

**OPINION 6**  
HINDUTVA HAS NO  
GLOBAL AGENDA**WORLD 8**  
TALIBAN TAKEOVER MAY BE 'MORALE  
BOOST' FOR TERRORISTS: UK SPY CHIEF**SPORTS 12**  
MESSI BREAKS  
PELE'S RECORD

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# ISKP planning terror attacks in India: Intel

**Af-Pak based group to send its fighters to carry out attacks**

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

Within a week after the Taliban took over Kabul on August 15, the security agencies here have warned that Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP) operatives based in Afghanistan-Pakistan region are coordinating with India-based associates to carry out attacks in India through IEDs and vehicle-borne IEDs.

In a worrying trend, the ISKP has also planned to send its fighters to India to carry out the attacks.

The range of targets includes right-wing leaders, Hindu leaders, security forces, convoys, places of high footfalls and religious congregations. In addition, the group has also planned to hit highways and railways infrastructure.

The August 21 advisory has been circulated to stakeholders comprising the paramilitary forces and police administration to take preventive and precautionary measures to thwart such illicit

designs of the jihadis.

The genesis of the security alert is the intelligence inputs and disclosures made by the ISIS operatives arrested from Jammu & Kashmir and Karnataka, who have indicated continued intent on part of the Islamic State terrorists to carry out attacks in India.

As late as July-August 2021, AF-Pak-based operatives planned to carry out terror attacks in India through IEDs/VBIEDs/suicidal attacks/target killings, a senior officer quoted from the alert.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Taliban torture, shoot Af former VP's brother

AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI

Rohullah Saleh, brother of Afghanistan's former vice president and now 'acting' President Amrullah Saleh, has been reportedly killed in clashes with the Taliban in Panjshir.

He was identified by the Taliban in Panjshir during clashes, reports said.

According to sources, he was tortured and executed by



Security personnel cordon off the area and search for militants after a grenade attack on the force at Channapora in Srinagar on Friday

PTI



Taliban fighters.

The Taliban have claimed full control over the Panjshir valley in Afghanistan, however, the National Resistance

Front (NRF) supporters have rejected this claim, saying that the NRF fighters will continue to occupy strategic positions in the province.

Some reports said that Ahmad Massoud, leader of the resistance movement against the Taliban in Panjshir, and Amrullah Saleh had fled to Tajikistan after the Taliban takeover.

*Continued on Page 2*

# PM chairs high-level meeting as Covid 3rd wave fear grows

**10% positivity rate in 35 dists, 10-5% in 30 dists raise concerns**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid the fear of the onset of a third wave, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday chaired a high-level meeting to review the Covid-19 related situation and the vaccination drive in the country.

Modi was briefed by officials about the current vaccination, procurement and distribution of vaccines in coming months and targets of vaccination. He also monitored the situation in the Covid cases in Kerala and other States and aspects of international certification status of Indian vaccines.

The meeting comes a day after Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said India is still going through the second wave of Covid-19 and it is not over yet. He had said 35 districts are still reporting a weekly Covid positivity rate of over 10 per cent, while it is between five and 10 per cent in 30 districts. More than half of India's adult population has received at least one dose of anti-coronavirus vaccine while 18 per cent have got both the shots, the Union



People, flouting Covid-appropriate behaviour, visit a crowded market on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi festival in Solapur on Friday

PTI

Government had said on Thursday as the total number of jabs administered in the country crossed 72 crore.

"India's cumulative Covid-19 vaccination coverage exceeds 72.37 crore, recovery rate currently at 97.49 per cent. 34,973 new cases have been reported in the last 24 hours. India's active caseload (3,90,646) is 1.18 per cent of total cases. Weekly positivity rate (2.31%) has been less than 3% for last 77 days," said Union Health Ministry in statement.

"More than 71.94 crore vaccine doses have been provided

to States/UTs so far through Govt of India (free of cost channel) and through direct State procurement category. Further, more than 7 lakh doses are in the

Covid-19 IN INDIA	
TOTAL CASES:	3,32,00,787 (+37,780)
DEATHS:	4,42,347 (+307)
RECOVERED:	3,23,57,833 (+36,253)
ACTIVE:	3,87,721
MAHA:	64,91,179 (+4,154)
KERALA:	43,34,704 (+25,010)
K'TAKA:	29,60,131 (+967)
TN:	26,30,592 (+1,631)
DELHI:	14,38,154 (+36)

pipeline. More than 5.72 crore balance and unutilised Covid vaccine doses are still available with the States/UTs to be administered," said Ministry.

