

OPINION 8
HOW THE PARTITION
HELPED INDIA**WORLD 11**
RUSSIA SUSPENDS ITS MISSION
TO NATO: FOREIGN MINISTER**HEALTH 12**
ALL ABOUT
ENDOMETRIOSIS

LUCKNOW, TUESDAY OCTOBER 19, 2021; PAGES 14 ₹3



the pioneer

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WILL BAT AT
NO. 3, SAYS:
VIRAT KOHLI
14 SPORT

Dera Sacha Sauda chief awarded life for murder

Besides Gurmeet Ram Rahim, four others to spend life in jail for murder of Dera's ex-manager

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh and four others were on Monday sentenced to life imprisonment for murder of a former sect manager nearly two decades back.

A Special CBI court in Haryana's Panchkula district pronounced the verdict, sentencing Ram Rahim and four others for murdering Ranjit Singh in 2002.

The CBI had sought the death penalty under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code for Ram Rahim, while the Dera chief pleaded for mercy, appearing via video conference from Rohtak's Sunaria jail, where he is serving sentence in two cases of rape and for the murder of a journalist.

The others convicted by the court for the crime are Krishan Lal, Jasbir Singh, Avtar Singh, and Sabdil.

The court also imposed a penalty of ₹31 lakh on Ram



Rahim, half of the amount will be given to the victim's family as compensation. The court has imposed a penalty on other accused as well.

The CBI court had held Ram Rahim and four others guilty under Sections 302 (murder) and 120 b (criminal conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code on October 8.

After the pronouncement of sentence, the victim's son Jagseer Singh while talking to the mediapersons said the family has finally got justice, though after much delay.

"My grandfather who fought the battle for justice for his son died in 2016. I was just eight-year-old when my father

was murdered in a cold-blooded manner. Today, after 19 years, my family can sleep in peace," he said.

Tight security arrangements were made at the Panchkula district court complex for the pronouncement of the judgement and the local authorities had imposed prohibitory orders.

Earlier, the CBI court had deferred the pronouncement of the quantum of sentence on October 12.

Ram Rahim had attended hearings relating to the pronouncement of sentences virtually. He pleaded for mercy on the plea of the charitable works that the sect carried out when

he was heading it.

The CBI, on the other hand, opposed the Dera chief's plea, saying the victim treated him as "god" and the accused committed offences against him. It said Ram Rahim had criminal antecedents and committed the offence in a cold-blooded manner.

Ranjit, a former follower of Ram Rahim, was shot dead by four assailants on July 10, 2002, at his native Khanpur Kolian village in Kurukshetra. According to the CBI chargesheet, he was murdered as Ram Rahim suspected that he was behind the circulation of an anonymous letter highlighting the sexual exploitation of women disciples on the Dera premises.

The Punjab & Haryana High Court had earlier dismissed a petition seeking the transfer of the murder case from the special CBI court in Panchkula to any other special CBI court in Punjab, Haryana or Chandigarh.

Notably, the self-styled godman Ram Rahim was sentenced in August 2017 for 20 years in jail for raping two women. His conviction on August 25, 2017, had led to violence in Panchkula and Sirsa, leaving over 40 people dead and more than 260 injured in Panchkula.

Backed by BJP, Nitin Agarwal elected Deputy Speaker of UP Assembly

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Nitin Agarwal, the rebel Samajwadi Party MLA, was elected deputy speaker of the 17th Uttar Pradesh Assembly on Monday by defeating his only rival, Narendra Singh Verma, of the SP.

The voting for electing the deputy speaker started soon after the House assembled at 11 am and concluded at 3 pm and the result was announced by Speaker Hriday Narayan Dikshit at 4 pm.

After the formal announcement of the poll results, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, leader of opposition Ram Govind Chaudhary and Congress and Bahujan Samaj Party members escorted Nitin Agarwal to the seat of deputy speaker adjacent to the seat of leader of opposition.

Against the total strength of 403 members, 368 MLAs voted of which four votes were declared invalid. Nitin Agarwal polled 304 votes while Narendra Singh Verma got only 60 votes. The Congress and the Bahujan Samaj Party boycotted the election while the rebel MLAs of both the parties voted either in favour of the BJP or the SP.

The ruling BJP had fielded rebel SP legislator Nitin Agarwal as candidate for the post of deputy speaker. Despite not having the numbers, the

main opposition SP too had filed the nomination of its candidate Narendra Verma for the post.

The total strength of the BJP in the House is 304. Samajwadi Party has 49 MLAs, Bahujan Samaj Party 16, Apna Dal (Sonelal) nine, Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party four. There are four independents, two unattached members while seven seats are vacant. There is also one nominated member from the Anglo Indian community.

The SP members protested against the election and wore black badges.

As soon as the proceedings of the House began, leader of opposition and SP leader Ram Govind Chaudhary said "this election is going to be a blot on the glorious tradition of the largest state assembly of the country as the deputy speaker of the assembly is always from the opposition". He demanded an all-party meeting to debate over the issue and cancellation of the election of deputy speaker.

Speaker Hriday Narayan Dikshit, however, rejected the contention of Ram Govind Chaudhary. He said the voting would commence after the obituary reference – the death of former UP chief minister and former Governor of Rajasthan Kalyan Singh and other former MLAs.

Parliamentary Affairs

Minister Suresh Khanna, however, countered Chaudhary saying there was nothing unusual in election of deputy speaker as in a dynamic society many old traditions were replaced by new practices and conventions.

"Both the Bahujan Samaj Party and the Samajwadi Party violated the tradition by not holding the election of deputy speaker when they were in power from 2007-12 and 2012-17. For the last over four years, the Samajwadi Party, due to intense factionalism and dynastic politics, could not give a candidate for the post of deputy speaker and the BJP was in favour of a deputy speaker so the election is being held," Suresh Khanna said and added, "The charges levelled by the SP are baseless... the BJP followed the established tradition by supporting SP MLA Nitin Agarwal for the post of deputy Speaker."

Khanna also contradicted the claims of cross voting by the BJP MLAs.

He, however, said the rebel BSP MLAs supported SP candidate Narendra Singh Verma.

Taking a jibe at the SP, Khanna said, "It was the responsibility of the SP to mobilise support of the entire opposition for its candidate but they failed as against the total strength of 78 MLAs of opposition parties, the SP candidate polled only 60 votes."

Former Speaker of UP Assembly Sukhdev Rajbhar passes away

Lucknow (PTI): Former Uttar Pradesh Assembly speaker and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) leader Sukhdev Rajbhar died here on Monday following a prolonged illness. Rajbhar, 70, was the speaker of the UP Assembly in the BSP government between 2007 and 2012. He was an MLA from Didarganj constituency in Azamgarh.

Condoling his death, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said Rajbhar always raised issues related to the poor and backward classes.

Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav and Assembly Speaker Hriday Narain Dixit also mourned the demise of Rajbhar.

"Former speaker of UP Vidhan Sabha Sukhdev Rajbhar's death is an irreparable loss. My condolences to the bereaved family. May his soul rest in peace. Your political life dedicated to social justice will always inspire others," Yadav tweeted in Hindi.

Farmers' rail roko against Lakhimpur hits 500 spots



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Various farmer organisations block railway tracks as part of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha's 'Rail Roko' protest, at Amritsar railway station, on Monday

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM)'s six-hour "rail roko" protest on Monday over the Lakhimpur violence affected over 500 locations across parts of country, including 150 in the Northern Railway zone, where running of 60 trains were affected. Farmers squatted on rail tracks at several places hampering train movement in Punjab, Haryana,

Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha. The SKM, an umbrella body of farmer unions spearheading the agitation against the Centre's three agri laws, said "protests will be intensified until justice is secured" in the Lakhimpur Kheri case. Train traffic was stopped from 10 am till 4 pm during the "rail roko" protest over the demand of the dis-

missal and arrest of Union Minister Ajay Mishra in connection with the Lakhimpur Kheri case, the SKM said.

The trains that have been affected in the Northern Railway zone include the Chandigarh-Ferozepur Express. Its scheduled departure from Ludhiana was 7 am, but it was stranded there due to a blockade, the official said.

Kushinagar crowns Buddhist circuit, PM to open airport

125 dignitaries, Buddhist monks, envoys from 15 countries to attend

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate Kushinagar international airport in Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday amid the presence of more than 125 dignitaries and Buddhist priests, including eight high priests from Sri Lanka. It is learnt that ambassadors of at least 10-15 countries, where Buddhism is both practised and preached, would attend.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation on Monday said that the inaugural flight will land at the Kushinagar airport from Colombo, carrying 125 dignitaries and Buddhist monks. Kushinagar is an international Buddhist pilgrimage centre where Lord Gautam Buddha attained Mahaparinirvana and which consists of pilgrimage

sites at Lumbini, Sarnath and Gaya.

After the airport's inauguration, the Prime Minister will also address a programme on Wednesday at the Buddhist site of Mahaparinirvana stupa and temple in which Sri Lankan Buddhist monks and Ministers of the Sri Lankan Government will take part, the Ministry said.

"Inauguration of the Kushinagar airport will facilitate the pilgrims from across different parts of the world by providing seamless connectivity to various Buddhist sites in the region. Direct aviation connectivity with South Asian countries will make it easier for tourists arriving from Sri Lanka, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, China, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, etc, to reach Kushinagar and experience the rich heritage of the region. Tourism inflow is expected to rise by upto 20% with inauguration of the flight," the Ministry said.



Targeted killings trigger ghar wapsi from Valley

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

A series of attacks on migrant labourers in Kashmir valley has once again triggered a fresh wave of "ghar wapsi" ahead of the festive season.

Hours after the two labourers from Bihar were shot dead in Wanpoh area of Kulgam late on Sunday evening, panic-stricken labourers from different parts of the country fled Kashmir valley in the early hours of Monday. Mostly daily wagers working in paddy fields and brick kilns decided to flee Kashmir to ensure their safety.

These labourers boarded private taxis and passenger buses with bare minimum luggage before bidding goodbye to the Kashmir valley. On their arrival in Jammu, these migrant labourers claimed they were charged 800-1200 per head by the Kashmir-based tour operators to drop them in Jammu, a much higher charge. A young mother, holding her minor child in her lap, told reporters in Jammu that Kashmir is no longer a paradise for her. "I don't want



Women security personnel frisk a pedestrian during a surprise checking in Srinagar on Monday

PTI

to return. I can earn my livelihood at any other place but not in Kashmir valley," she said. Narrating her ordeal, she claimed they raised an alarm and sought help from the local authorities and others in the neighborhood but none came forward to help them. "We were scared after witnessing this mayhem and bloodshed in the valley, so we decided to pack our bags as we feared for our lives too," she said. A labourer from West Bengal said, "I earned 800 per day by

working in the paddy fields. But after hearing the news, my family directed me to immediately return home. I had no other option left, hence I too decided to embark on the return journey," he said, adding, "For the last couple of days we were feeling insecure as terrorists were targeting non-locals randomly". At Jammu railway station majority of labourers with their families were seen struggling to organise food for their minor kids and women.

CAPSULE

UP BUYING POWER AT ₹22 A UNIT FOR PUBLIC: YOGI

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh Chief minister Yogi Adityanath has said that in this festive season, his government was buying electricity at a cost up to ₹22 per unit from outside sources because he did not wish to dampen the spirit of festivals. Yogi Adityanath said that on normal days the same power was purchased at ₹7 per unit.

2 DEAD AS INCESSANT RAIN LASHES U'KHAND

Dehradun: Three labourers from Nepal died and two more were injured as incessant rain lashed Uttarakhand for the second consecutive day on Monday, prompting the authorities to advise Chardham pilgrims not to proceed to the Himalayan temples till the weather improves.

Record 3.27 lakh domestic fliers a day post pandemic

Govt allows domestic airlines to fly at 100%

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A total of 3.27 lakh people flew on 2,372 flights within India on Sunday, the highest domestic air traffic on a single day after the Covid-19 pandemic set in. In a related development, the Government has allowed domestic airlines to run flights at 100 per cent capacity from Monday keeping in view of decline in Covid-19 cases and huge demand during the festive seasons.

Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia



said on Monday that a total of 3,27,923 passengers travelled on 2,372 flights within India on Sunday. "Owing to the constructive policies of the Government, domestic air traffic has seen the highest level, post the onset of the pandemic," Scindia tweeted on Monday.

"The civil aviation sector in India thrives amidst unprecedented challenges, whilst we make every effort to return to normalcy as early as possible," he added. Before the pandemic struck, India's daily domestic air traffic was approximately 4.25 lakh passengers.

B'desh arsonists target 66 Hindu homes

PTI ■ DHAKA

A mob has damaged 66 houses and set on fire at least 20 homes of Hindus in Bangladesh over an alleged blasphemous social media post amidst protests by the minority community against temple vandalism incidents during the Durga Puja celebrations last week, authorities said on Monday.

The arson by the mob happened late on Sunday on a village in Rangpur district's Pirganj upazila, about 255 kms from here, the bdnews24.Com reported.

The police rushed to a fishermen neighbourhood as tension mounted over a rumor that a young Hindu man of the village had 'dishonoured religion' in a



Hundreds of Hindus protest against attacks on temples and killing of two Hindu devotees in another district shout slogans in Dhaka, on Monday

AP

Facebook post, Assistant Police Superintendent Mohammad Kamruzzaman told reporters. "The incident took place after 10 PM yes-

terday but fire fighters doused the blaze within a short period (and) the situation is now under full control," he said. No casualties were report-

ed but 66 houses were damaged and 20 burnt during the attack, the officer said.

As many as 52 suspects have been arrested while a manhunt was launched for more suspects under a "combing operation" in collaboration with other security forces, he added.

As the police stood guard around the man's home, the attackers set fire to other homes nearby, the report said. The Fire Service Control Room said that their report from the scene indicates that 29 residential houses, two kitchens, two barns and 20 haystacks belonging to 15 different owners were torched in Pirganj's Majhipara, it said, adding that an 'unruly crowd' has been identified as the cause of fire.

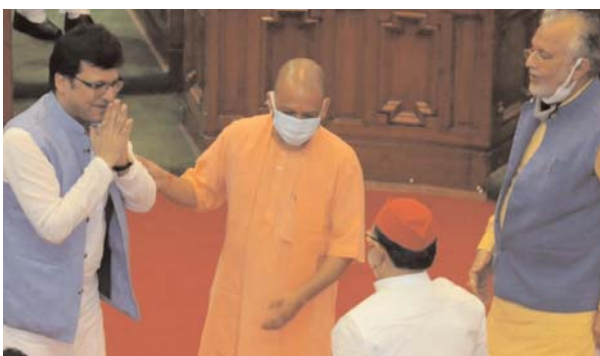
CM Yogi blames SP dynastic politics for delay in Dy Speaker's election

Lucknow (PNS): Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath congratulated Bharatiya Janata Party-backed Samajwadi Party

candidate Nitin Agarwal on his victory for the post of deputy speaker of the state assembly, dubbing it as a picture of the 2022 assembly election results.

Yogi Adityanath also targeted the SP for its dynastic politics and its refusal to accept one of its own MLA as the deputy speaker.

The chief minister, in his address in the assembly after Nitin Agarwal was declared elected as deputy speaker on Monday, said the result had exposed the fallacy of the opposition unity. "The opposition, including SP, could not show



unity even in the election of the deputy speaker and this result is a clear indication of the result of the 2022 UP assembly elections," he said. Yogi Adityanath also expressed sympathy for SP candidate Narendra Singh Verma who polled only 60 votes. "Had the SP made him a candidate four years ago, he could have possibly won," he pointed out.

Taking a jibe at SP's failure as the largest opposition party, the chief minister said the BJP waited for a full four-and-a-half years but the SP did not put forward any names for the deputy speaker's post. He said finally, in view of the last six months of the House remaining, the BJP took steps towards fulfilling this tradition.

Expressing happiness over getting a young, energetic and experienced deputy speaker Nitin Agarwal, Yogi Adityanath said that "technically" Nitin was also a member of SP and thus the BJP had followed the tradition of the House.

Talking about the defeat of the SP in the 2022 assembly elections, the chief minister also exhorted the SP to rise above 'parivarvad' (dynastic politics). "For SP, the family is

the state, whereas for the BJP, the entire state is a family," the chief minister asserted.

Commenting on the heated argument between leader of opposition Ram Govind Chaudhary and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna before the voting, the chief minister said "Chaudhary is a gentleman who believes in dialogue but does not have the strength to bear the party contradictions that is why unnecessary arguments take place in the House".

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath also referred to the 36-hour special session of UP assembly on Sustainable Development Goal held on the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in 2020 and said that when topics like poverty, illiteracy, women's uplift, youth welfare were discussed, the SP boycotted the session. The chief minister thanked all the members who participated in the discussion on many topics of public importance in the state legislature in the last four-and-a-half years. Meanwhile, the state assembly was adjourned sine die after the day-long special session on Monday.

17 kids hurt as bus hits school van

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

At least 17 children were injured, five critically, when a bus hit a school van in Rampur district on Monday morning.

The ill-fated van carrying students of St John Vianney School was returning after the school authorities declared a holiday due to incessant rain and bad weather and students were sent home early. On the way, a bus rammed into the school van causing injuries to 17 children. The injured students were rushed to a hospital where the condition of five of them was stated to be critical.

In another tragic accident, a couple was run over by a speeding UP Roadways bus in Ramgarh area of Rampur district on Sunday evening killing Vakeel (55) and his wife Nasreen (50) on the spot.

The couple was heading to a market to buy some articles for the engagement ceremony of their son. As soon as they stepped out from an auto-rickshaw, a bus coming from Hathras depot ran over them on National Highway-2. The couple died on the spot

after which a large crowd gathered there and staged a protest. Later, officials reached the spot and defused the situation. The bus was seized by the police and a hunt was underway to nab the errant driver.

Meanwhile in Balrampur, four of a family, including two girls, died after consuming contaminated food in Shivpura area on Sunday.

As per reports, Kanchana (65), Suman (30), Rajni (7) and Shalini (3) of Gokuli village in Shivpura area started vomiting after consuming the

food. Efforts were made to take them to a hospital, but they died before receiving medical care. The condition of another three-year-old girl, Pinki, was stated to be serious and she was being treated at a hospital.

The Health department distributed medicines in the village after getting information about the incident. Officials urged the villagers not to consume stale food, drink water after boiling it and to immediately inform Health department team in case of vomiting.



सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित करना है कि मेरी पुत्री का नाम आर्मी रिकार्ड में बुद्धिेश कुमार अंशुलिका अंकित हो गया था, जबकि वास्तविक नाम अंशु लिका सिंह है, उसे इसी नाम से जाना व पहचाना जाए। सैलेन्द्र सिंह (पिता) 10/594, इन्दिरानगर लखनऊ

NOTICE

Original agreement to sell dated 18-06-1997 regd as book-J Vol 1003 pages 59 to 86 at S.N.-1950 Regarding H.N. 130/205-B Bagahai Bhatta Kanpur Nagar Lost Beeru Sonker S/o Bharat Sonker R/o - 130/205-B Bagahai Bhatta, Kanpur Nagar Mob. 9452330432

NOTICE

My original allotment letter No.2152/D/BHU Dt.8.5.92 Which was issued by KDA regarding Bhawan No.2 52/HIG/Block-C Scheme No.2 Sujatganj Kanpur has been lost between my house and Mall Road Kanpur Dt.16.10.21 Ashwini Kumar S/o P.B.Lal Saxena R/o 451, Meerapur Cantt. Kanpur



NOTICE

Notify that I have changed my name from Aisha to Aisha Bano for all purposes & records. Aisha Bano W/o Mohammad Naved 423/46 Tambaku Mandi, Chaupatyan, Chowk, Lucknow.

AUCTION NOTICE

दिनांक 25.10.2021 समय 12 बजे उप जिलाधिकारी, गोण्डा की अध्यक्षता में उ0प्र0 राज्य खाद्य एवं आवश्यक वस्तु निगम की निष्प्रयोज्य सचल वाहन : यू0पी0 32-ए-3826 (आयशर केंटर) जो पी0सी0एफ0 गोदाम, निकट पावर हाउस, गोण्डा में खड़ी है की नीलामी उप जिलाधिकारी, कोर्ट परिसर, गोण्डा में होगी, सिक्केरिटी रू0 5,000/- नगद नीलामी से पूर्व जमा होगी / आई.पी. सिंह एण्ड सन्स

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY
KANKE, RANCHI-834006, JHARKHAND

WALK IN INTERVIEW

It is proposed to fill up the following Group 'A' posts at Central Institute of Psychiatry, Kanke, Ranchi on contract basis for a period of one year or till the post is filled up on regular basis whichever is earlier. Accordingly applications are invited from the eligible and desirous candidates fulfilling the qualifications for the posts mentioned below. Applications on plain paper either typed or handwritten along with two passport size photograph, photocopy of the certificates of educational qualification, experience etc., may be submitted to the undersigned on or before **15.11.2021**. After submission of application candidates have to turn up alongwith their original certificates on the date of interview. No interview letter will be issued separately.

The interview shall be held at Central Institute of Psychiatry, Kanke, Ranchi-834006, Jharkhand, on 16.11.2021 at 09.30 a.m.

| Sl. No. | Name of post | Consolidated pay per month in 1 st year | No. of post |
|--------------|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Asst. Prof. of Psychiatry | Rs.95,000/- | 10 (UR-6, EWS-1, OBC-2, SC-1) |
| 2. | Asst. Prof. of Neurology | Rs.95,000/- | 3 (UR-3) |
| 3. | Asst. Prof. of Neurosurgery | Rs.95,000/- | 2 (UR-2) |
| 4. | Asst. Prof. of Anesthesiology | Rs.95,000/- | 2 (UR-2) |
| 5. | Asst. Prof. of Radio-diagnosis | Rs.95,000/- | 2 (UR-2) |
| TOTAL | | | 19 |

Details of qualifications and age limit of the above posts are available on our website www.cipranchi.nic.in **Sd/-Director**

मोहिनी बी. मनवाणी गर्ल्स डिग्री कालेज
(अल्पसंख्यक संस्थान) सम्बद्ध - सी.एस.जे.एम. विश्वविद्यालय, कानपुर
आवास विकास नं.-3, पनकी कल्यानपुर रोड, कल्यानपुर, कानपुर - 208017

सूचना अल्पसंख्यक संस्थान में अल्पसंख्यक प्रबन्धकीय कोर्ट के अन्तर्गत एम0एड0 सत्र 2021-23 में प्रवेश हेतु आवेदन तिथि, विस्तृत की जा रही है। नवीन ऑन-लाइन एवं ऑफ-लाइन आवेदन करने एवं प्रवेश-परीक्षा की संशोधित समय सारिणी महाविद्यालय की वेबसाइट www.mbmkgc.in पर उपलब्ध है। प्रवेश परीक्षा कालेज परिसर में होगी, अर्हता, नियम, शर्त व मेरिट वरीयता पूर्ववत् ही लागू होगी। नोट-दिनांक 19.10.2021 की प्रवेश-परीक्षा स्थगित है। **प्रबंधक**

National Company Law Appellate Tribunal Appointment of Members

Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi invites applications from Indian Nationals for 05 posts of Members (03 posts of Judicial Member and 02 post of Technical Member) in the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), a quasi-judicial body established under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013. The Member shall be paid a salary of Rupees two lakh twenty-five thousand per month plus other allowances as admissible.

Detailed advertisement may be seen on the website of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (www.mca.gov.in), DoP&T's website (www.persmin.nic.in) and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal's website (www.nclat.nic.in).

