion that can prevent calcium absorption even if the intake is proper. He says that early osteoporosis is definitely completely treatable, in the later stages, however, one can only try to strengthen the existing bone mass and prevent fractures.

“Testosterone and hormone therapy are also recommended in men and women respectively according to the severity of the condition,” says Dr Nadkarni.

**SYMPTOMS**

Initially, it becomes tough to identify the disease as the person rarely experiences any symptoms. Once the bones start weakening, signs may show up which could possibly be similar to other diseases' symptoms.

“There are no particular symptoms but look out if there is a back pain caused by a fractured or collapsed vertebra, loss of height over time, a stooped posture when it starts affecting the spine, a bone that breaks much more easily than expected, weak and brittle nails, receding gums and weakened grip strength,” says Dr Nadkarni.

Along with osteoporosis, there is a risk of developing other conditions like digestive disease, rheumatoid and diabetes.

**PRECAUTIONS**

Although medicines can help control the disease, it is also required to find ways which would help your bones get stronger naturally by opting for healthy lifestyle habits. Consumption of tobacco or alcohol in high amounts can be problematic. Keeping yourself active by exercising or engaging more in weight-bearing exercises reduces the risk. Balancing exercises like standing on one's toes and repeating it is an effective way to strengthen your legs. For those suffering from stooping shoulders, posture exercises are important. Carrying out functional exercises like wall slides can also be helpful. Hip and back strengthening exercises improve balance.

“Eating calcium and vitamin D rich food, regular weight-bearing exercises including weight training, brisk walking, running and jogging and being physically active throughout the day helps,” says Dr Nadir.

She adds that good nutrition is as essential as regular exercise for keeping your bones healthy throughout your life.

“Calcium-rich items such as dairy products, dark green leafy vegetables, fish with bones and soy products like tofu make for some good options. Whereas, vitamin D is required as it enhances the body's ability to absorb calcium and improve bone health,” she says.

“Massage with oils can also tone up the muscles, encouraging calcium absorption,” Dr Aggarwal tells us.

Your bone requires proper maintenance and care, choosing a balanced diet involving proteins, carbohydrates, minerals, and multivitamins can keep the disease at bay.



## A CAPTAIN

For Pakistan, their two main players will be skipper Babar, an all-format superstar and someone who is destined to be one of the modern day greats. He will require support from Shaheen with the new ball as Hasan and Rauf could go for runs against India.



# People try to dig up things that doesn't exist: Kohli

PTI ■ DUBAI

India captain Virat Kohli on Saturday refused to get into any debate on the rationale behind his decision to quit national T20 captaincy after the ongoing T20 World Cup, saying he won't provide fodder to controversy seekers.

Eyebrows were raised when Kohli announced on his social media that he would relinquish captaincy after the mega event in the UAE.

With a lot of theories floating around about the reason for such a decision, skipper Kohli said that he is not ready to add fuel to fire.

"I have already explained myself a lot and I don't think I need to harp on that anymore," Kohli said when asked the reason to announce it before the T20 World Cup. "Our focus is to play



well in this World Cup and do what we need to do as a team. Rest people are trying to dig up things that doesn't exist and I am not someone who is ever going to give fodder to that," Kohli, who was a visibly irritated at the question,

said. "I have explained myself very honestly and openly and if people feel there's more to it than what I have already told, I feel pretty bad for them. That's certainly not the case."

BCCI president Sourav

Ganguly in his conversation with Aaj Tak that there was no pressure on Kohli to quit leadership role and it was his own decision.

"I was surprised (that Virat Kohli decided to step down as T20 captain). This decision must have been taken only after the England tour and it is his decision. There was no pressure from our end. We didn't tell him anything," Ganguly said.

"We don't do things like that because I myself have been a player so I understand. It is very difficult to be a captain in all formats for this long.

"I was a captain for six years, it looks good from the outside, there is respect and all that. But you get burnt out on the inside and it happens to any captain. Not just to Tendulkar or Ganguly or Dhoni or Kohli but to the captain that will come up next as well. It is a tough job."

## Periodic breaks from bio-bubble life needed for players, says Virat

PTI ■ DUBAI

India captain Virat Kohli on Saturday said that players need "periodic breaks" from bio-bubble life to refresh themselves as he advocated a balanced approach while dealing with the circumstances arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kohli said risking players' well-being "to cover up" lack of cricket due to the pandemic will not benefit the game.