## Lowest August rainfall in 19 yrs hits kharif sowing

**2 major spells of weak monsoon prevailed over country: IMD**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With 24 per cent deficiency, rainfall in August was lowest in 19 years, impacting kharif sowing, which is reported at 1096.70 lakh hectares as against the 1106.57 lakh hectares last year.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Friday that two major spells of weak monsoon prevailed over the country — from August 9-16 and August 23-27 — when the northwest, central and adjoining peninsular and west coast of India had subdued rainfall activities. The southwest monsoon in Delhi has been erratic, but it has given the highest rainfall to the national Capital in 11 years — 1,005.3 mm so far.

This is the first time since 2010 that monsoon rainfall in



School students walk along a street after heavy rain in Amritsar on Friday

PTI

Delhi breached the 1,000 mm mark.

According to data released by the Agriculture Ministry, about 409.55 lakh hectares paddy sowing has been reported by States as compared to 384.64 lakh hectares last year. Madhya Pradesh reported 11.07 lakh hectares, Telangana 9.01 lakh hectares, Jharkhand 1.57 lakh hectares, Tamil Nadu 1.02 lakh hectares, and Karnataka 0.79 lakh hectares of rice plantation so far. The sowing has been less in Odisha,

Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya, Gujarat, Goa and Assam.

The sowing of pulses has been reported at 139.63 lakh hectares as against 136.65 lakh hectares last year. Higher areas of plantation has been reported from Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Jammu & Kashmir, while Madhya Pradesh, Bengal, Gujarat, Telangana, Punjab and Mizoram are among those States which have reported less areas under pulses cultivation.

*Continued on Page 2*

## BSP won't field bahubali in UP polls, says Mayawati

**Party not to give ticket to Mukhtar, sitting MLA from Mau**

PREETAM SRIVASTAVA ■ LUCKNOW

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) Supremo Mayawati has taken a strong decision not to field any candidate with criminal background in the 2022 Assembly polls and decided not to field Mukhtar Ansari, a top criminal facing jail term.

In a couple of tweets on Friday, Mayawati said, "In the upcoming UP Assembly general election, it will be BSP's effort to not give any bahubali and mafia party tickets."

She announced that "in view of this decision, the name of Bhim Rajbhar, BSP State president of UP, has been finalised from Mau Assembly seat from where mafia don Mukhtar Ansari is the sitting member of the Legislative Assembly from BSP."

Mayawati said, "As a result of this decision, efforts are on



to meet the expectations of the people. There is an appeal to the party in-charge to take special care while selecting the party candidates so that if the BSP Government is formed in the State then, strict action could be taken against such elements."

Mayawati further said the BSP has resolved to change the picture of UP by adopting "rule of law" so that not only the State and the country, but every child should say that if there is a BSP Government, of "Sarva Jan Hitay and Sarva Jan Sukhay" then they are safe.

Besides, the BSP should also show by doing things what it says, and it should be the true identity of the party, she added. Recently Sigbatullah Ansari, elder brother of jailed mafia Mukhtar Ansari, had joined the

Samajwadi Party and it was reported that Mukhtar's son and other family members too could join hands with Akhilesh Yadav.

Mukhtar, BSP MLA from Mau Assembly seat, is presently lodged in Banda jail.

Afzal Ansari, one of Mukhtar's other brothers, is a BSP lawmaker, who represents the Ghazipur seat in Parliament. He defeated the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP's) Manoj Sinha, who is now the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Ansari family is already facing trouble since the coming of the BJP Government and not just stern action has been taken against them and their aides but the administration had also demolished property worth several crores which the Ansari family allegedly procured through "muscle" or "gun" power.

Meanwhile BSP national spokesperson Sudhendra Bhadoria on Friday said due to the Centre's economic policies there is an unemployment crisis among youth in Uttar Pradesh.

*Continued on Page 2*

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Government employees failing to take even the first dose of Covid vaccine for any reason other than medical will be compulsorily sent on leave after September 15.

The strong measure was announced on Friday by Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh to protect the people of the State from the disease, and to ensure that those who are vaccinated do not have to pay the price for continued vaccine hesitancy of those who are not.

