

OPINION 8
HOW AIR INDIA FELL
SHORT OF THE RUNWAY**WORLD 11**
SAUDI TO PROVIDE \$4.2 BN TO
PAKISTAN; IMRAN THANKS MBS**SPORT 14**
ENGLAND CRUSH BANGLADESH
BY EIGHT WICKETS

LUCKNOW, THURSDAY OCTOBER 28, 2021; PAGES 14 ₹3



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WE ARE
BACK: SAIF
ALI KHAN
12 VIVACITY

SC sets up Pegasus probe panel

Ex-SC judge to supervise work of 3-member committee of cyber experts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday appointed a three-member panel of cyber experts to probe the alleged use of Israeli spyware Pegasus for surveillance of politicians, journalists, corporates and judges, saying every citizen needs protection against privacy violation and mere invocation of “national security by state” does not render the court a “mute spectator”.

The committee comprising three technical members will be supervised by its retired judge Justice RV Raveendran to be assisted by Alok Joshi, former IPS officer (1976 batch) and Sundeep Oberoi, Chairman, Sub Committee in (International Organisation of Standardisation/International Electro-Technical Commission /Joint Technical Committee).

The three technical members of the committee are: Naveen Kumar Chaudhary Prabakaran P, and Ashwin Anil Gumaste, Chaudhary, the first member of the technical panel, is a Professor (Cyber Security and Digital Forensics) and



Dean, National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Prabakaran P is a Professor (School of Engineering), Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Amritapuri, Kerala, and has “two decades of experience in computer science and security areas”.

Third member of the technical committee Gumaste is Institute Chair Associate Professor (Computer Science and Engineering), Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, Maharashtra.

The apex court rejected the Centre’s plea to allow it to appoint an expert committee to investigate the allegations on the grounds that such a course of action would violate the settled judicial principle against bias. The top court urged its former judge Justice Raveendran to oversee the functioning of the three member panel and sought a report expeditiously from the committee.



Stating that “justice must not only be done, but also be seen to be done,” the bench headed by Chief Justice of India NV Ramana and comprising Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli rejected the Centre’s vehement submissions on national security saying, “...This does not mean that the State gets a free pass every time the spectre of ‘national security’ is raised. National security cannot be the bugbear that the judiciary shies away from, by virtue of its mere mentioning. Although this court should be circumspect in encroaching

the domain of national security, no omnibus prohibition can be called for against judicial review.”

The top court said in this world of conflicts it is an extremely uphill task to find and select experts who are free from prejudices, are independent and competent, rather than relying upon any Government agencies or any private entity.

In the 46 page Judgment, the Bench reiterated the need of freedom of press in a democratic society. “Such a scenario might result in self-censorship. This is of particular concern when it relates to the freedom of the press, which is an important pillar of democracy. Such chilling effect on the freedom of speech is an assault on the vital public-watchdog role of the press, which may undermine the ability of the press to provide accurate and reliable information,” said the apex court highlighting freedom of press.

“We make it clear that our effort is to uphold Constitutional aspirations and rule of law, without allowing ourselves to be consumed in political rhetoric,” the bench said, adding that this court has always been conscious of not entering political thickets. “Members of civilised democratic society have reasonable expectation of privacy. Privacy is not singular concern of journalists or social activists,” the bench said.

In a democratic country

governed by rule of law, indiscriminate spying on individuals cannot be allowed except with sufficient statutory safeguards, by following procedure established by law under Constitution, it said. The bench had reserved order on September 13, saying it only wanted to know whether or not the Centre used the Pegasus spyware through illegal methods to allegedly snoop on citizens.

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Terms of Reference

■ The committee is requested to prepare the report after a thorough enquiry and place it expeditiously before the court, it said.

■ The panel would probe what steps/actions have been taken by the Centre after reports were published in 2019 about hacking of WhatsApp accounts of Indian citizens, using the Pegasus suite of spyware

■ Whether any Pegasus suite was acquired by the Union of India, or any state government, or any central or state agency for use against the citizens

■ Under what law, rule, guideline, protocol or lawful procedure was such deployment made?

MEA flays China for new land border law

India asks China to avoid actions that can impact bilateral pacts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India has taken strong exception to China’s decision to have a new land border law and said such “unilateral” legislation will have implications on the existing bilateral pacts regarding the border.

This response from the Ministry of External Affairs here came on Wednesday after reports said the new boundary law will become operational from January 1 next year. The legislation stipulates that “the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People’s Republic of China are sacred and inviolable”.

Enunciating India’s position, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said, “We also expect that China will avoid undertaking action under the pretext of this law which could unilaterally alter the situation in the India-China border areas.”

“We have noted that China has passed a new land boundary law on October 23, 2021. The law states among other things that China abides by



In this file photo, an Indian Army convoy moves on the Srinagar-Ladakh highway at Gagangar, northeast of Srinagar AP

treaties concluded with or jointly acceded to by foreign countries on land boundary affairs. It also has provisions to carry out reorganisation of districts in the border areas,” Bagchi said.

India and China have still not resolved the boundary question. Both sides have agreed to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable resolution to the boundary question through consultations on an equal footing.

“We have also concluded several bilateral agreements, protocols and arrangements to maintain peace and tranquility along the LAC in India-China border areas in the interim,” Bagchi said.

“In this regard, China’s

unilateral decision to bring about a legislation which can have implication on our existing bilateral arrangements on border management as well as on the boundary question is of concern to us,” he said.

“Such unilateral move will have no bearing on the arrangements that both sides have already reached earlier, whether it is on the boundary question or for maintaining peace and tranquility along the LAC in India-China border areas. We also expect that China will avoid undertaking action under the pretext of this law which could unilaterally alter the situation in the India-China border areas,” Bagchi said.

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CAPSULE

10 CONVICTED IN 2013 PATNA BLAST CASE

Patna: A special NIA court on Wednesday convicted 10 people in connection with the 2013 serial blasts that left six dead and scores injured at the venue here of a political rally of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was then the chief minister of Gujarat. Special NIA judge Gurvinder Mehrotra, who passed the order, also acquitted one of the accused for want of evidence.

WAQAR APOLOGISES FOR ‘NAMAZ’ COMMENT

Karachi: Waqar Younis on Wednesday apologised for his communal remarks during a television show following Pakistan’s 10-wicket victory over India in the ongoing T20 World Cup as the former Pakistan pacer was castigated on social media for his “jehadi mindset”.

INDIA TESTS AGNI-V WITH 5,000 KM RANGE

New Delhi: In a major boost to its military might, India on Wednesday successfully test-fired surface-to-surface ballistic missile Agni-5 that can strike targets at ranges up to 5,000 km with a very high degree of accuracy, officials said. The test-firing was carried around 7:50 pm from APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha, they said.

Sonia calls up Lalu amid rupture in Bihar alliance

Lalu had rebuked Cong for fielding bypoll candidates

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/PATNA

Amid reports of a rift within the Mahagathbandhan in Bihar, particularly between the Congress and the RJD, Congress president Sonia Gandhi reached out to RJD chief Lalu Prasad, who had rebuked the grand old party over fielding candidates in Bihar bypolls.

Lalu reached Patna after a gap of three years after serving a jail term in a fodder scam case. Talking to the media in Patna ahead of his bypoll campaign, Lalu said the Congress president enquired about his health and whereabouts.

Sonia called Lalu soon after a meeting of the Congress’ State chiefs in which the party’s problems in various States were discussed.

“I spoke to Sonia. She asked me about my well-being



Rashtriya Janata Dal chief Lalu Prasad, along with son and party leader Tejashwi Yadav, addresses a by-election campaign rally at Kusheshwar Asthan constituency in Darbhanga on Wednesday PTI

and whereabouts. I told her that the Congress is an all India party and she should get all like-minded people and parties together to form a strong alternative (to the ruling party) and should call a meeting of all people,” said Lalu.

The RJD is one of the oldest allies of the Congress. Both the parties had an alliance in Bihar as well for the Assembly elections. However, in the bypolls for two seats, the RJD

decided to go solo which left the Congress fuming and the grand old party fielded its candidate from both the seats.

When questioned about differences with the Congress over bypolls seat sharing, Lalu made stinging remarks. “What is the alliance with Congress? Should we have left everything to the Congress for a defeat? For forfeiting deposits?” Lalu had said a few days ago.

Continued on Page 11

Small LPG cylinders can soon be bought from ration shops

To be sold at commercial rate

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

You may soon be able to purchase small LPG cylinders at fair price shops at commercial rates. The Centre on Wednesday said it plans to allow the retail sale of small LPG cylinders as well as offer financial services through fair price shops as part of its measures to enhance the financial viability of these outlets.

These issues were discussed in a virtual meeting with State Governments, chaired by Food Secretary Sudhanshu Pandey.

Representatives from the Ministries of Electronics and IT, Finance, and Petroleum and Natural Gas attended the meeting. Officials from Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) as well as CSC e-Governance Services India Limited (CSC)



too were present.

After the meeting, the Food and Consumer Affairs Ministry in a statement said, “Proactive measures to be taken to enhance the financial viability of FPS...Plan of retail selling of small LPG cylinders through FPS in the anvil.” There are 5.26 lakh ration shops in the country. Sources said that the small cylinders can be bought off the counter by simply producing an ID proof.

Representatives from oil marketing companies (OMCs) appreciated the proposal for

retail selling of small LPG cylinders through fair price shops (FPS), also called ration shops. OMCs said the necessary support would be provided for the same in coordination with interested state/UT Governments, it added.

In the meeting, the food secretary stressed the need for taking proactive measures for enhancing the financial viability of FPSs.

The State Governments said the collaboration with common service centres (CSC) will increase the viability of FPS.

5 tourists from Bengal killed as vehicle plunges down after crash

PNS ■ BAGESHWAR

Five tourists from West Bengal died while ten persons were injured when the Tempo Traveler they were travelling in crashed into another vehicle and fell off the road down the mountain in Bageshwar district on Wednesday. The police reached the site of the mishap and began the rescue operation with the help of locals.

According to officials, the tourists were going towards Munshyari after visiting Bageshwar when the accident took place near Farsali some distance from Kapkot. There were 12 people in the vehicle, out of which five people died on the spot, while seven were injured. Three persons in the other vehicle were also reportedly injured in the mishap. The injured persons were rescued and sent to hospital by ambulance.

The tourists who died in the accident include two men and three women. All the tourists in the group are said to be from Kolkata.

Party ready, several Cong leaders will join, says Capt

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Days after Capt Amarinder Singh alleged “humiliation” at the hands of the Congress party’s central leadership leading to his unceremonious ouster from Punjab’s Chief Minister’s post, the scion of the Patiala royal family on Wednesday announced the launch of his “new party”, not disclosing the name, while claiming the “support of several Congressmen”.

Declaring that his political party was ready, Capt Amarinder maintained that the party’s name and symbol are pending approval with the Election Commission of India.

His decision, adding a new dimension to Punjab politics just about three months before the 2022 State Assembly elec-



tions, has resulted in a fresh bout of words between Capt Amarinder and his bete noire Navjot Singh Sidhu, with the

former calling him “dumb”, and Punjab Congress chief describing the former Chief Minister as “loyal CM of BJP”.

Not divulging any further details about his much talked about party, Capt Amarinder said, “Yes, I am forming a party. My lawyers are working on it. But I can’t tell you the name, I will tell you when the Election Commission approves it. We have made a request for a symbol also.”

Continued on Page 11

BSF not going to take over Punjab: Capt

Chandigarh: Former Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh on Wednesday strongly backed the BJP-led Centre’s move of extending the BSF’s jurisdiction and asserted that

the border force is not going to take over Punjab or its administration. Singh also slammed the Congress regime in the State for opposing it and denying any serious security concerns.

12 IPS officers shifted in UP

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh government late on Tuesday night transferred 12 officers of Indian Police Service (IPS) cadre including inspector general of Kanpur and Agra ranges.

IPS officer of 2003 batch, Nachiketa Jha, who was in waiting since his return from Central deputation for past few months, has replaced Naveen Arora as the new IG of Agra range while Prashant Kumar-II, who was also in the waiting, has been made the new IG of Kanpur range in place of Mohit Agarwal.

Arora has been shifted as IG Budget at the DGP Headquarters in Lucknow while Agarwal has been sent as IG Technical Services.

Yogesh Singh has replaced Arvind Bhushan Pandey as Commandant of 25th Battalion Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) in Rae Bareilly while Pandey has been

made SP Technical Services.

Kalpna Saxena has replaced Yogesh Singh as Commandant of 47th Battalion PAC in Ghaziabad; Sanjay Singh has been shifted from 45th Battalion PAC, Aligarh to 2nd Battalion PAC, Sitapur; Rahul Yadvendu has been made SP at DGP Headquarters, Rajesh Kumar Saxena has been moved as Commandant of 8th Battalion PAC, Bareilly from 37th Battalion PAC, Kanpur Nagar, while Vikas Kumar Vaidya has replaced him and Bharti Singh has been shifted as Commandant of 49th Battalion PAC, Gautam Buddha Nagar.

According to sources, more transfers are expected to be affected this week before the assembly elections. The revision of the voter list is starting from November 1 and the State Election Commission has asked the state government not to transfer key officials during this period.

Aryan’s co-accused challenge conspiracy charge in drug case

No relief as yet, bail hearing to continue today

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Adopting a similar line of arguments pursued by prime accused Aryan Khan’s lawyer and former Attorney General of India Mukul Rohatgi on Tuesday, the lawyers seeking bail for two other accused in the mid-sea drug bust case — Arbaaz Merchant and Munmun Dhamecha — on Wednesday vehemently contested the conspiracy charges slapped wrongly by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) against their clients.



On a day when one of the two lawyers complained that WhatsApp chats used in the case made it to the media even before they were placed on record before the court, senior counsel Amit Desai — appearing for Arbaaz — told the Bombay High Court that in the case of his client, who came to be arrested along with Aryan

and six other accused on October 3 on the charges of consumption, the offence of conspiracy under Section 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, came to be added later.

“Sections 27 and 20(b) of the NDPS Act are for consumption of drugs, that is what was there in the arrest memo. If there was no conspiracy on assessment then the punishment was for a year and there was inter se no conspiracy,” Desai told the court.

After hearing the arguments of Desai and Munmun’s lawyer Ali Kaashif Khan Deshmukh, Single Judge Justice Nitin Sambre scheduled further hearing in the matter on Thursday.

Continued on Page 11

Four UP Council members take oath

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Four new members of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council were administered oath at a function held in the Vidhan Bhawan in Lucknow on Wednesday.

The new incumbent included former Congress leader Jitin Prasada who joined the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and was also rewarded with a berth in the Yogi Adityanath cabinet.

Besides Prasada, Sanjay Nishad who heads Nishad (Nirbal Indian Shosht Hamara Aam Dal) Party, Chaudhary Virendra Singh Gujjar and Gopal Anjan Bhurji were administered oath by Legislative Council Chairman Manvendra Singh in the Tandon Hall of the UP Assembly.

The four members were nominated to the Upper House of the UP legislature in September.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Dinesh Sharma,

state BJP president Swatantra Dev Singh were among those present on the occasion.

Sanjay Nishad was in the news for his demand that the BJP should project him as a deputy chief ministerial face in the upcoming assembly elections and claimed that Nishads (fishermen) constituted about 18 per cent of the electorate and played a deciding role in 160 assembly constituencies.

The Nishad Party had contested the 2017 assembly elections in alliance with the Peace Party led by Dr Mohamed Ayub and contested 72 seats and party candidate Vijay Mishra had won from Gyanpur constituency in Bhadohi.

Union minister and BJP in-charge for UP, Dharmendra Pradhan had recently announced a tie-up with Nishad Party for the 2022 assembly election. In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the party had entered into an alliance with the BJP and Sanjay Nishad's son Praveen Nishad was fielded from Sant Kabir Nagar from where he won the election.

CM launches Rs 1,132 cr projects in Gonda Lays foundation stone of medical college

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that every district of the state would soon have a medical college to provide accessible healthcare to the citizens as no place could develop fully in the absence of medical resources and facilities.

"To provide proper medical treatment and healthcare facilities to every needy in the state, the Bharatiya Janata Party government has worked in a planned and phased manner to improve the existing healthcare system and expand the health infrastructure across the state," Yogi said after laying the foundation stone of government medical college in Gonda which is estimated to cost approximately Rs 282 crore.

Besides, he launched 144 development and medical projects worth Rs 1,132 crore in Gonda.

"Today, the foundation stone of a medical college in Gonda is being laid with the resolution to start admissions in this institute by the year 2022-23. Despite facing the wrath of natural calamities like floods, Gonda has made great progress. This has been possible because of several growth-oriented reforms implemented by the state government at the ground level, along with ensuring safety of every individual," the chief minister said.

Highlighting the improved road infrastructure across the state, the chief minister said that earlier it used to take



about 3 to 3.5 hours to travel from Gonda to Devipatan, but now it took even less than one hour. Hitting out at the previous governments for neglecting development and turning the state into a centre of 'riots and chaos', Yogi said that none of the previous regimes thought of building a medical college in Gonda. "Has anyone thought why? The reason is that their development was just confined to their own backyard and their own benefit. Had they worked for the welfare of people, the place would have witnessed development long back," he said.

"Before 2017, curfews were imposed during the festive season. The common man was not even allowed to celebrate festivals with peace. The previous governments did not respect the religious sentiments of people. However, Uttar Pradesh has transformed in the last four and a half years. Today, people are being given gifts of welfare schemes right before festivals. Unlike previous governments, our government has fulfilled the promises and has carried out development projects without any bias," Yogi stressed.

Reiterating his resolve to work for the betterment of farmers, the chief minister said: "Those who pretend to be the 'well-wishers' of farmers should know that the government has made a record payment of Rs 1.44 lakh crore to over 45 lakh cane farmers in the state." Emphasising that the state government was functioning with full dedication to fulfill the goals set by it, Yogi said, "We fulfilled our promise of building the grand Ram temple and now others are claiming to be 'honest devotees' of Lord Ram."

On the occasion, the chief minister handed over symbolic keys of houses to the beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural and Urban), and also gave benefits to eligible beneficiaries under welfare schemes like Mukhyamantri Bal Seva Yojana, Kanya Sumangala Yojana, Rashtriya Grameen Aajeevika Mission and Kanya Vivah Sahayta Yojana.

'During SP regime terrorists were worshipped'

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Launching a frontal attack on Samajwadi Party, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that during the tenure of Akhilesh Yadav, terrorists were worshipped and fake cases were registered against Hindus.

"The Samajwadi Party government had withdrawn cases against terrorists who had attacked Ram Janmabhoomi complex and false cases were registered against the innocent," Yogi said while addressing Pal/Baghel community members on Wednesday.

Mincing no words, the Chief Minister said, "Akhilesh belongs to a party that works for terrorists whereas the BJP works for the poor and is wholeheartedly committed towards the welfare of the state and its people including poor, farmers, and women."

Asserting that his government did not engage or believe in caste politics, Yogi said, "Our government has implemented many public welfare schemes to realise the dreams of 24 crore people of Uttar Pradesh. The BJP government has always worked towards bringing harmony in various sections of society."

The chief minister further said, "One is always remembered for his good work. People should be made aware of the development works done in the last four and a half years. They should also be told about how our government saved the lives and livelihood of the people during the coronavirus pandemic. It is only the BJP that works for the interests of citizen of the country and the state."

Invoking Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar, considered an iconic figure of Backward Classes and Dalits, Yogi said that Dr Ambedkar emerged as the voice of the down-trodden classes and was revered due to his work towards social justice, equality, Indian values and tradition.

"Babasaheb always spoke about the integrity and security of India. He opposed social evils and said that the voice of the Backward Class should be raised," he added.

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE

I Varsha Manwani w/o Saurabh Tolani R/O 117/H-1/281 Model Town, Pandu Nagar Kanpur-208005 have changed my name to Vanya Tolani for all future purpose

NOTICE

I have lost my original allotment & possession of house no.1055 Y Block vojna-2 Kidwai Nagar Allotment No.4461 D U Dated 19.09.66, Surendra Singh Chauhan s/o Chatur Singh Chauhan

NOTICE

Altasha Arif D/o Mohd. Arif Khan born on 12th July 2003, 655/A/2/1135 Adil Nagar, Lucknow-226022, have changed my date of birth to 12th July 2005, with affidavit at Lucknow.

NOTICE

I, SABA TARNNUM LARI w/o KHALID MAQBOOL. In my son, MOHAMMAD ZAIN LARI ICSE & ISC DOCUMENTS my name was wrongly recorded as SABA LARI. Now SABA TARANNUM LARI & SABA LARI is one and same person vide affidavit no. 47AE 619836 on 25/10/2021.

NOTICE

I, Jai Krishan S/o Ramji Dass, Formerly resident of C-7, ESIC Colony, Sarvodaya Nagar, Kanpur- 208005, U.P. changed my name to Jai Krishan Kaushal for all purposes and all future purposes. All documents bearing my former name remains valid.

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I Gagandeep Singh Arora R/O MIG- 28, Barra-2, Sector-3, Hement Vihar, Kanpur Nagar -208027 have changed my name from Gagandeep Arora to Gagandeep Singh Arora for future reference.

NOTICE

I have lost my original property document H.No.29/21 Beldari Mohal (Maheshwari Mohal), 86/407 Deo Nagar Kanpur and Kalyani Devi Road Unnao, I have already information for above matters for published 29.9.18 for Pioneer News paper

NOTICE

Announce that Mr. Subhan (old name), Indian National, holding Passport No. J5539999 Issued at Jeddah Issued on 17/12/2011 Wish to change my name as (New Name) given name, Subhan Add Surname, Mohammad Afzal, for all future purpose.

NOTICE

I, MOHAMMAD ZAIN LARI s/o KHALID MAQBOOL. My name was wrongly recorded as ZAIN LARI in my ICSE & ISC Documents. Now MOHAMMAD ZAIN LARI & ZAIN LARI is one and same person vide affidavit no. 47AE 619835 on 25/10/2021

NOTICE

Inform to all that my original registri Bhookhand No. 20 Khasra No. 504, Ganeshpur Rahmanpur Lucknow which is registered in registrar office Dastaveg No- 10256 has been lost. use of lost Paper will be illegal Rajendra Kumar Gupta 286/42 Nawaz Khara Aishbagh, Lucknow

NOTICE

I, SABA TARNNUM LARI w/o KHALID MAQBOOL. In my son, MOHAMMAD ZAID ALAM LARI ICSE & ISC DOCUMENTS my name was wrongly recorded as SABA LARI. Now SABA TARANNUM LARI & SABA LARI is one and same person vide affidavit no. 47AE 619834 on 25/10/2021.

NOTICE

In my son's High School Certificate and Birth Certificate his name is mentioned as Krishan Dev Tulsiani while in the Passport it has mentioned Krishna Dev Tulsiani. The right name is Krishan Dev Tulsiani. Archana Tulsiani, 14/18 E, Elgin Road, Prayagraj.

Four suspects picked up by ATS involved in human trafficking

Lucknow (PNS): The four suspects picked by the sleuths of the Anti-Terrorists Squad (ATS) from the New Delhi-Sealdah Rajdhani train at Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya (PDDU) Junction late Monday night turned out to Bangladeshi and Rohingiyas involved in human trafficking.

The ATS team which brought the arrested persons to Lucknow for further interrogation, on Wednesday disclosed their arrests.

Giving details of the case, the ATS through an official communiqué claimed that they were already working on Rohanigyas and Bangladeshi active in the country to push forward human trafficking. The release said that on the basis of some inputs, the ATS tracked down four suspects and picked them from the New Delhi-Sealdah Rajdhani train from PDDU Junction for further interrogation.

The ATS team recovered three Indian passports in the names on which they were travelling. Their immediate identity according to documents was Pintu Das, a resident of Kotwali Nadiya in West Bengal, Ronnie Pal, also a resident of the same place in WB, and Bapi Rai, hailing from Ishapur locality of Nadiya in WB. The fourth passenger was identified as Mithun Mandal, a resident of Bardhaman in WB.

All the four were brought at ATS office here where after being grilled, they disclosed their real identities as Shaoan Ahmed aka Pintu, Mominur Islam aka Ronnie Pal and Mehndi Hassan aka Bapi Rai, all belonging to Jamalpur district of Bangladesh. The identity of Mithun Mandal turned out to be true and he was running the European Tours and Travels agency in Bardhaman in West Bengal.