Eligible and willing persons are requested to send their scanned application in pdf version, strictly as per the prescribed format along with supporting documents from 15th October, 2021 to email at mappnt-nclt@gov.in. The last date for submitting the application by e-mail is 12th November, 2021 by 5:30 PM. Further, the hard copy of the signed application alongwith supporting documents and through proper channel, wherever applicable, is required to be sent to Shri Riazul Haque, Under Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Room No. 526, A Wing, 5th Floor, Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-110001 by 05:30 PM of 22nd November, 2021.

davp 07101/11/0016/2122

‘वोकल फार लोकल’ की बात घर-घर में गूंज रही है, ऐसे में सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि हमारे प्रोडक्ट ग्लोबल हों। जीरो इफेक्ट, जीरो डिफेक्ट की सोच के साथ काम करने का यह उचित वक्त है।’

- नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री

खादी महोत्सव

सिल्क एक्सपो

एवं

उद्घाटन

तथा

पं. दीनदयाल उपाध्याय खादी विपणन विकास सहायता योजना के चेक, ऋण स्वीकृति प्रमाण-पत्र, राज्य स्तरीय पुरस्कार एवं पं. दीनदयाल उपाध्याय रेशम उत्पादकता पुरस्कार का वितरण

योगी आदित्यनाथ

मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश द्वारा

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

सिद्धार्थ नाथ सिंह

मंत्री, खादी एवं ग्रामोद्योग, रेशम उद्योग, वस्त्र उद्योग

सूक्ष्म, लघु एवं मध्यम उद्यम, निर्वात प्रोत्साहन

एनआरआई तथा निवेश प्रोत्साहन, उत्तर प्रदेश

चौधरी उदयभान सिंह

राज्य मंत्री, खादी एवं ग्रामोद्योग, रेशम उद्योग

वस्त्र उद्योग, सूक्ष्म, लघु एवं मध्यम उद्यम

तथा निर्वात प्रोत्साहन, उत्तर प्रदेश

दिनांक : 19 अक्टूबर, 2021 | समय : पूर्वाह्न : 10:00 बजे | स्थान : इंदिरा गांधी प्रतिष्ठान, गोमतीनगर, लखनऊ

विशेष

प्रदर्शनी 30 अक्टूबर, 2021 तक जारी रहेगी

सोच ईमानदार, काम दमदार

खादी तथा ग्रामोद्योग बोर्ड एवं रेशम विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

प्रदर्शनी का समय

पूर्वाह्न 11:00 से रात्रि 9:00 बजे तक

प्रवेश निःशुल्क

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

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कुशीनगर : नई उड़ान - नई पहचान

भगवान बुद्ध की महापरिनिर्वाण स्थली में ₹ 260 करोड़ से निर्मित और 589 एकड़ में विस्तृत कुशीनगर इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट

- दक्षिण-पूर्व एशियाई देशों से सीधे अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कनेक्टिविटी
- अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटकों की संख्या में 20 प्रतिशत तक की होगी वृद्धि
- पूर्वांचल में पर्यटन विकास के साथ रोजगार के बढ़ते अवसर, स्थानीय उद्योगों एवं उत्पादों को मिलेगी वैश्विक पहचान
- प्रदेश का सबसे बड़ा रनवे, लंबाई 3,200 मीटर व चौड़ाई 45 मीटर

का

लोकार्पण

समय : पूर्वाह्न 10:00 बजे | स्थान : कुशीनगर इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट

भारत सरकार सहायतित योजना फेज-3 के अन्तर्गत

राजकीय मेडिकल कॉलेज, कुशीनगर

- 500 बेड का चिकित्सालय
- शैक्षणिक सत्र 2022-23 से 100 एम.बी.बी.एस. सीटों पर प्रवेश
- परियोजना लागत रु. 281.45 करोड़
- 460 क्षमता का छात्रावास
- 40 लाख लोग होंगे लाभान्वित
- पड़ोसी जनपदों एवं बिहार के सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों के मरीजों को भी मिलेगी सुविधा

का

शिलान्यास

एवं

₹ 180.66 करोड़ की 12 विकास परियोजनाओं

- गण्डक नदी पर बाढ़ सुरक्षा की 8 परियोजनाएं
- स्वदेश दर्शन स्कीम के बौद्ध सर्किट योजनान्तर्गत पर्यटन विकास
- राजकीय महाविद्यालय सुकरौली का निर्माण
- नवीन संकेत मूक बधिर राजकीय बालिका विद्यालय (आवासीय) का निर्माण
- कसया-रामकोला व रामपुर खुर्द-कोटवा घुघली मार्ग का चौड़ीकरण एवं सुदृढीकरण

का

लोकार्पण/शिलान्यास

नरेन्द्र मोदी

प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

सोच
ईमानदार
काम
दमदार

कार्यक्रम का
लाइव प्रसारण देखें
<https://pmevents.ncog.gov.in>
DD National/Uttar Pradesh
[Youtube.com/dduttarpradesh](https://www.youtube.com/dduttarpradesh)
UPGovtOfficial
CMOUttarpradesh
CMOfficeUP

आनंदीबेन पटेल
राज्यपाल
उत्तर प्रदेश

योगी आदित्यनाथ
मुख्यमंत्री
उत्तर प्रदेश

किरण रिजजू
मंत्री, कानून एवं न्याय
भारत सरकार

ज्योतिरादित्य एम. सिंधिया
मंत्री, नागरिक विमानन
भारत सरकार

जी. किशन रेड्डी
मंत्री, संस्कृति, पर्यटन तथा
पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र विकास, भारत सरकार

श्रीपद येस्सो नाइक
राज्य मंत्री, आयुष (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
तथा पर्यटन (एम.ओ.एस.), भारत सरकार

अर्जुन राम मेघवाल
राज्य मंत्री, संसदीय कार्य तथा संस्कृति
भारत सरकार

मीनाक्षी लेखरी
राज्य मंत्री, विदेश तथा संस्कृति
भारत सरकार

अजय भट्ट
राज्य मंत्री, रक्षा तथा पर्यटन
भारत सरकार

सूर्य प्रताप शाही
मंत्री, कृषि, कृषि शिक्षा एवं कृषि अनुसंधान
उत्तर प्रदेश

स्वामी प्रसाद मोर्य
मंत्री, श्रम एवं सेवायोजन तथा
समन्वय, उत्तर प्रदेश

स्वतंत्र देव सिंह
सदस्य, विधान परिषद
उत्तर प्रदेश

डॉ. रमापति राम त्रिपाठी
सांसद
देवरिया

विजय कुमार दुबे
सांसद
कुशीनगर

एवं अन्य गणमान्य महानुभाव

समय : अपराह्न 1:00 बजे | स्थान : बरवा जंगल, निकट एन.एच.-28, कुशीनगर

दिनांक : 20 अक्टूबर, 2021



NKGSB CO-OP. BANK LTD.
Regd. Office: "Laxmi Sadan", 361, V. P. Road, Girgaum, Mumbai - 400004
Recovery Dept: Balmiki Apartment, Ground Floor, H. F. Society Road, Jogeshwari (E), Mumbai - 400060, Tel No: (022) 2837 6816, 2834 9616
Fax: (022) 28203603; Email id - recovery@nkgssb-bank.com

ANNOUNCEMENT
Removal Of Articles - Old Scrap and Other Movable Miscellaneous Articles
We, i.e. NKGSSB Co-op. Bank Ltd., hereby making an announcement to Mr. Ram Sharan Swami Sharan Pathak, presently residing at Jhansi - House No. 236, Nanak Ganj, Sipri Bazar, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh - 284003, for Removal of Your Old Scrap and Other Movable Miscellaneous Articles, which has a negligible value, lying in Flat No. 302, 3RD Floor, C/02 Wing, Madhav Shrishti Society, known as Omikareshtwar Pashupatinath C.H.S. Ltd., Near Godrej Hill Road, Barve Village, Kalyan West, Thane - 421301 owned and mortgaged by Mr. Hitesh B Shetty & Mrs. Sulochana B Shetty which is in Physical Possession of the bank since 04/02/2020.
You are advice to remove your old scrap and other movable miscellaneous articles within 7 days from this announcement; failing which we have no other option but to dispose off the said old scrap and other movable miscellaneous articles without any further notice of which please take a serious note of it.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
NKGSSB Co-op. Bank Ltd.
(Under the SARFAESI Act 2002)

Place : Jhansi-Up
Date : 18.10.2021



**RAILWAY RECRUITMENT CELL
NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ**
Balmiki Chauraha, Nawab Yusuf Road, Prayagraj

Notice No.-01/2021
Detailed Zonal Notification No. RRC/NCR/01/2021 for Year 2020-21 was issued on 27.07.2021 for engagement of Act Apprentices for training under Apprentices Act 1961 in North Central Railway for Total Slot of 1664. In this regard Total 1600 candidates were called for 1st Phase documents verification (DV) had been conducted on 11.10.2021 to 14.10.2021, in which it is noticed that 724 numbers of candidates were remained absent for the purpose of document verification.
It has been decided to give another chance to all the absent candidates for document verification scheduled to be held on 22.10.2021. Candidates willing to attend the process of DV are advised to report on 22.10.2021 at Railway Recruitment Cell, Prayagraj. It may be noted that, this is last chance for documents verification and who remained absent on 22.10.2021, their candidature will be treated as cancelled without any further notice. Candidates are advised to regularly visit the Official Website of RRC/Prayagraj i.e. www.rcprjy.org for further information.

Chairman
Railway Recruitment Cell, Prayagraj

1109/2021 V
North Central Railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR



महाचल विद्युत वितरण
निगम लि० हरदोई

ई-निविदा सूचना
कम्प्यूटर ऑपरेटर की 12 माह के लिये अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा अनुमोवी एवं कार्य आपूर्ति हेतु। निविदा मूल्य रु० में दक्ष ठेकेदारों से ई-निविदायें दो 1180.00 जीएसटी सहित एवं धरोहर भागों में उ०प्र० सरकार की पोर्टल धनराशि रु० 1680.00। 3. etender.up.nic.in पर आमंत्रित की अल्पकालिक ई-निविदा संख्या जाती है। निविदा सूचना 126/विमिंह/ 2021-22 :- प्रवर्तन www.mvnl.in पर भी अवलोकित की दल, हरदोई के कार्यालय हेतु एक जा सकती है निविदा प्रपत्र अपलोड अदद डीजल चलित हल्का वाहन मय करने की अंतिम तिथि 01.11.2021 ज़ाइवर सहित 12 माह के लिये आपूर्ति समय 17:00 बजे तक एवं प्रथम भाग हेतु। निविदा मूल्य रु० 1180.00 खुलने की तिथि 02.11.2021 समय जीएसटी सहित एवं धरोहर धनरा. 14.00 बजे नियत है (क्र०सं० 4 को शि रु० 2640.00। 4. ई-निविदा संख्या छोड़कर)। निविदा में संशोधन, तिथि 127/विमिंह/ 2021-22 :- विद्युत विस्तारण पुनःप्रकाशन आदि की सूचना वितरण उपखण्ड-द्वितीय, ग्रामीण, भी उक्त पोर्टल पर एवं वेबसाइट पर हरदोई के क्षेत्रान्तर्गत 33/11 के०बी० उपलब्ध करायी जायेगी। 1. विद्युत उपकेन्द्रों की लाईनों के अल्पकालिक ई-निविदा संख्या अनुक्षण एवं मरम्मत का कार्य। 124/विमिंह/ 2021-22 :- निविदा मूल्य रु० 1180.00 जीएसटी 33/11 के०बी० विद्युत उपकेन्द्र सहित एवं धरोहर धनराशि रु० इमलियाबाग एवं बेहेन्दर में 33 के०बी० 1960.00। निविदा अपलोड करने की लाइन के निकट आने वाली पेड़ों की तिथि 17.11.2021 समय 17:00 बजे टहनियों की कटाई व छटाई का तक एवं निविदा खुलने की तिथि कार्य। निविदा मूल्य रु० 1180.00 18.11.2021 समय 14:00 बजे नियत जीएसटी सहित एवं धरोहर धनराशि है। अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत वितरण रु० 2000.00। 2. अल्पकालिक मण्डल हरदोई पत्रांक 2664 दिनांक ई-निविदा संख्या 125/विमिंह/ 18.10.21 'राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचाए'



MODERN COACH FACTORY, RAEBARELI

E-Advised Tender Notice No. 41/ET/2021-22
Date: 13.10.2021

| SN | Tender No. | Short Description | Qty. | Due Date |
|----|------------|--|----------|------------|
| 01 | 04215015 | Furnishing of LHB Sleeper Coaches of Tejas Coach Set | 5 Set | 09.11.2021 |
| 02 | 03211801 | Entrance Hand Rail Complete | 9047 Nos | 08.11.2021 |
| 03 | 03215030 | Seats and berths as per drawing no. EH61010 all nil and Climbing arrangement as per drawing no. EH44100 all-nil for LWACCNE Coaches. | 212 Set | 09.11.2021 |
| 04 | 03211802 | Emergency openable Window. | 2088 Nos | 11.11.2021 |
| 05 | 11211182 | Roof Complete for Train 18 Coach. | 130 Set | 11.11.2021 |
| 06 | 04211400 | Supply Installation and Commissioning of Complete Fitting of Garb, Rath AC- 3Trie (LWACCNE) on Turnkey Basis | 719 Nos | 09.11.2021 |
| 07 | 11211194 | Set of Protection Frame and Bracket for LHB VP Coaches. | 100 Set | 17.11.2021 |

Website Address: www.ireps.gov.in & www.mcf.indianrailways.gov.in
Deputy Chief Materials Manager/EL
On behalf of the President of India, Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Production, Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli is inviting open E-tender (No.MCF/RBL/Dy.CEE/P/2021-22/05/RT, Date-13.10.2021) based on single packet system online through Indian railway portal www.ireps.gov.in for the under mentioned work on prescribed tender format. **Description of work:** Complete wiring work including handling & installation of equipments in LHB LWACCW, VP/Parcel Van/LHB LVP, LHB LSLRD and LHB LWLRRM (Power Car) type coaches at MCF/RBL for F.Y. 2022-23 and 2023-24. **Approx. Value(Rs.)** Rs.13605938/- (Rs. One Crore Thirty Six Lakh Five Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Eight) only including GST12%. **Cost of Tender document :** Rs. 0/-, **EMD :** 00/-, **Quantity of work** -455 coaches. **Work completion period :** 31.03.2024 or earlier. • E-Tender submitted through online up to 15:00 hrs. on 12.11.2021. Manual offer will not be considered. • E-Tender shall be opened on 12.11.2021 at 15:30 through online on <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. • Detailed Tender E-Notice and Terms & conditions are available at Indian Railway IREPS website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>.
Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Production
Tender No. -Re-CAMC-CNCFM- 2021-22-6A
Due on: 15.11.2021
Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/M&P, Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli for and on behalf of President of India, invites **ONLINE** open tender based on Single packet system from reputed firms through Indian Railways portal www.ireps.gov.in for Tender notice no. **Re-CAMC-CNCFM- 2021-22-6A**. Due on: 15.11.2021 on prescribed format for the under mentioned work. **Description of work:** Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (including spare parts) of 02 nos. of CNC Folding machines for 02 years. **Approx. Value(Rs.)** Rs.25,22,250.00 (Rs. Twenty Five Lakhs Twenty Two Thousand Two Hundred Fifty only). **Cost of Tender document :** Rs. 3,000.00. **Earnest money :** Nil. **Completion Period from the date of commencement of work:** 24 Months (02 Year). • **Date and Time of closing of Tender:** 15.11.2021 at 15:30 hrs. •Detailed Tender Notice, Eligibility criteria, Terms & conditions are available in tender document at Indian Railways portal: www.ireps.gov.in.
Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer (M&P)
Serving customers with a smile

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER WEST-I
(Now EE (M)-27 C/o ACE (M)-8)
O.H.T. BERIWALA BAGH, SUBHASH NAGAR, NEW DELHI 110064

"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"
PRESS NOTICE TENDER NO. 34 W-II/(2021-22)
EE(WEST)-I (Now EE(M)-27 C/O ACE (M)-8)

| S. No. | Name of work | Amount put to tender | E/Money | Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solution |
|--------|--|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Providing and laying of 150mm, 200mm and 250mm water line from P-Block Vishnu Garden (Near Prakash Dairy) to J-Block Vishnu Garden at Khayala Road For Improvement of Water Supply in Vishnu Garden Area and its adjoining area in Ward No-0085 of Rajour Garden AC-27 under (Presently under EEM-27) Tender ID: 2021_DJB_209747_1 | Rs. 29,57,977/- | Nil (declaration form to be filled) | 28.10.2021 up to 3:00 PM |
| 2. | Renovation of old/damaged local UGR at block CSD/CAE and C2B Janakpuri Ward no 16 S AC-30 Janak Puri under (Presently under AEE(M)-30) Tender ID: 2021_DJB_209747_3 | Rs. 26,34,818/- | | 28.10.2021 up to 3:00 PM |

Can view this particular statement in detail <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 49/(2021-22)
Sd/-
(RAMESH KUMAR GUPTA)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER WEST-I
(01) 25125271

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Rail Roko call given by the agitating farmers passed off peacefully in Uttar Pradesh with some protesting unions also withdrawing their call on Monday. Only at a few places in western UP, some trains were intercepted but for a brief period to mark a symbolic protest.

As per reports, following talks with the administration in several districts, including Lucknow, farmer leaders withdrew their Rail Roko agitation across the state.

Earlier, Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) had announced to disrupt rail services to press the demand for removal of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra Teni for his alleged complicity in the mowing down of agitating farmers by SUVs that left four farmers dead at Tikuniya area of Lakhimpur Kheri on October 3. However, in several districts of Uttar Pradesh, the Kisan Union postponed the Rail Roko stir after prolonged dialogues with the district administration. Besides Uttar Pradesh, United Kisan Morcha called for Rail Roko agitation across the country from 10 am for six hours on Monday. Farmers stopped railway



Police personnel stand guard near Bhitauli crossing on Sitapur road in Lucknow in view of the Rail Roko agitation by farmers

traffic at Modinagar railway station in Ghaziabad district. Hundreds of agitating farmers squatted on the tracks to stop passenger and freight trains from moving as part of the protest call given by Samyukta Kisan Morcha.

The security forces of four police stations of Ghaziabad were deployed along with a company of Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) at Modinagar station. Before the agitating farmers

started congregating at the station around 11 am, two passenger trains had passed by smoothly. Railway officials said that 8-10 trains had to pass this railway station till 4 pm. The administration appealed to the farmers not to trouble the passengers during their agitation.

Visuals from Modinagar showed protestors blocking railway tracks at the railway station during the protest. At Khurja railway station in Bulandshahr, farmers stopped Delhi-bound

Gomti Express coming from Lucknow. However, they later allowed the train to proceed after five minutes of protest.

The BKU leaders also gathered to stop trains at Barabanki railway station, Meerut railway station, Prayagraj railway station etc. Meanwhile, ADG (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar said that rail traffic was not disrupted anywhere and the protest was peaceful.

"In some places where trains were not functional, farmers staged a symbolic protest. Nowhere was rail traffic disrupted. Around 160 companies of PAC and nine companies of para-military forces were deployed across the sensitive districts to ensure law and order. Besides, senior officials were also deputed at these districts and they were constantly in touch with agitating farmers' organisations and other leaders," said the ADG.

Earlier in the day, Lucknow police warned that those participating in the Rail Roko stir would be slapped with the stringent NSA (National Security Act). Imposing prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code across the state capital, the Lucknow police warned against disrupting normalcy by any agitator.

Lawyer shot dead on court premises

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A lawyer was shot dead allegedly by another on the district court premises here on Monday afternoon over an old rivalry, following which four cops were suspended for negligence, police said.

The victim, Bhupendra Singh, had filed two dozen cases against Suresh Gupta. Upset over this, Gupta allegedly killed him, they said. Taking strong exception to a serious crime like murder on the court premises, four police personnel, including an inspector, have been placed under suspension, Assistant Superintendent of Police (City) Sanjay Kumar said.

The death triggered unrest among the local lawyers fraternity who launched an indefinite strike, demanding the killer's immediate arrest. Subsequently, a heavy police force was deployed to defuse the situation as several lawyers, speaking to the media on the site, termed the incident as a huge lapse in security. As per reports, Bhupendra Singh had gone to the third-floor office of ACJ/M-I of District Court in Shahjahanpur to meet a clerk in connection with some case when a gunshot was heard. As his colleagues rushed into the room, they found Singh lying in a pool of blood with a gunshot wound on his head. A country-made 315 bore pistol was also found lying near the body. After preliminary probe, Superintendent



of Police of Shahjahanpur, S Anand, said, "It appears that the deceased lawyer was alone in the room and no other person was seen around him at the time of the incident. Forensic team is at work. Circumstances around killing are unclear. But we are looking into all possible angles. A panel of doctors has been formed to conduct the autopsy."

Soon after the incident was reported, opposition political parties like the Congress, Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party targeted the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party government in Uttar Pradesh for failure to control the rising crimes and deteriorating law and order situation.

BSP chief Mayawati said that the incident exposed the BJP government's tall claims on improved law and order in the state.

"The murder of a lawyer on the court premises of Shahjahanpur district in broad daylight is very sad

and shameful. It exposes the law and order situation under the BJP government and its claims in this regard. The question arises as to who is safe in UP. The government should pay proper attention to this," she tweeted in Hindi.

The Congress also slammed the government over deteriorating law and order situation in the state.

"A lawyer was killed inside a court complex in Shahjahanpur. In UP, police kill a businessman in a midnight raid, farmers are mowed down by a minister's son and lawyers are murdered. This is law and order under @myogiadityanath, who himself had cases of more than 10 IPC sections against him!" tweeted Congress national spokesman Dr Shama Mohamed.

Central Bar Association president Anant Kumar Singh said that advocates stopped all work and started a 'dharna' at the Khirni Bagh intersection of Shahjahanpur.

"District Magistrate Inder Vikram Singh and SP S Anand came to the protest site and we expressed our surprise as to how an illegal firearm reached the court premises even though there is police force deployed at each gate of the complex to check. Until the killers are arrested, all advocates will remain on strike. We have demanded a compensation of Rs 1 crore for the family of the deceased and an investigation by a top official into the case," he said.

Four more arrested in Kheri violence

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the October 3 Lakhimpur Kheri violence in which eight people, including four farmers and a journalist, were killed, on Monday, arrested four more persons in connection with the crime.

The SIT arrested Sumit Jaiswal alias Modi along with his accomplices Nandan, Shishupal and one other person. Now with these four arrests, the number of arrests made in the case has gone up to 10. Earlier, the police had arrested Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra's son Ashish Mishra and his friend Ankit Das along with his gunner, who were traveling in another vehicle behind the jeep which crushed the farmers. According to sources, Sumit, who was arrested on Monday, was in the same Thar jeep which had crushed the




farmers. Somebody had made a video of him while running away from the jeep, and it later went viral. After the death of the driver and others in the jeep, it is believed that Sumit Jaiswal is the only eyewitness to the incident as he was present in the jeep at that time.

Meanwhile, the SIT has summoned several farmers who were present on the spot on the fateful day to record their statement. Several of these farmers appeared before the SIT on Monday.

SCHOOLSCAN

17 CMS STUDENTS SECURE SCHOLARSHIP FROM UNION MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Seventeen students of City Montessori School, Kanpur Road Campus, have secured Rs 4 lakh scholarship each from the Union Ministry of Science and Technology. Thus, a total of Rs 68-lakh scholarship will be awarded to these students. They secured this scholarship by figuring in the top 1% merit list in the country based on their ISC (class 12) percentage this year. These students will receive Rs 80,000 each per year for five years. These students are Dhruv Dhingra, Sarthak Srivastava, Aryan Sinha, Vinayak Gupta, Anjali Sharma, Avantika Awasthi, Anshumali Suri, Pankhuri Asthana, Suryansh Kushwaha, Aniket Kanaujia, Vaishali Agarwal, Yashvardhan Sahu, Amay Singh, Harshika Srivastava, Saurabh Singh, Ayush Roy and Vaibhav Tiwari.



NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Tender Notice No.: PRYJ-Br-HQ-II-2021-05
Date: 07.10.2021

E-Tendering Tender Notice
Dy. Chief Engineer/Bridge/HQ-INCR, Prayagraj for and on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tender on the prescribed tender form for the under noted works:

| E-Tender No. | Br-HQ-II-2021-05 |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Name of work | Seepage protection work in connection with elimination of Level Crossing by RUB/LHS at LC between PRYJ-CNB section in Prayagraj Division. |
| Cost of work | ₹ 2,58,29,342/- |
| Cost of tender | Nil |
| Earnest Money | Nil |
| Completion Period | 06 months |
| Date of Opening | 23.11.2021 |
| Similar nature of work | Seepage protection or strengthening of Bridges/Tunnels/Reservoirs/Any Important civil engineering structures by Cement/Epoxy grouting or by hydro reactive Polyurethane (PU) resin grouting or by any advanced method used for seepage protection. |

Note: • Railway Board vide letter No. 2020/CE-ICT/3E/GCC/Policy/20.30.12.2020 has advised that Ministry of Finance vide OM No. F.9/4/2020-PPD, dated 12.11.2020, titled "Bid Security/Earnest Money Deposit" has advised to take from bidders Bid Security Declaration in lieu of Bid Security/Earnest Money Deposit. The above instructions shall be followed for all works & services tenders on Indian Railways, published on or after 18.00 hrs. of 16.01.2021 and shall be valid for all the tenders issued till 31.12.2021 (including 31.12.2021). (1). The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders shall be available on Website www.ireps.gov.in upto 15.00 hrs. up to the due date of tender opening i.e. 23.11.2021. (2). Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. (3). Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form/letter head if attached by vendors shall be straightway ignored and shall not be considered. (4). Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body (5) in case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. (6) Online tender can be submitted up to 15.00 hrs. on 23.11.2021. (7) Supplier of Goods and/or services would be the subject of GST Act. and rules as applicable from time to time. (8). The tenderer has to submit necessary documents in compliance of clause 10 to 18 (Part-1) of GCC/July/2020 mandatorily, otherwise offer will be considered as incomplete offer and accordingly shall not be considered. **109821 (R)**

North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in **@CPRONCR**

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, CIRCLE KANPUR

Address :- 117/K-19, Sarvodaya Nagar, Kanpur. Phone - 0512-2500459

E-mail :sereedkanpur@gmail.com

E-Procurement Notice (3rd Call)

Letter NO-945/RED/Tender/Bond Clerk/2021-22 dated : 12-10-2021

1. THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, CIRCLE KANPUR on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the percentage rate bids under work District:Kanpur Nagar through e-tendering system from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with UP R.E.D., in appropriate class A and B as the case may be. The Bidder may submit bids for any or all of the works.

2. Name of work as per table.

| S.No. | Name of District | Name of work | Total estimated cost (Excluding GST) (in Lakh) | Bid security (EMD) in Lakh | Cost of Bid document including GST (in Rupees) | Period of completion including rainy season |
|-------|------------------|--|--|----------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1- | Kanpur Nagar | ग्राम खौधन विकास खण्ड-शिवराजपुर तहसील-बिहौरी, कानपुर नगर में बृहद गो-संरक्षण केन्द्र की स्थापना/निर्माण कार्य। | 94.10 | 1.90 | 3500.00 | 06- Months |

3. Date of availability of Bid documents on website :- 20-10-2021 to 27-10-2021
4. Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 27-10-2021 up to 12.00 Noon
5. Date of opening of bids through e-procurement : 27-10-2021 at 12.30 pm.
6. The Employer has right to issue addendum/corrigendum as per ITB clause-10 on-line which will not be published in any news paper. All prospective bidders are advised to keep regular watch and visit e-tender portal regularly.

For further details please log on to <https://etender.up.nic.in> and down load the bid document.

UP- 168742 Dt. 18.10.21
ज्ञापन वेबसाइट www.upgov.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT,
KANPUR CIRCLE KANPUR

Office of the Superintending Engineer, Jhansi Circle P.W.D., Jhansi

No- 7211 /44 C-Jhansi circle/ 2021-22 Dt- 01.10.2021

E-Tenders Notice

1- On behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the Item rate bids online from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with UP PWD, in class A (Road Work) in Column No. 8 & for the work in column no-3.