At a high-level virtual Covid review meeting, the Chief Minister said that vaccine effectiveness is evident from the data being analysed. "Special efforts are being taken to reach out to Government employees, and those who continue to avoid getting vaccinated will now be asked to go on leave till they get the first dose," said the Chief Minister.

Capt Amarinder also allowed teaching and non-teaching school staff, who had taken at least one dose of vaccine more than four weeks ago, to resume duties, subject to submission of weekly RT-PCR negative test reports.

However, all those with comorbidities shall only be allowed once they are fully vaccinated, he added.

School Education Secretary Krishan Kumar earlier pointed

**Vaccinated don't have to pay price for vax hesitancy of others: Captain**

out that currently only fully vaccinated staff members are allowed to come to schools.

Health Minister Balbir Sidhu suggested the gap for the second dose be reduced for the school staff to 28 days, but Chief Secretary Vini Mahajan informed the meeting that the Centre had rejected the State's request to allow them to be treated as essential services.

The Chief Minister noted with satisfaction that with aggressive testing, the situation in schools has remained under control.

After as many as 3,21,969 school students along with 33,854 teaching and non-teaching staff across a total of 5,799 schools were tested in the month of August, a total of 158 cases have tested positive so far, which accounts for a positivity rate of only 0.05 per cent, he added.

## CAPSULE

**INDUSTRY OUTPUT GROWS 11.5% IN JULY**

**New Delhi:** Industrial production surged 11.5 per cent in July mainly due to a low-base effect and good performance by manufacturing, mining and power sectors but the output remained slightly below the pre-pandemic level. The manufacturing sector grew 10.5 per cent in July, according to the data released by the NSO on Friday.

**RAJNATH HOLDS TALKS WITH OZ COUNTERPART**

**New Delhi:** Partnership between India and Australia is based on our shared vision of free, open, inclusive and rule-based Indo-Pacific region, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said after holding wide-ranging talks with his Australian counterpart Peter Dutton. Describing discussions as "fruitful", Singh said bilateral defence cooperation as well as regional issues figured in the deliberations.

# Covid-anxious India fail to field team for 5th Test

**No clarity on series result amid talk of rescheduling of match against England**

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

A Covid-19 outbreak that triggered "anxiety" among Indian players forced the cancellation of their fifth and final Test against England in a chaotic and unprecedented turn of events on Friday, leaving the status of the series unclear after the host board claimed a forfeiture by the tourists only to withdraw the statement.

The England and Wales Cricket Board's statement on the match went from India "unable to field a team and will instead forfeit the match" to India "regrettably unable to field a team" after skipper Virat Kohli led a steadfast refusal by the visiting players to take the field.

Friday's development came after the tourists were left on tenterhooks following physio Yogesh Parmar's positive Covid-19 test that led to concerns that the infection could spread during the match.

As for the series, its status was not clear.

India are 2-1 ahead and have not been officially declared winners. The BCCI has claimed that both boards will work towards rescheduling the match but ECB CEO Tom Harrison said the game would be a one-off instead of being a decider for the series.

"In lieu of the strong relationship between BCCI and ECB, the BCCI has offered to ECB a rescheduling of the cancelled Test match. Both the



A street vendor selling souvenirs packs up his stall outside Old Trafford cricket ground after fifth and final cricket test match between England and India was canceled in Manchester, England, on Friday

AP

Boards will work towards finding a window to reschedule this Test match," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said.

"No, I think it's a stand-alone situation. We have been offered a few other options, probably need to take a look (at those)," Harrison responded when specifically asked on Sky Sports whether the rescheduled match would be a stand-alone game or the series-decider.

The only plausible window for such an arrangement seems to be July next year when the India team visits England for a six-match white-ball series.

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly will be in the UK from September 22 on a personal visit and he might meet ECB officials at that time to discuss a variety of issues, including the rescheduling of this match.

Earlier, after hectic consultations, the match was cancelled a couple of hours before

toss.

The initial statement issued by the ECB categorically mentioned the word "forfeit" but that was later omitted from a revised media release.

"Due to fears of a further increase in the number of Covid cases inside the camp, India are regrettably unable to field a team," read the revised communication.

Harrison later said that every effort was made to convince the players, who refused to budge. "It's a really sad day, my heart goes out to fans. We are absolutely gutted. Internationally, this game gets astronomical audience. It became clear yesterday around lunch time that there was a problem in terms of the anxiety level in the Indian team," he said.