"It's necessary to have a balanced approach, it's important to give players periodic breaks, where they can get mentally refreshed and come into the

environment, where they can again compete, this is important," Kohli said at the pre-match press conference ahead of India's clash against arch-rivals Pakistan in their T20 World Cup opening match.

"Going forward, it's necessary this thing needs to be considered. I understand that for a long-time cricket has not happened in the world, but to cover up that if you ask a player to risk, I don't think world cricket will benefit from it," he added.

Mental stress associated with strict bio-bubble life has been a hot topic of discussion worldwide. It has affected a lot of players across interna-

tional teams.

Stressing that one cannot tell where an individual is placed mentally in a bio-bubble, Kohli said the team management needs communication with the players in this regard.

"Players need to be communicated where they are placed, what they want. You cannot tell who is mentally at which stage individually in a bio-bubble. If you see 5-6 people (players) happy, you cannot determine that all 15-16 people (players) are feeling the same way."

Kohli, however, said a tournament like the ongoing T20 World Cup gives players motivation.

## India can be beaten by any side in the knock-outs because of lack of Plan B: Nasser Hussain

PTI ■ LONDON

Former England skipper Nasser Hussain feels that "any side can defeat" India in the knockout stage of the ICC T20 World Cup, owing to their lack of plan B and the uncertain nature of the shortest format of the game.

India has looked in fine form in the run up to the tournament, having defeated England and Australia in the warm-up games. Their players also have the required match practice under their belts thanks to the recently concluded IPL.

"They are favourites. I wouldn't say clear favourites simply because of the format. The shorter the game, things can happen," Hussain said on "Sky Cricket".

"... An individual brilliance of 70 or 80 or three deliveries suddenly changes the other way around. So anyone could upset India in any knockout game," he added. Hussain also highlighted India's poor track record in the knockout stages of recent ICC events.

India's last ICC title came under the leadership of MS Dhoni in 2013 when they



defeated England to lift the Champions Trophy.

Since then, India has been knocked out of the semifinals in the 2015 World Cup, 2016 T20 World Cup and the 2019 World Cup, while finishing runner-up at the 2017 Champions Trophy and the inaugural World Test Championship earlier this year.

"Their record of late in the ICC tournaments is not good and that's something they are going to have to deal with – with the weight of expectations of the Indian audience and fans heavy on their shoulders – when they get to a knockout game,

all of a sudden you cannot afford a mistake and that's going to be a thing for them.

Hussain feels that India don't have a plan B when their top-order fails in a knockout match.

"When they get to a stage – you look at the last World Cup against New Zealand – and suddenly it's a low-scoring game and they don't have a Plan B. They got rolled over a very good New Zealand side. So that's going to be an issue for them," Hussain said.

"The other problem with India is that they are so good at the top with Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and KL Rahul boss games and the middle order hasn't had much of a hit.

"You get to a knockout or final and suddenly they are at 30 for 3 because the standard has gone up and the middle order hasn't had a hit and you now you need to do it," he added.

The former England cricketer said Kohli and Co also need to deal with the burden of expectation on its shoulders which arises because of the tremendous talent in the side.

## Bangladesh coach Domingo says he is trying to keep outside noise at bay

PTI ■ SHARJAH

Bangladesh head coach Russell Domingo on Saturday said efforts are being made to keep outside noise at bay in the wake of the feud between captain Mahmudullah and board president Nazmul Hasan following their shock defeat to Scotland in the T20 World Cup.

Despite an opening day defeat to Scotland, Bangladesh qualified from the preliminary round to join the other heavyweights in the Super 12 stage.

After clearing the qualifying hurdle, Mahmudullah took a swipe at Hasan after the board president's strong remarks following the loss to Scotland.

"I am just here to focus on the cricket. I can't be too concerned what gets said outside



of the team. My focus is to prepare the team well mentally and physically for tomorrow," Domingo told reporters.

"When you are playing for Bangladesh, there's always going to be criticism when things don't go well. A big part of coaching is for the team to focus on what they can control. There's nothing we can do

about what people are writing and saying."

Domingo said the team has had long and hard discussion to focus on the game.

"We can focus on our performances, we can evaluate our performances.

Areas we feel we need to improve on. As soon as we worry about those types of

things, it takes your focus away from what we need to focus on," he said.