2-

| Sl. | Dist- rict | Name of work | cost (Rs. in Lac) | Bid Security (Rs. in Lacs) | Cost of Tender inclusive all taxes with stationery (in Rs.) | Period of completion work in inclusive rainy season | Categ- ary of Con- tractors |
|-----|------------|--|-------------------|----------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------|
| No | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1 | Jalaun | Widening and Strengthening work of Pachnada Road (Umri-Pathrahi-Jagammanpur to Kanjausa Km Ch.27.700 to 31.200+200 Mtr. Kanjausa approach. | 1080.00 | 0.00 | Rs. 2500.00 only | 12 Month | A Class |

3- Bidding Documents will be available on date 25.10.2021 to 03.11.2021 online on [websitehttp://etender.up.nic.in](http://etender.up.nic.in). Bids must be submitted online on or before 12:00 noon on date 03.11.2021 & the technical bids be opened online on date 03.11.2021 at 03:30 Noon
4- Detailed informations of above tender will be available online on [website http://etender.up.nic.in](http://etender.up.nic.in).
5- Technical evaluation of tenders in the public worked department is through with software the watchdog has a <http://wms.upwd.gov.in>/Prathar/ the website open will open the page of watch login and log in with a style contractor selected. The user name and password used to register a contractor at chankanya will be the same. The tender has to upload all the required information regarding the tender register a contractor at chankanya will be the same. The tender has to upload all the required information regarding the tender and necessary records, the details of which will be available on the screen. if the notice and necessary record is not uploaded by the tenderer the tender inserted by the tenderer will not have a technical evaluation of the tender, the responsibility of with is that of the applicant.


6- The tender's technical sheet of E-1 will be downloaded by the tenderer after uploading all the information and records to the tender, whose copy is scanned and uploaded on e-tender portal <http://etender.up.nic.in>. Any record other than, technical sheet E-1 will not be uploaded on the e-tender portal. If any other record related to technical sheet E-1 is uploaded by the contractor on the tender portal, it will not be considered for technical evaluation. No claim of contractor shall be valid in the issue contact later.

7- It is necessary to get approved from the department for final submission after uploading of certain information /Records, to ensure that tenders are required to get the relevant information/record approved with the original record in a division/circle of the department.

UP- 168785 Date 18.10.2021

ज्ञापन वेबसाइट www.upgov.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

(Avadhesh Kumar)
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
JHANSI CIRCLE, PWD, JHANSI



WATCO
C-1119

OFFICE OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, WATCO.
Ground Floor, Unnati Bhawan,
H.B. Colony, Satyanagar, Bhubaneswar-751007, Odisha, India
Telefax :- +91-674-2391444
E-mail – mail@watcoodisha.in / md@watcoodisha.in
INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)
Bid Identification No. WATCO (W) – 16/2021-22 Dtd.11.10.2021
WATCO No. 6400
Date:11.10.2021

1. Name of the work
:- "Procurement of DI K-7 Pipe for Implementation of 24x7 water supply to Baramunda HB Colony, HIG, Jagannath vihar area, Puri Municipality & old town".
:- Double Cover (Technical & Financial)
:- Rs.653.00 Lakh
:-3 (Three calendar) Months.
:- Manufacturer
:- From 11.00 AM of Dt.25.10.2021 to 5.00 PM of 08.11.2021
:- 5.00 PM of 08.11.2021.
:- 11.00 AM of 09.11.2021.
:- Managing Director, WATCO
Telefax:- 0674-2391444.
E-Mail: mail@watcoodisha.in md@watcoodisha.in

10. The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only
Further details can be seen from the web site www.tendersodisha.gov.in
(Managing Director)
WATCO

OIPR-13083/11/0029/2122

Kingpin of B'deshi gang of dacoits gunned down

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The kingpin and trainer of a gang of dacoits consisting of Bangladeshis was gunned down in a police encounter in Gomtinagar police station area on the intervening night of Sunday and Monday. The accused was identified as Hamza of Khulna district in Bangladesh.

Three policemen, identified as Narendra Bahadur Singh, Ram Niwas Shukla and Mukesh Chaudhary, sustained injuries in the exchange of fire with Hamza and five of his aides who managed to evade arrest. The identity of slain accused was ascertained by sub-inspectors Rajnish Verma and Amit Singh.

Hamza was said to have been involved in dacoities in Lucknow and Varanasi. Hamza's name as the mastermind had surfaced on October 11 when the police arrested three of his aides during an encounter. Two of them had suffered bullet injuries.

During the encounter on October 11, Hamza and his aides had evaded arrest. The police had announced a reward of Rs 50,000 in his name.

DCP, East, Sanjeev Suman said the crime team received a tip-off about the presence of the accused near the railway underpass close to Dayal crossing in the area and later a joint team consisting of crime team members and Gomtinagar police personnel worked on the

case. As soon as the police team threw dragon light on the dacoits lurking in the dark, they opened fire. The police returned fire and Hamza was injured. He was first rushed to the Chinhat CHC and later to Civil hospital where doctors pronounced him brought dead.

It surfaced that Hamza used to lure unemployed people in Bangladesh into joining his gang. He used to impart a special training to new gang members. He was named in as many as 11 cases of dacoities and was wanted since 2018.

In due course of time, he developed fancy for walkie-talkies which he used to communicate with his aides. Earlier, Hamza was nabbed by the Gomtinagar police in 2017 for his alleged involvement in a dacoity but he walked out on bail soon afterwards.

Hamza reorganised his gang by contacting the members who had scattered. The police said Hamza and his aides had a plan to execute dacoity but their plan was foiled by the cops who got a whiff of their location on Sunday night.

Hamza and his gang had executed dacoities in Vibhuti Khand, Chinhat, Gomtinagar Extension, Mahanagar and Hasanganj areas. The police recovered a pistol of .30 bore, a magazine, a live cartridge, four bullet shells, a country-made pistol, a backpack, a mobile phone, two SIM cards, 1,000 Bangladeshi currency

notes and a platform ticket.

Hamza was named in a dacoity case in Mall police station area and in three cases in Rohaniya of Varanasi.

Sources said Hamza was fond of costly wrist watches and he used to test the skills of newly-recruited members before assigning them tasks. Hamza used to keep 30 percent of the booty while the remaining would be distributed among the gang members.

The sources said Hamza was wily and used to prepare the script of an operation beforehand. "Hamza was very selective in recruiting the gang members aged 18-30 years. He selected those who were physically fit and stoutly-built, and those who could run for long distances without being exhausted," the sources said.

They said Hamza used to impart training in stealthily scaling high boundary walls, running on walls, taking long jumps, overpowering house-owners etc. The sources said Hamza used to study the routes sans CCTV coverage. "The gang used Google maps to reach their targets located near railway tracks. The gang members would run alongside railway tracks to reach the nearest railway station. They would never use mobile phones before and after the execution of a dacoity," the sources said.

They said the gang avoided killing house-owners but would injure them so that they could not offer resistance.

Only 9 fresh cases reported across UP

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With an emphasis on strict screening, proper treatment and aggressive vaccination, Uttar Pradesh has been able to restrict the number of fresh COVID-19 cases below 50 for over two consecutive months. Indicating consistent decline, the state recorded nine new cases on Monday. The new cases have declined by more than 38,000 from its peak which stood at 38,055 on April 24. In sharp contrast to the most populous state, states like Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have been reporting a greater surge of new novel coronavirus infections (daily cases ranging from 15,000-2,000)

"The lesser number of new cases on Monday, however, is not because Uttar Pradesh, like other states, has decreased Covid testing. Under its stringent T3 (Trace, Test and Treat) mechanism, the state conducted nearly 1.40 lakh Covid tests in the last 24 hours. Consequently, the daily test positivity rate (TPR) in Uttar Pradesh has dipped to lower than 0.01 per cent from a high of over 16.84 per cent in April. Test positivity rate is the percentage of samples that test positive out of the total numbers of samples evaluated," a government spokesman said.

Uttar Pradesh has recorded a drop by over 99 per cent in the number of active COVID-19 cases since its peak on April 30, as the active cases have dropped from 3,10,783 to 123. With the COVID-19 situation in the

State way ahead in vaccination figures

SHARMILA KRISHNA ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh will have a reason to cheer when India breaches the 100 crore-mark in Covid vaccination possibly in the next two days, as the state will be the biggest contributor with over 12 crore vaccine jabs. Other states like Maharashtra (9.15 crore jabs), Gujarat (6.69 crore jabs), West Bengal (6.69 crore jabs), Madhya Pradesh (6.61 crore jabs), Bihar 6.18 (crore jabs), Rajasthan (6.04 crore jabs) and Tamil Nadu (5.30 crore jabs) are way behind UP.

State Immunisation Officer Dr Ajay Ghai said it's true that UP is the biggest contributor but paradoxically, it is the lowest owing to the large population. However, there is no denying the fact that UP's will be the major contribution to India's 100 crore vaccine jabs, he added.

UP has has its own challenges which were overcome to make the vaccination exercise smooth. "In the beginning, the main challenge was less availability of vaccines.

state improving, the recovery rate has climbed up to 98.8 per cent.

Active and new cases have declined to zero in Amroha, Ayodhya, Budaun, Bagpat, Ballia, Barabanki, Basti, Brahmrach, Bijnor, Chandauli, Chitrakoot, Deoria, Etah, Etawah, Farrukhabad,



Then the rural population was a challenge for which we had to carry out continuous IEC activities, which made a difference. Our Integrated Control and Command Centres played a big role in calling the beneficiaries for the second dose," he said.

He pointed out that surveillance was also carried out for those above 45 years of age who missed out on the vaccinations. "We identified these people in the Sanchari Rog Abhiyaan and then vaccinated them," Dr Ghai said.

He said had they received the vaccines in the same pro-

portion as the size of the state at the start of the vaccination, they would have returned much better figures. "We would have given the first dose to the entire population by this time. We have performed reasonably well though the fact remains that we are still lagging behind in terms of the coverage of population," he added.

Incidentally, 63 percent of the state's population has been given at least one dose, which is closer to India's average, but there are some states which have gone past 90 percent coverage, he said.

Regarding what other states took from UP, he said their cluster model was a big hit. "We got several queries for the cluster model from states such as Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh," he pointed out.

He said they organised a mega vaccination camp on Monday but the drive was impacted by rains. "Last time when the mega camp was held, the vaccination figures were affected in the eastern parts of the state, and this time it was western UP. We are already receiving calls from people in Meerut that there was waterlogging in many parts and it was difficult for the vaccines to reach those points," he said.

He added that they have plans to increase vaccinations. "We have plans for massive vaccinations in the next 15 days because the last 15 days have not gone well due to the festive period," he said.

Dr Ghai said they would carry out many mega vaccination camps besides making several closer-to-home centres and vaccination centres in general.

stone of administering the first dose of the vaccine to over 62.67 per cent of eligible adult population while over 9.30 crore people have received the first dose so far. In addition, over 2.66 crore people in the state have been fully vaccinated with both doses," the official said.

Retd army man duped by real estate company

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A retired army man was duped of over Rs 11 lakh in the name of a land deal by a real estate company in Gomtinagar. The complainant, Narendra Bahadur Singh of Amethi district, said he was contacted by the officials and staff of Swastik Infra Housing Private Limited in Gomtinagar and was asked to purchase a land in Sithauli Kalan in Amethi in 2014.

He said he made the payment through cheques and other modes but did not get the land registered in his name yet. "I kept doing rounds of the company's office and was assured registration of the sale deed. I later came to know that the accused had duped several people like him," he alleged.

He named Ram Awadh Singh, Bajrang Bahadur Singh, Sanjay Kriplani, Anoop Jaiswal (director) and Ajeet Singh Chaddha (director) in the FIR. Meanwhile, the social media IDs of a girl in Gomtinagar were hacked and the accused demanded money from her for setting things back in order. In her complaint, Mansi Gupta said her Facebook and Twitter IDs were hacked on October 16. The hackers gained access to her YouTube gaming channel in which she had invested Rs 1 lakh since 2017.

"They demanded Rs 2,000 to give me back the control of my accounts. I made the payment through Google Pay, but they are demanding more. They threatened to misuse my photos which they downloaded from my social media accounts," she alleged. She named Sikander Singh and Aniket Narang.

ATTACKED

Five people, including two women, allegedly attacked a neighbouring youth and his sister. The father of the victims is a staffer at the Union government secretariat in New Delhi. They were attacked over an old enmity in Sushant Golf City police station area on October 16. Police registered a case under sections 147/323/324/504/427 of IPC. The youth was identified as Anshu Singh of Vijay Nagar locality in the area.

Anshu named Indrajeet Narvariya, his wife Aneeta, his sons Gautam & Gaurav and his daughter Sapna. Anshu alleged that the accused caught hold of him and his sister when they were standing on the road and attacked them. "Aneeta bit my hand and pushed me down while her elder son thrashed my sister. Indrajeet and his daughter also thrashed me. Gautam broke my phone," he alleged.

Plentiful rains, increased green cover bring down air pollution levels

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A good amount of rainfall and the state government's initiative of increasing the green cover have brought down the air pollution levels during September and October as compared to the corresponding period last year.

Giving this information, head of the Environmental Division of Indian Institute of Toxicological Research (IITR) GC Kisku said that a preliminary survey carried out by them has shown that the pollution

levels were less owing to good rains in the months of September and October.

He said the pollution levels could not build up because the pollutants were washed away by rains. "Right now, I don't see any kind of problem of pollution in the city but it also depends on the attitude of the people. If they start burning coal or tyres, the pollution will increase at the onset of winter when the temperature drops below 15 degree Celsius," he said. The senior scientist said what was an additional good indicator of decrease in

pollution was the slight chill palpable in the month of October. "It was not so in the previous years when warm weather continued till December," he said. He added that it has happened because of the plantation drives and shutdown of industries.

"In the last few years, the slight chill in October has returned because the environment is getting better due to a decrease in the pollution levels. The excessive plantation is giving results and the saplings planted last year have grown into trees. These trees release

oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide. The dust also settles on the plants and gets removed when rains occur," he said.

He added that what could help further was the synchronisation of traffic lights which would help in keeping the roads free from vehicular clutter. IITR had made recommendations for the mitigation of air pollution in its pre-monsoon report. The scientists had recommended dense foliage along roads, and resistant ornamental plants to quench environmental pollutants.



Samrajwadi Party leaders protest rise in LPG price in front of Vidhan Bhawan in Lucknow on Monday

PGV slams govt over rising fuel prices

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday took a dig at the government, saying it promised to make those wearing 'hawai chappals' travel by air but it had hiked the prices of petrol and diesel so much that it had become difficult for the middle class to travel even by road.

The Congress general secretary's attack on the government came as auto fuels now cost a third more than the rate at which the aviation turbine fuel (ATF) is sold to airlines.

Tagging a media report on it, Priyanka Vadra tweeted, "Had promised that those wearing 'hawai chappals' (slippers) will travel by airplane. But the BJP government has hiked the prices of petrol and diesel so much that now it has become difficult for those wearing 'hawai chappals' and the middle class to travel even by road."

She used the hashtag 'BJP lai mehenge din (BJP has brought expensive days)' with her tweet. Petrol and diesel prices on Sunday were hiked again by 35 paise a litre and after this hike the auto fuel is now costing a third more than the rate at which ATF is sold to airlines. The price of petrol in Delhi rose to its highest-ever level of Rs 105.84 a litre and Rs



111.77 per litre in Mumbai, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers. In Mumbai, diesel now comes for Rs 102.52 a litre; while in Delhi, it costs Rs 94.57. Petrol used in two-wheelers and cars now costs 33 per cent more than the price at which aviation turbine fuel (ATF) is sold to airlines. ATF in Delhi costs Rs 79,020.16 per kilolitre or Rs 79 per litre. All the figures are as per Sunday's hike.

Guv visits GB Nagar, hails women SHGs

Noida: Women power will help India become 'Vishwa Guru', Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel said on Monday, as she lauded the roles of self help groups (SHGs) in uplifting women in the state.

The governor, who was on an official visit to Gautam Buddh Nagar, also highlighted that "empowered women" could help get the society rid of social evils like child mar-

riage. During the visit, Patel interacted with SHGs, Aanganwadi workers, women prison inmates and presented utility kits, clothes and financial aid to several of them, according to an official statement.

"Describing Aanganwadi workers as 'Yashoda Maiyya', she said these workers have the responsibility of shaping the future generation of the country and called on them to instil educa-

tion and cultural values in the children," the governor was quoted as saying in the statement. She said women power can make India 'Vishwa Guru' (world leader) and with their contribution the country will become the world leader.

"She said with the aim of making women self-reliant and ensuring their economic progress, the women's self-help group (SHG) is an ambitious scheme of the govern-

ment, through which continuous development of women is being made possible," according to the statement.

She said women SHGs are proving to be a milestone for uplifting women. "Women have an important role to play in the society and called on women and women SHGs to come forward in eradicating social evils such as dowry and child marriages," according to the statement.

PTI

Over 100 health ATMs to come up in Lko soon

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The state capital will soon have over a 100 ATMs, and 30-40 kiosks will be set up to begin with. Chairman of Smart City Limited and Divisional Commissioner Ranjan Kumar said that tenders have already been floated recently for the kiosks.

The project is being carried out with the help of SGPGI. It will not only be a medical facil-

It will not only be a medical facility for citizens but over the time when a database is prepared, it will give the whole health profile of the city

ity for citizens but over the time when a database is prepared, it will give the whole health profile of the city.

"It can be used in improving the health profile of the entire city and SGPGI will be

leading the initiative. There will be an application through which the diet of a person will also be improved. It is likely the first-of-its-kind initiative in the country," Kumar said "The kiosks will be

723 Lucknowites pledge organs

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A total of 723 Lucknowites have pledged their organs for transplantation with SOTTO (State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation). Nodal officer, SOTTO, department of Hospital Administration, SGPGI, Dr Harshvardhan said this is the first time organs have been pledged under the exercise taken by them since September 1. He said when it comes to pledging organs, men are more in numbers but when in terms of actual live dona-

tion, women outnumber men.

He said that SOTTO, under the guidance of SGPGI director Prof RK Dhiman, has taken the initiative to conduct an awareness programme on 'Organ and tissue donation: Be a miracle maker' across city schools. The awareness campaign was conducted online every Saturday from September 4 onwards. The awareness session comprised a motivational video, short film, powerpoint presentation on organ donation and an interactive session with school students. The awareness session

was followed by a poster-making competition.

The winners will be felicitated during an awareness programme which will be organised at SGPGI on the occasion of Indian Organ Donation Day.

The campaign aimed at increasing awareness among school students regarding organ & tissue donation. As many as 23 schools participated in the awareness campaign and more than 400 participants showed interest in the cause and also participated in an interactive session.

Farmers' market showcases environment-friendly products

Lucknow (PNS): The Lucknow farmers' market showcased environment-friendly products and provided a direct connect between farmers and consumers. From natural trendy apparel and a lifestyle section including plants, garden art, clothes with intricate patchwork, hand-made jute products, elegant jewellery, herbal face and hair care products to sumptuous food section including farm fresh delights like organic fish and meat, fresh fruit drinks, bakery products and exotic tea

flavours, the event celebrates organic and health food diversity. Key organiser Jyotsna Kaur Habibullah said the market helps stay connected on support and shop local to boost rural economy and immunity.

"Making the planet greener is our responsibility. It is a first-of-its-kind online sustainable platform that supports farmers, artisans and entrepreneurs at all levels and aims at sustainable living and a greener environment," Habibullah said.

Role of alternative media for Covid awareness highlighted

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

National secretary of Indian Science Communication Society (ISCS) Dr VP Singh highlighted the role of alternative media, puppetry, in Covid awareness communication programmes. Under the aegis of Indian ISCS, in association with the department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU), a week-long workshop on folk

media and outreach programmes is being organised from October 18 to 25. The programme is supported by the National council for Science and Technology Communication, department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

HoD, Haematology (SGPGI), Prof Rajesh Kashyap advised people to adhere to the golden standards masking up, social distancing and isolation to contain the spread of coron-

avirus. He warned against politicisation of Covid vaccination. He also advised the participants to take failure of communication as a root cause of the spread of Covid-19 as a research topic.

Dean, SPS, BBAU, Prof Shubhini A Saraf underlined about the difference between epidemic, endemic and pandemic. She highlighted vaccine hesitancy among the general population and suggested an immediate need to address this concern.

Hectic preparations going on for proposed Modi's visit

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Preparations are going on in full swing for the proposed visit of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to his parliamentary constituency on October 25. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is seeing the visit an important one politically as it would not only be a befitting reply to recent visit of some leading rival party leaders including Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi but also it would mark a kick-off of party's campaigning in this Varanasi region of Purvanchal (eastern UP) as the PM is scheduled to reach Kushinagar in Gorakhpur region on Tuesday. Within a week several proposed visits of Modi in Purvanchal will, definitely, gear up political scenario in the region as it is expected that after addressing the public meeting at Mehendiganj on Ring Road, Modi will make his second visit to Gorakhpur region when at Siddharthnagar district, he will lay the foundation stone for a medical college.

According to party's sources, during his two hours long stay in Varanasi, the PM will inaugurate several completed projects apart from launching a nationwide Atma Nirbhar Swasthya Bharat Yojna. For making the public meeting a grand success, hectic preparations are going on at sprawling land of 40 bighas in Mehandiganj area. However, in the manner the paddy crops were harvested through various big farm machines, it has given a subject of discussion to the opposition. Ex-Congress MLA Ajay Rai held a press conference to raise his eyebrows over the development. The BJP has also realised the same opposition and it was the reason with the help of administration



Hectic preparations going on at proposed site of PM's visit in Varanasi on Monday.

Pioneer

it had already started paying compensation to the affected paddy growers at the rate of ₹1940 per quintal, estimating 10 quintals per bigha. Despite payment of compensation, it is expected that the matter would be raised often by the opposition parties during their electioneering for the upcoming assembly elections.

As the BJP is expecting a gathering of two lakh people in the proposed public meeting, a 850 x 550 feet long big pandal is being erected there after leveling the grounds. To keep watch on the areas for security purposes, PAC personnel have already been deployed there. Senior state officers are expected to visit here soon to finalise all the projects which would be inaugurated by the

PM. It is also expected that almost completed Kalikadham and Koniya bridges on river Varuna may also be inaugurated.

Meanwhile, the district administration has also decided to hold 'chaupals' at all the Adarsh Sansad Grams (villages), adopted by Modi in recent years in his parliamentary constituency. According to the District Magistrate (DM) Kaushal Raj Sharma, with a view to benefiting the villagers from development and welfare schemes, chaupals would be held in all Adarsh Sansad grams from October 20 to 29. A chaupal will be held in Modi's adopted village Jayapur where the villagers of adjoining villages Parampur, Ramna and Roopchandpur will also attend

the programme on October 20. It would be followed by chaupal at adopted village Nagepur on October 22 in which the villagers of Kaparforwa, Delhna and Sivo will also join the function.

Similarly, a chaupal will be held on October 25 at adopted village Domri along with nearby villages Dholapur, Anantapur and Pure Bariyar and at adopted villages Bakhariya and Kakarhiya on October 27 and 29 respectively.

These chaupals will start from 2 pm in which disputes related to beneficiary schemes, revenue etc will be resolved. The DM has already deployed duties of district, block level and local level officers for these chaupals.

BSP making strategies for Mission 2022

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Office-bearers and workers of political parties are busy in preparations for the UP Vidhan Sabha elections 2022. In such a situation, Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has also started work by making a strategy regarding Mission 2022. The BSP has left other parties behind in selecting the candidates and making it public. BSP organised workers' conference at Durga Puja Park located in Colonelganj area. Sanjay Goswami was announced as a

candidate from the city north legislative assembly.

Rajya Sabha member Dr Ashok Siddhartha was present as the chief guest in the BSP workers' conference. Dr Ashok Siddharth said that by making petroleum products and cooking gas expensive, the BJP government has brought inflation to the peak in the country. The BJP minister's son is crushing the farmers with his car and Modi ji is silent. Ashok Siddhartha said in the workers' conference itself that Sanjay Goswami would be the BSP's

candidate for the city north assembly seat.

The conference was presided over by Ashok Gautam, chief sector in-charge of Prayagraj and Chitrakoot division. On this occasion, chief sector in-charge Amarendra Bahadur, Ashok Gautam, Raju Gautam, Dr. Jagannath Pal and others spoke about the policies of the party. District president Chintamani Verma conducted the programme.

Meanwhile, Congress's newly-appointed city commit-

tee president Pradeep Mishra Anshuman took charge in the party office.

During this, he said that the aim is to strengthen the Congress by taking everyone along. He said that those working in the organization would be encouraged. It also claimed that the Congress government would be formed in the state next year. Earlier, outgoing President Nafees Anwar administered the oath according to the Muhurta and handed over the charge to him.

Ex-Guv releases Prayagraj Medical Directory

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Prayagraj Medical Directory was released by former Governor Pandit Kesari Nath Tripathi here on Monday. Dr Shanti Chowdhary conceptualised, compiled and edited this directory. Tripathi congratulated Dr Shanti Chaudhary for her commendable work. He said: "It is my good fortune that I had also unveiled its first edition. This is definitely a reward for Dr Shanti Chaudhary's hard work, dedication and loyalty. Its utility is more for the general public while it is also helpful in interaction with people providing medical services. Dr Shanti Chaudhary's donation to Prayagraj is a priceless fund."

Giving information about Prayagraj Medical Directory,



Pt Keshari Nath Tripathi releasing medical directory penned by Dr Shanti Chaudhary

Dr Shanti Chaudhary said that this is her fourth directory. After Allahabad Medical Directory 2000, 2005, 2012, the

Prayagraj Medical Directory was published in 2021. Various fields related to medicine Anesthesia, heart disease, skin

disease, dentistry, nose ear throat disease, stomach disease, gynecology cancer, eye disease, orthopedics, pediatrics, pathology, medicine, plastic surgery, psychiatry, chest disease, radiology, Specialists in surgery, kidney disease etc. Names, qualification, addresses, phone numbers, emails are given. Information about experts in AYUSH medicine i.e. Ayurveda, Homeopathy, Unani with Anatomy, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Forensic Medicine is given. The list of Pathology Centers, Private Nursing Homes, Medical Representatives, Physiotherapists, Dieticians, Ultrasound, Physiotherapists, and Medical Representatives related to the technical field are also published in this.

Indo-Australian research hub to be opened at IIT(BHU)

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

IIT (BHU) is leading an Indo-Australian research hub to carry out research activities in the field of strategic critical mineral research important for manufacturing, low carbon economy and digital India. Indian side is led by IIT (BHU) Varanasi with IIT Bombay, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Roorkee, IIT Madras, IIT Kanpur, IIT Guwahati, IIT Indore, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, NIT Rourkela, NIT Surathkal, IIIT Hyderabad, CSIR Labs as partners. The Australian side is led by Monash University with partners from RMIT University, University of Melbourne, CSIRO, Deakin University, University of Queensland, UNSW, Latrobe University, Queensland University of Technology and Federation University with support from industry partner organisations and leading international researchers.