*Continued on Page 2*



# Mizoram braces for second refugee wave from Myanmar

## Clashes break out between military and civilians

**Aizawl:** Mizoram is bracing for a second wave of refugees from Myanmar as supporters of the Burmese Government-in-exile, National Unity Government, which called for a nationwide uprising earlier this week, clashed with the military junta's forces.

Already over 150 more people have moved across the border in the wake of the military crackdown after the uprising call on Tuesday, September 7.

Sounds of a fierce gunfight between the supporters of NUG and Myanmar army, which took place at a Myanmar village, was heard from Thingsai, the nearest border village in Mizoram's Hnahthial district, on Friday morning, officials said.

The Myanmarese NUG has been formed by elected legislators who were ousted by the military.

Hnahthial district deputy commissioner H. Dolianbuia said that about 60 Myanmar nationals entered the district since Thursday fleeing armed struggle between civilians and the Myanmar military.

"Our district has already hosted about 700 refugees from

Mayanmar. More people are likely to enter following the nationwide uprising in the neighbouring country," he told PTI over phone.

Mizoram, which shares a 510 km long international border with Myanmar, is already home to thousands of Myanmar nationals, who fled their country after the Myanmar Army (Tatmadaw) seized power from a democratically elected Government on February first this year.

Maria CT Zuali, the deputy commissioner of Champhai district, which borders Myanmar, also told PTI that at least 35 people from the neighbouring country sneaked into the district on Wednesday following the national wide uprising.

Officials in Lawngtlai, the southernmost district of the State bordering Myanmar, also said that around 60 people from the neighbouring country crossed over some two days ago.

Majority of Myanmar nationals were given temporary shelter and food by local organisations and individuals on humanitarian ground while others are living with their

relatives, officials said.

Most Myanmar nationals live in temporary shelters set up by NGOs, he said. The district administration could not help them formally as they are yet to be granted refugee status by the government or international agencies, he added.

Earlier in March, Chief Minister Zoramthanga had urged the Centre to officially provide asylum to Myanmar nationals.

Home Minister Lalchamlian has recently informed the state assembly that a total of 10,229 people from Myanmar have entered Mizoram since the military coup as per the official records maintained by the State Government till August 28.

"These Myanmar nationals have taken shelter in different districts. Some of them were living with their relatives while others were living in temporary shelters set up by the local people inside their villages," Lalchamliana said in a written reply.

Highly placed sources said that more than 20 lawmakers are among the Myanmar nationals, who took shelter in Mizoram. **PTI**



A view of the blue sky covered with clouds at a village in Hamirpur on Friday

PTI

## Illegal wildlife trade posing ecological threat to Northeast, says Activist

**Guwahati:** Illegal wildlife trade, lack of water security and hazardous promotion of monoculture are posing ecological threats to Northeast, a research-based environmental conservation organisation has said.

It alleged that illegal wildlife trade also poses a threat to national security as recent investigations by law enforcement agencies have shown that there is a nexus between rhino horn trade and anti-national

groups.

However, the rhino poaching rate has declined considerably due to concerted efforts of the Assam government, but strict vigil must continue, Aranyak secretary-general Bibha Talukdar said on Thursday.

Water security is also a priority area as some parts of Northeast face floods, while other areas witness droughts, he said. **PTI**

# UAE lifts travel restrictions from Sept 12 for fully vaccinated

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Set to host mega events including IPL 2021 from September 19, Dubai Expo 2020 from October 1 and ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 from October 17, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Friday announced lifting restrictions from September 12 on entry for residents who have been fully vaccinated with a shot approved by the World Health Organization (WHO). The UAE said that residents from India can fly into the UAE from September 12. The move is set to boost the tourism sector in the country.

As per the National Emergency and Crisis Management Authority (NCEMA), countries from which residents can fly into the UAE from 12 September are: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Namibia, Zambia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Liberia, South Africa, Nigeria and Afghanistan. "Those who are fully vaccinated with any WHO-approved vaccines and who have been staying in one of the countries in the suspended list for more than six months since suspension decision was issued for each



country, can come to the country under a new entry permit, and rectify their status after entry," said the NCEMA on Friday.

The passengers will have to undertake a Rapid PCR test before boarding and another PCR test on the fourth and eight day of arrival while complying with all precautionary measures in place. Children under 16 years old are exempt from these procedures.