Bangladesh will take on Sri Lanka to begin their campaign in the Super 12 stage here on Sunday.

Speaking about the game, Domingo said he was aware of what their first Super 12 opposition is capable of.

"I think we have played against Sri Lanka a bit over the last couple of months. We have had some good contests against them in ODIs and Tests. We have played against Hasaranga quite a bit over the last couple of months and we know what he is capable of," he said.

Domingo also said that the wicket at Sharjah was a pleasant sight

for the team as it reminded them of the pitches recently used in Dhaka.

## Hamilton-Verstappen Formula 1 duel hits the track in Texas

AP ■ AUSTIN

The red-hot rivalry between Max Verstappen and Lewis Hamilton returned to the race track with a flip of the finger and an insult.

It was only practice but the exchange Friday between the Formula One title contenders made for a spirited opening day of the U.S. Grand Prix and showed this championship duel between the Red Bull and Mercedes drivers is just hitting its peak heading into the final six races of the season.

Welcome back to Texas y'all. It was mere minutes into the second practice when Verstappen and Hamilton found themselves side-by-side entering the long straight at the starting grid.

Verstappen said he was first to the spot, but Hamilton sprinted with him all the way to the end and took the inside line into the corner. It was the sort of risky, wheel-to-wheel move drivers seldom make in practice, especially these two



given their history of collisions this season.

Verstappen backed off, but flipped Hamilton his middle right finger and called Hamilton a "stupid idiot" in a radio message to the Red Bull garage.

"Ignore it," was the message back from the team.

It's impossible to ignore what's to come between those two in Sunday's race and beyond. Verstappen clings to a minuscule six-point lead over Hamilton for the season championship as the 24-year-old Dutchman chases his first

championship.

Hamilton, 36, has won seven championships and an eighth would break his tie with Michael Schumacher for most in F1 history.

"I don't know, we were all lining up to go for our laps and I don't really understand what happened there," Verstappen said of the clash with Hamilton.

The Texas race is the first of a two-part swing in North America as the series heads next to Mexico City. Both races were canceled amidst the pandemic last season.

Mercedes has been dominant the Austin track, winning five times since it opened in 2012. Hamilton has won four of those races and teammate Valtteri Bottas won in 2019. Bottas and Hamilton went 1-2 in Friday morning's first practice.

Verstappen was third behind the Mercedes drivers in the first session, and the incident with Hamilton in second practice was another frustration for the Dutchman.

## Delhi FC hand Madan Maharaj FC humiliating defeat



PTI ■ BENGALURU

Delhi FC outclassed Madan Maharaj FC 6-0 to end their maiden I-League Qualifiers campaign on a high at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Saturday.

Delhi FC scored three goals on either side of half time with Nikhil Mali and Gagandeep Bali netting a brace each, while Sergio Barboza and captain Anwar Ali added one goal each.

The result meant that Delhi FC finish on four points from three matches while Madan Maharaj remain winless in the final round of the I-League Qualifiers.

Despite the win, Delhi FC are out of contention for the lone spot in the I-League. The I-League spot will be decided in the match between Rajasthan United FC and Kenkre FC later in the day.

Delhi FC dominated proceedings from the first whistle, having an early chance to take the lead when Brazilian Barboza ran clean through on goal with only the goalkeeper to beat.

Barboza was caught up by a retrieving Pranendra Singh Thakur, but the latter's last-ditch tackle on the Delhi attacker was deemed a foul inside the box by the referee.

Barboza stepped up to take the

resultant spot-kick and calmly converted in the fifth minute.

In the 13th minute, Jagannath Sana produced MMFC's only shot on target in the first half as he embarked on a wonderful individual run, twisting and turning to evade tackles from the chasing Delhi FC players before hitting a low drive and drawing a fine save from goalkeeper Suraj Mallick.

Delhi doubled their lead in the 19th minute through winger Nikhil. The goal came from a well-worked set piece routine.

With the MMFC players anticipating a shot from Ali's free-kick from a promising position, Delhi caught them off guard as Ali played in Barboza who drilled in a low cross that was tapped in comfortably by Nikhil at the edge of the six-yard box.

Nikhil soon doubled his personal tally and made it 3-0 for Delhi FC in the 21st minute.