In due course, the hub will be expanded to the Indo-Pacific region by including researchers from other countries (Japan, Korea etc.) in the region. The hub is able to secure international funding under the Study Melbourne Research Partnerships Programme and is seeking funding from several other sources including the Australia India Strategic Research Fund. Department of Science & Technology and Ministry of Mines. The hub is planning to organise an international symposium on 'Opportunities in critical minerals for Indo-Pacific region' with the involvement of Indian and Australian High Commissioner and Indian Prime Minister Office which will ultimately lead to establishment of an Indo-Pacific Centre of Excellence for Critical Mineral Research Hub at IIT (BHU) Varanasi in due course. Giving this information, IIT (BHU) Director Prof

Pramod Kumar Jain said that over the next 5-7 year period, the hub will develop transformational technologies for a competitive and environmentally sustainable future for Indian mineral industries through high resources recovery, reduced environmental footprint, reductions in energy and water use, as well as preparing highly skilled future leaders for the sector. The hub will transform the minerals industry of India, establishing a new generation of research leaders to support the innovation needed in creating a green economy for the future. 'This hub will provide advice, ideas and expertise to assist policy makers and help secure the vital supplies of resources needed to drive the new energy economy and support the resources jobs of the future. It will ultimately lead to several academic exchange programmes, MoUs on 'Education, Research and Skills' and on

'Cooperation in the field of Mining and Processing of Critical and Strategic Minerals expanding which will later be expanded to Indo-Pacific region involving IIT (BHU) as the nodal agency,' he said.

He further informed that India has an ambitious industrial reforms agenda to expand manufacturing capability and to transition to a low-carbon and digital economy. 'Indian government has set ambitious targets for several sectors, for example, it has set a very ambitious renewable energy generation target of 175GW by 2022 and 450GW renewable energy by 2030. It also aims to have 30 per cent of vehicles powered by electricity by 2030, which require availability of critical minerals. Maintaining the constant supply chain of critical minerals is important for India to make successful many government programmes such as Atma Nirbhar Bharat and Make in India,' said Prof Jain.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

This Diwali when your house gets illuminated with designer and colourful diyas, idols and flower pots (gamla), it would not only bring cheers to you and your family but also to over 20 women of Shankargarh block.

These women associated with three self-help groups (SHGs) are preparing designer and colourful diyas (earth-pots), flowerpots and idols with the help of cow dung and machines. The women have prepared the decorative items using dung of over 2,500 cows currently sheltered at Kanha

Gaushala in Janwa village of Shankargarh block in the trans-Yamuna pocket of Prayagraj district.

The women volunteers aim to prepare around one lakh diyas and 50,000 flower pots of three different sizes ahead of Diwali with the help of machines. District Manager (National Rural Livelihood Mission) Amit Shukla said women associated with three self-help groups are shaping designer diyas and flower pots with the help of cow dung. He added that this time, we have brought a special machine to shape diyas and flower pots in Kanha gaushala in Shankargarh block.

He further added, "Dung of over 2,500 cows sheltered at Kanha Gaushala would be utilised by these volunteers and they would earn good profits. Demand for traditional diyas and gamla made of cow dung has been pouring in from different parts of the state. Moreover, women associated with other self-help groups are shaping traditional and designer diyas and idols of Lord Ganesh and Goddess Laxmi and candles at Bahadurpur and Bahariya blocks. Besides, candles were also manufactured at the Meja block ahead of Diwali.

Interestingly, traders associated with various traders

organisations have already placed orders for diyas and idols made of cow dung and women volunteers are ready to prepare more if they get more demand from other states.

Meanwhile, Vijay Arora, president of Prayag Vyapaar Mandal, said; "We have decided to promote only indigenous products for the festival of lights. The only country made lights and indigenous decorative items will be sold in the markets of Prayagraj and neighbouring districts. These diyas, idols, candles and flower pots will be sold in markets and makeshift stalls set up in several areas of the district."

Bid to defame girl on social media

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

A case of defaming a girl on Instagram has come to the fore. The matter belongs to Dhumanganj police station area of Prayagraj. A young man by the name of a girl living in Dhumanganj police station area created an account and shared pornographic videos and photos to his friends. When the girl came to know about this, she told her father.

In this case, the girl's father has lodged a report against the

accused under the IT Act at Dhumanganj police station. In this regard, the police said that the matter is being investigated with the help of cyber cell. It is worth mentioning that before this such incident had happened with two girls of Kydganj and Colonelganj in the city.

Meanwhile, bike-borne miscreants looted a mobile from advocate Diwakar Mishra, who was on a morning walk. He lodged a case at Dhumanganj police station. Police said that the miscreants

would be caught soon.

Meanwhile, in Mahrudhi village of Phaphamau police station area, a scuffle broke out between two parties over a land dispute. In this, people of one side injured Pankaj Yadav son of Brijlal Yadav, a resident of Mahrudhi police station in Phaphamau, by beating him with sticks and logs. The victim has given a written complaint against the accused in Phaphamau police station. Phaphamau inspector in-charge Ramkewal Patel said that the matter is related to the

land dispute, legal action will be taken against the accused.

In another case, ornaments worth lakhs of rupees were stolen from the house of a professor's sister in Unchawagarhi Rajapur locality of Cantt police station area.

Doubting the role of a painter, a case of theft was registered. Sushma Mishra, a cousin of the professor at Allahabad University, lives in Unchawagarhi with her son Saurabh. A sum of 20,000 in cash besides gold & silver ornaments were stolen.

PNB CGM visits zonal office

VARANASI (PNS): Chief General Manager (CGM) of Punjab National Bank (PNB) SK Dixit visited the zonal office of the bank here on Monday. On his visit, the CGM was welcomed by the Zonal Chief Rajendra Kumar Vashistha and Deputy General Manager (DGM) Pramod Ranjan Toofan. During his one day visit, the CGM reviewed the 6(s) campaign to increase his commitment to the customers. Under this campaign, the bank is committed to increase its reach to the customers through Swagat (welcome), Sankalp (pledge), Shikhar (peak), Samridhdhi (prosperity), Swabhiman (self-respect) and Sampark (connectivity) schemes. In this campaign, the Varanasi regional office of the bank has sanctioned approval letters of ₹ 1.58 crore to the customers. The meeting was also attended by DGM Iftikhar Ahmed and Regional Chief Rajesh Kumar. The meeting was also attended by the branch managers of various branches including Assistant General Managers (AGMs) Biman Kumar, Sanjit Singh and Chief



CGM SK Dixit being welcomed at PNB office in Varanasi on Monday.

Pioneer

Managers of MCC and PLP. **STUDENTS STAGE DEMONSTRATION:** Annoyed with the college administration that failed in fulfilling its promise to initiate the process to get accreditation for the Agriculture Faculty, the faculty students of the Udai Pratap PG College on Monday staged a demonstration at college gate demanding that the college should make process for the accreditation from Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) so that the students could be eligible to appear at the entrance examination of postgraduate which is conducted at national level.

The faulty students gathered at college gate and staged a demonstration under the leadership of students' union of the college Nishant Singh and former general secretary Shivam Singh. The ICAR conducts entrance examination in the agricultural universities for the admission in the graduation and post-graduation and also for the research but it had made mandatory through a notification in 2020 that the accreditation from it is mandatory for all the agricultural universities and colleges and only those students were declared eligible to appear at entrance examination conducted in June

24 last whose faculties or colleges have got accreditation from ICAR, the students informed. The passed students of the college were declared ineligible to appear at the entrance examination for the admission in postgraduation because the faculty has no accreditation from ICAR, the students charged. They had staged a protest twice in past in July and September last but no initiative was started by the college administration regarding this till date and in such a situation, the future of the students is seem to be in dark, they charged and demanded the college administration to initiate the process immediately for the accreditation so that the students could appear at next entrance examination. The Dean of Students' Welfare of the college Dr Mahip Singh reached the demonstration site to hold talk with the students but failed in pacifying them. Later, the students ended their demonstration on the assurance given by the college administration that it would speed up the process to get accreditation at the earliest.

1.62 lakh vaccine doses to be given today

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Health authorities in Sangam city are all set to touch yet another vaccination milestone as they have decided to administer jabs to as many as 1.62 lakh people under a mega vaccination drive on Tuesday. Nodal officer and ACOM Dr Teerath Lal told newsmen that the department has set a target to administer 1.62 lakh doses in a single day on Tuesday. People will be vaccinated at over 400 sites, he said.

Over 350 health teams have been engaged to accomplish the target. Notably, the Prayagraj district has given over 31.76 lakh jabs till October 18. The officials have set a target of administering Covid vaccine jabs to 45.16 lakh people.



SSP SUSPENDS MUNSHI FOR TAKING BRIBE: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Sarvshresth Tripathi suspended Munshi Shaikat Sultan for taking bribe from a complainant. Munshi was seen pocketing currency notes at Kareli police station in Prayagraj. The video went viral on social media.

Along with this, a depart-

mental inquiry was also set up against him. In preliminary investigation, he could not tell from whom, when and why the money was taken. Finding him prima facie guilty, the SSP suspended him.

A few days ago, Munshi's video went viral on the internet. In a 12-second video, a man gives several 500 notes to the Munshi who keeps the

same with him after counting. It was discussed that the money was taken from a complainant. It was not known when and who made the video.

Meanwhile, a case has come to light from High Court advocate Amarnath Upadhyay for demanding extortion of Rs 10 lakh and threatening to kill him if he does not pay. After the incident, the victim filed a case against Manvendra Singh alias Jailor, Vivek Singh and five unknown accused at Civil Lines and Jhansi police station.

Amarnath, a resident of Gangotri Nagar in Jhansi alleged that a few days ago he was present near the Civil Lines Coffee House, when the accused came in a car and demanded an extortion of Rs 10 lakh. The accused threatened to kill him if he didn't pay the money.

Agri varsity signs pact with ICSI for academic advancement

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Vice Chancellor of Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Dr DR Singh, addressing the gathering after signing a MoU with the Institute of Company Secretaries of India at the university on Monday, said the objective of signing the memorandum was for academic advancement to benefit students in the current times.

He said the MoU would keep the students keen on pursuing various courses and take up research abroad. He said the university would also ensure that the students availed themselves of the access to the library and its auditorium from time to time. He said this collaboration would lead to joint progress of both the institutions.

The pact was inked by Dr Singh and President of ICSI, New Delhi, Dr Nagendra Rao.

The CSAUAT vice chancellor said the university had to its credit five crop research centres and 14 seed research centres and added that this university was among the ancient centres for agricultural learning and research work.

He said that CSAUAT was one of the finest farm universities in India and its contribution in agricultural research had been immense. He said it was a matter of pride to claim that the students of this insti-



CSA University of Agriculture and Technology and Indian Company Secretaries , New Delhi sign a MoU at the varsity on Monday.

tute took part in research work across the world and frequently visited these centres of excellence of the world for completing their research work. He said this MoU would take the university to further heights of excellence.

Addressing the gathering, ICSI president Dr Nagendra D Rao said to further the interests of the students of this university, the ICSI had inked a pact with CSAUAT to help students who were keen to pursue their

career in professional field and wished to volunteer their services in the legal area. He said the ICSI would conduct academic programmes so that both the students as well as the faculty could be benefited. He said both the institutes would be able to exchange academic contents to each other.

President of ICSI, Kanpur Chapter, Manish Kumar Shukla, addressing the session said that the ICSI had 72 chapters across India and four

regional councils and two study centres. CSAUAT Director Research Dr HG Prakash discussed in detail the research activities of the university and said this was the right step in the right direction and would prove to be a milestone in the history of both the institutes.

Prominent among those who took part in the function were Dr Karam Hussain, Dr Dharanraj Singh, Dr Vedratna, Dr CP Sachan and Dr Khalil Khan.

NSI, Hydranautics to develop membrane based cane juice concentrating technology

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

National Sugar Institute, Kanpur on Monday signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Hydranautics, a Nitto Group multinational company, for developing membrane based technology for concentrating sugarcane juice.

Currently the cane juice, after clarification, is concentrated in multiple effect evaporators using steam but in the membrane based technology based on the principle of reverse osmosis, the juice would be concentrated and as a result the steam would not be required for evaporating the water which would result in saving fuel.

NSI Kanpur Director Dr Narendra Mohan said during the process of boiling of juice



National Sugar Institute, Kanpur and Nitto Group multinational company Hydranautics on Monday signed a MoA .

with steam, a substantial amount of sugar loss along with colour development was inevitable in the conventional process which may be minimised in this technology. He said the NSI proposed to con-

duct trials on pilot plant scale in two sugar factories during the current crushing season. He said the end results would be evaluated for optimising the processing conditions, capital cost and operational cost and

this study would generate useful data on effectiveness of the envisaged system over the conventional systems.

He said the NSI would evaluate the results and if required, necessary modifications in the system would be made to suit operating conditions and to attain the desired efficiency. He said there were challenges, but with this collaborative effort, the institute was sure of making the breakthrough which would be a game changer for the sugar industry.

He said under the pact, Hydranautics would bear the cost of pilot plant and operating expenditure besides paying institutional charges to the National Sugar Institute, Kanpur for the technical consultancy.

KDA to launch New Kanpur City project in 2022

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Development Authority (KDA) is all set to launch its ambitious 26-year-old New Kanpur City project in the New Year 2022.

Meanwhile, the work for preparing the layout of the project will start from November itself.

KDA Vice Chairman Arvind Singh said efforts were on to bring the much-delayed project on the ground now. He said the first sector of the project would be developed on 73 hectare land in three villages from Singhpur to Mainawati Marg and from Kalyanpur to Singhpur and for this, talks were on with the farmers to buy their 15 hectare land. He said after preparing the layout, areas earmarked for the plots and public amenities would be clear.

It may be recalled that KDA had worked out a plan to launch the New Kanpur City project in 1995. But even after a lapse of 26 years, the project could not be brought on the ground for various reasons, including huge bungling in acquisition of land. Thereafter, on October 17, 2017, the KDA had banned the approval of layout for construction in areas covered under the project. However, despite the ban, several constructions came up on this land.

After Arvind Singh took over the charge as the new vice chairman of KDA a few



KDA Vice Chairman Arvind Singh

months ago, he took the issue seriously and ordered demolition of unauthorised townships that had come up in Singhpur Kachhar village without any approved layout. Now, he has decided to develop the New Kanpur City project sector wise.

In the first phase, the project would be developed on 73 hectare land available in three villages -- Gangpur Chakbanda, Singhpur Kachhar and Sambhalpur -- covered under the New Kanpur City scheme which includes the land to be purchased from the farmers.

Meanwhile, the KDA vice chairman has again appealed to the people to buy any property (plot or building) in the city only after ascertaining the facts about approval of its layouts from the development authority. He said that people carrying out illegal constructions/developing townships without the approved layout

would not be spared and all such constructions were liable to be demolished forthwith.

HMS KANPUR DIVISION OFFICE-BEARERS TAKE OATH: The swearing in ceremony of new office-bearers of Hind Mazdoor Sabha's Kanpur division was organised in the engineering branch office of North Central Railway Men's Union on Monday.

Returning officer Rafiq Ahmad (KESCo) presided over the event.

Senior Central government employee and general secretary of Karmachari Kalyan Samanvaya Samiti, Sharad Prakash Agarwal, was chief guest on the occasion. He along with special guest Sunil Kumar Sahu (Defence) and Pradeep Kumar Yadav (Central Health department), administered oath to new office-bearers led by their newly-elected president Taruni Kumar Paswan and general secretary Yogesh Thakur.

Other office-bearers were: Kuldeep Saxena acting president; Ram Bharose (Railway), Chhaviyal Yadav (Defence), Raghuvir Singh (Insurance) (vice-presidents); Meenakshi Singh (joint secretary); Ram Shanker Mishra (KESCo), Rama Shanker (Railway), Rakesh Yadav (Roadways) secretaries; Raj Kumar (treasurer); Saurabh Singh (Defence) deputy treasurer and auditor Virendra Kumar Yadav (Insurance).

Ram Prakash Rai (CITU), Asit Kumar Singh (AITUC), SAM Zaidi and Rana Pratap Singh (AITUC), Dharm Deo (AIUCUC) and Ram Dulare (TUCC) were hopeful of strengthening the fight of joint forum with the setting up of HMS unit in the division.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGN: Activists of Sanatan Mandir Chetna Society have launched a mass awareness campaign to install the idol of Ma Ganga which is lying abandoned and gathering dust in the Ganga Barrage store due to apathy of Irrigation department for the past 25 years.

They pledged to install the idol by organising an Ekadashi Vrit Katha at the Ganga Barrage on Saturday.

State organisation secretary of Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Madhuram, in his address, condemned the attitude of the Irrigation department and resolved to hand over a memorandum to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath personally to seek permission for installation of the idol.

Activist Ajay Kumar Mishra said people would be roped in by launching a signature campaign.

Ashok Gupta, Dr Suresh Awasthi, Vinay Mishra, Rajesh Singh, Anil Pandey, Mukesh Shukla, Ranjit Singh, Ram Shanker Pandey, Pramod Shukla, Mahesh Tewari, Brijesh Dixit, KR Tewari and Ashwani Tripathi were present.

Medical College asked to set up Smart OPD at LLR Hospital

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Municipal Commissioner Shivasharanappa GN has asked the principal of GSVM Medical College to set up a Smart OPD at LLR Hospital to help patients avoid queues in hospitals.

Addressing a meeting on Monday, he said the proposal was being prepared and it would be placed before the Kanpur divisional commissioner for implementation of the project at the earliest.

He said the current problem for the people was the unending wait and lack of seating facilities forcing the sick and their relatives to stand for their turn. He said the Smart OPD would be introduced soon.

He said this technology would be available through a free app and would enable patients to bypass long queues at registration and billing counters, labs, pharmacies and doctors' chambers. He said very soon all the hospitals would have to install digital tablets outside doctors' rooms and consultation cabins. He said thus the patients would be able to access ready information on their mobile phones or check the tablets installed outside each consultation cabin on the inflow and outflow of other patients.

He said under the new system it had been decided that at the registration counter, patients would be given near-field communication (NFC)-based 'Tap & Pay Card' (registration + cash card) and would be prompted to download a patient app, which would store all the medical records, medical bills or payment transactions. He said this app would also check the doctor's availability, and give a real-time token broadcaster to help doctors as well as patients at investigation or diagnostic counters and pharmacies.

He said this would help to instantly calculate the wait time and provide the required information that one needed to have before going through various lab tests such as the requirement of having an empty stomach before a test.

The municipal commissioner said apart from catering to medical records in a chronological order through a single-view case-sheet, it would help doctors to review and enter their current findings immediately. He said the patients would then be able to have an online registration and then meet the doctor. He said the pathology tests would also be carried out on the same pattern and the pathology report would be provided on the app along with the diagnosis and the patients would also be able to purchase the medicines recommended through the app.

Plea to restore rail fare concession to scribes, senior citizens

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

President of Uttar Pradesh Rail Yatri Kalyan Samanvaya Samiti, Rajesh Kumar Shukla, has demanded restoration of concession in rail fare as earlier allowed to journalists, senior citizens, players and students during their journey by trains. He sent a memorandum to Railway Minister Ashwani Vaishnav through Bharatiya Janata Party MP Satyadeo Pachauri on Monday.

Pachauri assured him to hand over the memorandum to the railway minister during a personal meeting with him next week and urge him to restore the rail fare concession as allowed in the past. Shukla said that the rail fare concession was suspended in special trains introduced during COVID-19 pandemic which should be restored now.

LAWYERS' DEMAND: Lawyers rallying under the banner of Adhivakta Kalyan Sangharsh Samiti have demanded the arrest of the assailants who gunned down their colleague Bhupendra on the third floor of the Shahjahanpur court on Monday within 24 hours and compensation of Rs 1 crore and government job to kin of the deceased.

2 additional sleeper coaches to be temporarily attached in trains

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

The railway administration due to unavoidable reasons will not attach pantry car in 02511/02512 Gorakhpur-Kochveli-Gorakhpur special train from Gorakhpur from October 31 to November 28 and from Kochveli from November 3 to December 1, in 02589/02590 Gorakhpur-Secunderabad-Gorakhpur special train from Gorakhpur from November 3 to 24, 2021 and from Secunderabad from November 4 to 25 and in 02591/02592 Gorakhpur-Yeshvantpur-Gorakhpur special train from Gorakhpur from November 6 to 27 and from

Yeshvantpur from November 8 to 29. In view of the forthcoming festivals, for the convenience of passengers in place of pantry car two additional coaches of sleeper class will be attached temporarily, Senior Public Relations Officer (SPRO) CP Chauhan said.

In the 02511/02512 Gorakhpur-Kochveli-Gorakhpur special train from Gorakhpur on October 31, November 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 14, 18, 19, 21, 25, 26 and 28 and from Kochveli on November 3, 7, 9, 10, 14, 16, 17, 21, 23, 24, 28, 30 and on December 1 two additional sleeper class coaches will be attached temporarily.

In the 02589/02590

Gorakhpur-Secunderabad-Gorakhpur special train from Gorakhpur on November 3, 10, 17 and 24 and from Secunderabad on November, 4, 11, 18 and 25 two additional sleeper class coaches will be attached temporarily.

On the other hand in the 02591/02592 Gorakhpur-Yeshvantpur-Gorakhpur special train from Gorakhpur on November 6, 13, 20 and 27 2021 and on November 8, 15, 22 and 29 two additional sleeper class coaches will be attached temporarily. In the abovementioned trains after attaching two additional sleeper class coaches, a total of 22 coaches will be there.

Gorakhpur RPSF team wins trophy

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

The 2nd Battalion, Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF), Gorakhpur, won the All India RPSF Volleyball Competition-2021 held in Lucknow recently defeating defending champions 6th Battalion, RPSF, Daya Basti, in

Chief Security Commissioner (PCSC)/RPSF Headquarters, Daya Basti, Delhi, Sanjay Kishore, was the chief guest at the function. While giving the trophy to the winners, he congratulated them on their victory. On the basis of their performance, two spikers of the 2nd Battalion, Vitoot and



a hard-fought final 21-18 and 22-17. The success of Gorakhpur team was the result of its continuous hard work during the last one month under the supervision of North Eastern Railway (NER), Gorakhpur's volleyball coach Pradeep Kumar Yadav. The 2nd Battalion, which reached only up to semi-finals earlier, succeeded in winning the trophy due to its rigorous practice under proper supervision of the coach and the guidance of Commanding Officer Anirudh Chaudhary. Principal

Saurabh Kumar, have been selected for the All India Railway Protection Force Volleyball Championship-2021. Commanding Officer Anirudh Chaudhary encouraged the players of the winning team by extending good wishes to them.

COMPETITIONS: The North Eastern Railway Women's Welfare Organisation (NERWWO), Gorakhpur, for the creative development of children and women on October 20 from 11.30 am in Railway Officers' Club here

will organise a lamp decoration competition for students of Railway Senior Secondary School, Railway Girls' Inter College, Railway Girls' Inter College, Gorakhpur, Swarna Jayanti Primary School and NERWWO Disney World School, North Eastern Railway (NER), Gorakhpur, and 'rangoli' competition for women employees. In the lamp decoration competition one child of each railway Group C and D employee can participate and whose age should not be more than 12 years. The participating children for taking part in it will bring 12 lamps decorated in a plate from their home. In the 'rangoli' competition in a group two women employees will bring all necessary materials for making it. The application form should be forwarded by the officer/principal/headmistress concerned. Besides, for the lamp decoration competition, name of the candidate, parents' name and designation, date of birth, office address and mobile number should be there. In the application form for the 'rangoli' competition the name of the participating woman employee, her husband/father's name, designation, office address and mobile number should be there. Candidates will have to submit the application form by October 19, Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) Pankaj Kumar Singh said.

Sports tournament inaugurated

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

Superintendent of Police (SP) Ajay Kumar Singh while inaugurating the inter-district sports tournament of Varanasi Zone at the Police Lines on

the east direction. Thereafter the area police reached the spot and recovered the body. The identity of the woman could not be established yet, last reports received here said. After registering a case, the



Sunday extended his best wishes to the participating teams and made an appeal to them to perform with sportsmanship spirit. Volleyball, basketball, handball, table tennis and yoga competitions were to be held during the three-day-long tournament.

AGED WOMAN DIES: An unidentified woman was run over by a train under Vindhyachal police station on Saturday. According to a report received here the Vindhyachal police was informed that the body of a 70-year-old woman was lying on railway track one kilometre away from the Vindhyachal railway station in

police completed the legal formalities.

FORMER MP'S CLAIM: Former MP and chairman Uttar Pradesh Congress Strategy and Planning Committee Dr Rajesh Mishra while addressing a press conference held at the residence of a veteran party leader on Saturday claimed that Congress was only the political party which had a glorious past of struggle on ground for the cause of common people. Praising the commitment of party's national general secretary Priyanka Gandhi for the people he claimed that it was she who had proved herself as

the voice of the oppressed. On the occasion he claimed that the people had made up their mood to teach Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) a lesson and bring the Congress to power. Prominent among those who accompanied the Congress leader were former MLA Bhagwati Prasad Chaudhary, Dr Brajdev Pandey, Chhotey Khan, Surendra Kumar Pandey, Dinesh Kol, Jitendra Chaubey, Manish Dubey, Rajan Pathak, Ashutosh Dubey and Sudhakar.

MISSING BOY RECOVERED: The Dehat Kotwali police recovered a three-year-old missing boy and handed over him to his parents on Saturday. According to a report received here, a woman belonging to Piparadaand village, informed the area police on Saturday that her son, aged three years, had gone missing on Friday. Taking instant action Station House Officer (SHO) Vijay Kumar Chaurasia formed the team and directed the cops to launch a search for the him. Consequently owing to the hard labour of the police, the missing boy was found within few hours in Gangaut village under Dehat Kotwali police station. After completing the legal formalities the police then handed over the boy to his parents.