During interrogation, Mithun claimed to be helping Bangladeshis and Rohingya by providing fake Indian Aadhaar cards and with its help, Indian passports. Later after taking money from them, he sent them overseas on jobs on the same fake Indian IDs.

Interestingly, the gang also 'Hindu' identities to Muslims to facilitate their easy travel and jobs in other countries.

Besides Mithun, the three others arrested by ATS reached India from Bangladesh on August 16 last and had managed to procure fake Indian passports.

It may be mentioned that it was already published in 'The Pioneer' in its Wednesday morning edition that ATS picked up four suspects from PDDU junction on Monday night.

राष्ट्रीय गोकुल मिशन के अन्तर्गत समस्त जनपदों में कृत्रिम गर्भाधान कार्यक्रम (31 मई, 2022 तक)

पशुपालक भाइयों!

- कम उत्पादकता वाले गोवंशीय एवं महिषवंशीय प्रजाति के पशुओं को उच्च गुणवत्तायुक्त वीर्य से निःशुल्क कृत्रिम गर्भाधान द्वारा उत्पादकता में वृद्धि की जायेगी।
- जिन ग्रामों में दुग्ध सहकारी समितियां क्रियाशील हैं, उनके कृत्रिम गर्भाधान केन्द्रों के माध्यम से प्राथमिकता के आधार पर कृत्रिम गर्भाधान का कार्य किया जाएगा।
- सफल गर्भाधान हेतु योजनान्तर्गत प्रति पशु 3 कृत्रिम गर्भाधान की व्यवस्था।
- प्रत्येक आच्छादित पशु की यू.ए.आई.डी. टैगिंग तथा नकुल स्वास्थ्य पत्र भी उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा।
- कृत्रिम गर्भाधान, गर्भ परीक्षण एवं उत्पन्न संतति से सम्बन्धित समस्त सूचना 'इनाफ पोर्टल' पर अपलोड की जाएगी।
- योजनान्तर्गत प्राइवेट कृत्रिम गर्भाधान कार्यकर्ताओं को प्रति कृत्रिम गर्भाधान एवं उत्पन्न संतति के सापेक्ष क्रमशः रु. 50/- एवं रु. 100/- की प्रोत्साहन धनराशि दी जाएगी।
- अतिरिक्त प्रोत्साहन धनराशि के रूप में योजनान्तर्गत प्रथम कृत्रिम गर्भाधान के उपरान्त सफल गर्भधारण प्राप्ति की स्थिति में रु. 200/- एवं द्वितीय कृत्रिम गर्भाधान के पश्चात् सफल गर्भधारण प्राप्ति पर रु. 100/- की प्रोत्साहन धनराशि का प्रावधान।

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प्रदेश के समस्त नगर निगम एवं
नगर पालिकाओं में

28 अक्टूबर 2021 से 4 नवम्बर 2021 तक आयोजित होने वाले

भव्य दीपावली मेला

में आप सभी को सादर आमंत्रित करता है।

मेले में आइए

और पटरी/रेहड़ी विक्रेताओं से सामग्री
खरीद कर उनका हौसला बढ़ाइए

आशुतोष टंडन

मंत्री, नगर विकास, नगरीय सौजन्य एवं
नगरीय उन्मूलन, उत्तर प्रदेश

मुख्य आकर्षण

- प्रदेश सरकार की प्रगति एवं उपलब्धियों पर आधारित प्रदर्शनी ■ दीनदयाल उपाध्याय राष्ट्रीय आजीविका मिशन के अंतर्गत स्वयं सहायता समूह के उत्पादों की प्रदर्शनी ■ प्रधानमंत्री स्वनिधि योजना में पंजीकरण के लिए डेस्क ■ ओ.डी.ओ.पी. के स्टॉल ■ कोविड टीकाकरण डेस्क ■ नियमित सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम ■ फूड कोर्ट, फन जोन एवं सेल्फी प्वाइंट

कोविड-19 प्रोटोकॉल का पालन करते हुए

मास्क पहनें, सैनिटाइजर का प्रयोग करें एवं सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग बनाए रखें।

प्रवेश निःशुल्क

सोच ईमानदार, काम दमदार

नगर विकास विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

AAP buoyed by Ayodhya visit of Kejriwal

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Buoyed by the response from the seers and people in Ayodhya to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal during his two-day visit to the temple city, the Aam Aadmi Party plans to give finishing touches to its poll preparations.

Sources in the party said that AAP rode the wave by announcing 300 units of free electricity, waiver of electricity arrears, and round-the-clock free electricity supply to farm-

ers while presenting the Kejriwal model of governance before the voters in Uttar Pradesh.

They said the party also started a Tiranga Yatra to garner support for the party and to convert the people's response to votes in the election.

"The AAP is now planning to give finishing touches to its poll campaign and it will start in the days to come," the sources said.

They said Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia would be the obvious choice of star campaigners in the election and the party would also rope in renowned faces who had worked in social fields.

They said Kejriwal was likely to have a very busy schedule in view of assembly elections in Punjab and Uttarakhand where elections were due at the same time as in UP. Meanwhile, AAP state president Sabhajet Singh kept galvanising the people by continuing to strike on Bharatiya Janata Party after Kejriwal's Ayodhya visit.

In a statement, Singh said, "Ram sabke hain aur sab Ram ke hain, Ram bhakt hone ka certificate na bante BJP (Lord Ram is of all and all are of Lord Ram, BJP should not distribute the certificate of being Ram bhakt)".

He welcomed Kejriwal's announcement of including Ayodhya in Delhi's Mukhyamantri Teerth Yojana and said the AAP would provide free travel to elderly persons in UP on being voted to power.

Rajbhar announces alliance with SP ...says Akhilesh will be next CM

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party (SBSP) president Om Prakash Rajbhar announced his party's alliance with Samajwadi Party and claimed that Akhilesh Yadav would be the next chief minister of Uttar Pradesh.

Rajbhar said in a public meeting in Mau district on Wednesday that Akhilesh Yadav would become the chief minister of UP in 2022.

In the presence of SP president, Rajbhar said if SP-SBSP alliance came to power it would waive domestic electricity bills for five years. He said after "khela hobe" in Bengal, "khadedda hobe" (wipe out) in UP as people of the state were waiting for BJP's farewell.

"If BJP leaders come to ask for votes, then question them about inflation. If the Akhilesh government is formed, the poor will get free treatment up to Rs 10 lakh, police personnel will do duty for eight hours, policemen will be deployed near home districts, old government pension schemes will be restored and government schools will provide facilities like private schools," he said.

Addressing the public meeting in Haldarpur in Mau district, Rajbhar said, "I have brought the next chief minister Akhilesh Yadav here."

"The electricity bills of the poor will be waived as soon as our government is formed.

The biggest liars in the world are Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Yogi Adityanath in Uttar Pradesh. Now, Yogi's departure from Uttar Pradesh is a foregone conclusion."

Raising the problem of the government employees, Rajbhar said that the anomalies in the pay scales of government employees in the state had to be removed and the duty of police personnel would be for eight hours and one day's holiday every week.

Attacking the BJP, Rajbhar said, "After tomorrow, the BJP will start spreading rumours that Om Prakash Rajbhar said that now our party SBSP has decided that the next chief minister of Uttar Pradesh will be Akhilesh Yadav. He said that at this time not Hindus but the country, the Constitution, the government property is in danger. We will save it by forming a government with Akhilesh Yadav. PM Narendra Modi used to say that the country will not let it be sold and is slowly selling it," he said.

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav said, "The rights of the poor, oppressed, exploited, deprived, Dalits, backward, minorities, workers, farmers, women, youth, teachers, businessmen, employed and professionals would be protected. Against the false and BJP power for defence, Mau's Haldarpur Maidan will prove to be the Kurukshetra of a political great war".

‘SP-SBSP alliance lacks cohesion, will crumble’

Lucknow (PNS): Uttar Pradesh government spokesperson and Cabinet minister Suresh Khanna said the grand alliance of Samajwadi Party lacked cohesion among alliance partners and would crumble like a house of cards in the 2022 assembly elections.

"Mismatched alliances and mismatched marriages have only one fate and that is divorce. The nature of the alliance between SP and Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party (SBSP) is exactly the same," Khanna said here on Wednesday.

He added, "In this alliance of SP-SBSP, the alliance partners have contradictory interests and motives and sing their own tunes and want others to dance to them. Alliances do not work with partners having a mindset like this. There is total absence of harmony or cohesion in this alliance."

"The alliance might fail even before the elections if the interests of the partners are not met, and somehow if it manages to survive during the elections, it will definitely break after it, because people are fed up with such alliance dramas," the minister remarked.

Khanna pointed out that it was a "mahathagbandhan" (alliance of cheats), rather than a 'mahagathbandhan' (grand alliance) and the people of Uttar Pradesh were fully aware of the agenda behind it and would not allow themselves to fall into their trap.

"The people are and will remain with the honest, strong and work-oriented government of the Bharatiya Janata Party led by Chief Minister Yogi Additional", he said.

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav tweeted ahead of the rally at Mau on Wednesday under the banner of Bhagidari Sankalp Morcha on the occasion of the Foundation Day of SBSP on Wednesday that "the Haldharpur Ground of Mau will prove to be the Kurukshetra of a great political war".

Responding to the tweet, Khanna said that it would definitely prove to be the Kurukshetra for the SP and its mismatched alliance with the SBSP. He added, "The people of UP have already decided who are Pandavas and who are Kauravas in this Kurukshetra and the incongruous alliance will certainly bite the dust in the elections."

Malik's allegations against NCB officer baseless and mischievous: Athawale

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Union minister Ramdas Athawale has termed the allegations levelled by Maharashtra minister Nawab Malik against Narcotics Control Bureau's zonal Director Sameer Wankhede as "baseless" and "mischievous," and defended the officer saying he has not done anything wrong.

Athawale accused Malik of trying to give a religious and casteist colour while targeting Wankhede.

"Samir Wankhede is a Dalit from Mahar community of Maharashtra and Nawab Malik is targeting Dalit officer Wankhede as he has booked the son-in-law of the minister in drug peddling case. Nawab Malik is vindictive as the son-in-law was in jail for eight months," Athawale said here on Wednesday.

He said the Maharashtra government should ensure that Wankhede was not harmed and that there was no threat to his life.

Malik, a leader of the ruling Nationalist Congress Party, has been repeatedly targeting the NCB and Wankhede, who had supervised the raid on a cruise liner off the Mumbai coast earlier this month that led to the alleged recovery of drugs and the arrest of Aryan Khan, son of actor Shah Rukh Khan.

A few days back, Malik had dubbed Wankhede as "bogus" and asserted that once "proof" against him was out, he would not remain in government service even for one day. He had also said that the officer would lose his job in one year and eventually land in jail.

Wankhede has, however, refuted the allegations.

Athawale said Aryan Khan, instead of being sent to jail, should have been sent to the



“Samir Wankhede is a Dalit from Mahar community of Maharashtra and Nawab Malik is targeting Dalit officer Wankhede as he has booked the son-in-law of the minister in drug peddling case. Nawab Malik is vindictive as the son-in-law was in jail for eight months”

de-addiction centre for possession and consumption of drugs.

"If a person consuming alcohol or who is alcoholic is sent to a de-addiction centre instead of jail, the person consuming drugs should also be sent to a de-addiction centre," he said.

Athawale, who was in Lucknow on Wednesday in connection with the organisational activities of his Republican Party of India (RPI), said the Bahujan Kalyan Yatra currently underway in UP, would conclude here on December 18. He said the RPI would organise a big rally here on December 18 in which Bharatiya Janata Party president JP Nadda and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath were likely to participate.

The U.P. Real Estate Appellate Tribunal
Indira Bhawan 4th floor, Ashok Marg, Lucknow
Notice for Publication
Appeal No. 36/2021
Sanjay Kumar Gupta
Appellant /Applicant
Vs
Shine City Intraproject Pvt. Ltd....
Respondent
To,
Shine City Intraproject Pvt. Ltd.
Main office 1/5 Forth floor, R Square Complex, Vipul Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010
Subject- Regarding Appeal u/s 44 of the RERA Act, 2016.
You are hereby informed that the said appeal, was taken up for hearing on **01.10.2021**. You are therefore directed to be present before the Tribunal either in person or through legal representative as provided U/s 56 of the Act to oppose/ reply the Appeal otherwise the said appeal will be heard ex-parte in your absence.
Now the case is fixed for hearing on 01.11.2021.
Joint Registrar UPREAT, Lucknow

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Website: <http://rmsc.health.rajjasthan.gov.in>
E-mail: edprmc@nic.in
Ref. No.: F.02 (338)/RMSCL/PROCUREMENT/DRUG/NIB-27/2021/1658 Dated:- 22/10/2021
Notice Inviting E-Bid
E-bids are invited upto 06.00 PM of 11.11.2021 for E-BID FOR RATE CONTRACT CUM SUPPLY AND EMPANELMENT OF DRUGS AND MEDICINES. Details of NIB may be seen in the Bidding Documents at our office or at the website of State Public Procurement Portal <http://sppp.raj.nic.in> (UBN: MSC2122GLOB00099) www.dipronline.org, <http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://rmsc.health.rajjasthan.gov.in> and may be downloaded from there.
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Admission Counseling- 2021-22
Counseling for admission in Integrated M.Sc., PG, PG Diploma, M.Sc. B.Ed., M.Arch., M.Tech., M.Pharm and MBA programmes offered by Central University of Rajasthan has been started. Interested candidates who have appeared in CUET 2021 may participate in the online counseling through the website of the University www.curaj.ac.in. The last date of registration for online admission counseling is 3rd November 2021.
For detailed information, please visit the website www.curaj.ac.in of Central University of Rajasthan
Admission Inquiry: + 91-7014588311/ 8955143185
Email - admission2021@curaaj.ac.in
davp 21316/11/0004/2122

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ
Tender Notice No. 47/20212022 Dated: 22.10.2021
E-Tendering Tender Notice
Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering)/North Central Railway/ Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites E-TENDERS on prescribed form for the following works upto 13:30 hrs. on 01.12.2021. The details of the tender are as under:-

SN	Tender No.	Name of Work	Approx Cost	Completion Period	Eligibility Criteria for similar work
1	120	Steel Channel Sleepers & fittings replacement work over different girder bridges in CAR-CPU Section under Sr. DENI/PRYJ.	494.41 Lakh	12 Months	Fabrication and laying of channel sleeper in running track
2	121	Steel Channel Sleepers replacement work with H. Beam Sleepers over Major & Minor Girder Bridges in DDU-NYN Section under Sr. DENI/PRYJ.	764.57 Lakh	18 Months	Fabrication and laying of channel sleeper in running track on bridges OR Fabrication and laying of channel sleeper with 'H' beam in running track on bridges
3	122	Lifting, ballasting and attention to track with Heavy repairs of Yard-Drainage in Prayagraj chheoki Yard under ADENI/MZP	392.07 Lakh	18 Months	P.Way Work

Earnest Money: NIL. Date of Opening of tender: 01.12.2021.
Note:- Railway Board vide letter No. 2020/CE-1/CTE/35/GCC/Policy dt 30.12.2020 has advised the 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.All the instructions of this letter will be complied.Offer will not be considered in case the bid security has not been submitted. 2. E-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. 3. The complete information along with tender document of above E-tenders are available on Website www.ireps.gov.in up to 13:30 hrs. on the due date of tender opening 4. 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. 5. Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. 6. Sates and any other financial entity in any other form/latter head if attached by vendors shall be straightway ignored and shall not be considered. 7. The tenderers shall submit a certificate as given in tender document as "Annexure" in standard format without which their tender may not be considered and shall be summarily rejected. 8. The supplier/contractor of goods and/or services would be subject to GST Act. and Rules as applicable from time to time. 9. Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. 10. This tender notice has also been uploaded on www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in 11 In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. 11. Tender on line can be submitted up to 13:30 hrs. of tender opening date. 12 The tenderer has to submit necessary documents in compliance of clause 10 to 18 (Part-I) of GCC July '2020 mandatorily, otherwise offer will be considered as incomplete offer and accordingly shall not be considered. 1132/21(D)
North central railways | www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in | t.me/CPRONCR

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Public Distribution System (PDS) has distributed approximately 1.22 crore metric tons (MT) of free food grains across the state since the first wave of COVID-19 pandemic in April 2020.

Uttar Pradesh has distributed around 98.53 lakh MT of free food grains under PMGKAY and 23.39 lakh MT of free ration has been distributed separately by the government, which is over and above the ration being distributed under PMGKAY. The total distribution amounts to around 1.22 crore MT. In order to help the migrant workers, poor and underprivileged sections of society to tide over hardships caused by the pandemic, the state government has been providing free 5 kg food grains to over 15 crore beneficiaries of the state.

Under the scheme, each beneficiary receives 3 kg wheat and 2 kg rice. As per the Central government directives, the distribution was carried out entirely through PoS devices with biometric Aadhaar and dealer authentication in a transparent manner.

During 2020, of the total allocation of 58.02 lakh MT food grains under PMGKAY-2020 (April-November 2020), approximately 56.21 lakh MT food grains (i.e. around 96.87 per cent) were distributed in the state.

In 2021 (PMGKAY-III), out of a total allocation of around 14.71 lakh MT food grains (May -June 2021)

Paddy procurement going on smoothly

Lucknow (PNS): Various agencies of the state government procured 6,853 metric tons (MT) of paddy at minimum support price (MSP) from more than 7,163 farmers across the state during the paddy procurement process for 2021-22 Kharif marketing season which started on October 1.

Addressing a high-level meeting on Wednesday, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath directed the Food and Civil Supplies department officials to ensure that the system remained smooth at all the paddy purchasing centres.

The district magistrates were told to inspect the purchasing centres themselves and the nodal officers were instructed to be active during the purchase so that there was no delay in payments to the farmers.

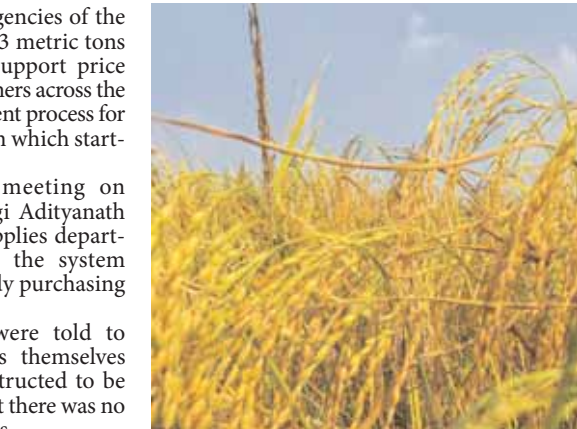
Commissioner, Food and Civil Supplies, Saurabh Babu, said the process of paddy procurement was being conducted smoothly and official agencies had so far procured 6,853 MT of paddy worth Rs 69.75 crore from farmers. He also said that proper arrangements had been made to protect the paddy in bad weather conditions.

On the lines of wheat purchase, the procurement is being done through the PFMS portal and around 3,173 centres have been set up by the department across that state for the purchase of paddy.

approximately 14,13,984.816 MT (i.e. around 96.07 per cent) food grains have been distributed by the state government.

While during PMGKAY-IV so far, against the allocation of 29,43,719.040 MT of grains around 28,18,527.091 MT has been given which is around 95.75 per cent. The distribution will continue till November.

Along with PMGKAY, the



After achieving the target of 66 lakh MT in the last Kharif season, the Food and Civil Supplies department, the nodal agency for procurement operations, is targeting a new record by purchasing 70 lakh MT of paddy in the current season.

This marketing season, paddy is being purchased at an increased MSP of Rs 1,940 per quintal for common paddy and Rs 1,960 per quintal of Grade A paddy. The paddy procurement centres have been geo-tagged with the help of Remote Sensing Application Centre (RSAC).

UP government is also distributing free ration and giving double relief to the people.

The distribution by the state continued from April to June in 2020, while in 2021, the state government made the distribution for the months of June, July, and August. Uttar Pradesh has more than 1,30,07,969 beneficiaries under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana and over 13,41,77, 983 under

priority household cardholders. The state has over 80,000 fair-price shops.

The distribution for October under PMGKAY commenced on October 19 and till October 26, more than 2.88 crore ration cards received 6,76,398.649 MT of ration which comes around 80.04 per cent of the total ration cards and 82.38 per cent of total allotment.

CITYBRIEFS

VIGILANCE AWARENESS



In line with the directives of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), Bank of Baroda, Zonal Office Lucknow is observing Vigilance Awareness Week from October 26 to November 1 with the theme being 'Independent India @ 75: Self Reliance with Integrity. A walkathon was organised which started from the premises of Baroda House in Gomtinagar. The walkathon was headed by Zonal HR-Head & AGM Girish Kumar. It was aimed to encourage the public to own the responsibility to be vigilant and follow the rule of law in all walks of life. "As a responsible PSU bank, it is our prime responsibility to ensure corruption-free practices, transparency, and fairness in the organisation," Kumar said. Zonal Vigilance Officer Sandeep Kumar Shukla, along with all staff of vigilance department, was present on the occasion.

GOLD MEDAL

Atharva Kumar Verma, a class III student of City Montessori School, Rajajipuram Campus II, brought won a gold medal in taekwondo under the Open National Championship 2021. Atharwa won the gold in the under-10 category by competing. The championship was organised under the aegis of School Games and Activity Development Foundation. Atharva displayed his sporting talent, agility and skills and grabbed the gold medal.



SIT probing Kheri case invites witnesses to dispose without fear

Lucknow (PNS): To facilitate the eyewitnesses to come forward and record their statements, the Special Investigative Team (SIT) formed to probe the Lakhimpur Kheri violence, on Wednesday, released the contact numbers of its members.

The SIT in a statement also assured protection to the witnesses, saying that details of such people would be kept confidential if they wanted and they would be given adequate security.

"This is to inform that a special investigation team has been constituted by the Uttar Pradesh government in the Lakhimpur Kheri district incident of October 3, 2021, headed by Deputy Inspector General of Police Upendra Kumar Agrawal. Therefore, it is requested to the people that if any eyewitness wants to provide his evidence in relation to this incident, then he can approach the SIT. The SIT will keep the name and address of the witness and eyewitness confidential and will also provide security," the statement reads.

The SIT has released the mobile numbers of members in the advertisements.

Sources said that the above move was made by the SIT after the Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the Uttar Pradesh government to provide protection to the witnesses in the October 3 violence in Lakhimpur Kheri where eight persons, including four farmers, were killed during a farmers' protest.

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY Notification No. 244/2021
It is notified for information of general public that following Unreserved Express trains will run as under:-

05490/05489 Lucknow - Sitapur - Lucknow Unreserved Express Train			
Train No. 05490 Ex. Lucknow Jn. Daily from 01.11.2021			
Train No. 05489 Ex. Sitapur Daily from 01.11.2021			
05490		05489	
Lucknow Jn. - Sitapur	Station	Sitapur-Lucknow Jn.	
Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.
-	09.50	Lucknow Jn	17.45
09.59	10.01	Aishbagh	17.15
10.08	10.10	Lucknow City	17.05
10.20	10.25	Daliganj	16.55
10.32	10.34	Mohibullapur	16.36
10.49	10.51	Bakshi Ka Talab	16.26
11.02	11.03	Itaunja	16.15
11.13	11.15	Ataria	16.02
11.21	11.22	Manwa	15.56
11.30	11.32	Sidhauli	15.45
11.40	11.41	Suraincha Halt	15.37
11.46	11.48	Kamlapur	15.29
11.57	11.58	Barai Jalalpur	15.19
12.08	12.10	Khairabad	15.08
12.35	-	Sitapur Jn.	15.00
Rake Composition : General Second Class: 08, SLR/SLRD : 02 = Total 10			
Please Note: It is mandatory for the passengers to follow the guidelines issued for prevention and safety from Covid-19.			
CPRO/IT-137 Chief Passenger Trans. Manager, Gorakhpur			
ABOUT any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No. : 09794845955			
Do not travel with inflammable items in trains			

Attacks on Hindus in B'desh condemned

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

A section of Muslim women under the banner of Muslim Mahila Foundation (MMF) has strongly condemned the attacks on Hindus and Durga Puja pandals in Bangladesh and burnt the effigy of Islamic jihadis at Lamahi here on Wednesday. Led by MMF chief Nazneen Ansari, the Muslim women said that due to conspiracy such attacks were made to force the Hindus to leave Bangladesh. In this connection she also wrote a letter to Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to protect the Hindus

She asked 'if 20 crore Muslims are safe in India among 100 crore Hindus, then why are Hindus not safe in Muslim countries and their places of worship are not protected. The cowardly attack by Islamic Jihadis in Bangladesh is causing hatred all over the world.' She urged the Bangladesh government to take these incidents of attacks very seriously by taking action against the Jihadi forces.