Delhi FC resumed the second half just as they had played all through the first, and made it 4-0 through substitute striker Gagandeep.

The second-half substitute grabbed a brace seven minutes later and made it 5-0 for Delhi FC in the 63rd minute.

## "Struggled to find sponsors due to Covid-19"

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Arjuna Awardee Deepa Malik and president of Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) on Saturday said the committee struggled to find sponsors for the para athletes in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic much before the country bagged 19 medals at the Paralympics 2020 held in Tokyo this year.

Malik, also a recipient of Padma Shri, said if PCI had not shifted gears to make athletes a prime subject, there would not be a Deepa Malik heading the Paralympic Committee.

"...What we are celebrating today are heroes of Tokyo Paralympics 2020, kudos to them, kudos to PCI which has shifted gears to athlete-centric programme of growth. If PCI had not translated its entire focus to athletes and making athletes a prime subject, I do not think Deepa Malik would have ever been nominated to become the president," she said at a felicitation ceremony organised by Indian Bank here for the rich haul of medals.

Noting that the PCI wants to ensure that an athlete does not miss out on anything whether sponsorships or money, she said,

"Due to the Covid pandemic, we (PCI) were struggling, we were not able to reach out in getting the right kind of sponsorships (which) we should have got because the entire nation had gone through the pandemic."

However, she extended the gratitude of PCI to top officials of the bank, including its former MD and CEO Padmaja Chunduru for having sponsored the athletes and joined hands with PCI much before the para athletes brought laurels.

## Arsenal beats Aston Villa 3-1 in Premier League

AP ■ LONDON

Arsenal delivered its best performance of the season to beat Aston Villa 3-1 in the Premier League.

Arsenal was completely dominant for most of the game and built a 3-0 lead before Jacob Ramsey pulled a late goal back for Villa, which then pressured for the last 10 minutes without coming closer. Thomas Partey opened the scoring in the 23rd minute with his first Arsenal goal before Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang doubled the lead just before halftime, converting the rebound after seeing his penalty saved.

Midfielder Emile Smith Rowe capped an impressive display by adding the third in the 56th on a quick counterattack.

The win lifts Arsenal up to ninth place ahead of the weekend games, with 14 points. It was a much improved performance from Mikel Arteta's side, which needed an injury-time equalizer from Alexandre Lacazette to salvage a draw at home against Crystal Palace



on Monday.

"I'm really satisfied," Arteta said.

"The way we started the game, our tempo, our urgency, how dominant we were, the quality that we showed with the ball. The aggression that we showed without the ball. We were alive."

Lacazette was rewarded with his first league start of the season and was

part of an Arsenal team that played with an intensity that has often been missing lately. The Gunners had already created a number of chances by the time Partey — who had hit the crossbar moments earlier — turned in a header from a corner as former Arsenal goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez failed to keep the ball out.

Bukayo Saka should have made it 2-0 in the 30th when he was played clear through on goal on a quick counterattack but his first-time shot was saved by Martinez's outstretched leg.

The hosts did double their lead when they were awarded a penalty following a VAR review just before halftime. Referee Craig Pawson was sent to the sidelines to review a tackle on Lacazette in the area and pointed to the spot.

Martinez dived to his right to save Aubameyang's penalty, but the striker calmly turned in the rebound.

Smith Rowe, who was the subject of a bid from Villa in the offseason, but the game beyond doubt after running onto a through-ball from Aubameyang and scoring with a deflected shot.

Villa's Emiliano Buendia then drew a smart save from Aaron Ramsdale before Ramsey curled in a stunning strike from the edge of the box, but it was too late for Villa to avoid a third straight league defeat.

## Rupinder overwhelmed by PM Modi's letter

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Olympic bronze medalist hockey player Rupinder Pal Singh on Saturday said he is overwhelmed by the appreciation he received from Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his retirement and has pledged to give back to the game after being inspired by the leader's passion for sports.

"Overwhelmed to receive this letter from our Hon'ble PM @narendramodiji. His constant support to athletes has motivated us to do our best at Tokyo2020. Sir, I am inspired by your passion for sport and pledge to continue my contribution to Indian sports. @PMOIndia @ianuragthakur," Rupinder tweeted on Saturday. Modi had sent a letter of



appreciation to Rupinder earlier this month, thanking him for his services to Indian hockey after the star dragflicker announced his retirement from the game on September 30.