PCE, DGM conduct inspection

PNS ■ VARANASI

In Banaras Locomotive Works (BLW) premises-situated Surya Sarovar pond and courtyard Principal Chief Engineer (PCE) Santosh Shukla, Deputy General Manager (DGM) Vijay and Public Relations Officer (PRO) Rajesh Kumar did an extensive inspection on Saturday and seeing the scattered garbage and filth appealing to the people not to spread dirt, made them aware and explained the importance of cleanliness. Thereafter the BLW administration by running a massive cleanliness campaign



ensured cleaning of the entire Surya Sarovar and premises. In this campaign in addition to the officers and employees of the Civil department the members of the Civil Defence

Organisation also participated. It may be pointed out here that the BLW Civil department is getting regular cleaning of Surya Sarovar and premises done.



Revival effort

Sasikala's attempt to make herself politically relevant again still lacks teeth

It is the golden jubilee year of the AIADMK in Tamil Nadu, but the celebrations are muted. It lacks a unifying leader. It lost power to rival DMK. Its workers have been caught in factional fights ever since Jayalalithaa died. Can such a party dare think of a revival? A close aide of the late Puratchi Thalaivi, VK Sasikala, thinks so. She wants to revive, if not the party, at least her chances of becoming the leader. Coming out of prison after serving a four-year term in a corruption case, she used the occasion of the 50th year of the founding of the party to make herself politically relevant once again. Her political errands were low-key but not publicity-shy. She visited party mausoleums and museums in Chennai to pay her obeisance to MGR and Jayalalithaa. She talked to party workers about bringing back Jayalithaa's legacy; it was not yet the time to address the people. She proposes to tour the State, to assess the mood of the workers. Sasikala's opening gambit is now complete. It is for the party's dual leadership — Edappadi K Palaniswami and Ottakarathevar Panneerselvam — to respond. The former has taken credit for the AIADMK avoiding a rout in the assembly elections and surprisingly getting 77 seats. He thinks that makes him a better leader than OPS. The latter is more susceptible to Sasikala's influence because they share the same caste. It is not a difficult task for her to break the dual leadership but she would not want the party to break. That would not serve her purpose. She



wants to see how the 2017 heist-cum-murder incident in Jayalalithaa's Kodanad estate affects the OPS-EPS duo. EPS, the then Chief Minister, did not order a special probe. The DMK Government now has. All this has left the party workers a confused lot. They do not know who among the three leaders has the staying power. They want to see if Sasikala has the advantage of a sympathy factor because of her association with 'Ammma'. They will wait to check if the Kodanad probe troubles EPS and OPS. That is why none of the leaders is in a hurry to make a move.

The person who can keep the AIADMK united and maintain the State's bipolar politics has a chance of succeeding Jayalalithaa. Not even the DMK wants a challenger in the state other than the AIADMK. MK Stalin has gone on record saying that. The Congress knows its place already. The BJP, however, is intent on joining the party. It had originally bet on the AIADMK's decimation in the elections, hoping to find a factional partner if the party broke up. That did not happen as OPS-EPS had a bigger objective: grabbing party reins. However, Sasikala recused herself from the elections as questions were raised about an invisible hand influencing her decision. Can she summon the courage to keep the national parties at bay like Jayalalithaa?

PICTALK



Volunteers hold placards during the 'Red Light On, Gaadi Off' campaign in Delhi

Ranjan Dimri | The Pioneer

Flood and fury

Despite warnings and alerts from the IMD, official response in Kerala has been missing

Monsoon, the subcontinent's unique weather phenomenon, has inspired writers ranging from Kalidasa to Alexander Frater. While the former integrated the beauty and romance of monsoon in his 'Meghdoot', Frater informed the world about its vagaries and how it impacted the socio-economic lives of millions in his travelogue 'Chasing The Monsoon'. Till the early 1970s, the monsoon used to pass over the Indian landscape in an elegant pattern. But over the last few years, the monsoon's fury has started striking Kerala, and India at large, quite regularly. The year 2018 saw nature at its worst, claiming hundreds of lives and devouring thousands of houses and acres of farm lands in God's Own Country. Kerala was under the spell of heavy rains and winds over the last few weeks and this took a turn for the worse as the depressions in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea developed into downpours and heavy winds. Warnings issued by the Indian Meteorological Department and the local Cochin University of Science and Technology



do not seem to have been noticed by the persons who govern the State. Officials have confirmed that rains and landslides claimed more than 30 lives till Monday.

This is going to be the pattern of monsoon in coming weeks and months, according to Prof S Abhilash, Department of Atmospheric Sciences, CUSAT. He says there is a change in the pattern of rain distribution, intensity of rain and cloud structure. There has been no dearth of warnings and weather alerts from the IMD but something is missing in the official response to these timely bulletins. The cloudbursts and landslides are being seen as the fallout of the wanton destruction of the fragile ecosystem in the State. Since the 1960s, the rainforests were slaughtered to build dams and facilitate planting of cash crops like rubber and spices. P K Ramachandran, a veteran botanist with Rubber Board, laments over the report he made which made the Government to promote planting of rubber in thousands of hectares of rain forests. Policy makers forgot the State's proximity to the sea while the ecological devastation of Western Ghats led to flood and fury becoming regular events in Kerala. The land known for its serene nature has taken a vengeful persona, proving yet again that any unregulated action and irresponsibility by mankind will not go unpunished by Nature.

How the Partition helped India

In an undivided India with no Pakistan or Bangladesh in existence, the larger population would have been only 60 per cent non-Muslim



PRAFULL GORADIA

Pran Chopra, who later rose to be the editor of the Statesman, was reporting on an election which said a lot. A public meeting was held at Jalandhar in the middle of which there was *azaan* or a call for prayer. The crowd went to pray but Jinnah sat down on a chair, pulled out a cigar and lit it. He smoked until the crowd returned and then resumed his speech in English. The only other language he could speak was Gujarati. He had had no leisure to learn Urdu. Whenever Jinnah shouted "Islam is in danger", the crowd endorsed him loudly. The instance of a Muslim leader shunning prayer and smoking is telling.

If not the leader, what was he who succeeded in dividing a sub-continent? Evidently, he was the advocate-general for Pakistan. He could see that Muslims in India were generally nervous, if not also frightened. They were less educated than the Hindus and were fewer in the total number in the country. Furthermore, not even their elite owned industries and Nehru's socialist Government would take away their land. Muslims, who had ruled India for centuries, would be reduced to servants and clerks of Hindus.

The Advocate had a formula of Pakistan which to Aligarh students meant a New Medina which could go on to throw up a Caliph. There was no reigning religious-cum-temporal head of Sunni Islam. The last one was the Sultan of Turkey whom Kemal Atatürk had dethroned and exiled in 1924. There had been no replacement. He planned a viable strategy for his clients — the Muslims — and got on with his job. He had been the highest-paid barrister in the British Empire for several years. For dividing the country, his fees would be a place in history's hall of fame.

To indicate his role as an advocate, when he went, for the first time, to Dacca in the Eastern wing of Pakistan in February 1948, the university students demanded Bengali also to be a national language. Jinnah insisted that it can only be one tongue namely Urdu. He was curt, he did not know the Bengali psyche, and sowed the seeds of what eventually became Bangladesh. A leader would have



been more tactful and conciliatory. He did something similar in Delhi as he was finally leaving for Karachi. Some local Muslims had gathered in anxiety to ask their Qaid-e-Azam what could happen to them now that Partition has taken place? His reply was hurried and curt; I have achieved for you what you wanted; now look after yourself. What more can I do? Again the attitude of an advocate and not a leader.

On the last day of his life in September 1948, his health was deteriorating at Quetta, where he had gone to rest. His sister Fatima was with him and a British doctor. As his plane landed in Karachi, an old ambulance was awaiting his arrival. Remember, he was the Governor-General. Within two or three mile, the vehicle stopped and would not move forward. So the doctor took another ambulance, which took an hour or so to arrive and take an ailing Jinnah to his residence. That same evening at say 10 pm, he died. The next day he was buried but reportedly in a Savile Row tailored suit. Coincidentally, he died in the city of his birth, namely Karachi.

Jinnah achieved what he had set out on March 23, 1940, at Lahore. His death was no tragedy, because it was not an end with unfulfilled aspirations.



WITHOUT JINNAH, THE PARTITION WAS UNLIKELY. MANY MUSLIMS BELIEVE THAT WITHOUT THE QAID-E-AZAM, THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO ONE TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE BRITISH RULERS

Had he died unfulfilled, it would have been somewhat tragic for him, but more so for Hindus. The simple reason is that there would have been no Partition; without Jinnah, Partition was most unlikely. Many Muslims believe that without the Qaid-e-Azam, there would have been no one to negotiate with the British rulers. The Muslims had no other all-India leader. It is in this belief the Muslim League requested him to jettison his practice in a barrister in London welcome him back to India, as the League's life president.

To be convinced fully that Hindus needed the Partition, one has to digest the arguments laid out by Dr B R Ambedkar which are available in Volume VIII of his Complete Works. In his one blunt statement, Babasaheb declared, "An enemy without one's borders is more desirable than an enemy within". He went on to write that the Hindu provinces were paying much more tax, whose revenue was shared by the Muslim provinces. Yet because of their religious restrictions Muslim soldiers could not have fought for India, had the invading enemy been Muslim. The Khilafat Committee had endorsed this, as also the Muslim League.

In any case, in an undivided

India with no Pakistan or Bangladesh in sight, the larger population of the country would have been only 60 per cent non-Muslim. This 60 per cent would be too low to prevent either an Islamic takeover or an open civil war. In other words, Hindu civilisation would have found it difficult to survive. It is not improbable that the Hindus might have lost this civil war. For one, the Muslims in the Indian army exceeded the rest, especially if one counted only the fighting units minus the non-combatant ones. Secondly, Hindus particularly would have been reluctant to shed blood and take the lives of those when they looked upon as their brethren. Consequently, India would gone back to being a Dar-ul-Islam, which it had been for many centuries until 1858. The last Mughal incumbent on the throne, Bahadur Shah Zafar was arrested and exiled to Yangan in Burma (then Rangoon), which was when the Islamic world recognised that we had ceased to be an Islamic State.

(This concludes the series on Muhammad Ali Jinnah's role in India-Pak Partition.)

(The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE WALL'S SECOND INNINGS

Sir — Adroit Rahul Dravid would make a dexterous head coach of the Indian cricket team. He has always been an asset for the team in every role be it of a player, a captain or a coach. Dravid has already coached the India-A and the U-19 team for six years. His vast experience is certainly an advantage for young players who need just the right guidance and discipline. His cricketing skills, dexterity, decision making and strategic moves have proven successful in various capacities.

A quality that differentiates a good player and a great player is discipline, and Rahul Dravid has always been known for his impeccable discipline and focus. His unwavering temperament, no matter how ferocious the bowler seemed, puts him ahead of the league. Our young, and even experienced players, can learn a thing or two about discipline from the master himself and become 'great' players. Dravid's forte are team building and team approach. He has the ability to build on strengths, suitability (batting, bowling, fielding, field placement). His system's students such as Rishab Pant, Avesh Khan, Prithvi Shaw, Hanuma Vihari and Shubnam Gill are proof of the pudding. Nivriti Sreelekha | Secunderabad

RUSSIAN FILMMAKERS TAKE IT TO SPACE

Sir — The recent return of the Russian filmmakers from the International Space Station after finishing up their film shoot has increased the thrills of movie lovers manifold. It is extremely exciting to watch space scenes, which until now were artificially created with graphic designs. Shooting in space for 12 days must have been extremely hard to manage than a routine shoot on earth. Russians have historic success in space and now after finishing a shoot in space this time, Russia once again becomes the first country to do so.

Space has many endeavours to be explored by mankind. Space tourism and private space commercial capsule flights had already created a buzz and now a

Life in Kerala goes under



As ill luck would have it, Saturday noon saw Kerala reeling under torrential rains and resultant floods that left a long trail of disaster caused by many landslides. At Least 26 people have so far lost their lives and in a heart-wrenching scene, bodies of three children of eight, seven and four years holding on to each other were also found buried under the debris by the rescue team in Idukki district. The India Meteorological

Department (IMD) officials have also expressed apprehensions of a cloudburst having caused these unseasonal heavy rains wreaking havoc.

The Army, the Navy and the IAF teams have also joined hands with the civil administrations while the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) is going to deploy 11 teams to help in the rescue operations in the most affected districts. This bodes well for the bereft families that taking a serious view of the grim situation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has spoken to Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan assuring him of all the possible aid while simultaneously announcing a 100 crore immediate relief package for the State. Let's all pray to the Almighty to give strength to all those on the receiving end of this natural calamity to bear with these painfully hard times with immense courage.

Azhar A Khan | Rampu

movie shoot opens many more possibilities. But the alarm bell rings right here. It is good that man has made space more accessible than ever before, but we also must be aware that our vision to explore more may harm the ecosystem. Therefore it is a big achievement to successfully finish shooting in space, but we must pledge to not ruin it with anthropogenic debris and leftovers that were used in projects of various types. Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

BEHIND THE GLAMOUR OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Sir — From pings and chat windows to pokes and emoticons, everything exists in social media platforms to bring people closer. It helps learn new things, make new friends, explore new opportunities and develop new perspectives. But every coin has two sides. Young teenagers spend a lot of time browsing social media apps, particularly, Facebook, as they find it the best form of communication. But it is treacherous for the teenagers as it directly affects

their mental health. It spreads toxicity among youths. It is also not safe for the nation as it can be used to steal sensitive data by the enemies. It damages youngsters beyond measure.

Nowadays, people of all ages are glued to their phones to browse through social media applications like Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, Twitter and many more. Half cooked stories and false news being spread is adversely affecting the very roots of the society. Everybody feels lonely in spite of being a member of several groups on social media. It is addictive as well as toxic and affects the self esteem of individuals. It is crucial that parents teach their children the adversaries around such apps. Even in schools, kids should be made aware of the truth behind the glamour of social media which takes a toll on their health as they start to use it. Somya Agrawal | Ujjain

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

To benefit a few friends of the Prime Minister, the public is being cheated and I will stand with the people.



Congress leader

— Rahul Gandhi



Israel should stop all its measures against our people in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip.

Palestinian President

— Mahmoud Abbas

Most of my films are meant for families to come in and engage, take back an important message and be thoroughly entertained.



Actor

— Ayushmann Khurrana



For me, Mahi is my brother. I respect and admire the fact that he was there when I needed him the most.

Indian all-rounder

— Hardik Pandya

As a token of my sympathy, I would like to make a donation...towards the relief and rescue efforts in Kerala.



Spiritual leader

— Dalai Lama

FIRST COLUMN

INFLATION AND THE GATI SHAKTI PLAN

The rising global fuel prices and a domestic policy of high taxation is a major concern



SHIVAJI SARKAR

The Gati Shakti plan is aimed at coordinating infrastructure schemes of various Central Ministries and State Governments to ensure quick and efficient completion of works. It was perhaps a long-term need for a nation that is on booster doses of revenue injection through borrowings to push growth. Gati plan would try to help in timely implementation of projects through coordination of 16 Central Government departments and avoiding duplication for cutting costs. The new plan is stated to check the expenses on different projects but not check galloping inflation. Though food prices were in check for about eight months, the latest reports suggest that food and vegetable prices are shooting up in many areas. Industry department data say that certain food items' contraction has brought down food inflation to 4.69 per cent in September. During the same time, manufactured products' prices soared to 11.41 per cent from 11.39 per cent in August. Pulses rose 9.42 percent and in October, onion and fruit prices have started soaring. Food prices are not decelerating across the board. In the manufactured category, prices of basic metals rose to 26.71 per cent and textiles remain elevated at 26.09 per cent. Interestingly enough, activities in different sectors have not yet picked up the pace needed to give the desired effect. A major reason is the



rising global fuel prices and a domestic policy of high taxation on petroleum products, a concern expressed by RBI. Overall, inflation also pushes up wages and other costs. Global fuel prices have started firming up now with an increase in demand. India takes a double hit as a result. Food grain doles are keeping the prices in check to a certain level. However, as activities increase so do domestic demand.

This is what a coordination committee has to look at. With crude prices hovering around \$80 a barrel and likely to firm up further, the inflation scenario may become grim. Whether the Gati-Shakti plan, using geo-mapping and real-time data, can check rising prices would be interesting to observe. Pressures like rising wage and transportation costs could increase further. The Bloomberg commodity index crossed 100 in the last week of September, first time since 2015, and continues to stay at that level. Prices of coal and crude oil have risen. The RBI's monetary policy committee expects inflation to start increasing from the October-December quarter onwards. The WPI inflation is to rise, the MPC forecasts. Technically measured by consumer price index (CPI), inflation is at a low. It grew at 4.35 per cent, but overall, it has come down by 195 basis points. Inflation also impacts purchasing power. Consumers are yet not flocking to the market. Sales are not increasing. Many units are unable to transfer the additional costs on fuel to the consumers. Even the truckers face this problem. They cannot let their fleet remain idle. So even at lower prices they agree to transport goods. Another aspect is a kind of stagnation in income levels and in some cases even rising income is not seeing the end of poverty. There is concern about inequality-driven inflation. While the Gati Shakti has raised high hopes of completing projects within the budgetary expenses, to give pace to it, another master plan to check inflation is needed. The administered prices of petroleum products along with the higher cost on road travel also have to be seen from the aspect of coordination. Coordinated pricing is key to the success of the Prime Minister's new master plan. At lower fuel prices, there would be more activities, more revenue generation and the aim of the NDA Government to have an overall development could be achieved.

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

The Air India sale : Better late than never



UTTAM GUPTA

Persistent neglect of Air India for over a decade and even during the period when its sale was under consideration has cost the exchequer dear

On June 28, 2017, the then Finance Minister, the late Arun Jaitley, had announced the 'in-principle' decision of the Union Cabinet for strategic divestment of Air India (AI) and five of its subsidiaries.

Over 50 months there after, on September 8, 2021, the Government has informed about its decision to privatise AI and its 100 percent subsidiary, Air India Express Limited (AIEL) and its 51 percent share in Air India Air Transport Services Limited (AIATSL). The iconic Maharajahs gone back to the hangar of the Tata Group almost 68 years after the company was nationalized in 1953. The AI privatization saga reveals four major pitfalls.

First, the move has been half-hearted from day one. That is a manifestation of an inherent tendency amongst bureaucrats and the political class to retain some controls even after divestment as also to ensure that employees continue to enjoy a protective cover even under the new boss.

The first attempt in 2017-18 came a cropper because in that offer, the Government insisted on retaining 24 percent shareholding with itself, retention of the employees besides imposing other conditions such as a minimum lock-in period of three years, etc. An additional rider was a requirement that the acquirer will have to take over a major slice of the debt on the books of AI. The investors showed no interest.

Eventually, the half-heartedness has given way to whole-heartedness even as the Government decided to sell 100 percent of its stake as also letting the acquirer shed employees after one year. It has also allowed the bidders to quote the 'enterprise value' - financial jargon for letting them get away with very little debt on the balance sheet of the divested undertaking.

However, the delay has come at a heavy cost to the Union Government. When the divestment was initially mooted, AI had a debt of around ₹50,000 crore. According to the secretary, Department of investment and public asset management, AI has been making a loss of ₹20 crore per day. No wonder, its cumulative debt has now ballooned to around ₹77,500 crore.

Second, after a disinvestment plan is taken on board, the scale of indifference to the working of the concerned PSU gets perked up which deteriorates its financial health further. As on March 31, 2021, AI had a debt of ₹58,000 crore. During the next five months till August 31, 2021, an additional debt of ₹3500 crore accrued. Furthermore, the Maharaja has piled up 'unpaid bills' of oil PSUs, airport dues and dozens of other vendors aggregating to ₹16,000 crore.

Put together, AI has liabilities of ₹77,500 crore. Of this, Tata will pay only ₹18,000 crore by taking over debt of ₹15,300 crore and give ₹2700 crore as equity. That leaves a whopping liability of a minimum around ₹60,000 crore with the Union Government (this could increase further



WITH DOZENS OF PSU DIVESTMENTS LINED UP, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE GOVERNMENT LEARNS THE RIGHT LESSONS FROM MISTAKES OF THE PAST. THAT WILL HELP MAXIMISE REALISATION FROM THE SALE OF PROFITABLE UNDERTAKINGS AND MINIMISE THE LIABILITIES ARISING FROM THE LOSSMAKING COMPANIES

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



as and when more unmet obligations come out of the cupboard) which will be transferred in its entirety to a special purpose vehicle named Air India Asset Holding Company Limited (AIAHCL).

The Centre will retain the non-core assets such as land, buildings, and housing colonies which, on sale, could fetch about ₹15,000 crore. Even if all of it is realized, the AIAHCL would be saddled with ₹45,000 crore. This amount will eventually come from tax payers' pocket and is over and above a whopping ₹110,000 crore already sunk since 2009-10 to keep it afloat.

Third, bureaucratic red tape rules the roost. Almost all processes starting from conception, getting approvals, Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM), Request for Proposal (RFP), inviting financial bids, selection of bidder, Share Purchase Agreement (SPA) and so on, crucial to successful completion of divestment are hamstrung by it. Add to this, the reluctance of bureaucrats to take timely decisions fearing they might be questioned after retirement.

The sale of AI has not remained unaffected by this malady. Some measures - reportedly under consideration - such as leaving decisions in regard to PIM, RFP and SPA to the DIPAM only (at present, these issues are decided by an inter-ministerial committee co-chaired by secretary, DIPAM and secretary of the concerned administrative ministry) are half-baked reforms.

Fourth, PSUs are often pushed

into a 'loss-making' situation by the political establishment (fully aided by the bureaucracy). This happens because of continuous interference by the latter in the working of these undertakings which is manifesting excessive manpower, high overhead cost, inflated payments to vendors etc. In case of AI, in 2007, it reached its nadir when the political bosses directed the management to procure 111 aircraft (for ₹70,000 crores) which was four times the requirement of only 28 put up by the management.

When a firm creates a huge liability (the aircraft purchases were funded by borrowings from a consortium of banks) with no matching business to put the assets to use, it inevitably leads to an unsustainable situation. The cash generation is bound to be too little vis-à-vis the requirement to amortize the loans. The irony is that the then Government did nothing to boost utilisation of the aircraft. Far from that, it gave away excessive bilateral seats and profitable routes to foreign/private airlines thereby ensuring that most of these aircraft sit idle. The other flawed decision was the merger of Indian Airlines with AI (2007). Even as there was little to gain by way of synergies (mergers are normally driven by this logic), vast differences in the work culture ethos, compensation packages, age profile of employees of the two entities led to operational inefficiencies thereby compounding losses and increasing debt of the combined entity.

To conclude, persistent neglect

of AI for over a decade and even during the period when its sale was under consideration has cost the exchequer dear. It is better late than never. By taking a call now (the deal is expected to be consummated by December, 2021), the Modi government has averted more drainage of resources besides garnering ₹18,000 crore (paid by Tata) plus another ₹15,000 crore being the value of non-core assets retained by it.

With dozens of PSU divestments lined up, it is imperative that the government takes the right lesson from mistakes of the past - as discussed above. That will help maximize realization from the sale of profitable undertakings and minimize the liabilities arising from abandoning the loss-making ones.

For instance, in case of AI, if only it had acted with alacrity in 2017-18 offering to offload 100 percent shareholding and no other encumbrance, it could not only have prevented further increase in debt but also successfully leveraged its lucrative assets (apart from 141 planes, it controls 4,400 domestic and 1,800 international landing and parking slots at domestic airports, as well as 900 slots at airports overseas, besides ownership of iconic brands like Maharaja) to secure a much higher valuation thereby reducing its burden.

Let us hope, henceforth Prime Minister Narendra Modi goes for a wholehearted approach and with a proactive and supportive bureaucracy he gets much better outcomes from the sales in the pipeline.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

IF YOU (BJP) WANT TO FIGHT, FIGHT LIKE MEN. DON'T USE THE ED, CBI. THIS IS NOT MACHISMO. THIS IS UNMANLY.
—MAHARASHTRA CHIEF MINISTER
UDDHAV THACKERAY



HAD THESE AGENCIES BEEN MISUSED, THEN HALF OF YOUR MINISTERS WOULD HAVE BEEN IN JAIL.
—BJP LEADER
DEVENDRA FADNAVIS

Polexit? The Poles wouldn't want that

Poland has benefited enormously from grants and loans from the richer EU countries to the poorer ones: the country looks different already

It is possible that the tide which brought hard-right populist Governments to power in a number of Central European countries is starting to go out again.

In the Czech Republic, billionaire oligarch Andrej Babiš suffered a surprise defeat in his bid to be re-elected Prime Minister on Sunday. The last straw may have been the revelation in the 'Pandora Papers' only days before that he had set up an offshore company to secretly buy a \$17.6 million mansion in southern France.

In Hungary, Jew-baiting, Muslim-hating, ultra-nationalist President Viktor Orbán suddenly has to worry about winning re-election next year. The perennially split opposition parties managed to unite



GWYNNE DYER

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

last October and made their candidate mayor of Budapest, Hungary's capital. If they can manage to stay united, they might even bring Orbán down next year.

And in Poland, which has twice the population of the other two combined, the populist Law and Justice Party (PiS) is drifting into troubled waters too. It doesn't face re-election until 2023, but by then it may have managed to get Poland expelled from the European Union: Polexit. That would greatly upset the 88 per cent of Poles who want to stay in the EU.

The PiS is a deeply conservative party in the Catholic tradition, with populist trimmings like a Government subsidy of \$150



per month for each child under 18. Its voters are mostly rural and small town, deeply religious, older, and poorly educated. They respond well to racist, xenophobic and anti-semitic rhetoric. Donald Trump would feel right at home.

The PiS has been in power since 2015, but almost every recent election has been a hair's-breadth victory: it is as unpopular in the liberal cities as it is beloved in the deeply religious villages. So it set itself the task of

improving its chances in future elections.

One obvious measure was to take control of the media. That was easy with the state-owned media: they were supposed to be impartial, but the government controls their budgets. However, it proved impossible to take over or freeze out the independent media, especially the foreign-owned ones, because EU law defends free speech.

Polish courts upheld the EU laws, because every member country had to pledge when it joined that on such matters EU law takes precedence over national laws and constitutions. So, the PiS decided to get around this roadblock by 'reforming' the Polish courts: if you don't like the judgements, change

the judges.