She further said that Bangladesh should remember that it had got its freedom from



Muslim women burning effigy of Bangladeshi Jihadis in Varanasi on Wednesday.

Pioneer

the cruelest atrocities of Pakistan with the support of India and follow the promises given by its founder Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the time of liberation for maintaining secular character there. 'Bangladesh should learn a lesson from Pakistan that due to patronage given by it to the Islamic terrorism, the whole world hates it

today.

MMF vice-president Nazma Parveen said that the way terrorists have spread violence in the name of the Islam, it has made life difficult for Muslims all over the world. 'No civilized country in the world can accept the new philosophy of violence, murder and oppression of women given by the Taliban,' she said. District

chief Nagina Begum said that Bangladesh incidents had deeply hurt the Muslim women and demanded capital punishment for those involved in such attacks. Shamshunisha, Medina, Sabina, Hadeesun, Shabnam, Nagina, Jameela, Shaheedun, Shamima, Zubeida, Najma and many others also participated in the protest.

Signature drive held for Right to Health

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Under the joint auspices of Swasth Ka Adhikar Abhiyan and Asha Trust, a signature campaign was launched in support of a 12-point charter of demands so that the health services in the country can be strengthened and Right to Health should be included into the Fundamental Rights. The memorandum along with the collected signature would be sent to the President Ram Nath Kovind.

They were demanding for the need of Right to Health Act for the betterment of health services in the country so that every person has the right to get general health facilities at minimum cost and at the nearest distance and if this facility is not available, there should be provision for punishment to the guilty and compensation to the affected citizen. In this direction, the people were mobilised for their support by the social workers in front of



Signature campaign being held in support of Right to Health Act in Varanasi on Wednesday.

Pioneer

Varanasi Junction (Cantt) railway station here on Wednesday. Scores of people supported the demand by putting their signatures on the banner. According to the social workers, in other districts of UP also various types of events are being organised in support of this campaign apart from launching the same on social media.

Vallabhacharya Pandey, a social worker associated with the campaign, said that we will send the copies of demand letter also to various political parties as well as the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers and demand that the health services in the country should be in the public sector and the national budget for health should be tripled. A trained doctor should

be appointed for every 1000 population, who should provide general health services in collaboration with local Asha and Anganwadi workers. There should be a mother child welfare centre at the gram panchayat level and rural ambulance service should be made better and accessible.

Besides, he said that an independent 'Health Rights Commission' should be constituted at the state and central level, which should hear complaints related to all health services and facilities and punish the guilty.

It should be made mandatory to spend at least 20 per cent of funds of the MPs, MLAs, Zilla Panchayats, Kshetra Panchayats, Gram Sabhas etc for the enhancement of health services. Among those social workers who were also present were Nandlal Master, Dr Arif, Dhnanjay, Mahendra Rathore, Vinay, Neeti, Maitri Mishra and Meera Maurya.

Yadav to get training under Mission Karmayogi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

The Government of India will provide one week training to senior officers in order to train senior civil servants and to implement the Prime Minister's 'Mission Karmayogi' scheme. For this, the name of Krishna Kumar Yadav, a senior officer of 2001 batch of Indian Postal Service and Postmaster General (PMG) of Varanasi Region has also been selected, who will attend Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie for a week from October 28 to



KK Yadav-- PMG (Varanasi Region)

November 2.

Along with this training, he

will also study 'Global Energy and Climate Policy' from the University of London and 'Leading from the Emerging Future' from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, America. Senior officers of IAS, IPS and Central Civil Services of 2000 and 2001 batches are participating in this training, being organised under 'The Common Mid-Career Training Programme, 2021-Leading to Learn'.

Significantly, on September 2 last year, the 'Mission Karmayogi' scheme was launched by the Government

of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. 'Mission Karmayogi' aims to prepare Indian Civil Servants for the future by making them more creative, imaginative, proactive, professional, progressive, energetic, competent, transparent and technology-enabled.

Through this scheme, where there will be transparency in the system, at the same time, the philosophy of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas can also be realised with the cooperation of civil services and others.

HC temporarily stays transfer of radio inspector

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

The Allahabad High Court has temporarily stayed the transfer order passed against a radio inspector, who had allegedly made some indecent comments against UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

Disposing of a writ petition filed by radio inspector Kuldip Singh, Justice Saral Srivastava observed, "As according to the petitioner, the charge with respect to post of some objectionable post on the WhatsApp group in the enquiry is not found proved against him, this court is of the opinion that the petitioner may be permitted to submit a detailed representation against the transfer order before the deputy inspector general of police (Operation) (Police

Telecommunication), UP Police Radio Headquarters, Lucknow, within a period of two weeks with a copy of this order."

The court further directed that in case representation is filed by the petitioner, as directed above, the DIG shall consider and decide the same strictly in accordance with law, by a reasoned and speaking order, preferably within a period of two months thereafter. "For a period of three months or till disposal of representation of petitioner, whichever is earlier, transfer order dated September 8, 2021, and relieving order dated September 13, 2021 shall remain stayed," the court directed.

The petitioner was transferred on September 8, 2021,

from Agra to Kanpur on the ground that he had forwarded some objectionable post on a WhatsApp group and, accordingly, an enquiry was instituted against the petitioner. In the aforesaid backdrop, the petitioner was transferred on administrative exigency after seeking approval from the Police Radio Establishment Board.

The counsel for the petitioner challenged the transfer order on the ground that it is punitive in nature.

He further submitted that the petitioner is going to retire in January 2023 and as per rule, the effort should be made to post an employee in his home district, if the employee is going to retire within two years from the date of transfer. Hence, on these grounds, he

submitted that the transfer order is not sustainable.

However, the state counsel contended that the transfer order has been passed in administrative exigency of service.

Passing the directive, the court in its decision dated October 5, 2021 disposed of the petition, observing, "Be that as it may, the counsel for the petitioner has drawn the attention of the court towards the enquiry report dated May 31, 2021, conducted by additional state radio officer, Agra Zone, Agra in which the charge against the petitioner is not found proved. Further fact is that the petitioner is due to retire in the month of January 2023 and only 16 months of service of the petitioner are left."

Local leader of BJP shot at, injured

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

A 25-year-old local leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Awadhesh Maurya, was shot at by three accused near Malawa Khurd village under Jhansi police station in the trans-Ganga area late on Tuesday night. He was rushed to SRN Hospital by police. An FIR under Section 307 of the IPC was registered by the police after the family members of the injured local leader alleged

that Babbu, Irfan and Shabir were behind the firing. The police said that the initial investigation indicated that the firing was a fallout out enmity. The police also said that a case under the SC/ST Act was also pending against the local leader who was fired upon and that the cops were probing the case from all angles.

Awadhesh Maurya is a mandal office-bearer of the BJP and he was found injured by locals outside the village. The bullet hit him in the lower

abdomen and the police would also record his statement as part of the probe. The family members of the local BJP leader told the police that Awadhesh was attacked late at night. No arrests have been made in the case so far.

MAN FOUND CARRYING BODY OF WOMAN ON BICYCLE: In a bizarre incident, a man was spotted carrying the body of a woman stuffed in a sack on a cycle. When people saw blood dripping, they raised an alarm.

The man abandoned the body and ran towards the forest cover. The police recovered the body with several wounds. The police suspected that she was a resident of a nearby village. The incident took place in Kaundhiara of Yamunapur area of Prayagraj on Wednesday afternoon. The police said that the deceased was aged around 25-26 years. There was a crowd but no one could identify the deceased. According to the police, the woman was killed with a sharp-edged weapon.

3 UP Naval NCC Unit completes challenging expedition

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

3 UP Naval NCC Unit, under the aegis of NCC Group Headquarters, Lucknow, NCC Directorate, Uttar Pradesh, completed one of the most arduous and challenging expeditions for naval NCC cadets on River Ganga from October 18 to 27. The flag-in ceremony was held on Wednesday at Saraswati Ghat, where Group Commander NCC Group HQ, Prayagraj, on behalf of NCC Directorate Uttar Pradesh, welcomed the contingent upon the successful completion of the expedition. The Sailing cum Boat Pulling expedition was flagged off by Brigadier Ravi Kapoor, Group Commander, NCC Group HQ Lucknow at an impressive ceremony held at Dhori Ghat, Kanpur on October 18. He appreciated the courageous efforts of NCC cadets and exhorted them to become role models for the youth of the country. This is the first time ever that a river expedition of 270 kms from Kanpur to Prayagraj by NCC has been undertaken, braving the navigational complexities on this route, vagaries of changing river patterns, natural and man-made obstructions, inclement weather and unfavourable winds.

The expedition was led by the Commanding Officer, Captain (IN) Navendu Saxena, along with his Executive



Officer Lieutenant Commander Ashwani K Singh. A team of 10 combatant naval sailors headed by Chief Instructor Anand K Verma, and civilian officials from the Naval NCC Unit, Lucknow trained the cadets and guided them during the voyage. A total of 63 NCC cadets – 38 Boys and 25 Girls participated in this highly challenging expedition using two DK Whalers and an Assault Boat, a Gemini craft and two rescue boats.

The expedition provided valuable experience to the cadets in Boat handling, sailing, seamanship and navigation, and gave them a glimpse of the challenges faced by the Indian Navy personnel at sea. It also helped inculcate camaraderie

and leadership amongst cadets under difficult conditions of river voyage. This is in accordance with the overall mission of NCC to develop strong character, unity and discipline amongst NCC Cadets, and help them grow as responsible citizens who can positively contribute towards nation-building.

The expedition routed through seven districts - Kanpur, Unnao, Fatehpur, Rae Bareilly, Pratapgarh, Kaushambi and Prayagraj – touching over 50 villages in the riverine areas of Ganga. The prominent locations included Baksar Dham, Dalmau, Kalakankar Ghat, Kada Dham, Shringverpur, Rasulabad, and Sangam before culminating at Saraswati Ghat,

Prayagraj. During the transit camps enroute, the cadets carried out unique social messaging campaigns on "Covid Vaccination", "Namami Gange" and "Clean Ganga Mission" to spread these nationally-relevant issues amongst the local citizens, particularly the rural community. The contingent also interacted with gram sabhas, schools and colleges enroute and spread awareness about the armed forces through motivational lectures and displays.

Interacting with the naval NCC contingent, Group Cdr Prayagraj said that the success of this expedition is a testimony to the spirit of enterprise, commitment and discipline amongst NCC cadets.

VNN employees stage demonstration

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Annoyed with the administration of the Varanasi Municipal Corporation (VMC) for deciding to demolish the building of the employees association, the employees of corporation on Wednesday staged a demonstration demanding that the association's building should also be included in the detail project report (DPR) to be drafted out to construct the building for the Mini House.

In 1982, the then administrator of the VMC Devi Dayal had handed over a building to Nagar Nigam Karmachari Sangh in the premises of the corporation's office, informed the general secretary of the association Manoj Kumar blaming that but the present administration of VMC has decided to demolish this building to construct the new building for the Mini House. It may be said here that the building of the Mini House was demolished and the Rudrakash Convention Centre was constructed on this land and so, a new building should also be constructed for it.

The administration of VMC has chalked out a proposal regarding demolishing the building of the association

by terming it as unusable and shabby and the proposal was also approved by its executive committee, informed Kumar blaming that these all were done without taking the association into confidence.

This act of the VMC administration is a direct attack on the dignity of the association which registered its protest against it before the Mayor and Municipal Commissioner; he said blaming the administration for adopting a tyranny attitude. The association is not against the construction of a building for Mini House but the building for the association should also be included in the DPR, he demanded. If the demand of the association is not met, the agitation would be intensified against this decision of the VMC, the employees threatened.

The district president of Rajya Karmachari Sanyukt Parishad Shashikant Srivastava, Shashikant Srivastava, Awadhesh Narayan Chakravorthy of JalKal Employees Association and Diwakar Dwivedi of VDA Employees Association also reached the demonstration site to extend their support to the protest. The president of

Nagar Nigam Karmachari Sangh Pawan Kumar Singh and others joined the demonstration.

ANGANWADI WORKERS DEMAND TO DECLARE THEM AS GOVT EMPLOYEES: Blaming that the anganwadi workers and assistants get stipend even less than the minimum wage fixed by the government, the Varanasi Unit of the Uttar Pradesh Anganwadi Karmachari Kalyan Association on Wednesday staged a protest and demanded the government to declare them as government employees and to make government service rules & regulations of their works and responsibilities.

The BJP had promised in its Sankalp Patra before the assembly election in 2017 that it would increase the stipend of anganwadi workers and assistants if came to power but five years are to pass, there is no increase in the stipend till now, blamed the agitating anganwadi workers and assistants adding, the BJP did not meet any promise made to them. They flayed the decision of the government to retire them after their age of 62 years without giving one time fund

and pension and said that it exposed the false promise made by the BJP.

The agitators demanded the government to declare them as government employees, make a service rules & regulations of their works and responsibilities, give a stipend of Rs 18000 per month to anganwadi workers and Rs 9000 to anganbadi assistants and make transfer of officers and employees posted in the district for more than five years to check the corruption. They also demanded the government to provide all the facilities to them which are being availed by the government employees until they are declared as government employees. The Mukhya Sevikas posted in the district for more than three years should also be transferred to another district, they demanded.

They submitted a memorandum of their demands to the district administration to be forwarded to the government.

Babu Lal Maurya, Anjani Maurya, Leela Singh and many others joined the protest.

AU EC endorses Lt Col Bansal as exam controller

ALLAHABAD (PNS): The Executive Council of the Allahabad University (AU) has endorsed the name of a serving officer of Indian Army's Corps of Signals, Lt Col Kailash Bansal, for the post of Controller of Examination.

Presently, Lt Col Bansal is on deputation as director in All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE). He will be taking the charge as CoE from the present CoE, Prof Ramendra Kumar Singh.

The post was without a regular appointment since 2018 when Prof HS Upadhyay had stepped down from the post. To ensure that the work did not get affected, the varsity had appointed Prof Ramendra Kumar Singh as acting CoE and he had been shouldering this responsibility till now.

In June 2021, AU began

efforts to appoint a regular CoE and on the instructions of vice-chancellor Prof Sangita Srivastava. AU registrar Prof NK Shukla issued a formal advertisement for appointment of a CoE for a period of five years. Apart from approving the name of the new CoE, the Executive Council also approved promotion of seven teachers of AU under the career advancement scheme (CAS). The teachers whose promotions have been approved from the post of associate professor to professor are Asheel ?umar and Raj Kumar Anand of physics department, Renu Johri of music department, Ashish Khare and Tanveer J Siddiqui of JK Institute of Applied Physics. Promotions of Priyamvada Singh of earth planetary science department and Jaya Kapoor of english

department too have been approved from the posts of assistant professor to associate professor.

SHUATS CELEBRATES 111TH FOUNDATION DAY: Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology And Science (SHUATS) celebrated its 111th Foundation Day on Wednesday. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students and employees participated in the Founder's Day programme through virtual platforms, while the Directors, Deans, and professors participated in the program following social distancing. Vice-Chancellor Prof (Dr) Rajendra B Lal, while congratulating everyone, said that Dr Sam Higginbottom established the Allahabad Agricultural Institute in the year 1910. He went to various villages and saw the dilapidat-

ed condition of the farmers, after that he went to America and learnt new agricultural technologies which were implemented in Allahabad. As a result, several implements such as Mould Board Ploughs (Wah Wah Plough, UP No1, UP No2, Shabash Plough) hoes, cultivators and wheat thresher were introduced for the first time in India. He added that at that time there was a problem of electricity, barren land, but today by the grace of God, development is being made all around in the area. Dr RB Lal said that the institute established by the founder Dr Sam Higginbottom has today become a full-fledged university recognised by the UP Government. He said that it is his dream that it should become a degree awarding Central University in future.

UP, Centre extending loans to promote industries: Khanna

Inaugurates BoB loan distribution camp

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

State Finance, Parliamentary Affairs and Medical Education Minister Suresh Khanna, while inaugurating a loan distribution camp at Lajpat Bhawan under Credit Outreach Programme of the Bank of Baroda, said the Uttar Pradesh government and the Centre were jointly making every effort to extend loans to the needy especially to promote industries and various other schemes for the all-round uplift of the masses.

He said the areas where the government was providing financial support were like PMRY, agriculture, forestry self-employment, MSME, Khadi and many more. He appealed to the people to avail themselves of the facility for not only their uplift but also the progress of state and country as well.

He later distributed loans and sanction letters to the tune of Rs 301.70 crore to 3,293 beneficiaries.

Other departments which took part in the loan distribution camp were MSMR Vikas Sansthan, Zila Udyog, Udyam Protsahan, Zila Khadi, Pashupalan, agriculture and



State Minister for Finance, Parliamentary Affairs and Medical Education, Suresh Khanna along with State Minister for Higher Education, Neelima Katiyar, handing over loans at the loan distribution camp of Bank Of Baroda at Lajpat Bhawan. **Pioneer**

they all set up their stalls on the premises.

Khanna visited all the stalls and took feedback.

Prominent among those who took part in the loan

camp were Chief General Manager, MSME, Reas Estate, Bank of Baroda, Brajesh Kumar Singh, General Manager and convener, State Level Bankers Committee,

Uttar Pradesh, Ranjit Kumar Jha, Deputy General Manager, BoB, Lucknow and regional heads of other banks, heads of departments and over 1,000 beneficiaries,

KDA VC inspects progress of under-construction houses

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Vice Chairman, Kanpur Development Authority (KDA) Arvind Singh carried out a surprise inspection of under-construction houses of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) in Jawaharpuram, Maqsoodabad, Shatabdi Nagar and Mahavir Nagar Extension in Zone 2 on Wednesday.

During inspection in Jawaharpuram Scheme, he directed the Secretary, KDA, to soon resolve the litigations with farmers on the allotted plots from sector 1 to 14. On how the rural ceiling was registered in urban area, he directed to set up a committee of Secretary, Dy. Collector and Tehsildar Ajit Singh and asked it submit its report after study. Chief Engineer informed him that the entire Shatabdi Nagar Scheme had been handedover to Nagar Nigam excepting sewer and water line works. In the Jawaharpuram Scheme, he directed to initiate necessary action relating to proposed construction of 3076 houses under PMAY (Urban). He also directed the Chief Engineer to urge the state administration for connecting the Kalpi-Sheeli road with the Agra-Lucknow Express way to increase its connectivity with the city.



KDA VC Arvind Singh inspecting the progress of houses being constructed under PMAY on Wednesday. **Pioneer**

He informed to review the progress of Jawaharpuram Sector-4A after a week and directed all the respective HoDs to submit their detailed report after proper inspection in this respect.

He stressed on following a modular approach while preparing the layout and getting the land verified from the land bank before it. Layouts be

soon prepared for the undisputed land and put up with proposed scheme before him. He also directed to set up an office and prepare a model flat of each housing project to facilitate buyers to provide them the full information about the unsold flats there. If need be, some professional manpower be engaged through outsourcing. During inspec-

tion in KDA Dreams Housing project, he directed the Executive Engineer Manoj Upadhyaya to resolve problems of its residents. He directed the enforcement incharge-2 to seek explanation from the respective junior engineer who failed to provide specific information about the constructions being carried out at different place during his inspection.

IIA for perfect coordination between government officials & entrepreneurs

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

National President of the Indian Industries Association, Ashok Agarwal, while addressing a virtual session on GST organised by National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes and Narcotics, said there had to be a perfect coordination between the government officials and the entrepreneurs along with a positive approach.

He said if the two stood at par then several issues related to taxes would automatically come to an end. He said despite four years there was an imperative need for proper reforms at the earliest.

He cited a few examples, stating that if goods were impounded at a particular place, the owners were asked to reach there to settle the issue. He said in case goods were being sent from Uttar Pradesh to anywhere in south India and if the goods were impounded at a particular place then the driver was totally unaware of even the GST office and thus arranging papers was in fact too difficult.

He demanded that the per-

son whose goods had been impounded should be given adequate time to settle the issue from the place where the goods had been sent. He said this would certainly be a big relief

Addressing the gathering, National Academy of Narcotics Additional Director General Shiv Kumar Sharma said the NAN's objective was to train officials and also to settle the issues related to the trading community. He said NACIN was an apex institution under CBIC for imparting training in the field of indirect tax administration and narcotics interdiction. He said it also coordinated and collaborated with other Indian as well as international institutions. He said in addition to this it was associated with other government departments of the Centre and various states in a multi-faceted manner in spreading expertise in various fields including that of national security.

He said its major tasks were to impart training to direct recruits and to arrange refresher courses for departmental officers, assist in formulation of training policies

and to implement the policies approved by the Board by devising schemes and syllabi of studies for training of direct recruits and departmental officers and to arrange study tours of customs and excise officers from neighboring countries under United Nations Development Programme.

Prominent among those who took part were Dinesh Goyal, Navin Agarwal, Arpit Agarwal, Saurabh Mittal, Karan Meglani, Joint Commissioner, RK Mishra, Sanjay and Nag Tushar Narain. **‘KHADI HAS MADE ITS PRESENCE FELT AT GLOBAL LEVEL’:** Assistant Director of Khadi Gramudhyog Commission, HN Meena, while addressing a one-day awareness camp on Khadi at State Polytechnic on Wednesday, said the word khadi conjured up images of Mahatma Gandhi and the Swadeshi Movement. He said for a long time khadi was associated with the country's freedom struggle and politics.

He said in fact it was a term used for fabrics that were hand-spun and hand woven, usually from cotton fiber. He said

today khadi had made its presence felt at the global level and thus there were massive opportunities of self-employment and exports. He advised students to delve deeper into this fabric and prepare material that was in vogue. He advised them to get their products patented which would not only be profitable but would also be the source of employment generation in the current times. He said the aim was to identify newer markets and product diversification, develop promotional strategies to enter new markets, inputs on trade policy, market access at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) front, compliances, design interventions and social responsibilities of corporate social responsibility interventions from companies and public sector undertakings. He said khadi as a textile had made a significant contribution by providing direct and indirect employment to around 50 million people of the country, making it the largest employment sector after agriculture, and khadi export promotion had become an important focus point.

Two women die as mound caves in

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

A woman and her daughter-in-law were killed while seven others were seriously injured when a mound suddenly caved in on them in Maunkhat village under Sajeti police station in Ghatampur on Wednesday morning.

Police and district administration officials immediately rushed to the spot and joined the rescue operation.

Close to every Diwali, villagers start digging mud from the mound in fields for plastering and white washing in their kutchha houses. On Wednesday morning, some women from the village went to the field to collect mud from there. When Rama Devi (70), her daughter-in-law Anita (42) wife of Dinesh of Maunkhat village, Sitlu (70), Sukirti (50) wife of Chhotelal, Radha (40) wife of Raju, Bholi Devi (62) wife of Jagdish, Gudiya (35), Arvind (13) and Chillu (18) of Tikwapur village were digging mud in a small tunnel, a mound suddenly caved in on them. All the women and children were buried under the mud.

Hearing screams, villagers rushed to the spot and started a rescue operation. After removing a lot of mud, they started taking out the injured from the tunnel. Meanwhile, on the information of village pradhan, the local police also reached the spot and sent all the injured to hospital where Rama Devi and her daughter-in-law Anita were pronounced dead.

Senior police and administrative officers also reached the spot and got the mud removed by a backhoe to ascertain if anybody else was still buried under the mud.

PNB observes vigilance week

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Divisional Head of Punjab National Bank, SS Singh, first paid floral tributes to the portrait of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and then administered the oath on the occasion. He said Vigilance Awareness Week was observed every year to encourage all stakeholders to collectively participate in the prevention of, and the fight against, corruption and especially to raise public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption.

He said it was the moral duty of each and every employee of the bank to take oath to maintain a high degree of honesty in their professional and public life.

He said India could prosper by staying honest and devoted towards the predicament of a significant section of its population.

He said one must be vigilant and added that prosperity was possible only when all social groups contributed towards it.

He said digitisation and penetration of the Internet, like any other technological intervention, had inadvertently opened an arena for fraudsters.

He said digitisation in a society with no prior digital literacy had shot up cyber crimes in India.