This comes as a host of mega events are being organised including IPL 2021 in the UAE from September 19, and ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 from October 17 have led to a sharp rise in travel there. While the T20 final is in Dubai on

November 14, the India-Pakistan fixture at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on October 24 is bound to sizzle the desert.

Besides, Dubai, one of the UAE's seven emirates, is preparing to open the Expo 2020 world fair on October 1 after a year-long delay due to the pandemic. The nation which is a regional business and tourism hub is relying on Expo 2020 World Fair to give its economy a boost.

According to travel agents, the UAE is witnessing a surge in demand for travel from India after reopening its borders for fully vaccinated travellers (Covishield in India's case) since August 30.

## BSP won't field bahubali in...

From Page 1

While speaking to a news agency, he slammed the BJP over unemployment in the State and said, "Uttar Pradesh is facing an unemployment crisis among youth due to Centre's economic policies. From the time of demonetisation, the economy has been facing a downfall."

"The youth are in search of an option and only the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) can eradicate unemployment in the State," he added. The BSP leader supported farmers' demand for the repeal of three Central farm laws. Speaking over the issue, he said, "The Government should listen to the farmer's demands and repeal the three central farm laws."

He assured that the BSP, under the leadership of Mayawati, would focus on establishing a democratic and secular society. "BSP follows the Constitution and I believe that we will win upcoming Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls," he added.

Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections are scheduled to take place early next year. In the 2017 Assembly elections, the BJP won a landslide victory winning 312 Assembly seats. The party secured a 39.67 per cent vote share in the elections for 403-member Assembly. Samajwadi Party (SP) bagged 47 seats, the BSP won 19 while the Congress could manage to win only seven seats.

# C'garh: CM Baghel's father gets bail in case over remarks against community

**Raipur:** A Raipur court on Friday granted bail to Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's father Nand Kumar Baghel who was arrested earlier this week for allegedly making objectionable remarks against the Brahmin community.

The 86-year-old Baghel senior was arrested on Tuesday. He did not seek bail then, and the court remanded him in judicial custody for 15 days. Later his lawyer Gajendra Sonkar moved a bail application and sought urgent hearing. "After hearing argu-

ments, Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) Janak Kumar Hidko granted him bail today," Sonkar said. After spending three days in jail, Nand Kumar Baghel walked out of prison in the evening.

The case was lodged on September 4 at the DD Nagar police station here on a complaint filed by the 'Sav Brahmin Samaj'. Chief Minister Baghel had strongly disapproved of the remarks allegedly made by his father, and said nobody is above law. **PTI**

## 22 wards of Mathura-Vrindavan Nagar Nigam declared as holy pilgrimage sites in UP

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh Government on Friday declared 22 wards of the Mathura-Vrindavan Nagar Nigam area as holy pilgrimage sites.

Mathura and Vrindavan are the birth place and 'krishna sthal' of Lord Krishna. Considering Mathura and Vrindavan as holy places, lakhs of devotees from all over the country and abroad come for paying obeisance, Additional Chief Secretary Avanish Awasthi said in an official order.

These pilgrimage sites have mythological importance and are very important from the point of view of tourism, he said.

Apart from the 22 Mathura-Vrindavan municipal corporation wards now declared as holy sites, nine wards have been given the same status previously, according to local authorities. Altogether, this area has 70 wards.

## ISKP planning terror...

From Page 1

The inputs further indicate that the Islamic State operatives based in Af-Pak region are coordinating with their cohorts based here for furthering their nefarious anti-India agenda.

The ISKP operatives have assured their Indian associates to provide funds for procuring Kalashnikov assault rifles, small arms, making of IEDs and preparations for attacks as part of Islamist terror agenda.

Recent busting of 'Voice of Hind' network of the ISIS in Jammu & Kashmir and Karnataka also indicates that the Pakistan-based remnants of Indian Mujahideen may have been in contact with IS operatives in India and Af-Pak region.

While the alert has not pinpointed the specific targets and locations, intelligence assessments suggest that the Indian Mujahideen operatives based in Pakistan may be a part of the IS network planning for attacks in India with active connivance and backing from the Pakistan Army and Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).