First the PiS Government forced a lot of judges out by lowering the retirement age, and replaced them with PiS supporters. When the EU objected to this blatantly political tampering with the courts, it packed the Constitutional Tribunal with its own people - and they declared that Polish law is superior to EU law last Friday. At that point, the Play-Doh hit the fan.

The European Commission declared that rulings by the European Court of Justice are "binding on all member states' authorities, including national courts." France's Europe minister was blunter: "There is the risk of a de facto exit." He's right. The PiS is playing

a game of chicken with the EU, of course, and has no intention of actually leaving the EU. As the streets of Warsaw and other Polish big cities filled with young people chanting 'Zostajemy' ('We're staying'), Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki declared "The place of Poland is and will be in the European family of nations" - but he is already in over his head.

Reason and instinct both argue that this storm will blow itself out. Poland has benefited enormously from seventeen years of grants and loans from the richer EU countries to the poorer ones: the whole country looks different already.

Right now, Poland is awaiting approval of a \$65

billion transfer from Brussels as its share of the EU's \$865 billion post-Covid 'stimulus package'. But that and much else might not come if Poland is in revolt against the EU's rules.

Russia is still close, and although nobody is expecting a Russian invasion at the moment, all of Polish history is shouting that you don't want to be alone out there.

And nine out of Poles want to stay in the EU.

So, it really should all blow over, but games of chicken are tricky. You have to drive like you have a death wish, and then turn away at the last second - but just after the other guy did. It's really hard to get the timing right, and if you get it wrong, you drive off the cliff. Polexit.

Cong committed sin by vilifying Patel, says BJP



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Continuing its attack on the Congress Working Committee (CWC) and its proceedings, the BJP on Monday accused the Congress of committing a “sin” over reports that a leader at the recent CWC meeting made critical remarks about Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir and sought to know if the party leadership will take action against him.

Accusing the Congress of only promoting the dynasty leaders, BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra cited reports that Tariq Hameed Karra, a Kashmiri leader and a perma-

nent invitee to the Congress Working Committee, had credited Jawaharlal Nehru for Jammu and Kashmir’s integration with India and had alleged that the role of Patel was sidelined.

The BJP leader described the alleged comments in the CWC as “sin”.

Patra wanted to know whether Congress president Sonia Gandhi or Rahul objected when Karra “vilified” Patel and presented India’s first Home Minister as a “villain” while praising Nehru.

“Was Karra reprimanded? Will he be axed from the CWC,” Patra asked, accusing the Congress of constantly insulting leaders like Subhas

Nadda lauds party workers for excellent work during pandemic

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Chairing the key office bearers’ meeting here on Monday to discuss upcoming Assembly polls in five States, BJP president Jagat Prakash Nadda on Monday lauded the hard work done by party workers during the trying times of Covid-19 and urged them to be relevant to the people.

“Parivartan (change) is constant and an ongoing process. And I always say, only those succeed in politics who stay relevant,” Nadda said in his address to the gathering, the first such addressed by him post-Covid-19 at the BJP headquarters after he took over as president in January 2019.

It has been called by Nadda to discuss the party’s strategy for the upcoming Assembly polls next year and to assign responsibilities to the office-bearers, election-in-charge, state in-charge and other leaders playing key roles in the poll-bound States.

Feedback was received by



Nadda from the five poll-bound States including UP, Uttarakhand, Goa and Punjab on the basis of which the party ticket allotment would be decided in the coming months.

After the day-long session BJP Vice-president Bajant J Panda briefed the press saying the BJP is “fully ready” for elections in five States.

Panda said party regularly took directions from Prime Minister Narendra Modi to march ahead for the future task. He said India is being globally praised for its vaccination drive and by IMF for the economic growth.

He said within a couple of days, the country will reach

the target of 100 crore Covid-19 vaccination.

The meeting was attended by the party’s national general secretary (organisational) BL Santhosh, national general secretary Arun Singh and Dushyant Gautam, national secretaries Vinod Tawde and Harish Dwivedi.

Party’s Uttar Pradesh in-charge and national vice president Radha Mohan Singh, BJP’s Uttarakhand and Punjab in-charge and national general secretary Dushyant Gautam, Goa in-charge and national general secretary CT Ravi, along with other general secretaries, national secretaries, vice-president, morcha chiefs and national spokespersons of the party were also present at the meeting.

BJP’s national executive council meeting is also scheduled for November 7.

Assembly elections are slated in UP, Uttarakhand, Goa, Manipur (all BJP ruled) and Punjab (Congress) in early next year.

India has always favoured peaceful, rule-based world order, says Rajnath

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As China is increasingly asserting itself in the Indian Ocean and Indo-Pacific region leading to tension, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday said India has always favoured peaceful, rule based and stable world order.

He also said the “geographical location of our country is something that makes it unique in many ways. Surrounded by the vast expanse of ocean from three sides, our country is very important from the point of view of strategic, trade and resources.”

Sharing this view here while inaugurating the four-day Navy Commanders’ here, Rajnath said as a responsible maritime stakeholder India supports consensus based principles and a peaceful, open, rule based and stable world order.

India also envisions Indian Ocean Region (IOR) with the universal values of rule based freedom of navigation and free trade in which the interests of all participating countries are protected, he said.

Being an important country in this maritime route the role of our Navy becomes more important in ensuring the security of this region, he said adding the Navy is effectively carrying out these responsibilities.

ities.

Speaking about the rapidly changing economic and political relations across the world, Rajnath said these economic interests do cause some stress in the relations. Therefore, there is a greater need to maintain peace and stability within the Indian Maritime Zones in order to boost the trade and economic activities. India Navy’s role in ensuring maintenance of this peace and stability in the region is going to increase manifold in the times to come.

“Only those nations have been successful in gaining dominance across the world, whose Navies have been strong and I am happy to say that our Navy is playing an important role in our maritime and national security,” he said.

Lauding the Navy’s efforts on self-reliance, the defence minister noted

“It is worth mentioning that in the last five financial years, more than two-thirds of the Navy’s modernisation budget has been spent on indigenous procurement.”

He also said it was a matter of great pride to know that out of 41 ships and submarines ordered by our Navy, 39 are from Indian shipyards. This is a testament to the Navy’s commitment to ‘AatmaNirbhar Bharat,’ the minister said.

On this occasion, he also launched the ‘Integrated Unmanned Road Map for Indian Navy’. This publication aims to provide a comprehensive Unmanned Systems Roadmap in consonance with the Indian Navy’s Concept of Operations and chart out a capability development plan for the Indian Navy. A reference version of this Roadmap will also be promulgated for the benefit of industry, which will promote India’s ‘AatmaNirbhar Bharat’ mission.

The Conference, held twice a year, will focus on addressing the contemporary security paradigms while seeking ways to enhance combat capability of the Navy and make operations more effective and efficient.

Detailed review of the performance of weapons and sensors, readiness of Indian Navy’s platforms, ongoing Naval projects - with focus on ways to enhance indigenisation through ‘Make in India’ will also be undertaken by the Commanders.

The conference would also dwell upon dynamics of the geostrategic situation of the region in the backdrop of recent events.

The Chief of Defence Staff, and the Chiefs of Indian Army and Indian Air Force would also interact with the Naval Commanders to address convergence of the three Services.

Fernandez skips appearance before ED in ₹200-cr money laundering case



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Actor Jacqueline Fernandez again skipped on Monday her appearance before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for questioning in connection with a probe into an over ₹200 crore money-laundering case against alleged conman Sukesh Chandrashekar.

This was her third summons and the agency may notify another date to secure her appearance.

The actor is learnt to have cited professional engagements as the reason for skipping the summons, sources said.

Fernandez, 36, has appeared before the federal agency once in August and recorded her statement in this case as a witness under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).



The agency wants to confront her with the main accused in the case involving Chandrasekar and his actor wife Leena Maria Paul, they said.

The agency is seeking to understand some trail of funds and transactions allegedly linked to Fernandez in this case, they further said.

Actor and dancer Nora Fatehi, 29, recorded her statement with the ED on Thursday in this case. Fatehi’s representative had said that she has been the victim in the case and being a witness, she is co-operating and helping the officers in the investigation.

Chandrasekar and Paul were recently arrested by the ED while they were already

undergoing judicial custody after being held by the Delhi Police on charges of cheating high-profile individuals, including former Fortis Healthcare promoter Shivinder Mohan Singh’s wife Aditi Singh.

In August, the ED had searched some of Chandrasekar’s premises and seized a sea-facing bungalow in Chennai, ₹82.5 lakh cash and over a dozen luxurious cars.

Chandrasekar and is being probed by the Delhi Police in a case of alleged criminal conspiracy, cheating and extortion to the tune of about ₹200 crore, according to an earlier statement issued by the ED.

Centre resorting to ‘tax extortion’: Rahul

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday attacked the Centre over auto fuel costing more than the rate at which aviation turbine fuel (ATF) is sold to airlines. Former party chief Rahul Gandhi alleged that the Centre was resorting to “tax extortion”.

The price of petrol in Delhi rose to its highest-ever level of ₹105.84 a litre and ₹111.77 per litre in Mumbai, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers. In Mumbai, diesel now comes for ₹102.52 a litre; while in Delhi, it costs ₹94.57.

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also took a dig at the government, saying it promised to make those wearing ‘hawai chappals’ travel by air but it has hiked the prices of petrol and diesel so much that it has become difficult for the middle class to travel even by road.

Tagging a media report on auto fuels costing a third more than the rate at which ATF is sold to airlines, Rahul Gandhi tweeted that this is a very serious issue — “simple needs of the people that are not

being fulfilled today come before election-vote-politics”.

“I am with the people who are being cheated for the benefit of Modi’s friends and will continue to raise their voices,” the former Congress chief said in a tweet in Hindi. Priyanka Gandhi, in a tweet in Hindi, said, “Had promised that those wearing ‘hawai chappals’ (slippers) will travel by airplane. But the BJP government has hiked the prices of petrol and diesel so much that now it has become difficult for those wearing ‘hawai chappals’ and the middle class to travel even by road.”

She used the hashtag ‘BJP lai mehenge din (BJP has brought expensive days)’ with her tweet. The Congress, from its official Twitter handle, alleged that auto fuels costing a more than the rate at which ATF is sold to airlines was a proof of the Modi government’s “loot”.

Petrol and diesel prices on Sunday were hiked again by 35 paise a litre and after this hike the auto fuel was now costing a third more than the rate at which ATF is sold to airlines.

CBI arrests J&K Grameen Bank official for accepting bribe



IANS ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has arrested two persons including an official of J&K Grameen bank for allegedly accepting a bribe of ₹20,000 to sanction a house loan.

The probe agency said that it has arrested one Jatinder Kumar and Kathua, Parliwand Grameen bank Branch Head Sanjay Kumar Sharma.

They received a complaint that the bank official has

demand a bribe of ₹50,000 through Jatinder for processing and sanction of housing loan of ₹20 lakh of the complainant’s father.

The CBI laid a trap and caught Jatinder while demanding and accepting the bribe of ₹20,000 —part payment of the total bribe.

Searches are being conducted at the premises of both the accused at Kathua (J&K), the probe agency stated.

The arrested accused will be produced before the Special Judge, CBI Cases, Jammu.

Shah chairs security meet of DGPs, IGPs, intelligence officials



IANS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday presided over the National Security Strategy Conference (NSSC) through video conferencing to discuss the prevailing security situation in the country.

Top police sources said all the Director Generals of Police of States, Inspector Generals, selected field officers of the rank of Superintendents of Police and Inspector Generals, heads of Central Police Forces, intelligence agencies and police organisations are participating in this closed-door conference.

Apart from these police officials, the National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Intelligence Bureau (IB) Chief Arvind Kumar and other officials of the IB, the DGPs of border guarding forces BSF, ITBP, and the SSB are also present at the NSSC along with the DG of CRPF, sources said.

According to the officials in the security agencies, during the meeting the prevailing security situation in the country is being discussed and strategy will be chalked out in view of the emerging new challenges threatening the national security.

They also said that the Kashmir situation will be discussed threadbare in the wake of recent individual killings of non-Kashmiris in the Valley and to discuss possible counter measures to effectively prevent these attacks.

The Maoist insurgency in the country will also be part of the discussion, sources added.

The crucial strategic conference gains significance amid several internal security challenges and it is expected that some new guidelines will be formulated to deal with these new challenges, including cross border crimes, drugs and issues threatening the national security at large.

Apart from the J&K issue, presentations prepared by the states on the emerging security challenges in their respective areas will also be discussed in details, a source in the security set up said, adding that many southern states like Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu have received terror inputs by the central agencies, especially after the Taliban take over of Afghanistan in August this year.

The meeting started at 3 p.m. and is likely to continue till late evening, sources said.

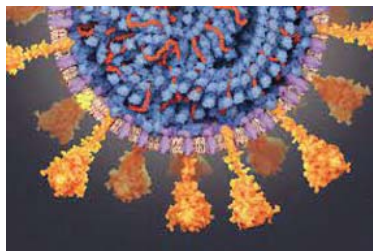
Infants, children equally capable of replicating SARS-CoV-2

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Infants, children and adolescents are equally capable of carrying high levels of life and replicating SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing Covid-19, in their respiratory secretions, researchers have confirmed in a new study, emphasising that kids are an essential component of beating the pandemic.

According to the study, published in the Journal of Infectious Diseases, the high levels of virus correspond with the live, infectious virus, and that levels are highest early in the illness in both symptomatic and asymptomatic children.

The study was led by a team from Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Ragon Institute, MIT and Harvard. They studied 110 children



aged two weeks to 21 years who tested positive for Covid-19 at MGH or urgent care clinics.

The researchers found no correlation between the age of the children and the amount of their viral load. Reassuringly, they also found that viral load did not correlate with the severity of disease in the kids themselves, but concerns remain for them and those around them.

“Children can carry the virus and infect other people,” said Lael Yonker, a pediatric pulmonologist at MGH. “There had been the question about whether the high viral load in children correlated with the live virus. We’ve been able to provide a definitive answer that these high viral loads are infectious,” Yonker added.

As Covid-19 variants continue to emerge, infected children are potential “reservoirs” for the evolution of new variants as well as potential spreaders of current variants, she said.

“Kids with Covid-19, even if asymptomatic, are infectious and can harbour SARS-CoV-2 variants. Variants could potentially impact both the severity of the disease and the efficacy of vaccines, as we are seeing with the Delta variant. When we cultured

the live virus, we found a wide variety of genetic variants. New variants have the potential to be more contagious and also make kids sicker,” Yonker noted. Further, the viral loads of kids in the hospital were no different from those found in hospitalised adults, according to the study.

Similar evidence was cited by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) suggesting that when compared to adults, children “likely have similar viral loads in their nasopharynx, similar secondary infection rates, and can spread the virus to others”. The study called for increasing awareness of pediatric COVID and implementing broader testing programmes for children as they are an essential component in the fight against Covid-19.

Kerala couple braves flood, sails in a cooking vessel to get hitched

Alappuzha (Ker): Love knows no bounds, not even nature’s fury. Sailing along in a large cooking vessel through the flooded streets, a health worker couple from the district beat all odds to exchange their wedding vows on Monday here, keen not to miss the special occasion to usher in a new chapter in their life.

The couple’s love story came as a pleasant news for the rain-battered Kerala, which has seen tragedy unfold in the last two days that was marked by the despair of death, with bodies being found following the heavy downpour and landslides. For the newlyweds-- Akash and Aishwarya-- a large

aluminium vessel doubled up as some kind of a boat to transport them to the venue where the wedding was slated to take place. Akash, speaking to PTI, said theirs was an inter-caste relationship which was opposed by an uncle of Aishwarya and therefore, they had a registered marriage on October 5.

Subsequently, they decided to get married as per Hindu rites without much delay, but most of the temples near his home at Thakazhy here were accepting bookings 15 days in advance.

Finally, they found a temple at Thalavady here which agreed to host the ceremony on

Monday, he said, adding that it was supposed to be a small event attended only by close friends and family.

However, thanks to their journey in a cooking vessel to the wedding hall, now everyone knows about the marriage, Akash said, excited about how the entire episode turned out and the fame that has come with it. He said on Sunday someone from the temple had called him up asking whether he was willing to postpone the wedding as the venue was filled with water.

But both of them are health workers who are on COVID duty and were unsure when they would get a holiday

next to get married. Therefore, they decided not to postpone it and the temple authorities said they would make the necessary arrangements to ferry them to the venue. On Monday, when they reached Thalavady, people were ready with the cooking vessels, which belonged to the temple, to ferry the bride and groom and also the few family members who came with them. Akash said it was the only option available at such short notice. With two men holding the cooking vessel for stability, Akash and Aishwarya sat down inside it, and with a cameraman in front, set forth to the venue. Akash said he was comfortable travelling in

the vessel as it was used for transportation in the Kuttanad area, as this region is also called, where he had grown up.

During the 2018 floods, this cooking vessel had seen extensive use as a mode of rescuing and transporting those stuck in their homes.

Entering wedlock in a flooded hall adjacent to the temple the couple were joined by a small group of relatives.

The couple told reporters -- who were covering the rising water levels in the district and had arrived at the hall after hearing about the nuptials -- that due to Covid-19 they had kept the invitees to the minimum. **PTI**

China’s Communist Party all set to hold key meet next month ahead of 2022 leadership change

Beijing: China’s ruling Communist Party will hold its key conclave in November ahead of next year’s Congress which will pave the way for major leadership changes and a possible unprecedented third term for President Xi Jinping.

The 19th Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee will hold its sixth plenary session in Beijing from November 8 to 11, during which a key resolution on the major achievements and historical experience of the party’s 100 years of endeavours will be reviewed, an official announcement here said.

This was decided at a meeting of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau presided over by Xi, who is the General Secretary of the party besides heading the military and the Presidency.

The Political Bureau of the

party listened to a report on soliciting opinions for drafting the resolution and decided to submit the draft after revisions to the plenary session for deliberation, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

The sixth plenary session is regarded as significant as it is the biggest party meet ahead of next year’s leadership change.

Politically, it is regarded as a key meeting for Xi, 68, who has emerged as the most powerful leader after party founder Mao Zedong, as he is widely expected to take up an unprecedented third term in office.

China’s all top leaders derive their power from the post of the General Secretary of the CPC. Xi’s all predecessors retired following the mandatory rule of two five-year terms.

President Xi is widely regarded to be in power after

the end of his second tenure later next year, possibly for life in view of a constitutional amendment in 2018 which removed the two-term limit for the President.

He has also been made the “core leader” of the party in 2016, a status enjoyed only by Mao.

According to the agenda unveiled in August for the November 8-11 plenary session, the Political Bureau will present its work report to the plenary session, which will study the issue of comprehensively reviewing major achievements made and the historical experience accumulated during the party’s 100 years of endeavour.

More than 370 full and alternate members of the Central Committee will take part in the plenum.

Over the past three

decades, the party has usually used the last plenary session to address party affairs, especially on key appointments, ideology and party-building matters.

Observers say that the key issue to be watched is to see if the party continues to follow precedent on its leadership changes, especially the informal retirement age of 68, besides the two terms for its top leadership set by party’s founder Mao’s successor Deng Xiaoping.

Along with Xi, Premier Li Keqiang too will be completing his two-term limit in early 2023.

Nearly a dozen of the 25 members of the Politburo will be older than 68 in October next year.

Since he took over the reins of the CPC in late 2012, Xi had consolidated his grip on power with the high-intensity

anti-corruption campaign in which over a million officials, including many top military officials, were punished.

He has also launched several political initiatives, including the realisation of the Chinese dream broadly defined as reclaiming the lost greatness of the nation, making China a moderately prosperous society, elimination of absolute poverty, consolidation of the CPC power over the military and integration of Hong Kong.

In recent weeks, Xi has made a strong pitch for the reunification of Taiwan with the Chinese mainland amidst heightened tensions with the estranged island, saying that the “Taiwan question” will be resolved and peaceful reunification in the best interest of people of both sides.

The Taiwan issue brooks “no external interference”, he

said on October 9 in the backdrop of the US and Japan stepping up their backing to the estranged island in the face of China’s increasingly aggressive posture.

Xi’s comments came after China sent a record number of military jets into Taiwan’s air defence zone for four days in a row, in a public show of force.

Taiwan considers itself a sovereign state - but China views the self-ruled island as a breakaway province. Beijing has not ruled out the possible use of force to achieve unification of Taiwan with the mainland.

As he set for his third term, he recently launched a new initiative called “common prosperity for all” Chinese, which is widely reported to be the new policy of redistribution of wealth, ending the era of billionaires in the country. **PTI**

China: Tested hypersonic ‘vehicle’ not ‘missile’

Beijing: China on Monday said it has tested a hypersonic “vehicle” and not a nuclear-capable hypersonic “missile” as reported by a leading British newspaper which had claimed that the advanced space capability caught US intelligence by surprise.

The Financial Times reported on Sunday that China tested a nuclear-capable hypersonic missile in August that circled the globe before speeding towards its target, demonstrating an advanced space capability that caught US intelligence by surprise.

Five people familiar with the test said that the Chinese

The Financial Times reported that China tested a nuclear-capable hypersonic missile in August that circled the globe before speeding towards its target

military launched a rocket that carried a hypersonic glide vehicle which flew through low-orbit space before cruising down towards its target, the FT report said.

The missile missed its target by about two-dozen miles, according to three people briefed on the intelligence. But two said the test showed that China had made astounding progress on hypersonic weapons and was far more

advanced than US officials realised, according to the report. Asked for his reaction to the report, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told a media briefing here that a test of a hypersonic vehicle was carried out.

“It is a vehicle not a missile,” Zhao said.

“As we understand this test, it is just a routine space vehicle test to verify the repeated use of technology of the vehicle. “This is of great significance to reducing the cost and can also provide an affordable and cheap return means for the peaceful use of space for humanity,” he said. **PTI**

1st polio vaccination drive in Afghanistan since Taliban takeover

Kabul: A country-wide polio vaccination drive will begin in Afghanistan on November 8 for the first time since the Taliban took over the country in August, the Unicef announced on Monday.

In the years after the Taliban was overthrown in 2001 by a US-led coalition, vaccination campaigns made much progress in the country. However, as the Taliban made inroads again, door-to-door visits by polio workers had been banned in Afghanistan, for three years now. The World Health Organization (WHO) and Unicef welcome the decision by the Taliban, who support the resumption of house-to-house drive across the country, the UN agency said in a statement on Monday.

The campaign will be the first in over three years to reach all children in Afghanistan, including more than 3.3 million kids in parts of the country who have “previously remained inaccessible to

vaccination campaigns”, Xinhua news agency quoted the statement as saying.

“A second nationwide polio vaccination campaign has also been agreed and will be synchronised with Pakistan’s own polio campaign planned in December,” according to the statement.

“This is an extremely important step in the right direction,” said Dapeng Luo, WHO Representative in Afghanistan.

“We know that multiple doses of oral polio vaccine offer the best protection, so we are pleased to see that there is another campaign planned before the end of this year. Sustained access to all children is essential to end polio for good. This must remain a top priority,” he said.

Besides restarting polio vaccination, a supplementary dose of vitamin A will also be provided to children aged 6 to 59 months during the upcoming campaign, the WHO said. **PTI**

Man apprehended for bomb hoax call to South Korea’s National Assembly

IANAS ■ SEOUL

Police in South Korea apprehended a man on Monday for making a false threat to blow up the National Assembly.

The man, whose identity was withheld, allegedly called a lawmaker’s office earlier in the day to claim he planted an explosive at the assembly complex, reports Yonhap News Agency.

He also said he was giving the tip-off only to the office.

Police traced the caller and arrested him on Ganghwa Island off the west coast about an hour later.

After the call, police, rescue workers and a bomb squad searched the complex, but no explosive was found.

The man was quoted by police as saying he made the call “out of sudden anger”.

He was also found to have no record of entering the complex in the past two weeks, officials said.

Police said they will book him for an investigation.

Pak’s Opp parties demand ISI chief’s resignation at public rally

Lahore: In an unusual development, Pakistan’s Opposition parties have demanded resignation of spy agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) chief Lt Gen Faiz Hameed at a public rally in Punjab province.

“Faiz Hameed istifa do (tender resignation) was the demand made at the Opposition alliance -- Pakistan

Democratic Movement (PDM) -- rally in Faisalabad, some 180 kms from Lahore, on Saturday.

Even slogans were raised against the incumbent spy-master who has been accused by the Opposition especially Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) of ‘political engineering’ to install the puppet regime of Imran Khan.

The local media censored the anti-Hameed slogans and content in the rally.

On Sunday, the video clip demanding resignation from Lt Gen Hameed went viral, prompting federal interior minister Sheikh Rashid to warn PML-N vice president Maryam Nawaz against “playing with fire.”

Sensex, Nifty race to new peaks as bulls rule

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity indices darted up for the seventh straight session on Monday to close at fresh lifetime highs as investors remained in risk-on mode despite a bearish trend overseas.

IT, bank and metal stocks witnessed hectic buying, while profit-taking in pharma and auto counters capped the gains.

After touching a lifetime peak of 61,963.07 during the session, the 30-share BSE Sensex finished 459.64 points or 0.75 per cent higher at its new closing record of 61,765.59.

Similarly, the Nifty surged 138.50 points or 0.76 per cent to its all-time closing high of 18,477.05. It touched a new intra-day record of 18,543.15.

Infosys was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, jumping 4.47 per cent, followed by Tech Mahindra, Tata Steel, ICICI Bank, ITC, Maruti, SBI and Axis Bank.

On the other hand, HCL Tech, M&M, Dr Reddy’s, Asian Paints, Bajaj Auto, HDFC Bank and Bharti Airtel were among

the laggards, slipping up to 2.36 per cent.

“The domestic market traded at record highs withstanding the weak trends in the global market due to disappointing Chinese GDP numbers and global inflationary pressure as a result of energy shortage.

“Chinese GDP grew by just 4.9 per cent during the July-September quarter owing to lower-than-expected growth in industrial activity. However, the trend in the Indian market was bullish as PSU Banks, Metals,

IT and Energy stocks took charge of the rally,” said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Narendra Solanki, Head-Equity Research (Fundamental), Anand Rathi Shares & Stock Brokers, said the sentiment remains buoyant with early data showing Indian economy bouncing back strongly.

“On the sectoral front, shares of metal companies were in focus on rising base metal prices amid higher demand expectations,” he added.