Rupinder, who played an integral part in India's historic bronze medal feat in Tokyo, quit the game to make way for youngsters. In his appreciation letter, Modi said Rupinder has been a source of inspiration for

Indian hockey for the last decade and has played a key role in the resurgence of the sport in the country.

"...I would like to personally thank you for all that you have done Indian hockey," Modi wrote on his letter dated October 12," read the letter posted by Rupinder.

"I would want to say that the people of India will have great memories of your own magic on the field.

"You have been a source of strength for the Indian hockey team and have been integral to every major tournament India has won from 2010 be it the Asian Men's Hockey Championships, Men's Hockey Asia Cup, Commonwealth Games, Hockey World League Finals and more.



# VISHAL DADLANI

*The singer, songwriter and music composer is back to judging the Sa Re Ga Ma Pa on Zee TV. He speaks with Shalini Saxena about his equation with other judges, his upcoming projects and how tough it is to remain positive while giving feedback*

**‘I AM A  
LEARNER  
AND LOVER  
OF MUSIC’**



**■ What's the best part, according to you, about this show?**

EVERY MUSICIAN  
YOU MEET IMPACTS  
YOUR MUSIC. IF YOU  
GO TO MY TWITTER  
PAGE OR FACEBOOK,  
EVERY GURU  
PURNIMA I ALWAYS  
PUT OUT A MESSAGE  
THAT SAYS: EVERY  
MUSICIAN I HAVE  
EVER MET OR HEARD  
OR WORKED WITH OR  
WATCHED, ALL OF  
YOU ARE MY GURUS



There is Bollywood and there is my independent music. There is a scholarship that I am trying to set up for those who want to learn music. Hope this works out as envisioned.

**Bally**  
World

## Rohit Shetty praises Anil Charanjeett



IAN S

## Bunty Aur Babli 2 teaser out



IAN S

# Masterstroke

— Kumari Jyoti AKA The Dragon Lady, Founder, Diermeiss



# NatureTalk

A word of caution: The sap of the pencil plant is quite toxic. Always wear gloves when handling to prevent irritation. Wash your hands properly after handling this succulent.



# Cheer up your pet

Pets get affected by fear, separation from loved ones, injuries, bullying and dominance by others just like humans. SUPRIYA RAMESH tells you how grooming helps

Grooming has been one of the easiest and great ways to please one self during tough times and boost one's confidence. The question to ponder here is how important grooming can be for pets? Do better physical health and personal hygiene play a role in it? In fact, they play a very crucial role in a pet's life! "When someone touches the animal with care and



Just like how COVID-19 has taken a toll on all of us in different ways, it has also impacted pets. Restricting ourselves inside the four walls during the lockdowns, our pets

Nowadays pet grooming has diversified and pet parents are more

Dr Yadav says that gentle physical touch with care, love and compassion is itself a therapy and pets sense it most efficiently. Besides mental health, physical health is equally important. "Grooming helps in elimination of physical pathogens like bacteria, virus, parasites, fomites, dead hair and dandruff and reduces the

Spending quality time with a pet improves the emotional quotient (EQ) for both pets and pet parents. Regular exercise, a healthy timely diet, petting, treats, playing, swimming, an outing to the pet parks etc are some of the aspects other than grooming that improves the mental and physical health of the pets.

**HARMAN SINGH**, who plays Dhruv in SonyLiv's *Potluck*, speaks with **SHALINI SAKSENA** about his journey from aVJ to an actor and how he ended up writing for *Avrodh*

To be honest, I started acting and hosting around the same time; this was back in 2013. I acted in a film and was doing travel shows. I think the luckiest people are the ones to get to travel around as hosts. I loved going to different parts of the country and exploring the local sights and sounds. It was a great experience for me.



At present, I would say I am a full-time actor. However, I am also writing a few short stories whenever I get the time from my acting. But all the emphasis is on acting.

# 'I am a complete OTT platform buff'

❖ **What next?**  
There are a couple of things. I'm acting in a film and a series for an OTT platform. However, I'll be at liberty to speak about them much later.