He said as a financial institution it was the duty of the organisation to remain honest and transparent in its working.

Singh said corruption could be defined as dishonest or unethical conduct by a person entrusted with a position of authority, either to obtain benefit for oneself or for some other person.

He said corruption undermined political development, democracy, economic development, the environment, people's health and much more.

He said it was imperative that the people be sensitised and motivated towards efforts for weeding out corruption.

Prominent among those present on the occasion were Deputy Divisional Head Sudhir Bhaskar and AGM Arun Kumar.

NER GM administers pledge

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

On the occasion of Vigilance Awareness Week, on the first day on Tuesday General Manager, North Eastern Railway (NER), Vinay Kumar Tripathi administered the integrity pledge to the officers and employees in the GM's office premises. On the occasion Tripathi said corruption is a major obstacle in the economic, political and social progress of the country and for eradicating it there is a need for all parties concerned like government, citizens and private sector to work together. He said every citizen should be vigilant and they must always commit to the highest standards of honesty and integrity and support the fight against corruption. On the first day of the Vigilance Awareness Week a debate competition on the topic 'Independent India@75: Self-reliance with Integrity' was organised for the students in North Eastern Railway Girls' Inter College here by the Vigilance department to spread awareness among children in



the presence of Deputy Chief Vigilance Officer (Mechanical) AP Pandey, Deputy Chief Vigilance Officer (Electrical) Sagar, principal SP Mishra and teachers. For their good presentation in this competition Vidya Dubey, Paramjeet and Pragma Mishra (students of class XII) were jointly given shield and commendation letter and two other participants were given commendation letters in form of consolation. On the other hand, a vigilance quiz competition was organised

for the employees under the supervision of Deputy Chief Vigilance Officer (Mechanical) Ambrish Prakash Pandey and Deputy Chief Vigilance Officer (Electrical) Sagar and in the presence of Deputy Chief Vigilance Officer (Traffic) JP Singh, Deputy Chief Vigilance Officer (Engineering) Bharat Bhushan, Deputy Vigilance Officer (Signal & Telecom) Vaibhav Srivastava, Deputy Chief Vigilance Officer (Store) Ajit Singh, Senior Vigilance Officer (Accounts) Jai Prakash and Senior Vigilance Officer (Traffic) Amit Srivastava. In the quiz competition Shailendra Singh secured the first position, Mohammad Abbas the second and Shatrughan Yadav third. Those who were honoured by Chief Workshop Manager/Signal Workshop AP Singh and principal, Multidisciplinary Training Centre, VP Singh, by being presented shield and commendation letter. Consolation prizes were given to three railway personnel. The officers and inspectors of Vigilance department were present on the occasion.

Block: Trains to be short terminated, rescheduled

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

For the regirding work of limited height sub-way (LHS) at level crossing No. 264/C between Ghatpuri-Makarandpur rail section of Izzatnagar division of North Eastern Railway (NER) on October 31 a block of six hours will be given by the railway administration. As a result, the short termination/short origination and re-scheduling of the following trains will be done, Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) Pankaj Kumar Singh said.

SHORT TERMINATION

KSJ-LKU SPL: The 05369 Kasganj (KSJ)-Lal Kuan (LKU) special train in place of Lal Kuan

will be short terminated at Badaun. The train will remain cancelled between Badaun and Lal Kuan.

SHORT ORIGINATION

BC-KSJ SPECIAL: The 05398 Bareilly City (BC)-Kasganj special train will be run from Badaun in place of Bareilly City. This train will remain cancelled between Bareilly City and Badaun.

RE-SCHEDULING

KPV-KSJ SPECIAL: The 05335 Kashipur (KPV)-Kasganj special from Kashipur will be run by being rescheduled by 50 minutes and by being controlled by 50 minutes in Makrandpur.

Vigilance Awareness week starts

CORRESPONDENT ■ SONBHADRA

Vigilance Awareness Week is being observed in Vindhyachal Project from October 26 to November 1 as per the directives of Central Vigilance Commission and Central Vigilance Office, NTPC Limited. In NTPC Vindhyachal Project at 11 am on Tuesday in the administrative building on the occasion of the starting of Vigilance Awareness Week Executive Director (Vindhyachal) V Sudarshan Babu and Chief General Manager (SSC) Vipan Kumar administered the pledge to all the employees one by one. All the General Managers,



and contract workers remained linked through online medium. Additional General Manager (Vigilance) SR Dan gave information about various competitions to be organised during the Vigilance Awareness Week from October 26 to November 1.

NCL to organise HR conference

CORRESPONDENT ■ SONBHADRA

Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL), one of the flagship Coal companies of GoI, is organising an HR conference-SHRAM (Singrauli Human Resource Annual Meet) from November 17 to 18 on the theme 'Industrial Revolution 4.0: Competing Through People Matrix' i.e. one of the most discussed topic on global business diaspora and extremely relevant for the industries, academia and HR discipline. This NCLs HR conference is open to all working professionals from all streams, industries and academia, management etc to be organised at NCLs headquarters, Singrauli (MP). The candidates can register free of cost on the link: <https://forms.gle/YuMhM57kd7PumA5h7> and can also contact on nclhr.conference@coalindia.in for any updates. The HR conference will throw light on organisation work in the digital era, working for well-being and happiness, evolving employee and customer experience, engaging the workforce etc. The conference will witness motivational lectures, speeches, dialogues, interactive sessions, round table discussions and post-event publications. This NCLs HR conference will usher new insights on the theme and provide a platform in the post-Covid era to the world-renowned HR personas, confluence of great minds and

motivational speakers for exchanging ideas. The endeavour will give new impetus to the current HR practices in consonance with the rapid shifting of global business scenario. NCL being an organisation with rich and diversified human capital in different domain knowledge is playing a vital role in the energy security of the nation. The company is undergoing a business transformation. The conference will imbibe the inline changes in human resources of the company and the participants in accordance with rapid changes of the external environment, especially technological advancement, digital competitiveness, environmental challenges and global demographic shift.

Combing operation conducted

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

SP Ajay Kumar Singh conducted combing operation along with heavy police force and PAC in Naxal affected Bela Jungle area under Madihan police station on

Madihan and PRO to SP.

DEDICATED TO PUBLIC: Uttar Pradesh Minister of State for Energy Rama Shankar Singh Patel while dedicating the new building of primary school to the people in Baghaila village under Patehra block on



Tuesday. During the combing the SP visited the suspected places in the jungle and directed the police to keep a close watch on such spots regularly. He interacted with the locals and told the cops that such operation was not only useful for controlling crime but for earning the trust of the locals too. During the combing the SP was accompanied by SHO

Tuesday said that for the overall development of personality the first requirement was education and the government was providing all types of facilities like mid day meal, school uniform, books and stationery free of cost so it was the duty of every citizen to send the children to school for their bright future. The minister dedicated the building to the people after performing the rituals.

The programme was conducted by head master Om Prakash Singh and vote of thanks was proposed by BEO Ram Milan Yadav. Among those present were Bechan Singh, Ramesh Singh, Dinesh Patel, Vinay Singh, US Singh and RP Singh.

MISHAP: A man died in a road mishap under Lalganj police station on Monday night. Reports received here said said Awadhesh Mautrya (30), a resident of Bhatwari village under Halia police station was returning to his house from Gaipura on a motorcycle when he was hit by an unknown vehicle near Ranibari village on the Lalganj-Vijaypur road. On getting the information about the incident Lalganj police reached the spot and found the victim as dead. On the basis of papers found in his pocket the police informed his family and completed the legal formalities. Meanwhile a woman and her daughter died in another accident which took place under Chunar police station on Tuesday.

Modi India’s best admin, says Shah

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday described Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the most successful administrator of the country after independence, saying he has taken India into a different trajectory in the spheres of eradication of poverty, economic development, national security and foreign policy.

Shah was addressing a conference on “Delivering Democracy: Reviewing two decades of Narendra Modi as head of Government”, organised by BJP’s training and research centre Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini. Shah said Modi became Chief Minister of Gujarat two decades ago without having any administrative experience and proved himself as a successful administrator despite facing a difficult situation at that time. The Home Minister said in 2014 when the Manmohan Singh Government was in power, there was a ‘pol-

icy paralysis everywhere” and every member of the Cabinet thought of himself or herself as the Prime Minister while the “Prime Minister was not considered as Prime Minister”.

“There was no national security policy. India’s honour had been lost. There were scams of ₹12 lakh crore and an impression had been created that Indian democracy will collapse,” he said. But when the Modi Government came to power in 2014, Shah said, people started thinking that “now things would improve, the system would improve”. He said India’s problems are not just of the administration or economic development but its honour has to be protected, the country’s culture should be preserved and its security should be ensured.

“Even though Narendra Modi considers himself as the ‘pradhan sewak’, I can say with conviction that he is the most successful administrator the country ever had after independence. Because he covered all

these points and took India to a different level,” said Shah. Referring to a series of decisions taken by the Modi Government in the last seven years, Shah said when demonetisation was announced in 2016, they knew that there was a risk as the Uttar Pradesh Assembly election was due but people stood behind Modi and supported the decision. The people realised that it was announced to check black money and Modi had no other intentions, he said.

The Home Minister said the law against Triple Talaq, one rank and one pension and creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff were all difficult decisions. With the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A, the Home Minister said, Jammu and Kashmir has been completely integrated with the union of India, not a single riot has taken place anywhere in the country and there has been no murmur after the Supreme Court decision on Ram Janmabhoomi.

Health Ministers’ meeting held over ramping up jab drive

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Wednesday met the State Health Ministers to discuss ramping up the Covid-19 vaccination drive in the country among other measures such as ensuring stepping up health services in case infections start rising at a fast pace.

Mandaviya’s meeting with the State Health Ministers assumes significance as the Central Government on October 23 reviewed the status and progress of Covid vaccination with States/UTs. Health Ministers from around 18 States and health secretaries from remaining States had participated in the meeting. Sources said that Health Ministers pointed out people’s complacency towards Covid-19 for poor show on second doses status. So far just 30 per cent have been inoculated a second dose i.e. are fully vaccinated.

In the meantime, Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health

Secretary, reviewed the progress of Covid vaccination with health secretaries and mission directors of National Health Mission (NHM) of states and UTs, through video conference and urged them to increase the pace and coverage of the second dose of Covid vaccines.

This came in the backdrop of the country achieving the milestone of administering 100 crore doses on October 21, 2021.

As per the latest data released by the Union Health Ministry, India’s Covid-19 vaccination coverage has crossed 103 crore.

“India’s Covid-19 vaccination coverage has crossed 103 crore landmark milestones (1,03,48,36,594). More than 51 lakh (51,56,054) vaccine doses have been administered till 7 pm on October 26,” the Ministry stated in its release. So far, 41,10,37,440 first doses of Covid-19 vaccines and 13,11,13,078 second doses have been administered in the age group of 18-44 years.

India determined to protect its maritime interests, says Rajnath

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



With China increasingly asserting itself in the Indo-Pacific and Indian Ocean region, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday said India is determined to protect its maritime interests. At the same time, it supports the maintenance of rule-based maritime systems, he said.

Making these observations, Rajnath said New Delhi backs systems as mandated under UN Convention on the Law of Seas (UNCLOS), 1982. He also noted while the seas offer abundant opportunities for sustenance and growth of the mankind, they pose challenges such as terrorism, piracy, drug trafficking and climate change.

Delivering the key note address at the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) 2021, being held virtually from October 27-29, 2021, he also referred to Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s description of the Indo-Pacific as a natural region, where destinies of entities are interlinked.

Rajnath said the seas are a vital communication link to

strategies for the future.

First conducted in 2018, the IPRD is the apex international annual conference of the Indian Navy and is the principal manifestation of the Navy’s engagement at the strategic-level.

Addressing the seminar, Navy chief Admiral Karambir Singh said the Indian Navy is working on “tailor-made” solutions to help friendly countries confront pressing challenges in the maritime domain with a broader aim to emerge as a preferred security partner and make a real contribution for an open and inclusive Indo-Pacific. Without naming China, he also talked about some states applying “land-centric” territorial mindsets in the basic idea of global commerce in the Indo-Pacific with an attempt to seek greater domination and control that has created challenges to global rules. He also said there has been a “day-to-day” competition for influence in the Indo-Pacific that brings with it attendant and evolving challenges, noting that the rules of game are “constantly changing”.

Cong, Left welcome SC move on Pegasus panel

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress and the Left parties on Wednesday welcomed the Supreme Court order of setting up an expert committee on the Pegasus spyware issue and said it has negated alleged attempts of the Government to evade and divert attention in the name of national security.

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi said he was happy with the Supreme Court’s decision to order an independent probe into the Pegasus issue and it was a “big step” towards getting to “the truth”. “I hope they (Supreme Court) will do their job and provide justice.

“But this is a deeper problem. If the Prime Minister is using this as a personal tool...if the data is arriving on the Prime Minister’s desk, then it is totally criminal...”

“We will follow it up,” Rahul said, while claiming that the government of Karnataka “was toppled using Pegasus spyware”.

Attacking the Government, the CPM said the “Government had refused to give a categorical answer to the Supreme Court whether any State agency used Pegasus spyware or not.”

Rahul said the Congress

would continue to raise the issue in Parliament seeking answers from the government as tapping of constitutional functionaries and opposition leaders was a “criminal act” and “an illegal action”.

He added that only the Prime Minister or the Home Minister could have authorised tapping of phones using the Pegasus software.

Attacking further on the issue y Rahul said the Congress had been asking the Government three questions—who had authorised the use of Pegasus spyware, who all were targeted, and whether any other country was also in possession of the Pegasus data. But the government has not given a reply.

“Pegasus is an attempt to crush Indian democracy. It is an attempt to make sure that the vibrancy of the democracy, the conversations that take place in a democracy are crushed and people are controlled,” he said.

“There is the institution of Parliament where we will raise this again and we will try to have a debate in Parliament.

“I am pretty sure that the BJP will not like that debate. So, they will make sure that that debate is stalled. But we will try to hold that debate,” he said.

BJP flays Rahul over Pegasus

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Hitting-out at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, the BJP on Wednesday said that the Supreme Court’s decision to constitute an expert committee to look into the alleged use of the Pegasus software for surveillance is in line with the Government’s affidavit on the matter. The party lashed-out at Rahul for his attack on the Government following the court’s judgment, saying is using the same vocabulary and repeats himself whatever be the issue to target the BJP Government.

“The Government had categorically said (in court) that we are of the opinion that in order to counter the false narrative of certain vested interest groups it would be fair if we establish a committee of experts to look into the issue. This is what has happened,” BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra said, welcoming the order.

To a question that the court declined the Government’s submission to allow it to appoint an expert panel, Patra said this is not an issue as “experts are experts”.

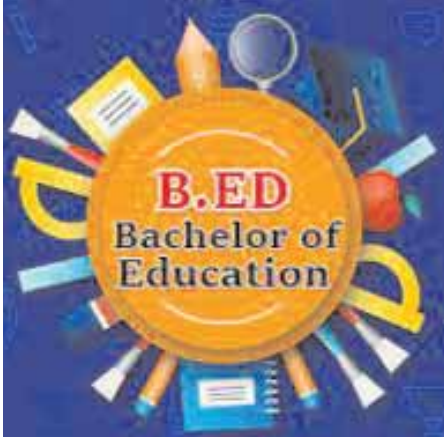
The Supreme Court has appointed a three-member panel of cyber experts to probe

the alleged use of the Israeli spyware for surveillance of certain people in India, saying that the state cannot get a “free pass” every time the spectre of national security is raised and it cannot be the “bugbear” that the judiciary shies away from. Declining the vehement submission of the Central Government to permit it to appoint an expert panel on its own, the court said such a course would violate settled judicial principle against bias as “justice must not only be done, but also be seen to be done”.

Rahul alleged that the suspected use of Pegasus for snooping is an “attempt to crush Indian democracy”, and said it is a “big step that the Supreme Court has said that they are going to look into this matter. I am confident that we will get the truth out of this”.

Hitting back, Patra said, “Rahul Gandhi has a habit of speaking lies and spreading confusion. He has nothing new to offer, uses the same vocabulary and repeats the same thing like ‘democracy is in danger’ or ‘BJP is attacking ‘Constitution’ on everything. Such is his repetition you won’t be able to say which press conference of him was done on which issue.”

Centre notifies 4-year integrated teacher education programme



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In line with the New Education Policy (NEP), the Centre on Wednesday notified a four-year integrated teacher education programme. Now, the BEd course will be integrated and will be of four-year duration.

As per the Ministry of Education notification, students who pursue a four-year BEd degree will get BA and BEd or BSc and BEd or BCom and BEd degrees together. Usually, it would take students five years to complete these two degrees. The integrated degree would offer both degrees and save a year for students.

Earlier the Education Ministry had announced that the new integrated course will help create teachers who are in sync with the new education policy. As the education policy introduces several changes in the curriculum including teaching in regional language, teaching coding to school kids among others, the new degrees will prepare teachers accordingly and will have a new curriculum.

The Government aims at making the four-year integrated BEd the minimum degree required for teaching by 2030. National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) under the Ministry of Education has devised the curriculum of this course in such a way that it enables a student-teacher to get a degree in education as well as a specialised discipline such as history, mathematics, science, arts, economics, or commerce.

The commencement of Four Year ITEP will be from the academic session 2022-23. Admission for the same will be carried out by the National Testing Agency (NTA) through the National Common Entrance Test (NCET). This course will be offered by multidisciplinary institutions and will become the minimal degree qualification for schoolteachers.

‘Covid might act differently depending on time of day’

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In what could give new insight into how the coronavirus is being tested and treated, a team of scientists have claimed that the virus might act differently depending on the time of day and the body’s circadian rhythms.

In other words, Covid-19 virus shedding—when infected cells release infectious virus particles into the blood and mucus—appears to be more active in the middle of the day due to modulation of the immune system by our biological clock.

Their results also indicate that viral load is lower after 8 p.m. “If people choose to get tested at that time, there could be a high-

er chance of a false-negative result. False negatives can be harmful to the community and for the patient, who might not seek additional care due to their negative test result,” suggested Carl Johnson, Cornelius Vanderbilt Professor of Biological Sciences who collaborated with Candace McNaughton, former adjunct assistant professor of emergency medicine, and Thomas Lasko, associate professor of biomedical informatics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, to determine if the percentage of people testing positive for Covid-19 varies based on time of day.

They found that the data support the hypothesis that Covid-19 acts differently in the body based on our natural circadian rhythm, which has also been implied by

studies of other viral and bacterial infections.

“Taking a Covid-19 test at the optimal time of day improves test sensitivity and will help us to be accurate in diagnosing people who may be infected but asymptomatic,” Johnson said.

A difference in Covid-19 viral shedding throughout the day is important information that may inform how we test for and treat the virus.

As Johnson and his co-authors report, the peak shedding in the afternoon, when patients are more likely to interact with others or seek medical care, could play a role in increasing the spread of the virus in hospitals and the wider community.

Elderly people require spl kind of care: Experts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Elderly people in the country require a specific kind of care and treatment and they should get that, doctors and lawmakers on Wednesday said as they batted for a policy exclusively for the holistic welfare of the sector.

Dr Anil Jain, Rajya Sabha member promised that he will raise the issue in the next session of the Parliament to ensure that there are better old age homes and health services to ensure a dignified life to the elderly. “A majority of senior citizens don’t have the means to live a quality life and are spending their lives in old age homes. In fact, old age homes are not part of Indian culture,” he said at a national conference on ‘geriatric health care’ organised by DadiDada Foundation here. The organisation is working for the welfare of the senior citizens in the country.

Vijay Sampla, (Chairman, National Commission of Scheduled Castes) touched upon various issues con-



fronting the senior citizens while Gopal Krishna Agarwal, BJP national spokesperson went on to talk about how the government is constantly trying to improve the geriatric health care system in the country. Though it is a slow process, the government is keeping in mind the issue and moving towards fixing it, he said.

The aim for this National

Conference was to raise awareness about the need for a geriatric health care system in a country where a huge population, around 18 crore, comprises the elderly.

The experts felt that with demographic transition underway in India, the elderly population is projected to rise to 12 per cent of the total population by 2025. “The ever-increasing elderly population poses social and financial challenges and puts immense strain on the health system due to a marked shift toward chronic non-communicable diseases,” they said.

“The elderly should be considered and a policy for efficient healthcare for them should be created” Muni Shankar Pandey, Director of Dadidada foundation said. “People of various age groups were being treated the same way, which was not advisable. The elderly require a specific kind of care and treatment and they should get that,” he added. Health experts at the conference agreed.

Dr. Rahul Bhargava, hematologist

from Fortis Hospital in Gurugram said that in India, the elderly people suffer from dual medical problems, i.e. both communicable as well as non-communicable diseases. “Cancer is becoming treatable now and at the same time it is one of the major issues among the elderly specifically. In elderly males, most common cancers are lung, prostate, larynx, oral cavity, and oesophagus. In females, most common cancers are breast, followed by cervix and ovary,” Dr Bhargava said.

On the other hand, Dr LK Tripathi, nephrologist from Artemis Hospital talked about various metabolic disorders faced during old age and how to strengthen a person’s metabolism while Dr Rabin Chakrabarti, cardiologist, Medical Hospital in Kolkata dwelled in detail about the different forms of cardiovascular diseases and how they can affect the elderly.

Similarly, themes related to depression and anxiety were taken up by Dr Ashwani Kumar, psychiatrist from Max Hospital in Gurugram.

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India 	शाखा कार्यालय : महाराणी मार्केट, निकट महोबा पोस्ट ऑफिस, महोबा क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय : 117/H-1/240, पाण्डुराम, कानपुर प्रधान कार्यालय : 239, विधान भवन मार्ग, नारीमन वाहट, मुंबई
कच्चा सूचना (अचल सम्पत्ति हेतु) [Rule-8(1)]	
जैसा कि अधोहस्ताक्षरी वित्तीय आस्तियों का प्रतिभूतिकरण एवं पुनर्गठन और प्रतिभूति हित प्रवर्तन अधिनियम 2002 के तहत यूनियन बैंक आफ इंडिया का प्राधिकृत अधिकारी होते हुये और उक्त अधिनियम की धारा-13 (12) संपदित प्रतिभूति हित (प्रवर्तन) नियम 2002 का नियम-3 में प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए मांग सूचना अन्तर्गत धारा 13 (2) निम्न खाता धारकों (अदिक को जारी किया गया था, जिसमें नोटिस प्राप्त के 60 दिवस के भीतर देय राशि के अदायगी की अपेक्षा की गयी थी। ऋणी उपरोक्तानुसार अदायगी में विफल रहे हैं फलस्वरूप ऋणी एवं सर्वसाधारण को एतद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि अधोहस्ताक्षरी ने उक्त अधिनियम की उपधारा (4) धारा 13 संपदित नियम-8 के तहत प्रतिभूति हित (प्रवर्तन) अधिनियम 2002, में प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए निम्नलिखित बंधक संपत्ति / सम्पत्तियों पर निम्नलिखित दिनांक को कच्चा ले लिया गया है। ऋणी एवं सर्वसाधारण को एतद्वारा सावधान किया जाता है कि, बंधक संपत्ति / सम्पत्तियों से किसी प्रकार का समव्यवहार न करें। कोई भी समव्यवहार यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, के ऋण रुपये एवं उस पर अनुबन्धित दर पर लागू ब्याज आदि के भार के अधीन होगा। ऋणी का ध्यान बंधक संपत्ति / सम्पत्तियों को मुक्त कराने हेतु उपलब्ध मियाद के संदर्भ में अधिनियम की उपधारा (8) धारा-13 की ओर भी आकर्षित किया जाता है।	
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Right to marry

If same-sex couples can live together and adopt children, they can also marry

The Union Government is unlikely to support legal sanctions to same-sex marriages. Its stand in the Delhi High Court hearing a bunch of cases to approve such marriages is consistently against them. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta explained the Government's stand in the Court once again this week. He is clear that marriage is permissible only between a biological man and a biological woman as per the law. For him, a spouse means husband and wife, as in a heterosexual couple. In the same case this February, the Centre said marriage depends on "age-old customs, rituals, practices, cultural ethos and societal values". The Centre put forth four arguments. One, it is for the legislature, not judiciary, to enforce "social morality" based on "Indian ethos" that sanctions marriage. Two, marriage happens between two individuals and does not fall under an individual's domain of privacy. Three, marriage is a public recognition of a relationship and statutory rights and obligations are attached to it. The final argument is clinching: same-sex individuals living together is incomparable with the concept of "Indian family unit" which means husband, wife and child. The Centre insists that the marriage of same-sex individuals can neither be a fundamental right nor can the right to privacy be extended to it.