Rupee drops by 9 paise to 75.35 a dollar on high crude oil prices

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee ended 9 paise lower at 75.35 against the US dollar on Monday, tracking a stronger greenback against key rivals overseas and rising global crude oil prices.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened on a steady note and later traded in a narrow range of 75.24 to 75.38 against the American currency.

On Thursday, the rupee had settled at 75.26 against the US dollar. The forex market was closed on Friday for ‘Dussehra’ holiday. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback’s strength against a basket of six currencies, was up 0.19 per cent at 94.12. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, rose 1.11 per cent to USD 85.80 per barrel.

China’s economy weakens as GDP in Q3 declines to 4.9%

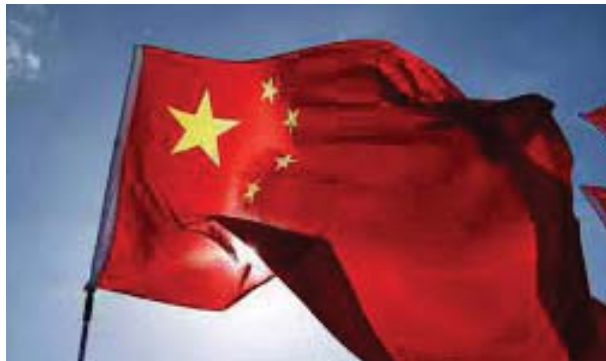
PTI ■ BEIJING

China’s GDP grew by 4.9 per cent in the third quarter, down from 7.9 per cent in the second, confirming the slowdown of the world’s second-largest economy which was under pressure from the crisis-hit property sector, curbs on energy and tardy recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Early to recover from the coronavirus pandemic, China’s economy in the first few months this year staged impressive recovery but caught up in numerous headwinds, including a property sector slump, power crisis, increasingly weak consumer sentiment and soaring raw material costs.

Its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the third quarter (Q3) grew 4.9 per cent year on year, slower than the growth of 18.3 per cent in Q1 and 7.9 per cent in Q2. The Q3 belied surveys of predicting five per cent growth.

The country’s gross domestic product (GDP) expanded 9.8 per cent year on year in the first three quarters, putting the average growth for the period in the past two years at



5.2 per cent, according to the data released from National Bureau of Statics (NBS) on Monday.

Releasing the Q3 data, spokesman of the NBS Fu Linghui said that consumption contributed around 64.8 per cent to China’s economic growth in the first three quarters of the year.

“We must note that the current uncertainties in the international environment are mounting and the domestic economic recovery is still unstable and uneven,” Fu said.

“The overall national economy maintained the recovery momentum in the first three quarters... however, we must note that the current uncer-

tainties in the international environment are mounting, and the domestic economic recovery is still unstable and uneven,” the Hong Kong-based South China Morning quoted Fu as saying.

“The Chinese economy has maintained the recovery momentum in the first three quarters with progress in structural adjustment and high quality development,” Fu said.

Nevertheless, NBS said the country’s economic recovery remains uneven and unstable, and more efforts will be made to boost market vitality, release demand potential and keep the economy running within the reasonable range.

Russia suspends its mission to NATO: Foreign Minister

MOSCOW: Russia’s foreign minister said Monday that the country is suspending its mission to NATO.

Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said that the move is in response to last week’s expulsion by NATO of eight members of Russia’s mission to the military alliance.

NATO said that they were secretly working as intelligence officers and halved the size of Moscow’s team able to work at its headquarters. Lavrov also announced that NATO’s military liaison and information offices in Moscow would be closed.

“As a result of NATO’s deliberate moves, we have practically no conditions for elementary diplomatic work and in response to NATO’s actions we suspend the work of our permanent mission to NATO, including the work of the chief military envoy, probably from Nov. 1. Or it may take several more days,” Lavrov said.

The Foreign Ministry said in a separate statement that NATO’s actions “confirm that they are not interested in an equal dialogue and joint work to deescalate military-political tensions. The alliance’s line

towards our country is becoming more and more aggressive. The ‘Russian threat’ is inflated in order to strengthen the internal unity of the alliance, to create the appearance of its ‘relevance’ in modern geopolitical conditions.”

Lavrov said that contact between the Western alliance and Moscow could be done through the Russian embassy in Belgium.

The Russian mission isn’t based at NATO’s headquarters, but in a leafy neighborhood in the south of the Belgian capital, Brussels.

NATO suspended practical cooperation with Russia in 2014 after it annexed Ukraine’s Crimean Peninsula, but has kept channels open for high-level meetings and for military-to-military cooperation. But the NATO-Russia Council, including their preferred forum, has only met sporadically since then.

Russia and NATO also have been at odds over Moscow’s nuclear missile development, aerial intrusions into NATO airspace and the buzzing of allied ships by fighter planes. Official talks between them have been limited in recent years. **AP**

Sri Lanka records over 7,000 tourist arrivals in October

Colombo: Over 7,000 tourists have arrived in Sri Lanka so far this month, giving a boost to the country’s tourism industry which took a blow due to the Covid-19 pandemic, local media reported on Monday.

According to official figures, 7,096 tourists arrived in Sri Lanka from October 1 to 13, reports Xinhua news agency.

Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga said if the present trend continues, October was likely to record the highest monthly arrivals for this year.

The Tourism Ministry said that so far this year, September saw the highest tourist arrivals

of 13,547.

With the arrivals up to October 13 added, 45,413 tourists have arrived in the country since the re-opening of borders on January 21, the Ministry said.

Ranatunga said that with the easing of travel restrictions, there was a growing interest from global travellers to visit the country.

The majority of tourists who have arrived in Sri Lanka so far this year are from India, Kazakhstan, Germany, Ukraine, the US, China, Canada, the UK, France and Russia. **IANAS**

Exports up 40.5 pc to USD 15.13 bn during Oct 1-14

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The country’s exports rose by 40.5 per cent to USD 15.13 billion during October 1-14 on account of healthy performance by key sectors such as petroleum products, engineering and chemicals, according to preliminary data of the commerce ministry.

Imports during the period grew by 60.72 per cent to USD 14.82 billion, the data showed.

India’s merchandise exports grew by 22.63 per cent year-on-year to USD 33.79 bil-

lion in September on better performance by key sectors, even as the trade deficit widened to a record high of USD 22.59 billion.

Export sectors which are recording positive growth include coffee, cashew, petroleum products, handloom, engineering, chemicals, man-made yarn/fabrics, gems and jewellery, plastic and marine products. Cumulatively, exports rose by 57.53 per cent to USD 197.89 billion during April-September this fiscal as against USD 125.62 billion during April-September 2020.



Further investment liberalisation, structural reforms could help deepen integration in global value chains: IMF

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Further liberalisation aided by structural reforms could help deepen India’s integration in global value chains and its post-pandemic recovery, the International Monetary Fund said on Monday.

Alfred Schipke, Director, IMF-STI Regional Training Institute and former IMF India Mission Chief said that despite the COVID-19 pandemic,



India has attracted the highest amount of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). “Further efforts toward investment liberalisation aided by structural reforms could help deepen

India’s integration in global value chains and its post-pandemic recovery,” Schipke told PTI in an interview. In recent years, policies to further liberalise FDI in agriculture, defence, telecommunications services and the insurance sector have helped India to attract FDI, which has also improved the current account financing mix and helped contain external vulnerabilities, the official said. “Going forward, further

progress could be made on the FDI liberalisation such as in the biotechnology, defence, digital media and pharmaceutical sectors,” he said.

These efforts should be supported by structural reforms, including land reforms, labor reforms and reforms to reduce informality, and complemented by reforms to strengthen governance, the regulatory framework, and the rule of law, he noted.

NCLT gives nod to creditors, shareholders of Reliance Retail to hold meetings for proposed Future Group deal

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) on Monday allowed the creditors and shareholders of Reliance Retail Ventures to hold meetings to seek approval for the company’s proposed Rs 24,700 crore deal with the Future Group.

The Mumbai bench of NCLT, led by Suchitra Kanuparthi, allowed the appli-

cation by Reliance Retail’s creditors and shareholders to convene meetings to seek approval for the deal.

NCLT’s detailed order in the matter is awaited.

Reliance Retail Ventures is a subsidiary of Mukesh Ambani-owned Reliance Industries.

On June 22, the tribunal had reserved its order on Reliance Retail’s plea to seek consensus of the shareholders



on the company’s deal with Future Group.

Earlier, on a similar peti-

tion by the Future Group, the NCLT had allowed holding meetings of the creditors and shareholders for seeking approval for the transaction.

On October 1, 2021, Reliance Retail extended the long-stop date for the completion of its deal with Kishore Biyani-led Future Group by another six months to March 2022, due to the delays ensuing from the ongoing legal battle with the US-based Amazon.

DOCYARD

DR GAURAV PRAKASH BHARDWAJ

Director - Sports Injury, Joint Preservation & Replacement Surgery

PSRI HOSPITAL, NEW DELHI



Early diagnosis is important



COVID the epidemic was widely perceived to play havoc with lungs, severely compromising the immune system which in two percent cases led to death. Worldwide it has caused such havoc that something like this has not been seen by mankind at least in the last one hundred years. If there were epidemics, they were limited to one continent (Ebola in poor African countries), one country, one region, one state, or town. It was never worldwide and engulfed the entire world at the same time. It has caused immense physical, mental and financial hardship to all of us.

Those who have had severe cases, post negative reports, many of these patients post-recovery have complained of blood clots, the onset of diabetes, chronic fatigue weakness and severe pain in the bones. In bones, it has been found to be causing avascular necrosis or osteonecrosis which is in a common language known as death of bone tissues due to lack of blood supply. This is not a new disease but detection of this in the patient post COVID is a cause of concern.

Take Avascular Necrosis (AVN) seriously

The loss of blood supply to bone tissues puts serious pressure on bones which can lead to the breakdown of a single bone or multiple bones ultimately may cause a collapse of the bone. The highest risk is to the hip bone, which is one of the strongest in the body but is most vulnerable. It can happen due to excessive use of steroids for treatment of fibrosis during COVID.

Symptoms

Symptoms of long COVID-19 can include fatigue, breathlessness, anxiety and depression, palpitations, chest pains, joint or muscle pain and not being able to think straight or focus on 'brain fog'. There is a lag in the body showing symptoms of AVN. It starts with pain in the bones. The patient may experience pain in the hip or the groin region. Besides, the patient may find walking difficult or may start limping while walking. The mobility of the patient may be severely compromised with severe pain in the knee joint also being experienced.

An early diagnosis of AVN is important to arrest the disease's progress and prevent subsequent femoral head collapse. Patients are advised not to rush daily activity post-recovery

Causes

Most of the time it is seen to be caused by excessive use of steroids during the treatment, a short period that is for usage 5-10 days should not trigger AVN. One cannot make a sweeping statement that AVN is caused by excessive use of steroids as it has not been seen in all the patients who were administered a strong dose of steroids for treatment. Further, a clinical study is required to come to a definite conclusion. It can also be related to a patient's health condition before catching the virus.


What we can say with certainty is that it damages blood vessels which can cause clotting in multiple parts which are hastened by steroid use. The intravascular clot can cause damage to the femur leading to its collapse. All we need is further studies to establish this.

Diagnosis and treatment

An early diagnosis of AVN is important to arrest the disease's progress and prevent subsequent femoral head collapse. If diagnosed early in Ficat-Arlet stage I or II, 92%-97% of the patients do not require surgery and can be managed with bisphosphonate therapy. Hence, it is crucial to diagnose AVN early to decrease the morbidity and the requirement of surgery. Patients are advised not to rush daily activity post-recovery. Some patients try to hurry into an exercise regime, it should be avoided as the body is still in recovery mode and has proper rest. Certain anti-inflammatory and non-steroidal medicine can also be given which can also help in alleviating the pain in some cases bone grafting is suggested. As a last option hip replacement surgery can be undertaken wherein prosthetics are used to remove and replace the damaged bone.


SUMMERCOOLER

KIWIFRUIT: Originated in eastern China, kiwifruits are mostly cultivated in New Zealand. This large berry grows on a species of woody vine in the genus Actinidia. Do not fall for the bright green flesh alone because the fuzzy covering is edible too. This fruit is a handbag of vitamins, antioxidants and dietary fibres with a sweet, tart and bold taste. It is beneficial for heart health as it contains properties capable of lowering blood pressure and reducing the risk of stroke and heart diseases. Rich in dietary fibre, it can stimulate regular and healthy digestion and helps in building immunity by providing vitamin C that in turn stimulates the body's immune response. High in antioxidants, it works in eliminating free radicals within the body and reduces oxidative stress hence, keeping inflammation and diseases at bay. Include it in breakfast, lunch or even snacks, sides or a dessert because this fruit is blessed with low calorie count.



All about endometriosis

According to the Endometriosis Society of India, the estimated number of women suffering from the disorder is about 25 million and this number is increasing every year. DR SHOBHA GUPTA tells you more



There are many campaigns and awareness programmes that run in our country that educate women about various health issues. Endometriosis is one such condition that needs to be highlighted. Endometriosis is a medical problem or a common disorder that has emotional consequences for women.

It is a disease that occurs when tissue that normally grows inside the uterus grows outside it. During a normal menstrual cycle, the body sheds the endometrium via the vagina. In endometriosis, rather than flowing out, this lining flows backward and enters other parts of the body.

Around 89 million young women in the reproductive age group worldwide are suffering from endometriosis. According to the Endometriosis Society of India, the estimated number of women suffering from the disorder in India is about 25 million and this number is increasing every year.

A lack of knowledge around the condition causes many women to simply believe their symptoms are a natural result of their period.

Endometriosis affects an estimated one in 10 women during their reproductive years. You can say that it is the main reason for stomach pain and the inability to conceive in women between 25 to 30 years of age.

Though it's not always the case, the condition has been linked to a higher risk for infertility because it may influence egg quality, disturbs your menstrual cycle, or might cause higher levels of inflammation.

In endometriosis, the tissue which appears in the womb is found growing in abnormal locations such as the ovaries or around the uterus. Every time a woman's menstruation starts, there is bleeding also inside this tissue. As a result, thick dark blood accumulates in the ovaries and becomes cysts which is also one of the reasons for painful periods.

Pain in the lower abdomen or the pelvis is the most common symptom of endometriosis, often during or just before your period. Pain may also be felt during ovulation, while passing urine, during or after sexual intercourse, in the lower back region, in the lower back or in the legs. One may experience heavy and painful periods with symptoms gradually worsening over time.

Other symptoms

- ♦Diarrhea or constipation (in connection with menstruation)
- ♦Heavy, irregular menstruation
- ♦Chronic/recurring pelvic pain
- ♦High blood pressure
- ♦Coughing up blood
- ♦Blood in the urine or the stool
- ♦Frequent or urgent urination
- ♦Difficult or prolonged menstruation
- ♦Irregular bowel movements
- ♦Dysmenorrhea (menstrual cramps)
- ♦Nausea and vomiting (in severe cases)

Diagnosing endometriosis is more difficult in Indian women. It



ENDOMETRIOSIS AFFECTS AN ESTIMATED ONE IN 10 WOMEN DURING THE REPRODUCTIVE YEARS. IT IS THE MAIN REASON FOR STOMACH PAIN AND THE INABILITY TO CONCEIVE BETWEEN 25 TO 30 YEARS OF AGE. ADOPT NATURAL WAYS TO TREAT IT LIKE HEALTHIER EATING HABITS BY ELIMINATING CAFFEINE, SUGAR, AND ALCOHOL AND CONSUMING ORGANIC FOOD AND NUTRIENTS

generally affects the age group of 25-30 yrs but these days, it is found in the age group of 11-19 as well. So, it is very important to be aware of the symptoms of endometriosis and the treatments available for it.

Treatment

Nearly 30-40% of women with endometriosis can be infertile. The endometriosis treatment depends on several factors like the age of the lady, severity of the symptoms and desire to have children.

In some cases, over the counter drugs are enough to manage the symptoms. A hormonal intrauterine device (IUD) is another option that can be inserted to help reduce pain and bleeding.

Young women with endometriosis who want to conceive may require specialized treatments like IUI or IVF (test tube baby). If the patient is older and has had repeated surgeries, a total Hysterectomy with Oophorectomy (removing uterus and ovaries) is the final solution.

You can also go for natural treatments to treat endometriosis, such as adopting healthier eating habits - like lessening or eliminating caffeine, sugar, and alcohol and consuming organic food and supplementing essential nutrients such as Vitamin B complex may help lower your estrogen level. You can also do exercise, yoga, and meditation to improve your general and reproductive health.

The writer is Medical Director, Gynecologist and IVF Specialist at Mother's Lap IVF Centre, Pitampura, New Delhi

Time to build coalitions and partnerships

SHALINI SAKSENA speaks with DR DALBIR SINGH about the challenges facing India to eliminate TB and ground-breaking innovations



■What is the biggest challenge facing India in treatment of TB?

Our greatest challenge in TB elimination would lie in successfully building coalitions and partnerships with private sector and civil society, adopting multi-sectoral approach in engaging local communities and institutions of local governance besides strategising to address issues of social determinants like malnutrition, poverty, social discrimination, planned urbanisation, hygiene and sanitation, comorbidities like Diabetes and smoking also have to be factored in our overall strategy of TB elimination as they contribute hugely to its mortality.

■What are the measures taken at international level?

Driven by the urgency of crises, the first ever UN General Assembly High Level Meeting in 2018 endorsed an ambitious and powerful political declaration to accelerate progress towards END TB Targets and evolve urgent global response to Global Epidemic. It followed a very successful Inter-Ministerial Conference on Elimination of TB in Moscow in

patients are treated in private sector. It's only in the last decade that we have been able to evolve appropriate public-private partnership models which have been replicated across the country.

■What are ground-breaking innovations?

Today, there are over 200 districts across the country where Public Private Partnership programs called Patient Provider Support Agency (PPSA) models are ongoing which are ensuring free diagnosis and treatment. TB programme embraced use of ICT for treatment adherence and monitoring and real time community led initiatives. During COVID we promptly evolved Rapid Response Plan by introduction of bidirectional screening for TB and COVID and initiating measures for door step delivery of drugs and mass level community engagement and awareness campaigns.

■What has been the cause of growing TB rate?

The social conditions and comorbidity that fuel TB epidemic have not been adequately addressed. Poverty, malnutrition stigma and

unplanned proximal living spaces have aggravated the management of TB. Spurt in Diabetes and tobacco, smoking have also been strongly associated with higher risk of TB mortality.

■What are the gaps that exist?

The critical gap that exists today is between the estimated incidence and the actual notifications being reported to the Government. It will be most important to close this gap and this has been a focus for our national TB programme. We need to engage aggressively with the private sector and help create a unified health system where patients may receive standardised and free care, regardless of the sector they go to. Third, greater district-level monitoring and tracking will be crucial.

■What more needs to be done?

We need to continue to innovate, strengthen our political will, research and development, build Inter-sectoral approach, learn from cross pollination of Ideas and proven interventions. TB cannot be eradicated unless determinants like stigma, poverty, pollution control and malnutrition are addressed.

LET NUTRIENTS SHOW WAY

Skin loses its glow with time due to constant exposure to the blue light and pollution.

DR PRITI SHUKLA shares ways to increase your collagen production naturally



How many times have you thought that your skin is losing out its sheen and elasticity due to the over-exposure to the blue light and pollution? Many times, right? So, all these skin issues are actually indicating that the collagen production in your body is declining. Collagen is a crucial protein that serves as one of the main building blocks for your bones, skin, hair, muscles, tendons, and ligaments. The best part of collagen is that its production can be stimulated in the body through natural and minimal-invasive ways. Consuming foods that contain nutrients needed to stimulate collagen production can naturally help increase collagen levels in the body. Apart from it, the new prohilol treatment also works wonders.

Nutrients for collagen synthesis

Vitamin C

Consuming food items that are rich in vitamin C and amino acids has the evidence of increasing the levels of hyaluronic acid and collagen in the body as both are important for skin. Oranges, red peppers, kale, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, and strawberries are rich in vitamin C.

Aloe vera gel

This leads to the stimulation of the cell-growth and can help boost collagen production in your skin. You can apply aloe vera directly to the skin in pure form, or in the form of the products on the market that contain it.

Zinc

Zinc deficiency in the body can reduce the amount of collagen produced. A man should consume 11 milligrams of zinc daily and a woman eight milligrams. The zinc-rich food contains cacao, pumpkin seeds, watermelon seeds, sesame seeds, spinach, almonds, cashews, chickpeas, kidney beans, lentils and oats.

Copper

Copper helps in the formation of red blood cells, bone, and connective tissue. Copper activates lysyl oxidase, an enzyme required for collagen maturation, which helps to form the fibers that support your tissues. It is recommended to consume about 900 micrograms of copper daily. Sunflower seeds, sesame seeds, almonds, cashews, spirulina, shiitake mushrooms are the richest source of copper.

Prohilol

Prohilol is a series of injections of pure hyaluronic acid, which hydrates the skin and triggers collagen and elastin production. It results in the bio-remodelling of the skin and dramatically improves the quality of the skin.

Do not expose your skin too much in the sun or in a tanning bed. Be mindful about smoking. It's also one of the reasons behind skin ageing prematurely. Getting time outside with the protection of sunscreen is one way to maintain a healthy glow.

Collagen supplements are also used but it has side effects like calcium overproduction, allergic reactions, and joint pain.

The writer is Consultant Plastic and Cosmetic Surgeon, Ambrosia Clinic

INBRIEF

Retinal diseases detection with AI

Retinal examinations can detect a number of diseases that affect the eye. Fundus photography is a process of taking photographs of the interior of the eye through the pupil and is a way to screen and monitor such retinal diseases. The introduction of artificial intelligence (AI) technology to fundus photography has improved the platform and enabled it to detect and monitor retinal diseases on a large scale. The Comprehensive AI Retinal Expert (CARE) system was developed by an international group of researchers from Sun Yat-sen University, Beijing Eaglevision Technology (Airdoc), Monash University, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Beijing Tongren Eye Centre and Capital Medical University. Associate Professor Zongyuan G, Department of Electrical and Computer Systems Engineering, Monash University, Monash Data Futures Institute, said the researchers trained a clinically applicable deep-learning system for fundus diseases using data derived from real world case studies, and then externally tested the model using fundus photographs collected from clinical settings in China. "The CARE system was trained to identify the 14 most common retinal abnormalities using 207,228 colour fundus photographs derived from 16 clinical settings with different disease distributions," said Ge.

ALES OF UNLIVED LIVES



TANMAYA DAS tunes in to the unheard recollections portrayed by contemporary artists through their artworks

The combination of dim lighting, binaural music created a mysterious ambience and drew me into a room where strategically placed pictures told a thousand stories. The setting is Alliance Francaise de Delhi, where the *Unsealed Chamber — The Transient Image*, where the work of four contemporary artists — Aparna Nori, Arpan Mukherjee, Indu Anthony, and Philippe Calia — is being exhibited in both analogue and digital formats, to explain the transition in self-reflection during the pandemic. The artists experimented with creative hybridity by combining traditional and new media techniques to reflect on oneself, society, ecology, and representation.

I am drawn to the wall, where the Bangalore-based artist, Aparna Nori, who has not just placed her work but also discussed and described the hues and texture of her skin. The pictures represent the emotional state and anxieties of women in a patriarchal culture. Her piece, *Nalla Pilla* (little dark girl), examines the relationship she formed with her body as she questioned its concerns, folds, and imperfections. She chose a salt-paper technique because she felt it was the most natural expression of textured personal narrative. Furthermore, according to her explanation, using photography is about more than just collecting photographs; it is about participating with the medium (photography) itself.

Moving right I come face-to-face with the Bengal-based artist Arpan Mukherjee's collection of alternative photography. *Gola Vora Dhan*, typified by themes of dislocation, displacement, and



Satellite images of mining sites by Philippe Calia

exile takes up an entire wall. Some of his photographs depict a lonely girl sitting under a tree, others portray village sights. On the wall, the artist describes that his family is a part of large scale migration from village to city in Bengal from 1980s onward. Through research and documentation, the artist, who is currently in Shantiniketan, West Bengal, frequently challenges and condemns the discrimination, political, and economic state of society.

But soon a collection of satellite images of different mining locations that have been exploited over the years clamours for attention. When I asked about the

photographic method, the curator, Rahaab Allana, reveals that he took the printouts of the images and used chemicals to dissolve them, resulting in a new landscape of the satellite images to come up with the collection named, *The Shape Of Clouds, 2021*. The exhibition displays various rocks from around the world, such as those found in Australia, Tanzania and more, which helped in the production of minerals like gold, copper, aluminium, uranium and so on. A picture of the disintegrated artwork placed on the walls, supported by two short iron rods showed the new landscape



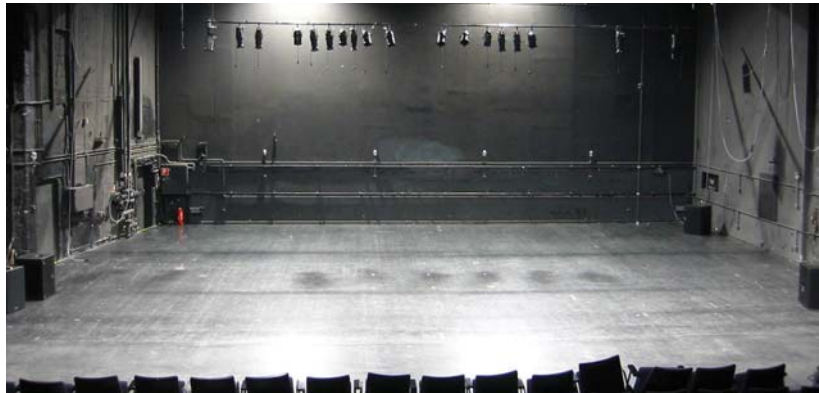
A sample of Arpan Mukherjee's work

formed by the chemical solution. Then, there is a video display of his family photograph being clicked on the beach in the 1970s, just before his birth, exactly in front of the left corner. The image, which was zooming in and out, outlined his father's memories.

On the extreme left, a photo collection of anonymous women by Indu Anthony that has been accumulated over time is titled, *Ivar*. It refers to people within one's home or vicinity while probing the relationship between self-expression and discarded photographs of women. The 25 black and white photographs

placed along with an unusual and unfamiliar silence have a calming effect.