# Sound of. music



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

Jiyein Kyu (Pritam, Papon)

Stronger (Kelly Clarkson)



# the pioneer agenda

FROM THE INSIDE

## Of life and death

There is no escape from death for anyone. True peace lies in discovering the mystery of life & death

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## Don't underestimate your child

Instead of unnerving your child with your worrisome advisories, help him overcome his limitations

Why an artist loves what they do is often so hard to describe — Elisabeth Moss



More than a conversation starter, tea is a source of refreshment, a hospitality gesture and a method of income for many, writes VISHAL PARIK, as he shares the history and benefits of the brew

# CHAI NOT JUST A DRINK

For some people, mornings are difficult to begin without tea. For others, any difficult task first requires a good cup of tea and for some, it is an unconscious everyday drink of comfort. Tea is one of the most widely consumed beverages all over the world. However, in India, it has moved from being a beverage to being an emotion. In every household, street shop, stall, café, it is difficult not to find people indulging in their daily cup of comfort.

Indians have deep love and connection with tea. Not just a conversation starter, tea has the power to evoke a discussion on mundane everyday affairs that everyone willingly becomes a part of. It is a way of getting closer to people and understanding them. And not just the mundane, *chai tapris* are famous for heated political debates too. Tea is a source of refreshment, a gesture to guests and a method of income for many. There is a lot that Indians owe to this everyday elixir. One can easily say that it goes beyond simple consumption as a beverage. It is rather a ritual or a habit and undoubtedly a celebration — a celebration of every day.

In India, it is known that tea was primarily used for medicinal purposes back in 500 B.C. but came to be widely known only after it was introduced by the British in 1826. Initially, Britain attempted to cultivate Chinese tea bushes in India, which proved largely unsuccessful due to differences in climate (except for the region of Darjeeling in the Himalayas). It was soon discovered that India already had its own indigenous tea bush that grew in Assam Valley in north-eastern India. What started as an attempt to break China's monopoly over tea production, ended up giving India a gift that its citizens did not know they would fall in love with. The British started growing tea in India for exporting it to other places. In 1837, the first English tea garden was established at Chabua in Upper Assam. In 1840, the Assam Tea Company began the commercial production of tea in the region. This led to the expansion of the British culture of drinking tea. Black tea and tea with milk and sugar was introduced to people of India and before people could realise, its Indian version — *masala chai*, made by adding milk, sugar and spices such as cardamom, fennel, and cloves to Black tea, became the daily fuel for many. And today, India is the second-largest producer of tea in the world.

Although the core technique of brewing tea leaves in order to be made into a hot beverage remains the same as earlier, different regions of India adapted different styles and flavours to make their own version of tea. From Kashmiri Kahwa tea from the valleys of Kashmir to the cutting *chai* in the streets of Mumbai, tea changes flavours, ingredients and viscosity every few kilometres. The *chai* one drinks in the blue mountains of the Nilgiri hills is very different from the special nutmeg *chai* in Kolkata. While the aroma of the *desi chai* from the *thelas* in Gujarat can make you crave tea, the *masala* chain from the home-grown gardens of Assam offer a unique flavour to your palate. For Indians, who have tea deeply rooted as an inseparable part of their society and culture, there are endless varieties of teas to choose from.



A STUDY BY THE TEA BOARD OF INDIA STATES THAT TEA IS REGULARLY CONSUMED IN ABOUT 64% OF HOMES IN INDIA AND BY 96% OF THE FAMILY MEMBERS RESIDING THEREIN



What is interesting to know is that even though the British introduced tea, the different styles of tea that we find in different regions in India got influenced by various other parts of the world. One good example of this is the Kashmiri tea popularly known as Kahwa. Kahwa flavour is known to have an Arabic influence. This green tea originates from the valleys of Kashmir and is infused with the scent of cardamom pods, cinnamon barks and saffron, which is later crowned with crushed almonds. Kahwa leaves are said to have come through the spice route. They bear cross-cultural significance as the name 'Kahwa' is of Arabic origin. Traditionally, it is prepared in copper kettles known as samovars, much like the Turkish, Arabic and Russian ones.

History suggests that the style of tea making in each region in India depended a lot on the availability of local herbs and spices that grew in the region. Another factor that influenced tea was the rulers and traders the region witnessed and the herbs and spices that came in and went out because of that.

The same was also true in the Vedic era. As India saw the incoming of various new herbs and spices, Ayurveda started to flourish. Literally meaning the 'science of life', the ancient Indian system of health care used a diverse range of herbs, spices and flowers that are packed with health benefits and are combined with the benefits of tea to cure illnesses. Tea has various medicinal benefits and plays a vital role in curing diseases by traditional methods.