The Centre's argument draws strength from what the Supreme Court did not say in its landmark 2018 judgment in the Navtej Singh Johar vs Union of India case. The Court struck down section 377 of the IPC that criminalised consensual sex between same-sex

individuals. It said the Section "prohibits LGBT persons from expressing their sexual orientation and engaging in sexual conduct in private..." The Court decriminalised such consensual sex in 'private' but did not legalise 'public' actions like marriages between such couples. Legalising these marriages is a natural corollary to decriminalising sexual relations between same-sex individuals. Homosexuals, by extending the same logic, cannot be deprived of the reality of falling in love, getting married and living just like heterosexual couples. Denying them the right to marry is to stigmatise their relationships and that is a parochial and conservative approach in a world with fast-evolving social mores. Hitherto, Indian society lived by traditions that defined people's limits, behaviour and duties according to their gender. However, things have changed. The rights and choices of the individual matter more than gender. Glass ceilings are being broken by women and now by members of the LGBT community. Adoption of children is as legal as natural procreation. Live-in relationships may be considered immoral by some but that they are not an offence in the eye of law. If same-sex couples can live-in and adopt children, revolutionising the concept of "family", they can also marry. Society is made up of all kinds of individuals with exclusive rights to none. And no tradition is ever written in stone.

PICTALK



Grey-headed Swamphens fight at a pond in Ghaziabad

PTI

Good lord!

Kejriwal is going all out to woo Hindu voters ahead of the UP Assembly polls early next year

After heartily wooing the minority community, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is now seeking the blessings of Lord Ram to make a mark, if not win, in the upcoming Uttar Pradesh election. A day after he visited Ayodhya for Ram Lalla darshan, the Delhi Government has added Ayodhya as one of the destinations in its popular free pilgrimage scheme, 'Mukhya Mantri Teerth Yatra Yojana'. By doing so, Kejriwal is taking on the BJP head-on and hopes to beat it in its own game. Under the scheme, the Delhi Government bears the expenses of about 77,000 pilgrims above the age of 60 every year. This scheme was frowned upon by the seculars for playing to and abetting religious sentiments. The Ram Mandir construction and resolution of the temple dispute by the court are likely to be a major



poll plank in Uttar Pradesh. Though the AAP has largely kept Hindu-related issues at an arm's distance, this move shows a paradigm shift in its strategy. Even earlier, Kejriwal has been criticised for not honouring his secular credentials. He was often called out for not doing enough in the recent Delhi riots and named the "B-team of the BJP" by his political opponents.

Though UP is still a few months away from elections, the stakes are so high that almost all parties, including the BJP, are not letting up their efforts. The AAP is enthused with its initial success in Punjab and Goa and has made forays into other States, too. Now betting big on UP, it formally kicked off its poll campaign in September this year. Right from the start, the AAP seems to be giving a clear message that it is not against the construction of the Ram temple. By doing so, it wants to reach out to the Hindu voters disgruntled with the BJP. To send a clear message to these voters, senior AAP leaders Manish Sisodia and Sanjay Singh had offered prayers at the Ram Janmabhoomi and Hanumangarhi shrines in the temple town before Kejriwal's visit. The AAP knows well that freebies work. So along with the endorsement for the Ram temple, it is also offering 300 units of electricity free of cost to all domestic consumers and promised to waive outstanding bills of 38 lakh families in UP if it wins the Assembly election. The AAP will contest all 403 seats in UP.

How Air India fell short of the runway



PRAFULL GORADIA

People in Government seldom appreciate that overheads can bring down companies. That made Air India a treasure trove for too many employees

The plight of Air India would not have dipped so low had a 1983 advice given in a national daily been followed. The company might be Government owned but three or four, preferably six or seven or more financial institutions beginning with LIC, Unit Trust, IDBI and nationalised banks should have held Air India through share. They would be entitled to dividends, if any. The company would be a member of the stock exchanges as well as chambers of commerce. Their senior representatives would attend the shareholders' meetings et al.

The premier airline was a business and it should have been run as such and not like a zamindari. The acting zamindar was usually a joint secretary of the Government of India. He might have been a perfect bureaucrat but was likely to be wedded to the correct procedure and not oriented towards profit. He would have worried more about the audit than about results. That is not how a business is run. Companies owned and run by the Government are euphemistically called "public sector" without the realisation that it is an appendix of State capitalism. Where is the public as an owner, either direct or indirect?

The joint secretary, being from a cadre, was obliged to upgrade passengers free of charge. I have once travelled to London business class with my family. Many of the seats in the aircraft were filled at the last minute, before departure, with odd persons with whom I did not enjoy travelling. Mind you, I am not a snob; I have brushed shoulders with all kinds in politics. These appeared to be mostly relatives or friends of trade union leaders who had been obliged so as to maintain industrial peace. In a Government, one had to do so; any effort to solve any case of industrial tension needed the blessings of senior officers, if not the Board of Directors. For officers, it was best to maintain good relations with trade union leaders, if necessary with soft peddling.

To travel with such elements



was irksome enough for us. For European travellers, one can imagine, it would be anathema. If say, 20 per cent shareholding was also sold to the public, it would appear in public perception to be a company like any other. Industrial action would then be easier to take. For years Larsen & Toubro was 54 per cent financial institution held and yet ran like a private company and gave decent returns to its shareholders. It was only when Reliance Industries bought out some shares from some of the financial institutions that the 54 per cent came into public limelight.

Another set of contributors to the sickness of Air India was the VIPs and ministers, whose recommendations had to be implemented. Whether the person was required or not, he or she generally had to be appointed. Whether he was qualified was rarely commented upon. People in Government seldom appreciate that overheads can bring down companies. That has made Air India a treasure house of too many employees, at least four times more than required.

VVIPs climbed even higher heights. As soon as UPA-I



YES, INDIA HAS A LARGE TRADING CLASS AND SMALL TO MEDIUM INDUSTRY RUNNERS. BUT FOR THE SIZE OF ITS ECONOMY AND THE DIMENSION OF ITS NEEDS, THERE ARE NOT MANY CANDIDATES AROUND

came to power in 2004, a minister took off to Europe and bought a large number of aircraft. He repeated his performance soon thereafter by flying to the USA to acquire Boeing aircraft for Air India. The earlier lot of Airbus planes were for Indian Airlines. To top up his exploits, he had both the airlines amalgamated. No questions were really asked nor answered. The cost of borrowing drove the final nail on the coffin.

The bitter Air India experience need not forever condemn public money being invested in industry. For a simple reason, India does not have a sizable and sufficient number of industrialists to industrialise the economy. Any old trader is not a potential industrialist. Yes, India has a large trading class and small to medium industry runners. But setting up a large industry requires a longer vision, a modicum of integrity, the ability to build the project rapidly before inflation overruns the cost, and ultimately the ability to manage a large industry.

For the size of our economy and the dimension of India's needs, there are not many candidates around. In

the liberal days of Indira Gandhi onwards, it was easy to borrow money from the bigger banks. Quite a few big, impressive houses, apparently successful, owe more to their own. That is alright when a substantial part of the debt is from one's own shareholders and not from bankers. Hence, let the Government play its part as an indirect shareholder in a reputable house. Additionally, invite, induce and attract foreign houses but not in consumer products.

Let the foreign company suggest what they would like to manufacture. Thereafter, the Government can verify whether the particular product is required in India. If it is, let the foreign firm decide how much and what percentage it wishes to invest. Then a public issue could be launched. What does not get subscribed can be filled up by the institution or banks. If the foreign firms, to feel secure, request the institution to fill the gap between 51 per cent and what it invests, say 15 or 17 per cent, it should be done.

(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

A FAIR PROBE INTO THE PEGASUS ISSUE

Sir — The apex court setting up an independent probe panel with a retired Supreme Court judge at the helm, to investigate into the Pegasus snooping affair in India is welcome. With this decision, it has apparently given utmost importance to the protection of fundamental rights of the individual, as the ultimate custodian of the Constitution. The Union Government has not come clear, when asked by the Court on the issue of Pegasus — an Israeli snooping software that was allegedly used to spy on political rivals. In this snooping affair, under the guise of threat to national security, the fundamental right to privacy of the citizen and right to freedom of the press are being seemingly subverted by the State or by some private entities, which is a dangerous sign for a healthy democracy. The Government has every right and duty to snoop into the activities of suspected terrorists or their supporters in a legally sanctioned manner. But it has no right to infringe upon the fundamental rights of citizens; overtly or covertly at its whims and fancies. Now the apex Court has settled the issue by reconfirming the primacy of fundamental rights and their place at high pedestal on the ladder of democracy.

DVG Sankararao | Vizianagaram

BIGOTRY DISGUISED AS SENTIMENTS

Sir — The celebrated filmmaker Prakash Jha had to face the wrath of the self-righteous group the Bajrang Dal, over the making of web series Ashram in Madhya Pradesh. This is not a healthy precedent to any civilised society and the nation. The attacks on film directors and writers over petty issues isn't a new phenomenon but a new trend in our country taken up by the pseudo champion of moral policing. The self-righteous group Bajrang Dal should have first registered the complaint to the administration over the objectionable materials and raised complaints on Ashram nomenclature per se, instead of resorting to hooliganism to grab the attention for a wrong reason.

The Captain wants a payback



Captain Amarinder Singh has declared that he is going to form a new political party and the Election Commission will soon clear its name and symbol. The Captain has announced that his party will contest on all the Assembly seats and will have seat adjustment with other like-minded parties. He is likely to meet Amit Shah on Thursday on the issue of farmers' agitation. He also informed that he has not met any farm leader and also confirmed that talks

are already going on between farm leaders and the Government and is hopeful of some concrete solution on the issue very soon. The former Punjab Chief Minister has been successful in conveying the message that he was deeply humiliated by the Congress high command; challenging that the grand old party will have to pay for it.

In UP, 40 per cent seats will be allotted to women (as per Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi) and today, Harish Rawat declared that the same formula may be adopted in Uttarakhand. Apparently, it can not be denied that the same formula may be applied in Punjab also. Punjab has become a ground for personal and sentimental politics. Earlier, Navjot Singh Sidhu was acting like an 'unguided missile' and now the Captain appears to be a wounded and desperate lion who is moving ahead on the lines of revenge and payback.

Yash Pal Ralhan | Jalandhar

It is meaningless they are now trying to object and interfere in the making of web series when it has already completed two seasons successfully. The veteran film director was caught in a bind of political fury and discourse for trying to mirror the true image of our society through his film. All this unnecessary ruckus created by the Bajrang Dal including the Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra, over nomenclature of fictional film is a dire attempt to look at the piece of an art with a parochial mindset and for a political mileage.

Janga Bahadur Sunuwar | Bagrakote

SHOWING SOLIDARITY THROUGH SPORTS

Sir — South Africa opener Quinton de Kock has triggered a needless controversy by refusing to take a "knee" before the start of the T20 World Cup game against West Indies. If De Kock's stance is an objection to the directive issued by Cricket South Africa (CSA), it could mean the end of his participation in the

World Cup, and possibly cost him his international career. Taking a knee has become a popular symbol to show solidarity with the 'Black Lives Matter' movement which gained momentum following the brutal killing of the African-American George Floyd by a white Minneapolis police officer.

It is part of a long history of players and athletes using sport as a platform to draw attention to the racial inequalities that communities experience. Systemic racism exists across the world and cricket is not immune to the scourge, as it commits itself to bring changes amid the BLM Foundation, whose mission is to eradicate white supremacy. Meanwhile, the situation which has now exploded at a World Cup, is an indictment of the leadership of CSA, which was racked by management issues over the last couple of years.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

I was fortunate that I got the chance to bow before Ram Lalla and I wish everyone must get this chance.



Delhi Chief Minister — Arvind Kejriwal



It isn't enough just to invest in our physical infrastructure — we also have to invest in our people.

US President — Joe Biden

While working on Toofaan, I realised there are no short-cuts when you want to portray a character like Aziz.



Actor — Farhan Akhtar



I've heard a lot of good things about the Pakistan Premier League from other players. It's something to consider in the future.

New Zealand skipper — Kane Williamson

We have decided to become the voice of youth and will organise the biggest rally of the country against unemployment.



RJD leader — Tejaswini Yadav

FIRST COLUMN

COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND SKILL FRAMEWORK

Vocational courses and community colleges are a viable alternative to tertiary education



BRIJENDER SINGH PANWAR

India does not have enough higher educational institutions to accommodate even half of its young population. When it comes to vocational training, only 10 per cent of the workforce in India is formally trained, compared to 96 per cent in Korea, 80 per cent in Japan and 68 per cent in the United Kingdom. There are two important issues which need to be addressed. First, there are not enough vocational education providers. Secondly, the current public perception of vocational courses is problematic; such courses are often seen as a refuge for those who have failed to make a mark in mainstream education. We have to change this perception by creating awareness about vocational education and providing career counseling at an early age in schools. India has an ambitious goal to train 500 million of its citizens by 2022 with skills and competencies for participation in the present and future labour market. Therefore, the viable alternative to formal tertiary education is Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Community Colleges which will directly contribute to skilled workforce and the nation's economy. We have to give due emphasis to the role of Community Colleges in implementing the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, through National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF). Although the concept of Community college has not been accepted by the educational system of India as such, it has created its own his-




tory in the last two decades. At present, there are more than 500 community colleges in the country. How are Indian Community colleges different from the two existing vocational systems — the two-year Industrial Technical Institutes and the three year Polytechnics? Both these programmes are skill and job-oriented and supply trained personnel to industries. Community colleges should have a clear mandate and agenda of its own which is to prepare the youth for the workforce in a year or two by giving them skill-oriented education along with some life skills.

There has to be some other motivating factor to attract students to Community Colleges. It is the responsibility of Community Colleges to identify such factors and project them as their Unique Selling Points. The difference lies in the fact that the collegiate level vocational education offers only apprenticeship training and vocationalization of first-degree level whereas Community colleges offer a range of multi-focused programmes in occupational and technical and in continuing education. The courses offered by the colleges are designed to meet the workforce needs of the regions in which the colleges are located. Another purpose of Community colleges is to offer "bridge" courses to complete higher certifications, ensure employability and competency of the individual trained, teach life skills and communication in English and provide training in personal, social, language, communication and creative skills. The role of Community Colleges in implementing NVEQF is crucial for the development of vocational education and skill development. NVEQF is a descriptive framework that organizes qualifications according to a series of levels of knowledge along with the skills. These levels are defined in terms of learning outcomes or competencies the learner must possess regardless of whether they were acquired through formal, non-formal or informal education and training. Given the framework of the NEP, having a strong emphasis on skill-based vocational education, the role of Community Colleges in implementing NSQF would be significant as it will follow a modular, credit-based system that keeps abreast of technological and other workforce changes.


(The writer is a senior journalist and Chairman, Panwar Group of Institutions, Solan, Himachal Pradesh. The views expressed are personal.)

The need today: Localising solutions

An inclusive process of planning and programme deployment is the only way to ensure that the most vulnerable have access to benefits



RFWITWIKHA BHATTACHARYA



KRISHNA LAVU

When we met Rama Krishna, our heart was broken. His wife was in the hospital and he needed money for her treatment. Krishna and his family were enrolled for health benefits under the Building and Other Construction Workers (regulation of employment and conditions of service) Act, 1996. However, the paperwork he needed to avail the benefits was too cumbersome. He needed his Aadhaar card, hospital bills, proof of work, marriage certificate, details of any dependents and so much more. Finally, he could not convince his union leader to give him proof of his last salary slip. And thus, he could not avail the benefits. He needed the money immedi-

ately for treatment. While we were able to help him out then, we wondered how many more Krishnas were out there. Krishna's situation pointed to a systemic issue where the willingness to want to deliver basic services remains but a top-down program design is becoming a hindrance in accessing these programs.

From loan waivers to scholarship for marginalized communities, there is no dearth of programs that serve vulnerable populations. However, with the programs being designed by those sitting in the State and national Capitals often means a disconnect to reality. The result is that these programs become hard to operationalize and ultimately do not yield intended benefits. Therefore, it is



critical to work with communities to develop solutions, provide local talent who can help design and deliver on problems and create a culture of bottom-up planning.

An inclusive process of planning and program deployment is the only way to ensure that the most vulnerable have access to benefits.

Consider for example the District Minerals Trust Fund that uses the cess of mining companies in to address com-

munity needs. Districts who have been adversely affected by mining have complete discretion on how they want to use resources for hyperlocal needs. In Ramgarh and Chattra, the administration conducted Gram Sabhas and local stakeholder meetings and recognized the need for more sustainable and high paying jobs than those offered by the mining industry.

Thus, rather than look for jobs with skills that might not be easily available, these districts brought in green and renewable opportunities like solarization of agriculture sector and created related jobs. The result is higher paying local jobs with sustainability. A culture of identifying local needs with the flexibility of using funds has allowed these

districts to create hyperlocal solutions. Rather than routing funding through schemes, there is significant merit in providing discretionary funds for districts as well.

Resources are often not enough. It is important to match them with personnel on the ground who can provide feedback about community condition. Andhra has designed the village volunteer program with similar intentions in mind. Every 100-200 households have a young person helping them with access to programs and benefits. When lockdown was affecting most of the country with no one being able to access banks, government offices, etc. village volunteers accessed this pressing gap and were mobilized to withdraw the cash and deliver the amount to each household. The money became the lifeline for most families who continue to remain dependent on pensions and social welfare to ensure a functioning household. It is critical to have people within communities who can identify errors and work with the government to help overcome them. While in some situations local NGOs are stepping in to provide needed support, there needs to be systems and human capital to do so.

Finally, in order to ensure such a model comes into play, it is important to have a culture of appreciating the local opinion. The second wave of the covid pandemic highlighted the importance of letting communities decide the most appropriate response. In

the process, models emerged of how districts were able to mobilize resources and talent to bridge this gap. We saw districts with a strong agricultural belt being willing to keep mandis open over the weekend. Whereas others choosing to go in to complete lockdown. The diversity within India demands for each community to adopt to local needs. There needs to be a strategic shift toward providing much assistance and insights to districts.

Only when we empower our local administrations with the resources to take independent decisions can we design and implement effective solutions. Otherwise, the stories of more Rama Krishnas will continue to emerge, plagued by systemic issues.

Taliban: Sanctions and recognition

Given the reach and lethality of ISIS, the Taliban may not withstand pressure from the international terror group in the long run unless Al-Qaeda is roped in for countermeasure

The Taliban's outreach to the international community is driven mainly by the existential crisis the outfit is facing back home due to both the presence and lethality of the Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP) that holds the potential to challenge and overthrow the current regime in Kabul essentially supplanted by Pakistan's covert agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).

The Taliban is seeking to first get the Interim Cabinet members' designated terrorist tag removed. At least 14 members of the Interim Cabinet are designated terrorists of the UN as well as the US sanctions lists. With such a designation, Taliban cabinet representatives cannot move around freely amid apprehension of fatal drone strikes against them. The Taliban is also vying for international recognition from the global community or at least as many countries as possible in the region and beyond.

Once recognized by the international community, the Taliban will be able to put across its viewpoints at various forums of the UN as also seeking funding assistance for its messed-up economy from the IMF and WB.

The Taliban will then also be able to negotiate military assistance from the UN member-states in the name of counter-terroring terrorism on Afghan soil by anti-Taliban groups like ISKP.

The Taliban is habituated to survive on illicit financing through extortion and garnering proceeds from sale of narcotics. The recognition of its regime will help Taliban in transforming the black economy into white money channels.

These factors have compelled the Taliban to pitch in for international recognition and portray itself as Taliban 2.0, radically dissimilar from the outfit's regime that ruled the roost in Afghanistan till 2001.

Notwithstanding the Taliban propaganda ruling out any threat from ISIS, the fact is that ISKP is a profound and dangerous competitor to Al Qaeda to whom the Taliban owes allegiance.

The Taliban is essentially a local terror group with influence being limited to Afghanistan and completely unlike the ISIS that has a cadre and funding base from multiple ethnicities and geographies.

In a worrying fact, the ISIS has some significant presence on the ground and has been able to inflict four major terror attacks on the Afghan soil post-takeover of Kabul by Taliban on August 15, including the deadly Kabul airport hit amid the then ongoing US troops' withdrawal and fatal attacks on Shia mosques in Kunduz and Kandahar.

With active connivance and assistance from the ISI, the Taliban has been able to deceive the international community in seizing power in Afghanistan in a swift advance and without any resistance either from the erstwhile Afghan National Defence Force or any militia.

But the Taliban cannot deal with the



THE TALIBAN HAVE BEEN MAINLY TRAINED IN PERPETRATING INSURGENCY BUT TACKLING INSURGENCY IS AN ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT BALLGAME. THE ISI MASTERMINDS DELIBERATELY KEPT THE OUTFIT AWAY FROM GAINING SUCH CRAFT

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



situation at the international level on its own after it has grabbed power in Kabul.

By engaging in multilateral meets like the Moscow format, the Taliban is buying time to gain international recognition and keep the anti-Taliban forces at a relative bay by participating in such overtures.

Taliban has been mainly trained in perpetrating insurgency but tackling insurgency is an altogether different ball game. The ISI masterminds have deliberately kept the outfit away from gaining such craft.

The Taliban apprehends that if ISIS continues with its bombing spree and spreads traction among the Afghan society and enlarges the area of influence, all the other anti-Taliban forces will rally under it to overthrow the current regime in Kabul.

Given the reach and lethality of ISIS, the Taliban may not withstand the pressure from the international terror group in the long run unless Al Qaeda is roped in for the countermeasure.

In this backdrop, the Taliban is left with two broad choices for survival---one to get recognition for its regime in Kabul and subsequently get military assistance to counter ISIS or ally with Al Qaeda which can pool in its fighters from various countries to check ISIS or its Afghan affiliate ISKP.

In its bid to seek international recognition, the Taliban is also portraying that it does not want Al Qaeda fighters and this is the reason why it is seeking sanctity from the global comity of nations for its regime in Kabul.

For its international recogni-

tion project, the Taliban has fielded Anas Haqqani, the Home Minister of the interim government and Amir Khan Muttaqi, the Foreign Minister, for addressing the internal and external dimensions of the Afghan challenge.

While Haqqani is seeking to update the international community on the need to check dissidence in the Afghan society as well in the pockets on the Afghanistan-Pakistan region dominated by a large population of the Pakhtun ethnicity who could come in handy for taking refuge in the event of the international community or a group of countries deciding to decimate the Taliban to protect their own sovereign interests.

Haqqani is also tasked with the onus to keep Baloch insurgents in check so as to deny foreign agencies like the Mossad and Research and Analysis Wing the opportunity to carry out anti-terror action in Pakistan from Afghan soil.

Muttaqi is tasked to ensure external security by checking Iran from attacking Afghanistan through the ISIS or bombings by the Russians who see the turmoil in the war-ravaged country as a threat to their respective sovereign interests.

The Taliban leadership is also clear that it has reached the stage of forming an interim government with ISI help but is also aware of the need to balance between the ISI and the international community.

Taliban is further aware that despite being helped by the ISI to control Kabul, it cannot be seen as a puppet of Pakistan beyond a point as international recognition eludes the regime.

Despite its overtures and

pledge to form an inclusive government in line with the desire of the international community, Taliban has so far been getting help exclusively from China because of its strategic location and Pakistan's back-channel support in roping in Beijing to rescue the Taliban from the plethora of mess it is facing.

Now, the Taliban is aiming to have a direct communication with China to maximize the cooperation it is getting from Beijing and simultaneously sideline Pakistan to shed its image as an ISI puppet.

Fully aware of the Pakistani machinations in both Kabul and within Taliban, Russia did not invite the Pakistani pointsman Gulbuddin Hekmatyar heading the Hizb-e-Islami faction of Taliban for the Moscow format dialogue underway in the Russian capital. Hekmatyar has issued a statement that Moscow talks would fail as all sections of Afghan society have not been represented in the talks.

While 10 countries including India and China participated in the Moscow talks, none of the countries, not even China, is willing to grant recognition to the Taliban.

The Taliban was initially buoyant over the vast number of American equipment left behind by the allied forces but now it is realizing that these machines could threaten its existence if ISIS gets hold of them. The Taliban cannot use American weapons due to lack of training.