The distinct impression that each photograph creates is that of telling a series of stories while the video installation — where Nori has scribbled texts in Telugu and English, describing flaws and scars through the pictorial description — evokes contemplation about all the situations and insecurities that women suffered throughout the ages. All of the images are linked together, revealing previously untold stories about a multitude of incidents that occurred many years ago.



In the wake of Covid-19, lack of funds and fewer audiences, theatre artists have switched to confined and experimental spaces in Delhi's suburbs and smaller cities, leaving the Mandi House area — the national capital's hub for performing art students and actors — with a deserted look.

"The theatre groups which earlier used to perform at Mandi House have now moved to residential areas like Laxmi Nagar, Mayur Vihar to perform. These places used to be our rehearsing spaces earlier but now since some theatres are not taking up shows and others have increased their booking rates, we are compelled to move to such places," Harshvardhan Chaturvedi, an actor best known for his performance in the play *Ek Aur Dronacharya and Bloody Bombay*, shared.

Akashara Theatre is the only prominent name amongst the newer substitutes.

There might not be any sector that has not been hit by the pandemic and Delhi's theatre community is no exception. "Our community has people from all castes, classes, religions and regions in India. However post-pandemic-induced lockdown, many were forced to leave for their hometowns to help their families and themselves. Others, who did not, switched to some other occupation. And those who had somehow managed to survive the first lockdown broke down after the second wave. However, our plight still remains to be

To act, or not to act?

In a post-pandemic world, where every sector has been affected, theatre artistes switch to Delhi's suburbs and smaller cities to keep the show going

heard," Chaturvedi added.

Just as all the public spaces in the city started opening up after the devastating second wave of Covid-19, the Delhi government had issued orders allowing cinemas, theatres, multiplexes to reopen with 50 per cent capacity from July 26 onwards.

"This 50 per cent bar had further given rise to another set of problems as some theatres despite having all the resources had refused to take bookings for they were sceptical of being able to cover their expenses with just half the percentage of audience," a theatre administrator revealed, on the condition of anonymity.

However, Shobha Deepak Singh — the director of Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra said that they could book Kamani Auditorium, but there weren't enough shows to begin with.

Meanwhile, Sri Ram Centre for Performing Arts has increased its booking rates by almost '10,000 to '20,000. "This has further rendered the community, especially those with a limited budget, helpless," Saif Ansari — an actor and producer, best known for his adaptation of William Shakespeare in *Hamlet* — shared, adding that SRCPA is an autonomous body and

is therefore not accountable to anyone.

"Due to all of these reasons, we are now performing in smaller cities like Lucknow, Kanpur, Bareilly in Jaipur," Harshvardhan added.

Saif said although they have come up with new places, audiences do not appear in large numbers, "First of all these are lesser-known spaces in suburbs. Secondly, they are confined so people are sceptical of sitting closer due to Covid-19."

The number of audiences has reduced from pre-Covid times of 500 to a mere 60-70. "Cinema has moved to OTT platforms but we cannot rely entirely on that as well because of lack of funds, thereby, the equipment due to which it will be next to impossible to stream the live show," he shared.

Shobha Deepak Singh, the director of Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra shared similar woes. "The community at large is doing very badly as there is no money left. There are salary cuts," she said, adding, "In the middle of all this, we try to take back people as per requirements hoping that something would happen."

"There is no help from even the government on this front," Singh added. —IANS



Meghna Patpatia

Tao Art Gallery — one of the oldest galleries in Mumbai, will be hosting a unique two man show called 'Dreamscapes'. Dreamscapes will showcase works by Argentinian Artist (represented by Basu Foundation for the Arts, Kolkata) Julia Romano, finalist of Arte Laguna Prize 2021, Venice and Bombay based, Meghna Patpatia. Previewing on October 21, 6 pm onwards and the show will be on display till November 25, 2021. The exhibition will be inaugurated by the Consul General of Argentina, Mr Guillermo Eduardo Devoto.

At Dreamscapes, audiences will witness the merger in the expression of the two artists from diverse cultures and geography. Both take existing realistic elements and combine them with the surreal aspects of mythology and ancient anthropology. The endeavour is to create these dreamscapes that question what is real and fiction, physical and metaphorical — this intricate relationship with the scape: a universally experienced relationship by all on this planet.

Sanjana, the India ambassador of

Transcending borders

TEAM VIVA explores the premise of the joint-exhibition, Dreamscapes, which will be featuring the works of Argentinian artist JULIA ROMANO and Mumbai-based MEGHNA PATPATIA



Confinement by Meghna Patpatia

Arte Laguna Prize, hopes to juxtapose Julia's digital landscapes with Meghna's artworks. Commenting on the upcoming show, Sanjana Shah, Creative Director, Tao Art Gallery, said, "Dreamscapes pairs together two artists

from different cultures and geographical landscapes, but who share the same desire to explore the synergy between humans and the land they inhabit.

She also added, "As a curator, I found this thematic overlap between the two to

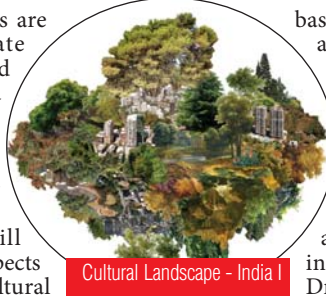
be interesting and relevant: Romano explores the impact of past ancestral generations on land while Patpatia envisions a surreal alternate reality or dystopian future as a result of it. The seed of the idea is the same, but the techniques and

treatment of the works are different. Both create beautifully stunning and poignant works as a result! I am excited for the audience to come and experience the show and this synergy live in action."

'Dreamscapes' will beautifully highlight aspects of co-existence and cultural synergy with a subtle undertone of the threat of depletion in a dystopian future. Much like the land around us, the art is layered, multi-faceted and deep in composition.

Talking about her first show in India, Argentinian Artist, Julia Romano, "I am thrilled to be part of this exhibition, working with such great people as the Tao gallery team. I am showing my series of landscapes made with different parts of places photographed by me and painted by classical European artists; these oases are a mixture of time, space and culture. I made one work especially for the show with images taken from my surroundings here in Córdoba (the mountains, trees and plants from my neighbourhood and my garden) and put them together with a panoramic view of Mumbai. So, challenging this union! Only art can be this magical. I strongly believe that by doing this in collage, we are also bonding in real life."

Taking it a step further by using the past to imagine the future, Bombay



Cultural Landscape - India



Julia Romano

based Artist Meghna Patpatia added, "Tao has a wonderful space that merges visuals seamlessly with narratives and the ability to collate artists worldwide. Sanjana's curatorial foresight and ability to weave a juxtapositioning of Julia and my art practices have intuitively brought about Dreamscapes. Super excited to see it unfold. These combined artistic dreamscapes of this two man show help in bringing the world a little bit closer and opening our minds a little bit wider.

The world around us plays a distinct role in formulating our perceptions, ideas and inspirations. The scape is defined as any extended view or the picture/representation of one. Be it a landscape, cityscape or seascape, each represents the inextricable relationship humans tend to form with their geographical surroundings. Argentinian artist Julia Romano and Indian artist Meghna Patpatia, though divided by geography and culture, merge in their expression of this intricate relationship with the scape: a relationship that is universally experienced by all on this planet. Both take existing realistic elements and combine them with the surreal elements of mythology and ancient anthropology. The endeavor is to create these dreamscapes that question what is real and what is imagined, what is physical and what is metaphorical.

A BOUQUET

Anjali Mittal, a self-taught, senior artist, who has undertaken art courses in various institutions like Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi. Anjali has been a part of several curated group shows in renowned art galleries like AIFACS in Delhi, Lokayata Art Gallery Delhi, KNK Art Gallery Delhi, Somany Tiles community Centre Haryana, UCHAAN Art Gallery Gurgaon, to name a few. would be showcasing her works at the India Habitat Centre from today through an exhibition titled, *A Bouquet*.
When: October 19-21
Where: Convention Centre Foyer, IHC



INDIAN BLUE

Following the previous exhibitions that looked at artistic practices across the decades of 1950s, '60s and '70s, DAG now presents an exhibition that examines how artists have addressed their work through the prism of the colour blue that has been imbued with nuances particular to the country and its culture.

Featuring over 150 works, *Indian Blue* uncovers a range of artistic practices from the realistic to the abstract, from landscapes and portraits to history paintings and figurative narrations, across an equally astonishing range of mediums — oils, watercolours, acrylics, printmaking, sculpture — and periods.

Indian Blue in an effort to examine the relationship civilisations share with the colour blue, not only helps the viewers understand the artistic responses to its hues and tones at a subliminal level — something it achieves through the chosen colour under investigation in this exhibition — but also goes beyond it to examine the role colours play in human lives.

And what better way to explore this rich sensory archive than through the world as visualised by artists.

When: Open till December 1
Where: DAG, The Claridges



PEN, INK, ACTION: SATYAJIT RAY AT 100 (FILM-SCREENING)

To celebrate the centenary year of Satyajit Ray, legendary filmmaker, writer, illustrator and music composer, a festival of classic black and white feature films; films from the Calcutta Trilogy; period pieces; a children's film; and Ray's all-time favourite films.

The screenings will be held as part of *The IIC Experience: A Festival Of The Arts*, from October 22-26.

Jalsaghar (The Music Room) (100 min; 1958; dvd; b/w; Bengali with English subtitles)

Director: Satyajit Ray
Indian landowner Biswambhar Roy (Chhabi Biswas) lives in luxury, but his fortune is slowly slipping away.
When: October 23, 8:30 pm
Where: CD Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre



SOULSCAPES

Indian classical music has an enigmatic charm, with an immense power to draw a person one step closer to the ultimate divine power. It's not just an art to entertain the audience and listeners, but a sacred and intelligent way to connect to the divine, as per Vidushi Shalmalee Joshi from the Jaipur-Atruli Gharana.

For Joshi, a disciple of Padma Talwalkar and of the late Pandit Ratnakar Pai, music has the potential to unite the mind and the soul, which is much needed in today's turbulent society, since it does not recognise boundaries and is therefore unifying in nature.

Tune in to her Hindustani vocal recital at IIC, accompanied by Tejvruish Sunil Joshi on tabla; and Vinay Mishra on the harmonium.

When: October 24, 6:30 pm
Where: Fountain Lawns, IIC main building



Will bat at No. 3, KL to open with Rohit: Kohli

PTI ■ DUBAI

India captain Virat Kohli on Monday said he will bat at number three instead of opening the innings in the ICC T20 World Cup with KL Rahul having sealed the second opener's slot alongside Rohit Sharma.

The Indian skipper kept it open-ended when asked about the team's top-six batters going into the opening match of the tournament against arch-rivals Pakistan on October 24.

"Things were different before IPL, now it's difficult to look beyond KL Rahul at the top of the order. Rohit is a no-brainer. World-class player, he's been solid up front. I will be batting at 3. That's the only news I can give to start off," Kohli said at the toss before the warm-up game against England.

Rahul emerged as the third highest scorer in the IPL with 628 runs besides hitting the most number of sixes (30) in the tournament.

"We are pretty sorted in terms of how we are going to start in the first game (versus Pakistan)."

The objective behind the two warm-up matches is to give game time to everyone as they get back into the groove after a short break.

"Outside of that we just want to give opportunity to guys in these games as much as possible. We will look to give game-time to most of them. The idea is to create some energy and momentum as a team.

We have played in different teams recently (in the IPL)," said the Indian captain.

While the IPL has been



competitive, Kohli didn't forget to mention that it's Indian cricket that is paramount.

"We have had success in the past. So we want to create that same energy, fielding is the best place to start I reckon when eleven guys are together. The IPL is right up there in terms of level and competitiveness, but this is

paramount. Indian cricket is the priority for everyone. That has to be the case."

It all boils down to adaptability, said Kohli.

"Adaptability is what matters. People play different roles in their IPL teams. It's about adapting quickly to this team now, who plays where is what matters."

T20 WC biggest challenge: Hardik

PTI ■ DUBAI

Star India all-rounder Hardik Pandya considers the ongoing T20 World Cup the biggest responsibility of his career as a finisher because "everything is on my shoulders" in the absence of "life coach and brother" Mahendra Singh Dhoni from the playing line-up.

In an interview to 'ESPNcricinfo's Cricket Monthly', the 28-year-old superstar, whose fitness is a concern heading into the event as he did not bowl in the IPL, spoke about the many challenges of his life, his acceptance of the not-so-perfect self and the extraordinary bond he shares with Dhoni.

This would be India's first World Cup campaign since Dhoni retired in 2020 and the side will open its campaign against Pakistan on October 24 here. Dhoni has been appointed the team's mentor for the mega-event.

"The biggest so far, I will say, because this time I don't have Mahendra Singh Dhoni. Everything is on my shoulders - I like to think that way because it gives me an added challenge. It is going to be exciting, a cracker of a tournament," he said.

Speaking of Dhoni, a fiercely private person whose life outside cricket is as enigmatic as his persona on the field, Pandya said the two-time World Cup-winning captain is someone he turns to in times of adversi-

ty, turmoil and even to understand his own mind. "MS was someone who understood me from the start: how I function, what kind of a person I am, what are the things I don't like, everything," he said.

Pandya recalled how Dhoni reached out to him on his return to the side during the tour of New Zealand in 2019 after a suspension for some sexist remarks on a TV show.

"...Initially there were no hotel rooms (for Pandya in New Zealand). But then I get a call, saying, 'You just come. MS has told us, 'I don't sleep on the bed. He will sleep on my bed and I will sleep on the floor.'"

"He (Dhoni) was the first person who has been always there. He knows what kind of an individual I am. He knows me quite deep. I am very close to him. He is the only person who can make me calm.

"When all this (the TV remarks controversy) happened, he knew that I needed support. I just needed a shoulder, which he provided multiple times in my cricketing career. I never saw him as MS Dhoni the greatest. For me, Mahi is my brother," he asserted. Pandya said there are times when he struggles to understand his own thoughts and it is Dhoni who comes to his rescue.

"...I have to call him and say, 'Yeh soch rahan hoon, kya chal raha hai, batao.' (This is on my mind. What do you think?) Then he will explain. So, yes, in a lot of ways he is a life coach. "Staying with him, obvious-

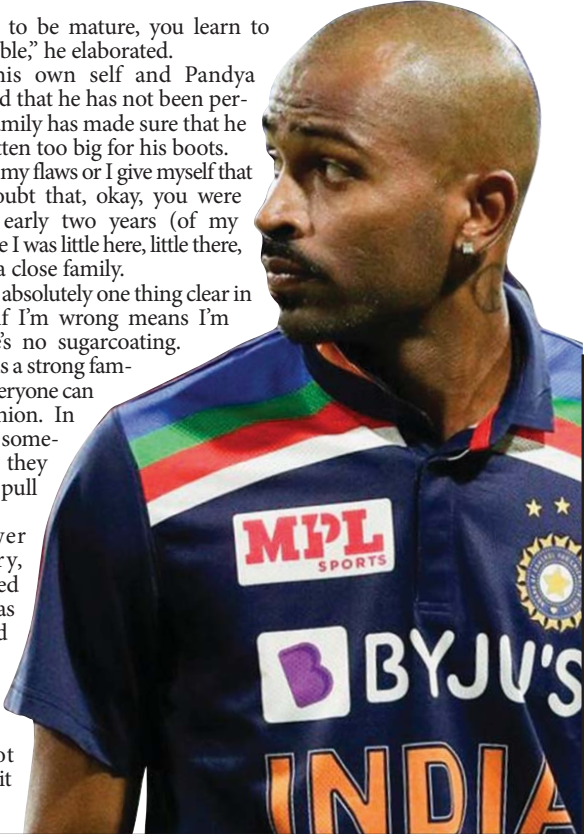
ly, you learn to be mature, you learn to become humble," he elaborated.

On to his own self and Pandya acknowledged that he has not been perfect but his family has made sure that he has never gotten too big for his boots.

"I accept my flaws or I give myself that benefit of doubt that, okay, you were young. The early two years (of my career), maybe I was little here, little there, but we were a close family.

"There is absolutely one thing clear in our family: if I'm wrong means I'm wrong; there's no sugarcoating. That makes us a strong family because everyone can have an opinion. In our family if someone is flying, they make sure to pull them down."

A lower back injury, which required a surgery, has all but ended Pandya's chances of playing Test cricket but he does not worry about it too much.



Warm-Up: Fluent Rahul seals opening slot

Dubai (PTI): KL Rahul's brutal

yet elegant fifty sealed the second opener's debate while his opening partner Ishan Kishan also grabbed the opportunity as India warmed-up nicely with a seven-wicket win over England in the opening practice match ahead of the T20 World Cup.

Rahul made batting look easy with six boundaries and three sixes in his 24-ball-51 while Kishan was retired hurt after a chiselled 70 off 46 balls that had three sixes apart from seven boundaries as India chased a target of 189 with an

over to spare.

In a game where result was secondary, Rahul's touch would have certainly made skipper Virat Kohli pleased as punch as he hit some breath-taking sixes off Chris Woakes and also treated Mark Wood with disdain.

Kishan, who might have to sit out if he is not playing as an opener, did his case no harm once Rahul was gone as he punished the spinners, including a dazzling six, coming down the track off Adil Rashid.

India in the first game ticked some boxes that includes two senior pacers Jasprit Bumrah (1/26) and Mohammed Shami (3/40) hitting the straps straightaway with some fast and accurate deliveries.

The third angle to this 'tri-

angle' — Bhuvneshwar Kumar, however, consistently missed the length giving away 54 runs in four overs.

Kohli (11) didn't score much but that would be least of concerns for the Indian team.

Rishabh Pant (29 not out, 14 balls) smashed the bowlers, while Suryakumar Yadav (8 off 8 balls) did look a bit scratchy during his brief stay.

Hardik Pandya, who is supposed to be the "designated finisher" in this line-up, came to the crease with 21 needed off 15 balls and he hit a few streaky shots in his 16 not out in 10 balls.

The England batters also threw their willows around to get some quality time in the middle on a good surface at the ICC Academy ground here after being put in to bat.

Veteran Shami bowled the fuller lengths and also mixed it with clever variations as he got wickets of openers Jason Roy (17 off 13 balls), Jos Buttler (18 off 13 balls) and Liam Livingstone (30 off 20 balls).

Buttler was done in by change of pace where the length was slightly shortened and pace taken off after being hit for two boundaries, while Livingstone was castled by an old-fashioned yorker.

Bumrah even in a warm-up game, bowled an unplayable yorker to prevent Jonny Bairstow (49 off 36 balls) from getting a half-century. He was easily India's best bowler on view while Bhuvneshwar looked a bit out of place.

Moeen Ali (43 not out off 20 balls), fresh from his IPL exploits, beefed up England's

score in the final over.

However, the contest that head coach Ravi Shastri and captain Kohli keenly watched was how well young leg-spinner Chahar (1/43 in 4 overs) and veteran off-spinner Ashwin (0/23 in 4 overs) shape up for the third spinner's slot.

The Indian team is pretty certain that Ravindra Jadeja and Varun Chakravathy are the two spinners who will be in operation when the campaign starts. The two had also played an IPL final just few days back along with play-off games and hence both were rested.

While Chahar removed ICC's World No 1 ranked T20 batter David Malan (18 off 18 balls) with a googly, he wasn't as consistent with his length as Ashwin, who went wicket-less but wasn't punished as such.

Ireland beat Netherlands by 7 wickets

PTI ■ ABU DHABI

Johannesburg-born seamer Curtis Campher became only the third bowler to claim four wickets in four balls in T20Is as a superior Ireland beat Netherlands by seven wickets in their first round Group A T20 World Cup match here on Monday.

Thanks to Campher's exploits with the white ball, Ireland bundled out Netherlands for 106 after the Dutch had decided to bat.

Ireland chased down the target with as many as 29 balls to spare at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium.

Gareth Delany (44) and Paul Stirling (30 not out) were the significant contributors with the bat for the Irish team that had lost its T20 World Cup games to the same opponents in 2014 and 2016.

Earlier, bowling the 10th over of the Netherlands innings, the 22-year-old Campher left the Netherlands innings in disarray when he dismissed Colin Ackermann, Ryan ten Doeschate, Scott Edwards and Roelof van der Merwe off successive balls. He



was bowling his second over for the day, having gone for 12 runs first up.

Ackermann was out caught behind on review, having played an attempted pull off a shortish ball that seemed to be going down leg.

The seasoned Ten Doeschate, best remembered for his incredible century against England in the 2011 World Cup, was out for a duck, trapped in front by a full and straight one.

Edwards too fell lbw as

DRS (decision review system) tracked the ball hitting the leg stump.

For his final wicket, van der Merwe played on to his stumps a wishid delivery, leaving the Irish camp in a state of frenzy.

Netherlands were in all sorts of trouble at 51 for six after Campher's multiple blows but opener Max O'Dowd (51) battled on amid the slide at the other end.

During his 51-ball knock, O'Dowd hit seven boundaries. The day, however,

belonged to Campher who had started poorly in his spell, got a lucky breakthrough down the leg side before claiming his hat-trick, only the second player after former Australia speedster Brett Lee to achieve the feat in a T20 World Cup.

In the next ball, Campher did what only two people could do before him in T20 international cricket before him, joining Lasith Malinga and Rashid Khan to take four wickets in successive balls.

Sindhu eyes good outing on return to action

PTI ■ ODENSE

Double Olympic medallist and reigning world champion P V Sindhu will look for a good outing as she returns to competitive action after a break, at the Denmark Open World Tour Super 1000 tournament beginning here on Tuesday.

Sindhu, a bronze medallist at the Tokyo Olympics, had taken a break due to the hectic schedule during the Games, but she would be itching to make a winning return to the USD 850,000 event, which will also

restart the BWF World Tour following a suspension due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Also in action will be London Olympics bronze medallist Saina Nehwal, who has recovered from her groin injury, which had forced her to retire midway through her first match at the Uber Cup Final last week.

While Sindhu, seeded fourth, will look for a rampaging start when she opens against Turkey's Neslihan Yigit, Saina will have to work hard to get past Japan's Aya Ohori in her

opening round.

Sindhu, the 2016 Rio Games silver medallist, is likely to cross swords with Thailand's Busanan Ongbamrungphan in the second round and a win there could put her face to face with fifth seed Korean An Seyoung. All eyes will also be on Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy as the seventh seeded Indian pair open its campaign against English combination of Callum Hemming and Steven Stallwood.

The duo has been in

impressive form, having won all its four matches at the Thomas Cup final in Aarhus, Denmark.

In the men's singles, young Lakshya Sen, who finished second best at Dutch Open on Sunday, will look to continue his good run when he faces compatriot Sourabh Verma in his campaign opener.

Lakshya had failed to make the Indian team for the Sudirman Cup and Thomas Cup Final after losing his only match in the trials and would be eager to prove a point.

2023 Asia Cup in Pakistan will be 50-over affair: Raja

PTI ■ DUBAI

The 2023 Asia Cup in Pakistan will be a 50-over event with the Asian Cricket Council continuing its tradition of holding the tournament in the same format as that particular year's ICC global event, PCB chairman Ramiz Raja said on Monday.

However, the former Pakistan captain also dropped enough hints that there is very little chance of having a bilateral series against India in near future as a "lot of work still needs to be done" to reach a "comfortable level".



Raja recently attended the ACC meet in Dubai where he discussed the modalities of Asia Cup and also had a

meeting with BCCI president Sourav Ganguly and secretary Jay Shah.

INDIA-PAK BILATERAL CRICKET On his meeting with the BCCI officials, Raja said: "A lot of work needs to be done to revitalise Pakistan-India cricket but there needs to be some comfortable level between the two boards and then we can see how far we can go. So overall, we had a good discussion."

"I met with BCCI President Sourav Ganguly and secretary Jay Shah on the sidelines of the ACC meetings. We need to create a cricketing bond, while I

have also believed that politics should stay away from sport as much as possible and this has always been our stance," he reiterated.

Raja understands that ACC as a body has no power to dictate terms to a giant like BCCI and that's the reason he sounded a word of caution for the continental body knowing that their could be a shift of Asia Cup by the time 2023 arrives.

"The ACC was set-up to create a unified approach and collective stance so that we had one voice and if there was a situation, all stood together.

आपकी सुरक्षा हमारी जिम्मेदारी, सरकार की है पूरी तैयारी

विशेष संचारी रोग

नियंत्रण अभियान

19 अक्टूबर से 17 नवम्बर, 2021

का

शुभारंभ

योगी आदित्यनाथ

मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश द्वारा

दिनांक : 19 अक्टूबर, 2021 | समय : अपराह्न 12:30 बजे | स्थान : किसान डिग्री कॉलेज, बस्ती

घर-घर पर दस्तक

19 अक्टूबर से 1 नवम्बर, 2021 तक

अभियान के अन्तर्गत

दिमागी बुखार, डेंगू, फाइलेरिया

मलेरिया एवं टी.बी. के सक्रिय रोगी

सहित अन्य बीमारियों से ग्रसित मरीज खोजे जाएंगे

दिमागी बुखार पर सरकार का सीधा वार, सुरक्षित होगा हर परिवार

बुखार होने पर बच्चों को बिना किसी देरी के उपचार के लिए सरकारी अस्पताल लाएं। कोई भी बुखार दिमागी बुखार हो सकता है।

दिमागी बुखार की रोकथाम के लिए क्या करें

1

जैई के टीके 2 साल तक के बच्चों को नियमित टीकाकरण सत्र में लवायें

2

घरों के आसपास साफ-सफाई रखें

3

मच्छर से बचने के लिये पूरी बाँह वाली कमीज और पैट पहनें

4

स्वच्छ पेयजल ही पीयें

5

आसपास जल जमाव न होने दें

6

कुपोषित बच्चों के प्रति विशेष ध्यान रखें

7

व्यक्तिगत साफ-सफाई का विशेष ध्यान रखें

खुले में शीश न करें

साबुन से हाथ धोने की आदत डालें

रोजाना स्नान करें

शिक्षक विद्यार्थियों की साफ-सफाई पर ध्यान दें

समस्त जानकारीयों हेतु सम्पर्क करें

104

वो गज की दूरी - मास्क अब भी है जरूरी

WE-WIN