Even today as people are becoming more health-conscious by the day, tea is becoming a preferred choice for many. In India, *chai* is a habit and is consumed around 3-4 times a day. The most commonly known is the bed tea which kickstarts the day for most Indians. Another is the evening tea consumed with snacks, meant to recharge you after a tiring day. A study by the Tea Board of India states that tea is regularly consumed in about 64% of homes in India and by 96% of the family members residing therein. As tea consumption is a challenging habit to break, most people with their increased consumption of milk and sugar along with tea are becoming more concerned about their tea intake. However, instead of a decrease in consumption, there is an increasing shift in consumption patterns. More and more people are now adapting healthier alternatives like liquor tea, black tea, green tea, chamomile tea, jasmine tea etc.

While tea was looked at as a source of refreshment earlier, it is now being looked at as a means of wellness, immunity, weight loss and hydration. Teas made with natural herbs



and spices that have immunity-boosting benefits are now being preferred. Teas that have detoxifying properties and those that calm your nerves and give you a good night's sleep is the new choice for people these days. What is also interesting is that a lot of Gen-Z and millennials who had adopted the café and caffeine culture also make the shift from coffee to tea because of its health benefits.

Tea has varied health benefits depending on its blend, flavour and other added ingredients.

- It is most commonly known benefit is its ability to calm the nerves. It is a stress reliever and hence the answer to most headaches. It is often used as a pain killer and is known to relieve tension and act as an anti-depressant.

- Apart from this, tea is also known to lower the risk of heart attack and blood clots. Tea has anti-inflammatory properties that ease blood circulation and improves blood pressure levels. It can also help reduce blood cholesterol.

- Certain varieties of tea, such as green tea have a certain quantity of caffeine in them. This level of caffeine is much less than that found in coffee but has a long-lasting effect on the mind and body without causing any jittery effect like coffee does. It helps improves focus and also helps the brain function well while keeping the mind calm and relaxed.

- Weight loss is another benefit of tea. Amino acids contained in green tea help the body to burn stored fat. Green tea extract which is concentrated green tea is becoming a popular health supplement. More and more gym-goers are consuming it to boost the efficiency of their workouts and to aid their weight-loss process.

- Some teas are also useful in preventing mental health problems such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's, dementia and depression.

- Black tea is known to have a considerable effect on a person's blood sugar levels. There has been an increase in the consumption of black tea as its medicinal benefit of preventing type 2 diabetes is becoming known to people.

- Oolong tea, ginger tea and herbal tea help aid digestion and cure stomach aches and diarrhea. They are also used in preventing nausea and vomiting. Some teas contain tannins that are beneficial to the intestines and can cure irritable bowel syndrome and stomach cramps.

The health benefits of tea are endless and depend a lot on its flavours and ingredients. Day by day new blends and interesting flavours are coming up to suit the palate of the new generation. Flavours like Gulkand, Licorice, Mint and Lemongrass are being willingly tried and adopted by Indians. The herbs and flowers used in them resonate closer to the Indian palate and are therefore becoming popular in no time.

Experimentation and love for tea are resulting in a plethora of flavours and blends never heard of before. Vegetable infused tea flavours such as tomato basil tea and beetroot tea are becoming widely in demand among tea lovers. Matcha, Moringa and Moroccan Mint tea are also becoming popular because of their detoxifying properties.

Another new development that is very soon replacing carbonated drinks is cold brews. Cold brews teas in raspberry, plum, cucumber and coconut flavours are being made as iced teas. And Indians do not stop there. They have also figured out ways to consume tea as a dessert. Naturally sweet flavoured teas such as apple, cinnamon, peach and cranberry teas are being used as dessert teas, making this a category of gourmet teas.

And when talking about all the new variants, one cannot forget the aesthetically pleasing bubble tea, boba tea and pearl tea that are come in juicy flavours such as lychee and strawberry.

It is interesting to see how much the taste-buds of consumers are changing every day. New and authentic flavours and blends are gaining importance and their value to consumers is also deepening. Tea lovers who understand and appreciate original, fresh ingredients and authentic flavours are on the rise and so is the Indian tea industry.

The writer co-Founder and CEO, Danta Herbs





The writer is a spiritual leader

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(With inputs from AP)