The complexity of the Afghan problem makes the situation in Afghanistan pregnant with all possibilities including bombing by the Russians or an onset of a Shia insurgency.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

I WILL BE FORMING A NEW PARTY. THE NAME AND THE SYMBOL WILL BE ANNOUNCED ONCE THE ELECTION COMMISSION CLEARS IT.
—FORMER PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER
CAPT AMARINDER SINGH



THE LAST TIME YOU FORMED YOUR OWN PARTY, YOU GARNERED ONLY 856 VOTES. THE PEOPLE OF PUNJAB ARE WAITING TO PUNISH YOU AGAIN.
—PUNJAB CONGRESS CHIEF
NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU

(Bhattacharya is the CEO of Swariti Initiative. Lavu is a Member of the Lok Sabha. The views expressed are personal.)

10% power outage likely due to coal shortage: Crisil

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Crisil Rating on Wednesday warned that despite the respite from a temporary fall in power demand, a tenth of the thermal capacity is still vulnerable to the outage as it sees coal-stock remaining in single-digit days through the rest of the year.

Recently, the agency had said that the ongoing coal shortage could debilitate corporate India if it lingers on for long.

About 10 per cent of the 209 gw, to be precise 20 gw capacity of coal-based private power stations remain vulnerable to outage amid surging coal demand. Despite the recent dip in demand (10 per cent over October 16 and 17) due to heavy rains, coal shortage persists as their inventory is only for 5 days, the report said.

Over half of these capacities do not have fuel supply

LPG price may be hiked next week

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Cooking gas LPG prices may be hiked next week after under-recovery on the fuel widened to over ₹100 per cylinder, sources said insisting that the rate hike, including the quantum of increase, is dependent on Government permission. If allowed, this will be the fifth increase in cooking gas rates across all categories — households using subsidised gas for cooking and heating purposes, non-subsidised fuel and industrial-sized gas.

LPG rates were last hiked by ₹15 per cylinder on October 6, taking the total increase in rates since July to ₹90 per 14.2-kg cylinder.

With direct knowledge of the matter said state-owned oil marketing companies have not been allowed to align retail selling price with the cost, and no government subsidy has so far been approved to bridge the gap.

1.5 bn Indians to be connected to internet in 2 yrs; country's AI tech to lead globally: MoS IT

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India is expected to almost double its internet user base in the next two years with the BharatNet project connecting more homes across rural India, Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar said on Wednesday.

He said India, not China, is the world's largest connected nation on the internet in the world as China has more intranet connectivity and they have walled off their internet.

"India is going to be one of the largest connected nations in the world. I already think India is the largest connected country in the world because China is not connected because it has an intranet, walled off island that pretends to be the internet.

"Even if you believe for a minute that they are on the internet, we are going to be one of the largest nations in the world," Chandrasekhar said at an Assocham conference.

He added that the country has around 800 million people on the internet at present.

"As the rural broadband internet connectivity programme of the BharatNet starts kicking in and lighting up homes in the villages, we will have 1.5 billion Indians being connected to the internet over the next two years," Chandrasekhar said.

He said internet connectivity is going to drive the artificial intelligence (AI) ecosystem in the country and will get preference globally as it will be developed with ethics under the guidance of data privacy rules.

Skilling varsity venture to create 3,000 jobs

New Delhi: With an aim to create 3,000 jobs within next 36 months by creating a pool of qualified job-ready skilled resources in the diagnostic sector, Healthians in collaboration with Shri Vishwakarma Skill University (SVSU) has announced the launch of the on-the-job training programme of selected youth candidates. "With an initiative like this, we intend to create a robust training platform for aspiring healthcare professionals," said Deepak Sahni, founder and CEO, Healthians.

Air India asks Govt depts to clear dues

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As Air India stopped the Accredited facility for buying of air tickets after sale, the Department of Expenditure has issued an order directing all ministries and departments to clear its dues immediately. The department has also ordered that air tickets from Air India may be purchased in cash till further instructions. "Recently, the Government of India has decided to disinvest Air India, the process of disinvestment of Air India and Air India Express is ongoing. Air India has

stopped extending credit facility on account of purchase of air tickets. Therefore, all ministries and departments are directed to clear Air India's dues immediately. Air tickets from Air India may be purchased in cash till further instructions," the department said in an office memorandum on Wednesday. The department has further directed ministries and departments to brought out these instructions to the notice of their subordinate offices/institutes, under the administrative control for further compliance.

Rising tea imports cause of concern: Planters' body

Kolkata: A body of tea planters on Wednesday expressed concern over rising imports of the commodity and said a minimum price should be fixed for shipments arriving from overseas to protect the domestic units.

Indian Tea Association said imports in 2020 increased by 47 per cent as compared to 2019, and by 176 per cent in the first six months of the current calendar year as against the corresponding period.

'MoRTH giving enormous thrust on improving nation's logistics'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) is giving enormous thrust on improving Logistics in the country and taking steps to bring efficiency into logistics management.

Delivering a talk on "Improving Operational Efficiency in Logistics Infrastructure; Multimodal Integrated Logistics Parks; Technologies..." at 'Smart Mobility Conference 2021' at Pragati Maidan in the Capital, Joint Secretary (Logistics),

Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Suman Prasad Singh, said: "Our present focus to have integrated planning of transport network development. We should not develop it in silos, That's why the "GatiShakti" portal has already come." "So far as infrastructure of MoRTH is concerned, our basic purpose is to reduce the travel time.

There are instances near ports, when a distance of 10 km, sometimes takes more than 24 hours to cover. The reason is not the distance but many other factors like traffic restrictions," he said.

Paytm IPO subscription to open on Nov 8

New Delhi (PTI): The initial public offering of digital payments firm Paytm will open for subscription on November 8 in the price band of Rs 2,080 to Rs 2,150

apiiece and close on November 10, according to sources.

NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	18,295.85	18,342.05	18,167.90	18,210.95	-57.45
ASIANPAINT	3,029.20	3,145.00	3,029.20	3,092.15	122.35
UPL	714.5	748	712	740	26.75
DIVISLAB	5,007.85	5,227.00	5,000.20	5,134.00	115.1
SBIIFE	1,175.40	1,202.05	1,175.30	1,189.95	17.9
CINFLA	916.95	926.9	902.45	921.12	33.87
NIPLY	1,709.10	1,734.15	1,701.15	1,726.55	12.85
ULTRACEMCO	7,271.00	7,372.00	7,234.00	7,355.85	86.75
SUNPHARMA	815.8	838.45	815.8	823	9.5
SBIN	513.7	526.85	512.75	518	5.45
ITC	240.25	241.3	236.2	238.95	2.25
TATACONSUM	812	821.2	809.65	816.5	7.6
HCLTECH	1,170.00	1,181.35	1,161.50	1,177.45	10.65
BHARTIARTL	699.4	714.65	694	702	5.8
SHREECEM	27,780.00	28,480.10	27,654.90	27,995.00	217.1
MARUTI	7,285.00	7,461.25	7,244.00	7,350.00	52.65
HDCLIFE	689.9	699.95	688.35	693.5	3.45
BRITANNIA	3,700.90	3,731.20	3,681.45	3,710.12	17.2
WIPRO	668.15	674.55	663.45	667	2.85
ICICIBANK	828.75	849	824.2	832.9	3.5
TITAN	2,468.00	2,482.35	2,452.20	2,460.00	5.25
TCS	3,483.00	3,511.25	3,483.00	3,488.45	5.85
DREDDY	4,655.50	4,728.00	4,647.05	4,670.00	3.8
TECHM	1,561.85	1,587.10	1,537.50	1,564.00	0.7
HDFC	2,920.05	2,948.00	2,901.40	2,905.00	-6.65
POWERGRID	190.15	191.85	188.55	189.75	-0.65
HEROMOTOCO	2,713.95	2,729.35	2,682.00	2,686.65	-13.85
ADANIAPORTS	753.65	756.55	743.65	746	-3.9
IOC	131.75	133	130.25	130.8	-0.7
EICHERMOT	2,592.00	2,611.50	2,572.15	2,576.00	-14.25
HDPCBANK	1,652.75	1,665.05	1,637.30	1,642.70	-10.05
BAJAJ-AUTO	3,795.00	3,815.00	3,760.00	3,767.40	-24.35
GRASIM	1,744.00	1,754.65	1,722.70	1,726.00	-13.4
BPLCL	433.45	434.5	427	424	-3.65
LT	1,801.00	1,814.00	1,775.10	1,778.00	-18.25
M&M	900	903.85	885.1	894.5	-9.45
COALINDIA	175.7	176.65	172.8	173.2	-1.85
NESTLEIND	19,197.30	19,420.00	18,911.55	18,970.00	-247.6
KOTAKBANK	2,200.00	2,253.00	2,176.60	2,181.65	-29.35
TATASTEEL	1,346.00	1,370.70	1,321.25	1,325.00	-18.65
RELIANCE	2,652.00	2,667.80	2,619.95	2,622.30	-38.75
NTPC	144	144.55	140.85	141.1	-2.1
JSWSTEEL	694.35	699.5	682.1	683.45	-10.9
HINDUNILVR	2,455.00	2,455.20	2,391.15	2,397.50	-39.35
INDUSINDBK	1,156.00	1,163.85	1,129.10	1,136.00	-18.9
HINDALCO	483	487.7	475.65	477.6	-8.45
BAJAJFINSV	18,599.00	18,599.00	17,770.00	17,880.00	-37.35
TATAMOTORS	505.75	506.55	496	496.8	-11.85
ONGC	163.1	163.6	157	157.45	-5.65
BAFINANCE	7,870.00	7,919.95	7,461.00	7,478.00	-377.65
AXISBANK	840	840.8	785.65	787.35	-54.55

NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	42,666.45	42,984.35	42,610.45	42,748.65	219.7
MCDOWELL-N	839	897.65	834.7	895	60.55
GODREJCP	968	1,016.00	960.25	1,008.00	44
DMART	4,600.00	4,770.00	4,591.55	4,730.50	162
CHOLAFIN	607	631.25	603.3	621.9	17
BANKBARODA	100.9	103.75	98.9	102.4	2.5
ITI	6,570.00	6,689.00	6,546.55	6,655.05	148.4
NAUKRI	61,489.90	62,575.95	60,871.75	62,037.35	137.7
PIDILITIND	2,334.90	2,413.95	2,310.00	2,368.60	49.75
MARICO	566	581.9	565.5	574.2	10.95
ADANIGREEN	1,190.00	1,211.00	1,180.10	1,202.00	22.05
DABUR	584	597.95	583.35	597.5	9.4
SHIBCARD	1,131.00	1,153.00	1,125.10	1,139.50	15.9
ADANIANT	1,548.00	1,581.15	1,515.00	1,564.00	20.15
JUBLFOOD	3,739.90	3,853.10	3,717.15	3,763.00	47.4
BIOCOP	334.7	341.45	333	337.5	9.95
ICICIRULI	625.45	642	624.7	629.9	7.25
PNB	46.2	47.1	45.75	46.2	0.35
ACC	2,238.40	2,275.00	2,233.50	2,252.00	15.7
BERGEPAINT	747	767.8	732.65	737.3	4
LUPIN	934.7	945.35	930.6	934.9	5.1
AUROPHARMA	704.7	714.75	702.55	707	3.5
HINDPETRO	333.05	339.6	331.45	333.1	0.7
AMBIJACEM	375	387.05	373.7	381.1	0.75
BAJIHLONG	4,749.95	4,950.00	4,725.60	4,731.80	6.3
APOLLOHOSP	4,278.80	4,325.10	4,215.15	4,272.30	4.35
PEL	2,673.00	2,719.00	2,667.40	2,675.00	1.8
CADILAH	511.95	514.8	507.6	508.25	-0.55
SIEMENS	2,152.05	2,179.10	2,152.05	2,164.95	-4.3
ADANITRANS	1,832.00	1,886.00	1,800.00	1,851.00	-3.85
IGL	471.8	475.7	469.4	472	-1.2
BOSCHLTD	17,100.00	17,145.35	16,850.45	16,950.00	-71.8
DLF	415.8	422.7	412	414	-1.85
HAVELLS	1,290.00	1,307.00	1,275.00	1,276.80	-5.7
ICICI	1,505.00	1,525.95	1,494.95	1,499.00	-6.75
COPAL	1,546.60	1,572.00	1,529.10	1,537.75	-8.85
INDIGO	2,030.00	2,079.00	2,002.00	2,009.75	-11.45
MUTHOOTFIN	1,531.55	1,547.10	1,518.00	1,518.50	-10.8
GLAND	3,590.00	3,613.20	3,488.00	3,528.00	-32.3
GAIL	152.15	153.45	149.35	150.4	-1.6
HDPCAMC	2,759.75	2,759.75	2,697.80	2,700.00	-36.15
NMDC	143	143.95	140	140.4	-2.15
PIIND	3,038.00	3,065.65	2,957.35	2,968.25	-67.65
SAIL	120.5	121.6	116.4	116.95	-2.95
YESBANK	13.5	13.6	13	13.1	-0.35
INDUSTOWER	284.4	284.5	270.4	273.5	-7.95
PGH	14,205.00	14,453.00	13,980.05	14,000.00	-420.7
BANDHANBNK	309	309	295.5	296	-9.4
JINDALSTEEL	48.3	48.65	48.85	42.93	-16.4
TORNTPHARM	2,928.95	2,958.95	2,810.00	2,812.00	-132.25
VEDL	329	330.8	314.3	314.9	-15.65

BSE 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP
TATAPOWER	231.5	232.85	222.6	224.15
GDCL	275.35	283.45	256.45	267.25
IRCTC	4264	4333.8	4035	4129.05
AXISBANK	842.2	842.2	785.8	787.35
SBIN	513	526.7	512.15	519.15
CANBK	198.5	203.65	198	200.85
RELIANCE	2659.8	2677	2620	2632.65
BAJFINANCE	7904	7919.25	7460	7480.35
LM&F	189	194.4	187.35	191.75
MXPIN	1801	1813	1775.25	1782.8
DIXON	5217	5253	5120	5147.15
INDHOTEL	208.2	210.35	203.05	203.7
BIOCOP	333.75	341.55	333.75	337
J&KBANK	41.2	44.45	40.85	43.1
TCIEXP	1800	1960	1787.65	1859.75
SWOLAR	427	428.35	404.1	409.65
TVSMOTOR	623.6	628.7	620.6	625.2
INDUSTOWER	282.7	284.55	270.5	274.95
AUROPHARMA	701	714.4	701	706.1
NAUKRI	6149	6257.9	6081.05	6218.45
HINDPETRO	332.45	339.5	331.45	333.65
RBLBANK	212.85	212.85	204.25	207.85
HDCLIFE	690	699.9	688.85	693.5
SRTRANSFIN	1530	1557	1507.5	1527.6
TATACONSUM	816.7	821	809.75	818.55
KEI	969.9	969.9	904.4	931.5
IDBI	53.45	54.5	53.1	53.25
BSOFT	405.5	413.5	397	406.15
MAAMPURAM	207.65	210.8	203.2	203.8
GRSE	223.2	226.5	219.8	222.5
GUJALKALI	731	796.6	728.55	788.45
ENDURANCE	187.6	192.75	184.5	190
NMDC	142.95	143.95	140.45	140.45
MCX	1729	1731.85	1676.1	1695.45
GNFC	444.15	475.15	443.75	472.15
CHOLAFIN	610.5	630.6	603.5	623.5
APOLLOHOSP	4299	4325	4217.4	4276.1
SHSSTEEL	694.4	699.65	681.8	684.9
KRBL	294.25	296.4	279.05	280.15
CADILAH	513.8	514.7	507.7	509.05
L&TFFH	85.2	85.25	83.35	83.8
SHREECEM	27610	28466.95	27610	28201.3
HSCIL	1110	1170	1103.2	1142.5
HSCIL	51.1	51.75	50.65	50.85
PVR	1785	1785	1736.8	1742.2
1003.2	1020	1028	1003.95	1013.2
8564	8628.15	9346.45	8564	9131.45
432	441	446.05	432	435.65
1183.95	1179.8	1202	1175.95	1183.95
234.25	235.05	240.75	233.05	234.25
266.92	2691	2719.45	2669.2	2677.1
4647	4657	4725.55	4647	4659.45
575.15	564.1	581.5	564.1	575.15

74.87

(+1p)

74.90

(-3p)

74.88

(+47p)

74.96

(+12p)

75.08

(-18p)

75.03

(-7p)

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27

PTI

GRAPHICS

Inverted Scale

20

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25

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27

Oct

Oct

Oct

Oct

Oct

Oct

TATAMOTORS	507.95	507.95	495.9	497.65
ASIANPAINT	3022.45	3145.6	3022.45	3094.2
ICICIBANK	829.15	849	824	835.35
ITC	240	241.25	236.2	238.4
HDFCBANK	1650	1665	1637.05	1642.65
SAIL	121	121.55	116.45	117
IDEA	10.42	10.5	10.17	10.24
TEX	3497.7	3511.9	3481.7	3488.95
HCS	742.9	747.7	730	736.6
TATASTEEL	1348.5	1351.25	1320.9	1325.15
HINDUNILVR	2461	2461	2392	2397
VCELTECH	1175	1181.15	1161.65	1176.8
HDCLIFE	329.5	330.75	314.25	315.25
BANKBARODA	100.95	103.7	98.8	102.55
METROPOLIS	2942.45	2942.45	2814.25	2853.85
ADFC	2915	2947.4	2903	2915.95
HANDICAP	755	756.4	743.25	745.65
DMART	4620	4771.8	4600	4731.6
PNB	46.3	47.1	45.7	46.3
NATIONALUM	107.7	107.7	101.05	101.85
PIIND	3057.55	3064	2993.15	2963.45
IMRUTI	7298	7459.25	7244	7325.25
DECFHSTB	53.5	53.5	51.8	52.5
WIPRO	671.4	674.5	663.35	671.25
KOTAKBANK	2204.9	2252.45	2177.65	2186.45
INDIGO	2020	2079	2000.65	2009.7
INFY	1706	1733.8	1701.4	1728.7
DEEPAK	2508	2508	2400	2429.9
GODREJPROP	2340	2403.65	2320.15	2385
IRB	71.8	73.15	70.3	70.8
RBL	303	306.35	265	265
FEDERALBNK	103	103	98.4	100.05
ASHOKLEY	144.5	145.45	141.2	141.75
ULTRACEMCO	7269	7370.6	7238.45	7360
BALKRISIND	2519.5	2519.5	2480.05	2485.55
HZEL	319	76.55	73.55	76.45
WFL	738	318	300.7	303.4
LIBERALST	161.5	164.2	157.6	159.05
JISL	191.9	207.7	186	195.15
BRATNANIA	3714.95	3730.5	3681.7	3698.8
TECHM	1563	1586.8	1527.5	1568.2
BHARTIARTL	701	714.6	694.5	702.55
AMBUJACEM	376	387.05	373.7	381.7
INDUSINDBK	1154.65	1160.3	1122	1141.85
MINDTREE	4620	4636.45	4530	4580.95
INDUSPHARM	309.7	309.7	295.1	295.05
SUNPHARMA	814	838.4	814	826.35
ZENSARTECH	436.3	498	432.65	480.6
JKPAPER	1540.5	1579.9	1532.85	1544.45
ESCAPERS	224	239.6	224	235.8
TRITPRESTIG	9900	11500	9678.45	11185.3
JUBFOOD	3730	3851	3718.7	3780.55
BAJAJFINSV	18575	18595.3	17777.2	18013.55
TATAMTRDVR	268	270	258.5	262.7
PERSISTENT	4092	4159.55	3954.05	4036.65
UNIONBANK	48.75	51.25	48	50.5
THERMAX	335.6	1356.9	1318.4	1335.6
TRIDENT	40.35	40.45	38.75	39.29
SEQUENT	180	207.55	180	203.4
UPL	714	747.7	712.4	741
ITBUL	2475	2482.1	2452.45	2460.35
TITANHSGFIN	230.9	230.9	220	222.1
ADANIEM	1552	1580.4	1546	1567.7
TATACHEM	1011	1025.55	994.05	997.4
TANLA	1229.9	1229.9	1153.25	1221
IIPL	310	321.85	302.4	321.85
DLF	418	422.8	412.2	414.3
INTPC	145	145	140.8	141.2
HINDALCO	486	487.5	475.95	480.95
LAURUSLABS	566.9	577.5	559.55	574.85
BANKINDIA	62.4	64.7	61.9	62.8
LTI	65.40	6688.2	65.40	6657.95
VTL	1084.9	2070	1837.2	1990.65
RAMCOCOM	1813.9	1047.7	1005.6	1031.3
M&M	900	903	882.9	886.1
SRF	2111.35	2159.9	2101	2143.7
IOC	132	133.05	130.3	130.8
AJAPOLLO	815	817.25	781.5	785.85
TATAXSI	5915	5915	5800	5876.45
HDFCCLAMC	2764.95	2764.95	2697	2700.75
CINPLA	920	926.5	903.05	922.55
ONGC	163	163.6	156.95	157.8

GLOBE TROTTING

SUDAN ARRESTS 3 CRITICS AS PRESSURE MOUNTS
Cairo: Sudanese security forces detained three prominent pro-democracy figures overnight, their relatives and other activists said on Wednesday, as pressure mounted on the country's military following its coup.

EGYPTIAN FLIGHT RETURNS AFTER THREAT MESSAGE
Cairo: A Moscow-bound EgyptAir flight returned to the Egyptian capital shortly after takeoff Wednesday after a threatening message was found onboard, authorities said.

US ISSUES ITS PASSPORT WITH 'X' GENDER MARKER
Denver: The United States has issued its first passport with an "X" gender designation — a milestone in the recognition of the rights of people who don't identify as male or female — and expects to be able to offer the option more broadly.

NATO's Afghan mission hit by 'mission creep,' official says

AP ■ BRUSSELS

NATO's security operation in Afghanistan became a victim of "mission creep" as the military organisation allowed itself to be dragged into helping rebuild the impoverished, conflict-torn country, the official leading a process of drawing lessons from the mission said on Wednesday.

Assistant Secretary-General for Operations John Manza and NATO's 30 deputy national envoys are compiling a report on almost two decades of work in Afghanistan. They were tasked with the job after the Afghan president fled and the NATO-trained Afghan army collapsed when President Joe Biden announced that he

was pulling U.S. troops out, paving the way for the Taliban to seize power.

Manza told European Union lawmakers that of the big lessons being discussed by his team — which also includes input from military and political experts, including from Afghanistan — "the most obvious one is mission creep."

NATO took over the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan in 2003, almost two years after a U.S.-led coalition invaded the country to oust the Taliban for harboring Osama bin Laden, the deceased al-Qaeda leader.

Manza explained that it initially had around 5,000 troops based mostly in and around the

capital Kabul, but that within 3 years its focus shifted to "tackling the root causes of terrorism" by helping to rebuild a landlocked country riven by ethnic and tribal divisions and with a poorly educated population.

NATO troop numbers increased to around 60,000 by 2006, with military-civilian teams spread around the largely lawless country trying to foster economic growth and better governance in almost every province.

"This really substantial increase did not have the desired effects," Manza said. "The insurgency was still gaining strength. The nation was still suffering greatly from corruption and governmental performance was not improving."

Saudi to provide \$4.2 bn to Pak; Imran thanks MBS

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Saudi Arabia has agreed to provide \$4.2 billion worth of assistance to cash-strapped Pakistan to support its economy, it emerged on Wednesday after Prime Minister Imran Khan held talks with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman in Riyadh this week.

Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry took to Twitter to announce the assistance which came just two days after Khan paid a three-day visit to the Gulf kingdom.

"Saudi Arabia's announcement supports Pakistan with 3 billion US dollars as deposit in Pakistan central bank and also financing refined petroleum



products with 1.2 billion US dollars during the year," he said in a tweet.

Prime Minister Khan thanked Crown Prince Salman for the generous aid when Pakistan's economy was facing difficulties.

Nepal's Chief Justice refuses to step down

Kathmandu: Nepal Supreme Court Chief Justice Cholendra Shumsher Rana has refused to resign from his post amidst allegations that he helped his brother-in-law secure a berth in the Sher Bahadur Deuba-led Cabinet, triggering an unusual judicial crisis. A section of the Supreme Court justices has demanded Chief Justice Rana's resignation while some lawyers have decided to boycott the apex court.

During a meeting with 15 apex court justices, Rana said that he is not going to step down just because voices were raised in the streets and in the media for him to quit the top post. **PTI**

US asks UK court to permit extradition of WikiLeaks' Assange

AP ■ LONDON

The United States asked Britain's High Court on Wednesday to overturn a judge's decision that Julian Assange should not be sent to the United States to face espionage charges, promising that

the WikiLeaks founder could serve any prison sentence he receives in his native Australia.

In January, a lower court judge refused an American request to extradite Assange on spying charges over WikiLeaks' publication of secret military documents a decade ago.

District Judge Vanessa Baraitser denied extradition on health grounds, saying Assange was likely to kill himself if held under harsh US prison conditions.

An attorney for the US government, James Lewis, argued Wednesday that the judge was wrong to conclude

that Assange's mental health was too fragile to withstand the US judicial system.

Assange "has no history of serious and enduring mental illness" and does not meet the threshold of being so ill that he cannot resist harming himself, the lawyer said.

Re-enactment of the Indian Army's landing in Srinagar in 1947 carried out

PNS ■ JAMMU

A re-enactment of the Indian Army's landing in Srinagar in 1947 following Pakistani tribal raids was carried out at Air Force Station in Srinagar on Wednesday.

The re-enactment of the historic event was organised at Old Air Field, Srinagar to pay obeisance to the brave soldiers and people of Jammu & Kashmir who laid down their lives, and also to honour the next of kin of war heroes who participated in the 1947-48 War.

27 October is celebrated as 'Infantry Day' by the Indian Army to commemorate the arrival of the Indian Army at Budgam Airfield to protect Jammu & Kashmir after the 'Instrument of Accession' was signed on 26 October 1947 between Maharaja Hari Singh and the Republic of India. The historic event marking the Infantry day was organised as part of celebration for Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and 75th year of Air landed operations of the Indian Army at Budgam Airport. 1st SIKH, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Dewan Ranjit Rai, who later laid down his life at Baramulla, changed the course of the war, wherein people and soldiers of state forces of Jammu & Kashmir and the Indian Army fought alongside valiantly, to evict Pakistani forces, driving them out of most of Jammu & Kashmir till ceasefire on 05 January 1949. The event was witnessed by the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, Air Marshal Amit Dev, Air Officer Commanding-In-Chief, Western Air Command, Lieutenant General Devendra Pratap Pandey, General Officer Commanding 15 Corps along with sev-



eral other civil and military dignitaries. In addition, the next of kin of war veterans who travelled from across the country to be a part of this mega event were felicitated.

On the occasion, 'Saviours of Kashmir' war memorial at 'Ground Zero' of 27 October 1947 was also dedicated by Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha at Srinagar International Airport.

The memorial commemorates the arrival of Indian Army in Indian Air Force aircrafts at Srinagar Airport in 1947 and the stellar role played by Major Somnath Sharma, Param Vir Chakra, Brigadier Rajinder Singh, Maha Vir Chakra Maqbool Sherwani, the gallant son of Kashmir, in India's historic victory in its 1st war after independence. The memorial has been recently renovated to include the busts of Brigadier Rajinder Singh, Mahavir Chakra and Maqbool Sherwani, alongside the existing bust of Major Somnath Sharma, Param Vir Chakra, as a tribute to the invaluable contribution of the people of Jammu & Kashmir and erstwhile State Forces of Jammu & Kashmir in evicting Pakistani Army and Qabaili invaders.

NCB, Mumbai cops launch separate probes into ₹8 cr bribe charge against Wankhede

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI:

A vigilance team of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and a Mumbai police team headed by an Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACB) on Wednesday launched independent investigations into the allegation of ₹ 8 crore 'extortion' attempt and other excesses made by "panch witness" in the mid-sea drug bust case Prabhakar R Sail against the NCB Zonal Director Sameer Wankhede.

While the NCB has launched the vigilance inquiry into Sail's charges on the basis of a report submitted by its Deputy Director-General, South West Region Mutha Ashok Jain to the bureau's Director General on October 24, the Mumbai police have begun the probe on the basis of complaints registered with at least four police stations in the metropolis.

Taking cognisance of "several vigilance-related allegations" made by Sail in his notarised affidavit released the media, Jain had said on Sunday: "...As some of the

contents of the affidavit relate to the vigilance matters, I am hereby forwarding the affidavit to the Director General of Narcotic Control Bureau and requesting for further action".

Alluding to the affidavit released to the media by Sail, "a witness who has given details of movements and activities on October 2" -- the day the mid-sea bust was registered, Mutha Jain had also said: "As he is a witness in the case and as the case is before the honourable court and sub-judice, he needs to submit his prayer to the honourable court rather than (release it) through social media if he has anything to say. In addition, there are several vigilance related allegations against certain persons in the affidavit which are based on overhearing by Prabhakar".

On his part, Wankhede has categorically denied the allegations against him.

Talking to media persons, Deputy Director General (DDG) of northern region Gyaneshwar Singh -- who is heading the probe -- said: "We have started the inquiry... This is a very sensitive investigation,

too early to share anything... We shall enquire all aspects and later inform the media of the developments".

In his sensational affidavit, Sail has among other things said that Wankhede's colleague had taken his signatures on 10 blank papers. Among other things, Sail has made a serious allegation that he "overheard" Kiran Gosavi, for whom he works as a personal bodyguard" and who is also an "independent" witness in the case, while talking one Sam D'Souza, as saying: "you put a bomb of Rs 25 crore, let's settle for Rs 18 crore and give 8 crore to Sameer Wankhede".

Gosavi is one of the nine independent witnesses in the mid-sea drug bust case in which SRK's eldest son Aryan Khan and seven others were detained on October 2 and formally arrested on October 3.

Gosavi is an "absconding accused" booked for allegedly duping a Pune-based man on the pretext of offering a job in Malaysia. Sali also stated in his affidavit that he had seen Pooja Dadlani (Shah Rukh Khan's manager) talking to Gosavi.

US, China sparring over Taiwan heats up anew

AP ■ WASHINGTON

The United States and China are stepping up their war of words over Taiwan in a long-simmering dispute that has significant implications for the power dynamic in the Indo-Pacific and beyond.

Amid a surge in Chinese military activity near the island that China regards as a renegade province and has vowed to reclaim by force if necessary, Washington and Beijing have launched new campaigns for global support for their respective positions, each using the stern and lofty language of sovereignty and international precedent. And neither is backing down.

While the disagreement over Taiwan isn't new and has long vexed relations between the countries, recent developments suggest the two are coming closer to confrontation. Last week, President Joe Biden set off alarm bells in Beijing by saying the U.S. has a firm commitment to help Taiwan defend itself in the event of a Chinese attack.

China protested and the

Biden administration sought to play down the comments. White House, State Department and Pentagon officials all said the president did not mean to imply any changes in the U.S. "one-China policy," which recognizes Beijing but allows informal relations and defense ties with Taipei.

The officials took pains to say that America's commitment to Taiwan remains steadfast but continues to be guided by a policy of "strategic ambiguity" over military-related specifics that falls short of a treaty-enshrined mutual defense pact. Since then, however, the administration has upped the ante on the diplomatic front.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Tuesday publicly urged other members of the United Nations to reject China's assertion of absolute sovereignty over Taiwan and join the U.S. in supporting Taipei's independent participation in international organizations related to transportation, health, climate change, culture and education.

Mamata does 'chai pe charcha' in Darjeeling, walks to meet people

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

For a change after the grand success in April-May Assembly elections it is the turn of Bengal Chief Minister to embark on Chai pe Charcha (dialogue over the tea cup). The Chief Minister, who is on a four-day administrative trip of North Bengal, on Wednesday walked 16 km in Himalayan town of Kurseong in Darjeeling district interacting in the process with scores of hill people while during the walk and while sitting at a tea stall for a gossip over tea cup.

"She was quite fit and negotiated the hilly inclines very smoothly," said one of the officials adding she asked passers by about their well-being, problems and advised them about corona protocols."

The Chief Minister who walked 8 km from the circuit house to Mahanadi and back will spend two nights in the hill town before coming down

to Siliguri on Thursday. From Siliguri she will visit Goa for a 3-day political programme. Banerjee is being accompanied by her two ministers Indranil Sen and Arup Biswas.

"She connected very well with the people of the Hills and they looked quite happy getting the Chief Minister in the midst of them...no other Chief Minister had done this before to them, they said," Biswas was quoted as saying.

Meanwhile, the Trinamool Congress on Thursday demanded that arrest and questioning of Bengal Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari following Supreme Court order on Pegasus issue.

Party spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said that "the court order only vindicates our Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's earlier views on the issue," adding "the way Suwendu Adhikari had said that he had the recordings of all the leaders he should be arrested and questioned regarding the claim he made."

FROM PAGE 1

SC SETS UP PEGASUS PROBE...

The apex court was hearing a batch of pleas filed by Editors Guild of India, veteran journalists N Ram, Shashi Kumar, Paranjoy Guha Thakurta, seeking independent probe into the alleged Pegasus snooping matter.

Giving the details of the terms of reference, the verdict, penned by the CJI, said the panel would also enquire and investigate what steps/actions have been taken by the Centre after reports were published in 2019 about hacking of WhatsApp accounts of Indian citizens, using the Pegasus suite of spyware, whether any Pegasus suite was acquired by the Union of India, or any State Government, or any Central or State agency for use against the citizens of India.

"If any governmental agency has used the Pegasus suite of spyware on the citizens of this country, under what law, rule, guideline, protocol or lawful procedure was such deployment made? If any domestic entity/person has used the spyware on the citizens of this country, then is such a use authorised? Any other matter or aspect which may be connected, ancillary or incidental to the above terms of reference, which the committee may deem fit and proper to investigate," the bench asked the panel to enquire and investigate.

The top court also directed the expert panel to make recommendations regarding enactment or amendment to existing law and procedures surrounding surveillance and for securing improved right to privacy, enhancing and improving the cyber security of the nation and its assets. The other recommendations which the expert panel has been asked to submit are to ensure prevention of invasion of citizens' right to privacy, otherwise than in accordance with law, by State and/or non State entities through such spyware, regarding the establishment of a mechanism for citizens to raise grievances on suspicion of illegal surveillance of their devices.

"Regarding the setting up of a well equipped independent premier agency to investigate cyber security vulnerabilities, for threat assessment relating to cyber attacks and to investigate instances of cyber attacks in the country. Regarding

any ad hoc arrangement that may be made by this court as an interim measure for the protection of citizen's rights, pending filling up of lacunae by Parliament," the verdict said.

The committee constituted is authorised to devise its own procedure to effectively implement and answer the terms of reference, hold such enquiry or investigation as it deems fit; and take statements of any person in connection with the enquiry and call for the records of any authority or individual, the top court said.

Justice Raveendran would be at liberty to take the assistance of any serving or retired officer(s), legal expert(s) or technical expert(s) in discharge of his functions, it said.

"We request the overseeing Judge to fix the honorarium of the members of the committee in consultation with them, which shall be paid by the Respondent Union of India immediately. The Union of India and all the State Governments, as well as agencies/authorities under them, are directed to attend full facilities, including providing support with respect to infrastructure needs, manpower, finances, or any other matter as may be required by the Committee or the overseeing former Judge to effectively and expeditiously carry out the task assigned to them by this Court," the bench said.

MEA FLAYS CHINA...

Furthermore, the passage of this new law does not in our view confer any legitimacy to the so-called China Pakistan 'Boundary Agreement' of 1963 which Government of India has consistently maintained is an illegal and invalid agreement," the spokesperson said.

The new law comes at a time when tension between India and China still persists at the LAC in Eastern Ladakh. The two Corps Commanders have held 13 rounds of talks for early disengagement of troops from the stand-off sites. However, the progress is slow.

SONIA CALLS UP...

On the other hand, Bihar Congress chief Bhakt Charan Das said there is no friendship left between the Congress and the RJD. "Had there been a friendship, we

would have not been contesting against each other," Das had said.

Asked to comment on Bhakt Charan Das claimed the RJD was helping the BJP by turning its back on the Congress, Lalu retorted, "Should we have parted with a seat so that the Congress lost? Bhakt Charan is a bhakthonhar (stupid person)."

Though State Congress leaders are furious with the RJD leader, Sonia wants to smooth things over with one of the party's oldest allies, say sources.

Sonia and Lalu have always shared good ties. In 2004, when the Congress came to power, the RJD chief strongly supported Sonia for the post of Prime Minister in the midst of a chorus against an Italy-born PM. Senior BJP leader and former Deputy CM of Bihar Sushil Modi termed the rift between RJD and Congress a drama and a "noora kushti" (fixed fight).

"They have strategically announced a candidate. Congress' only aim is to make RJD win, it's not contesting to win, but to make RJD win. They will unite on the last day of polls. Once the bypoll ends, Congress will go back to Lalu wagging its tail. The two can't be separated, just pretending to cut NDA's votes. In Assembly polls, people voted for NDA, not RJD. This time too, NDA will win the bypolls with a majority," Sushil said.

PARTY READY...

Punjab political circles were abuzz with speculations over the name and character of Capt Amarinder's new party besides the leaders expected to join him ever since his media adviser Raveen Thukral had sent out invites for the Press conference on Tuesday. However, it failed to meet the high expectations. In fact, Capt Amarinder did not even bid a formal goodbye to the Congress party. "I have been in the Congress for 52 years. If I stay in it for 10 more days, what will happen?" he responded to a media query regarding his resignation from the grand old party.

Capt Amarinder had, on October 19, announced that he would soon be leaving the Congress and launching his own party, while expressing hope regarding a seat sharing arrangement with the BJP provided the ongoing agitation against the Centre's three farm laws was resolved "in

farmers' interest". Just at the time Capt Amarinder was addressing the Press, Sidhu attacked the two-time Chief Minister via Twitter. "We the 78 MLAs of Congress, could never imagine, what we received an arm-twisted, ED controlled BJP loyal Chief Minister of Punjab @capt_amarinder. Who sold the interests of Punjab to save his skin! You were the negative force stalling Justice & development of Punjab," Sidhu tweeted.

He further hit out at Capt Amarinder by reminding him, "Last time you formed your own party, you lost your ballot, garnering only 856 votes...People of Punjab are again waiting to punish you for compromising on the interests of Punjab."

Responding to Sidhu, Capt Amarinder later tweeted, "You do have the knack of putting your foot in your mouth @sherryontopp! The 856 votes you are mocking came even after I withdrew my nomination from Kharar since I'd won unopposed from Samana. So what does that show? Or are you too dumb to understand?"

He added, "So why don't you focus on your work instead of wasting your time attacking me all day long @sherryontopp? Unless you've made up your mind to not rest till you've destroyed @INCPunjab. And if that's the case then you're only making my task easier!"

In another tweet, Sidhu added, "Was it Pity that a 3 Member Congress Committee was formed to make you accountable (when Amarinder was CM)? Why were MLAs against you? Because everyone knows you have collided with Badals! All you want is to defeat me, have you ever wanted Punjab to win? Your 75/25 dealings with Badals and BJP are crystal clear." Dismissing as trash Sidhu's tweet accusing him of being loyal to the BJP, Capt Amarinder said that the thought of seat-sharing with the BJP came to his mind only after he was forced out of office. "States have to work with the Union government to function effectively," he pointed out.

Capt Amarinder claimed that he had not spoken of aligning with the BJP but wanted to discuss seat sharing with the party. "In military parlance, it means concentration of forces," he said, adding that he had, however, not yet talked to the saffron party about this. The former Chief

Minister also made it clear that he had no intention of aligning with the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), but only with breakaway Akali groups. Asked about the reported refusal of Rajya Sabha MP and SAD (Democratic) president Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa to tie up with him, Capt Amarinder said, "If Dhindsa wants to put up a real fight, he will have to concentrate his forces too."

He insisted that to defeat the Congress, SAD and Aam Aadmi Party, other parties will all have to "work as a joint force." Also rejecting Sidhu's claims of a majority of Congress legislators opposing his continuation in office, Capt Amarinder said: "Once they (the party leadership) had made up their mind to replace me, all these excuses were made." Also taking on Sidhu as well as Deputy Chief Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, Capt Amarinder slammed them for indulging in petty issues. "We will fight and defeat Sidhu from wherever he contests the upcoming assembly polls," he vowed, adding that since the former cricketer had taken over the Punjab Congress reins, there had been a 25 per cent drop in the party's popularity, as per his surveys.

ARYAN'S CO-ACCUSED...

Additional Solicitor General Anil Singh, appearing for the NCB, will respond to arguments made by the lawyers on behalf of their clients seeking bail.

Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Arbaaz, Munmun and five were initially detained on the night of October 2 and later arrested on October 3, after the NCB officials busted a rave party and seized 13 grams of cocaine, 5 grams of MD (Mephedrone), 21 grams of Charas, 22 pills of MDMA (Ecstasy) and Rs 1.33 lakh in cash from Goa-bound Cordelia Cruises' Empress ship, off the Mumbai coast. The total number of arrests in the sensational drug bust case is 20. Those arrested include a foreign national Okara Quazma and a local person Shivraj Harihan. Aryan, Arbaaz, Munmun and other accused have been booked for offences under Section 8(c), 20(b), 27, 28, 29 and 35 under the NDPS Act.

Among other things, Desai - seeking bail for his client Arbaaz - argued that the

CB officer who arrested the accused treated them as "unconnected persons" taking the cruise for consuming the contraband and not as people part of a conspiracy.

"The person who arrested them treated them unconnected with each other and treated individually and wanted to go to the cruise and consume... If these are three individuals doing individual act, then what should have been the action punishable under 14(1)(a). Section 41(a) of Cr.PC provides for offences of this type," he told the court. "Section 41 (a) applies to NDPS Act which are punishable with imprisonment of less than 7 years. After due application of mind three people were arrested under 20(b) and 27 but what was the need to arrest them? There was no conspiracy. So where was the need for arrest?" Desai asked. Desai went on to argue, "The remand application does not talk of conspiracy, later it says 8 people conspired and then the reply today says conspiracy of 20 people. The learned magistrate remanded them to custody for investigation and that continued till October 7. Till today, there is no arrest for conspiracy and conspiracy is a separate offence."

Picking holes in the WhatsApp chats on which the NCB is heavily relying upon to nail the accused in the case, Desai said, "So far as WhatsApp chats are concerned, it is abundantly clear that there are no WhatsApp chats to support the conspiracy theory." As Rohatgi had argued on Tuesday, Desai also took a stand that the NCB had done a panchnama of mobile phones seized from his client. "There is no seizure of mobile phones. Remand application says mobile phone seized. The procedure is that whenever there is seizure, there is a memo that has to ensure the veracity of the seizure so that there is no scope of tampering. There is no seizure memo in relation to the phones."

Desai also lamented that the WhatsApp chats used to implicate his client in the case had appeared in the media before it was placed on record in court. "It is abundantly clear that there are no WhatsApp chats to support the conspiracy theory. The WhatsApp chats appeared in the media before it was on record in court. That is the world we live in," he added.



With Covid-19 being a distant memory, and every Indian state throwing their borders wide-open for tourists, we Indians are back at it, travelling, with vengeance. Thomas Cook India, a leading integrated travel services company, conducted a study which revealed some surprising insights.

The pandemic had virtually thrown the travel and hospitality industry in a state of disarray last year, and it wasn't expected to improve anytime soon. However, on that particular count, most of us were wrong. Bookings, done with the assistance of Thomas Cook India, reflect a 60 per cent month-on-month growth, ever since the Covid situation was taken stock of, with vaccinations, shared Romil Pant, the senior vice-president of Leisure Travel at Thomas Cook India recently.

"There has been a jump of over 300 per cent, with respect to bookings, when we compare the data from September 2019, much before the pandemic, with the numbers generated for September 2021. This surge can best be attributed to lockdown fatigue and pent-up urge to travel," he postulated, before sharing other noteworthy trends.

A surge in demand for the forthcoming festive and winter season, Expo 2020 Dubai and honeymoon travel due to the marriage season in the North is powering travel growth from Delhi. "At this point in time, Thomas Cook India is back to

BACK IN BUSINESS

India's travel industry has been witnessing a strong surge in the past few months, contrary to expectations, says ROMIL PANT, senior vice-president of Leisure Travel, Thomas Cook India. By CHRISTY VARGHESE

65 per cent of pre-pandemic level bookings; with domestic travel at an impressive 290 per cent and international at 55 per cent," he revealed.

As per Pant, travelling with India is the best possible option, for those who seek leisure. "With the most prominent factor being ease of communication, it might take a while before we see international travel achieving pre-pandemic numbers. Let's consider you test positive for Covid in India, away from your hometown, the language divide does not play a huge role and all our packages are equipped with TravShield—a comprehensive safe travel programme, in association with Apollo Clinics. TravShield gets you free rescheduling and cancellation, if you are afflicted with



Covid, you are entitled to insurance; in short, we are here for you. However, while travelling overseas, it is not as simple as that. Getting the permissions in place from the embassy/consulate, that might take a while."

He went on to elaborate on some details that one might overlook while travelling, for instance, the cost of the RT-PCR test. "You might be surprised by how easier it is back home, here in India, when it comes to dealing with RT-PCR tests. Every country of the European Union has different costs for the RT-PCR tests, with the cheapest being €50. When travelling overseas, you need to take every factor into account. Something Thomas Cook India would be happy to help you with," he shared with a smile.

Other notable trends that he touched upon was how homestays and farm-stays have emerged as the preferred place of stay, after the Covid pandemic. It was not very surprising, though, as tourists opted to stay in places with less people, with many booking a villa for multiple families to stay in, together. He also chose the occasion to clarify that Thomas Cook has been misunderstood as an organisation which exclusively facilitates overseas travel. "To the contrary, we have our agencies spread across the country to help those who wish to see more of our beautiful country. With winter approaching, we have seen a surge in pre-bookings for places and experiences in the Andamans, Goa and Kerala. Even though the number of cases in Kerala might be high, the mortality rate is low. And throw in an administration which pulls all stops for its tourists, no wonder Kerala remains a hot destination."

Currently, as per the study, which takes into account numbers from September 2019 to September 2021, Maldives, Switzerland, France, Russia, Spain, Egypt are the top international destinations. Maldives, with no restrictions throughout, was no surprise on the list. The ongoing Expo 2020 Dubai is also seeing a brisk demand currently, Pant noted.

So, what are you waiting for? Go on and satiate that travel bug, but do your research first and travel safe, whenever you do.

DIY bridal hacks

CHANDNI GOYAL lists five effective home-remedies for brides to glow on their big day

Wedding season is upon us and the brides are excited, nervous and busy. The sheer amount of arrangements can be challenging. There may be no getting around the work, but letting it rob you of your bridal glow is something we just cannot allow. Self-care will have to take top priority in order to get your hair and skin looking their best for your big day. Luckily, this doesn't have to mean expensive spa days or elaborate treatments with an aesthetician. There are many beauty routines that are both simple and affordable that can be practised at home. They can help treat any specific skin problem or be the extra love that your skin needs to help you look fantastic.

Below are a few tips that can be easily incorporated in your routines to glow:

♦Aloe vera gel

Aloe vera gel is the component inside the aloe vera plant that is one of the most commonly used natural remedies, especially as an anti-inflammatory warrior. It helps calm irritated skin, including eczema, dry skin and even minor cuts and burns. Its gel-like texture makes it easily absorbing, making it particularly beneficial to those with oily skin, and its moisturising power makes it a go-to solution for those with dry skin alike. The plant is very easy to grow at home, but in case this is not possible you can choose from a number of pure aloe vera or aloe vera-based products available to buy. For those who have the plant, slice in half an aloe vera leaf and squeeze out the gel. Apply the fresh gel onto your face every day in the evening. Its collagen boosting and anti-scarring properties will help achieve well-hydrated and glowing glass-like skin. For silky and shiny hair, it can also be applied as an overnight hair pack.

♦Get rid of the tan

Sun exposure not only leads to tanning but also harmful UV rays, dark spots and dullness. One simple yet very effective home-remedy to reverse the harsh effects of the sun is a DIY face-pack which is a combination of cucumber, potato and lemon juice mixed together with *besan* (for binding) to be applied on the face. Cucumber calms the skin, potato helps remove a stubborn tan, dark spots and acne marks, whereas lemon juice has a bleaching effect and helps in skin-brightening.

♦Pure almond oil

Pure almond oil when massaged around the eyes for two minutes before bedtime works very well to reduce dark circles and puffiness. Almonds are rich in vitamin E which is healing and also have anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and skin-lightening qualities. Gentle massaging helps improve the blood circulation. Almond oil is particularly gentle on the delicate skin around the eyes. Remember to choose a high quality, preferably cold-pressed version. Consistency is the key here, by including this ritual in your daily night time skin care routine, you should be able to see results after a month or so.

♦Pink lip colour on cheeks

A nice bright pink lip colour is great to



have in your clutch as a last-minute touch up. Warm up the same lip colour on your fingertips and lightly apply on your cheeks for that natural, healthy flush of colour. There is an amazing range of pink lipstick shades — nudes, rosy, peachy — and you can go ahead and play around with it, from choosing something that is closer to your natural lip colour to experimenting with a more striking one.

♦Heal your smile

Our lips work super hard for us. From drinking and eating to talking and smiling they are in constant use and naturally suffer a lot of damage. Add to that the harsh effects of environmental pollution. Dry, cracked or discoloured lips are the result. Adding lip care to our beauty routine should not be overlooked, but it is very important to remember not to overdo it either and also to use a light touch. Over-exfoliation or being too aggressive while scrubbing leads to injury and bleeding. A good homemade remedy to heal your smile is to use honey mixed with granular sugar to scrub your lips. Clean with a soft fibre cloth to reveal lips that don't look chapped or rough. Apply a lip balm or a clear gloss on top so your lips look plump and naturally pink. Once in a while consider taking a complete break from all lip products — including lipsticks, glosses, scrubs and packs — and just let them breathe. During this time, you can just use a little balm to keep your skin nourished and soft.

(The author is the training manager of House of Beauty and Boddess.com.)

Pandemic festivals have grown to be more intimate and close-knit, glorifying the small spaces and their homely vibe. The introverted twist in the celebrations focus on finding joy in the simpler things in life — minimal themes and hygge lifestyles are embraced by people all around the country. Although, a certain part of this new lifestyle tends to miss the laughter-filled gatherings, the ring of the chorus of ceremonial songs, the exchange of wishes with the loved ones and other fanfare that is a part of the package of festivities. A festival dated at this time of the year will turn positive when it strikes a balance between the new and old ways of celebration, with decorated indoors, flower ornamented nooks, diya-lit doors, aesthetically composed pooja rooms and other details that stand out in person or form the backdrop during the video calls with the distant family.

♦Reorganising kitchens

Festivities come with an aesthetic tone of their own. The pooja mandates as in mandaps, *torans*, and so on, are sure to fill a major part of the décor. But the secret lies in the details. The extravagance of the pooja calls for a reorganised kitchen and a complete dining makeover. Fresh tablecloths in bright Indian hues shall lay the carpet for the ethnic tableware in pure silver or brass. More traditional statement shall be brought in with pre-loved antique wood showpieces, traditional wall art, motif-patterned throw pillows, bright-hued upholstery, intricate handwoven

Post-pandemic festivities

PUNAM KALRA curates a list of minimal themes and creative ideas to light up your home this Diwali

carpets and more. Artisanal weaves, like *ikat* and *shibori*, made in breathable cotton, luxurious silk, or warm wool, make for unique upholstery, curtains, carpets and bed linen. They have an inherent pattern play, showing off textures and colours to the fullest.

♦Revamping living rooms

The living room calls for a sophisticated, indulgent palette with a touch of mauve, beige or a darker brown. A pastel intervention in the neutrals tend to contemporise the décor, making it ideal for the new ways of celebrating — powder blue, mint green or peach hints leave a trail of playfulness and relaxation in the spaces planned for minimal poojas. Strong colours like blue and red, accented with tonal shades like lime and tangerine look feisty. Muted shades like blush, teal and lilac, create a gentle yet suave ambience. Vivid forest-inspired colours and motifs in wall finishes further add a sensorial freshness. Accompanied by conversational pieces of furniture, lively décor pieces and a lavish choice of luminaires, the space is set in the festive mood.

♦Apt sanitation

In the wake of the pandemic, the mod-



ern-day setup is incomplete without sanitising points and socially-distanced seats. There are virtual celebrations. Online meetings shall be set in a central frame and the numbered guests can be a part of a thoughtful celebration, with the same love and affection as ever. The pandemic celebrations are only a reminder of kindness and gratitude that long for hosting a festival that is safe and undisturbed.

♦Adding statement accessories

This festive season can be a celebration of our individualistic dreams and personalities, expressed through an experiential interior aesthetic. A play of minimal maximalism adds a raw and intimate textural feel to the décor. Imaginative furniture forms with statement accessories, chic coffee tables, lively indoor planters and metallic cushions in copper and gold add a touch of glamour and snugness to the room.

Begin with a backdrop that blends with the colour theme of the home, experiment with lattice screens, a carved wooden *jali* or an embossed frame. Group the brassware into a large embellished plate, lined with fresh flowers. When the florals go overwhelming, tone down the colour game with the greens — there are vines, foliage and other contemporary elements that give a whiff of ethereal beauty in the indoors.

♦Using exotic scents

Incense sticks in sandalwood, jasmine or other fragrances, along with freshly-

plucked flowers, leave an indulgent vibe. A mix of statement lighting, floor lamps and diffused lighting add to the enchantment of the festivities. A combination of fresh flowers, aroma diffusers, *urulis* and fragrant candles enhance the décor by adding a pleasing aroma to the house. Decorative experiments with choices between handcrafted pieces and minimal origami details draw the fine line between the traditional and modern décor choices. Finely-set orchestrated elements as in the artisanal ware, with or without a rich inlay of semi-precious stones step up the opulence levels. There is a soft spot for everything aureate and glistening. An unmissable layer of diyas, bells or flowers, with a stand-out arch frame or modest wooden alcoves, wraps up the aesthetic of a contemporary festive setup.

♦Being eco-conscious

This festive season can be a celebration of our individualistic dreams and personalities, expressed through an experiential interior aesthetic. Imaginative furniture and statement accessories in eco-conscious elements like wood, stone, ceramics and metallic shades, like coffee tables, minimal indoor planters, can add an elegant festive feel to the room. A lasting statement comes from more conscious choice in the décor which goes beyond visual appeal.

(The author is an interior designer and the creative director of I'm the Centre for Applied Arts, a design studio in New Delhi.)

TREND BLAZER



SAIF-RANI DUO IS BACK WITH A BANG

Actor SAIF ALI KHAN, who will be seen shaking a leg with actress Rani Mukerji after over a decade in the forthcoming film *Bunty Aur Babli 2*, says they needed a hit track such as *Tattoo Waaliye* to dance again.

"Every on-screen *jodi* over the decades has had a unique calling card for audiences. For Rani and me, it has been romantic comedies and we have been lucky to have had chartbusting songs. *Hum Tum* had blockbuster music. Rani and I had a blast filming and dancing to them," he expresses.

fairtalk

BADSHAH



"What genuinely inspired me to make the song, *Jugnu*, was just the need of giving something absolutely different from what is going on or what is being heard at this moment. I am talking internationally, because now with what you find on YouTube, the consumption of music has gone universal. It is difficult to stand out as an artiste."

dailytalk

REMO D'SOUZA



"The past year has not been the easiest one for the world and for me, but my family and I have courageously battled through it and here we are. That being said, we had a fabulous season of *Dance+* this year. We always have something new to offer with every season. I hope the audiences are all set to groove with us again."

MEGAN SET TO GRADUATE SOON

The Grammy winning-rapper, MEGAN THEE STALLION, has revealed that she's set to graduate soon, after studying for her degree in health administration at Texas Southern University.

"I want to do this because I really want my mom to be proud. She saw me going to school before she passed away," she said. "My grandmother used to be a teacher, so she's been after my life about finishing school. I'm doing it for me, but I'm also doing it for the women who made me who I am today," the 26-year-old added.



CISF COMMEMORATES ITS BRAVEHEARTS AT NATIONAL POLICE MEMORIAL

To celebrate 75 years of the India's Independence as 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' and to commemorate the martyrs of Police and CAPFs, a 10 days long commemorative event is being organised at National Police Memorial (NPM), Chanakyapuri, New Delhi from October 22-30, 2021 for paying tributes to the martyrs of police and CAPF personnel and to felicitate their families.

On October 26, CISF commemorated the supreme sacrifice made by its valiant bravehearts by organising a day-long grand ceremony at the National Police Memorial, Chanakyapuri and CISF HQs, New Delhi. 126 martyrs of CISF who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty, and 52 frontline Covid warriors who lost their lives in the line of duty during the pandemic were commemorated on the occasion.

In the morning session, family members of the CISF martyrs, senior officers and personnel of CISF paid homage to the martyrs by offering flower petals at the Central Sculpture, NPM, and the martyrs' families also visited the 'Wall of Valour' where the names



of all the martyrs of CAPF and police, who made supreme sacrifice in the service of the nation are engraved in stone.

The families were then given a tour of the Police Museum and were shown the short video films that were prepared by the CISF as a tribute to martyrs and on the diverse role of CISF on national security. Later the families of the CISF martyrs were felicitated by the senior officers.

In the afternoon session, M

A Ganapathy, DG of CISF felicitated the families of CISF Martyrs in a function organised at Lawn's of CISF HQs, New Delhi. In his address, Ganapathy remembered the courage and valour of CISF Martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

In the evening session, Ganapathy visited NPM, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi and laid a wreath at the Central Sculpture and paid tributes to the



martyrs. Open air display of movies on freedom struggle, valour and sacrifice of CAPF personnel, and the invaluable contributions of CAPF and Police Bravehearts in the service of the nation were showcased. A retreat ceremony was also organised on the occasion and an attractive display was performed by CISF's band team. Senior officers, personnel and families of CISF of Delhi-NCR based units were present on the occasion.

Innovation at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works

Satish Kumar Kashyup, CLW's GM, has launched Interactive Electronic Technical Manual (IETM) for WAG-9 & WAP-5 locomotives under the "Centre of Excellence" project on October 26.

IETM is a digital technical manual that is crafted to suit a specific electronic medium, Viz. PDF, web, HTML, e-book etc. In this era of digitisation, IETM will take over traditional paper-based technical manuals by easing the accessibility, maintenance and improving interactivity.

IETM allows the user to locate required information faster and more easily than is possible with a paper manual. Powerful interactive maintenance procedures, not possible with paper technical manuals, can be made available using the intelligent features of the IETM display.

Advantages of IETM are provided below:

- 3D/2D CAD reusability
- User friendly and powerful interactive maintenance procedures
- Time to learn and understand is reduced
- Timely availability of accurate knowledge.
- Accessibility of information from anywhere
- Reduced need for expensive trained manpower
- Easy to retrieve and digitally managed
- End user/learner-centered



Vigilance awareness week at NDMC

To mark the beginning of Vigilance Awareness Week, New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), Chairman - Shri Dharmendra administered the integrity pledge to all the departments in NDMC to fight against corruption and bring transparency in their working at Council Room in Headquarter - Palika Kendra, New Delhi on October 26.

In the Vigilance Awareness Week, NDMC is organizing seminars on experience sharing on the best practices and innovation in transparency with integrity to delivering civic services to the citizens. The seminar will be included lecture by Director, Central Vigilance Commission and Independent External Monitors .



Northern Railways celebrates Vigilance Awareness Week 2021

The Vigilance Awareness Week for the year 2021 was launched by Northern Railway at its headquarters, Baroda House, New Delhi on October 26. The week is observed by all government bodies and seeks to spread awareness about the necessity of probity and uprightness. The theme of the week this year is 'Independence India at 75 — self-reliance with integrity'.

The oath of integrity was administered by Ashutosh Gangal, the GM of Northern Railways, to senior officers and a large number of railway officials.



Vigilance Awareness Week at Kolkata Metro

Kolkata Metro Railway, observing Vigilance Awareness Week from October 26 to November, 2021. As part of this programme, Manoj Joshi, Metro Railway's GM administered the integrity pledge to the officers and staff of Metro Railway at Metro Rail Bhavan on October 26, in order to maintain probity and rule of law in all walks of life.



Vigilance Awareness Week at CLW

Vigilance Awareness Week is being observed at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) from October 26 to November 1 under the theme of 'Independent India at 75 — self reliance with integrity'. Satish Kumar Kashyup, the GM of CLW administered the vigilance pledge in the Administrative Office foyer on October 26. RYadav, the chief vigilance officer & SDGM, M K Chatterjee, deputy chief vigilance officer along with other departmental heads, officers and staff were present on this oath-taking ceremony, keeping in mind all Covid protocols. A week-long various in-house and outreach programmes and a seminar/webinar on November 1 are planned as part of Vigilance Awareness Week 2021.



Loan promotion programme by the Bank of India

During a loan promotion programme, Bank of India's Ghaziabad zonal manager, Manoj Kumar and deputy zonal manager, Om Prakash Lal participated in a customer outreach programmes. Bank officials presented detailed information about retail loan, MSME loan and deposit products to the customers. On this occasion, Bank of India sanctioned a loan of 35 crores out of which 20 crores was financed in the agriculture sector.



GGSP University distributes about two lakh German Masks to campus schools and around 115 affiliated colleges as a part of precautionary measures to mitigate the risk of Covid-19.

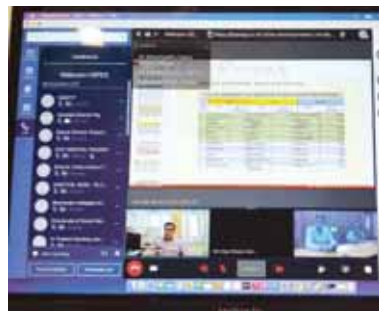


Rakesh Sharma has won the election in legal service sector and has been elevated to the Central Governing Council of Service Export Promotion Council. Sharma, who has rich experience of over 30 years as an advocate, has been a member of the American Bar Association and the Bar Council of Delhi

Sensitisation of scholarships for the disabled

As a part of activities under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (India @75), Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities on 27th October, 2021 organised a virtual conference with the principal secretaries of States and Union Territories dealing with empowerment of persons with disabilities and state nodal officers to sensitise them about the Scholarship Schemes being implemented by the Department for educational empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Dr Prabodh Seth, joint secretary (Scholarship) emphasised the need to disseminate information about the Scholarship Schemes and publicise through advertisements at local level to widen outreach. Since Aadhaar is mandatory for availing the benefit under central sector schemes, he urged the States/UTs to ensure that aadhaar number of beneficiaries are captured at the application time. Further it is incumbent that each educational institutions update their KYC status on the NSP, else the institutes would not be able to ver-



ify the applications.

Dr Virender Kumar, Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, through his video message reiterated visions of the PM for building an inclusive society and empowering *divyangjan*, thus realising the mantra '*Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas*'.

The director of Department of School Education & Literacy said that the district collectors have a pivotal role in creating mass awareness about these Scholarship Schemes at district level.

CM reviews preparations for 'Invest Rajasthan-2022' summit

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot reviewed the preparations for the State Investor Summit "Invest Rajasthan 2022" to be organised by the State Government at the Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Center (JECC) in Sitapura, Jaipur in the month of January in a meeting held at the Chief Minister's residence on Monday.

In the meeting, the secretary of Industries Department, Ashutosh AT Pendnekar informed that the summit will include Agriculture Processing, Automobile and Electric Vehicle, Chemical and Petrochemical, IT, Medical and Health, Mines and Minerals, Renewable Energy, Textile, Tourism and ESDM as the thrust sectors. has been included in.

He said that as part of the preparations for the summit, potential investors from within the country and outside the country are being contacted. Investor sonnect programmes have been organised in Chennai, Ahmedabad, Mumbai and Delhi to invite new investors. Programmes will also be held in Bangalore, Hyderabad and Kolkata this month.



Pendnekar informed that the investor connect event will be held in Dubai during the Dubai Expo in November. Apart from this, road shows will also be organized in London, Paris, South Korea, Tokyo, New York, Berlin and Singapore. In these programs, along with inviting investors to invest in Rajasthan, Rajasthan will be presented as an investment destination.

The Chief Minister said that the preparations for the summit should be good and for its successful conduct, the Indian embassies located in different countries should be contacted.

Gehlot said that with the objective of accelerating the economy affected by the adverse conditions of Covid and increasing investment and employment, organising the

"Invest Rajasthan" summit can play an important role. He directed that all the departments should work with full cooperation and co-ordination in this investment which should come to the ground. The Chief Minister said that the State Government has made several important policy changes in the direction of ease of doing business. Due to which a positive environment has been created for investing in Rajasthan. The benefits of this initiative of the government should be found in the summit.

Industries Minister, Parsadi Lal Meena, chief secretary Niranjan Arya, principal secretary of Finance, Akhil Arora, the commissioner of BIP, Archana Singh and other officers were present in the meeting.

ITBP Referral Hospital has a new blood bank

Sanjay Arora, the DG of SITBP inaugurated a blood bank at ITBP Referral Hospital, Greater Noida on October 25. This is the first blood centre at the hospital which is dedicated for the treatment of serving and retired CAPF personnel and their family members. It is a 200-bed hospital with all primary specialist's facilities. Since, it is a multispeciality hospital, requirement of blood and blood products was felt on a frequent basis and till it's own blood bank was inaugurated, the hospital was getting it from the nearby hospitals.

It is a step in direction



of self-reliance since the hospital has its own operation theatre, labour room etc and high dependency unit and casualty wards which are working regularly at the hospital required the blood bank facility.

This newly inaugurated blood bank can store more than 300 blood units at a time.

The Referral Hospital has been credited with treating thousands of serving and retired CAPFs and CPOs personnel and family members during pandemic times when ITBP declared it a fully dedicated Covid hospital for 2020 and 2021.



POWERGRID celebrates its 32nd Raising Day

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) celebrated its 32nd Raising Day in virtual mode on October 23, 2021 at all its establishments spread across the country. The chief guest on this occasion was the Union Minister of Power, New & Renewable Energy, R K Singh and the guest of honour was Secretary (Power) Government of India, Alok Kumar.

During the programme, R K Singh bestowed awards to employees under the Pratiphal scheme of POWERGRID for Best Regions, Sub-stations, Innovative Ideas et al. An inter-regional cultural event was also conducted in which employees from various regions displayed their artistic cultural prowess.

HUDCO provides ambulances under CSR

Union Minister of Housing & Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri handed over the keys and flagged off five high-tech ambulances, under HUDCO's CSR grant to Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences, Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Vardhman Mahavir Medical College and Safdarjung Hospital on October 22. The keys were handed over to Dr Rana AK Singh, the director and medical superintendent of ABVIMS and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, and Dr SV Arya, medical superintendent of VMHC and Safdarjung Hospital.

The ambulances were handed over in the presence of Kamran Rizvi, the chairman of HUDCO and senior officials of MOHUA, HUDCO and both the hospitals.

The state-of-the-art ambulances, provided at a cost of ₹ 42.13 lakh per vehicle, are fitted with critical life supporting equipment. HUDCO has sanctioned five ambulances with ACLS to New Delhi Hospitals — three to



ABVIMS and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, and two to VMHC and Safdarjung Hospital. Medical equipment in the Ambulance include auto loading stretcher, wheel chair cum stair chair, transport ventilator, syringe infusion pump, multi parameter monitor with EtCO2 (USFDA Certified), fully automated external defibrillator, vacuum splint, portable oxygen cylinder with regulator, emergency kits, rescue tools et al. HUDCO has already provided 10 ambulances to

various states and has supported medical infrastructure projects.

Speaking on the occasion, Puri said that handing over of the five ambulances to hospitals by HUDCO reflects the best in the CSR. He said that under the leadership of the PM Narendra Modi, we have achieved the target of 100 million jabs to contain the Coronavirus. This is a matter of immense pride not only for India but also the whole world is appreciating it. He thanked the frontline health workers and all those involved in the

health sector for this great feat.

Puri said that the corporate sector is also pitching in, and nicely discharging its responsibilities. He said that recently the PM inaugurated the PSA Oxygen Plants under the PM Cares Fund, and the companies from oil and gas sector also provided similar plants.

Congratulating the joint efforts in strengthening the health sector in the country, he said this is the work in progress and efforts towards this will continue.

NSTFDC commemorates tribal entrepreneurs

To boost entrepreneurial ventures of aspiring scheduled tribes in the NorthEast, a grand one-day event was conducted by the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), an apex organisation for the economic development of Scheduled Tribes under Ministry of Tribal Affairs, of India on October 21 at Hotel Japfu, Kohima, Nagaland.

This event was designed to give a boost to the lending schemes of NSTFDC and to spur collaborative arrangement with KVIC, and facilitate implementation of the flagship scheme of the Central Government, Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).

As part of celebrations of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the 75th anniversary of Indian Independence, NSTFDC felicitated successful tribal entrepreneurs from the states of Northeast for their excellence in various entrepreneurial ventures. The Minister of Tribal Affairs and Higher Education, Nagaland was the chief guest of the event. The Minister spoke on the simplicity of tribal way of life and enormous scope of entrepreneurship in Nagaland. He appreciated the efforts of Ministry of Tribal Affairs and NSTFDC in organizing such a programme and emphasised that such types of programmes would boost and motivate budding youth entrepreneurs to take up innovative livelihood activities. He also suggested that more awareness camps should be organised to disseminate the various schemes of the government among the target group and to simplify the rules and procedure for availing benefits under such schemes.

On the occasion, the CMD of NSTFDC emphasised on taking up sustainable livelihood



ventures, thereby motivating youth to be job givers rather than job seekers. CMD, thanked the Minister for gracing the occasion and motivating the youth entrepreneurs. NSTFDC board members, Yatinder Prasad, joint secretary and financial advisor, Anupam Trivedi, the executive director of TRIFED and Deepika Kispotta, the DGM of IDBI were also present on the occasion and felicitated the entrepreneurs.

Dr Sukamal Deb, deputy CEO of KVIC's Northeast Zonal Office presented detailed information about the implementation of PMEGP scheme and MoU signed between NSTFDC and KVIC for implementation of the same for the development of tribals.

The chairman of Mizoram Rural Bank and MDs of Meghalaya Co-operative Apex Bank and Nagaland Industrial Development Corporation were also present and shared their views.

Fifty three tribal entrepreneurs who have been successful in establishing business units in various sectors from the state of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura were felicitated during the programme.

— KIERON POLLARD


PTI ■ ABU DHABI




PTI ■ ABU DHABI


PTI ■ KARACHI

PTI ■ DUBAI

PTI ■ NEW DELHI






LET'S PRESERVE THE NATURE

Organising in collaboration with the German Development Agency (GIZ) for a discussion among academicians, scientists and scholars in the direction of providing solutions for preventing the ill effects of climate change



Uttar Pradesh Climate Change Conclave-2021

28-29 October, 2021

Inauguration

by

Yogi Adityanath

Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

In august presence of

Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel
Chairman
National Green Tribunal

Dara Singh Chauhan
Minister, Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department
Uttar Pradesh

Faggan Singh Kulaste
Minister of State, Steel & Rural Development, Govt. of India

Brajesh Pathak
Minister, Legislative, Justice Rural Engineering Service,
Uttar Pradesh

Ashwini Kumar Choubey
Minister of State, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India

Siddharth Nath Singh
Minister, MSME, Investment & Export, Textile, Khadi & Gram Udyog, Govt. Spokesperson, Uttar Pradesh

Arjun Ram Meghwal
Minister of State, Parliamentary Affairs & Culture, Govt. of India

Anil Sharma
Minister of State, Forest and Climate Change Department
Uttar Pradesh

Date : 28 October, 2021 | Time : 12:00 PM | Venue : Indira Gandhi Pratishthan, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow

Sessions of Climate Change Conclave

- Role of environmental legal framework in climate action • Climate science-decoding 1.5 degree C and climate vulnerability in Uttar Pradesh • Climate change-policies and governance for adaption, mitigation and green energy • Integration of CCA and DPR in development schemes/planning (focus on Gram Panchayat development planning/ local planning) • Nature based solution to climate change and natural disasters • Sustainable lifestyle and carbon footprint • Secular economy, resource efficiency and cleaner production for climate mitigation • Research, knowledge and information needs for addressing climate change and air pollution • Establishing coherence between air pollution and climate change: challenges, opportunities and future prospects • Financing climate action: opportunities and challenges for public and private sector
- Role of media in climate advocacy and awareness

Soch Imaandaar, Kaam Dumdaar

Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Uttar Pradesh

Information & Public Relations Department, U.P.