According to the inputs, ISIS and its associates have planned to carry out attacks at locations that will attract immense public attention, including Hindu temples, religious gatherings, western interests, security forces, public places, religious gatherings and events likely to witness high footfalls, especially those thronged by foreigners.

Meanwhile, the Islamic State Wilayah Hind (ISHP), an offshoot of ISIS, has in its propaganda magazine 'Voice of Hind' underscored

that the terrorists cadres should find out the vulnerabilities of the road and railway networks. The terror propaganda magazine also outlined in detail the possibility of attacks on the Indian road and railways network.

The magazine further advised the Ansar of Khilafah (terrorists) to either perpetrate the attacks as lone wolf attack or in batches after selecting the targets after reconnoitering, pursuing and ambushing the targets.

It has also advised to target individuals of worth, pilgrims or anything which caters to jihadist agenda. To hit the rail network, it has suggested blowing up tracks on the weakest point of the network moments before their scheduled arrival at a railway station besides hitting luxury/business trains commuting the elites.

## Lowest August rain...

From Page 1

Coarse cereals have been cultivated at 173.79 lakh hectare as against 178.63 lakh hectare last year.

According to the IMD, during August 2021, rainfall over the country as a whole was below Long Period Average (LPA) by minus 24 per cent. It is also lowest August rainfall in last 19 years, since 2002.

The Southwest monsoon season officially commences from June 1 and lasts till September 30. June recorded 10 per cent more rainfall, but both July and August clocked deficiency of seven and 24 per cent respectively, according to the IMD data.

The country received 24 per cent less than normal rainfall in August. Of the four meteorological divisions of the IMD, the central India division received 39 per cent

less. The division consists of a large swathe of area from Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Odisha.

The deficiency in the northwest India division, which comprises northern Indian States, was 30 per cent. The deficiency was 10 per cent in the south peninsula whereas the east and northeast division received two percent more rainfall than the normal.

The IMD had predicted that the rainfall activity was expected to be normal during August. It has now predicted above-normal precipitation in September.

The weather forecasting agency said intra-seasonal variation in terms of week by week rainfall variation over India shows that monsoon rainfall activities were largely subdued consecutively for three weeks -- for the week ending on August 11,

August 18 and August 25 -- when all India weekly cumulative rainfall for the country as a whole was 35 per cent, 36 per cent and 21 per cent, respectively, below its Long Period Average (LPA).

The formation of less number of low-pressure systems (PLS) and their lesser number of days compared to the climatology and absence of their longer westward movements during the month of August 2021 contributed to the large deficient rainfall in central India as well as all India, the IMD said.

It said negative Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) over the tropical Indian Ocean, unfavourable for Indian monsoon prevailed throughout August, which also contributed to deficient rainfall over India in the month. A negative IOD is associated with the heating of waters of the Indian Ocean.

## Covid-anxious...

From Page 1

"It wasn't an outbreak of Covid, it was a perception of what might happen post the physio testing positive. Over the course of the day, we tried to give as many different assurances that we could to give comfort to the players," he revealed.

It is learnt that, Kohli, who voiced his apprehension most strongly, and the players, late on Thursday, got into a huddle and couldn't be convinced by either the BCCI or the ECB brass to play the game.

They also feared that a COVID-related quarantine at this stage would have meant missing out on IPL matches, starting September 19. The BCCI too did not want the league's schedule to be disrupted.

Ever since the Indian players refused to play despite testing negative on Thursday, there were continuous back-channel talks between the two boards.

"The BCCI and ECB held several rounds of discussion to find a way to play the Test Match, however, the outbreak of COVID-19 in the Indian team contingent forced the decision of calling off the Old Trafford Test Match," Shah said.

Ultimately the apprehension expressed by Kohli and Co. Took precedence.

"The BCCI has always maintained that the safety and well-being of the players is of paramount impor-

tance and there will be no compromise on that aspect," Shah said.

He thanked the English board for its understanding of the trying circumstances.

"The BCCI would like to thank the ECB for their co-operation and understanding in these trying times. We would like to apologise to the fans for not being able to complete an enthralling series."

It is understood that the COVID-19 rules for the World Test Championship matches do not include forfeiture and that's where Kohli and his men were able to get their way.

Under the competition terms of the WTC, COVID-19 is identified as "acceptable non-compliance should there be a significant impact of it on the team being able to play."

This is because the match can remain cancelled from the competition and with ICC using percentage points system based on points won in matches played, a cancelled match is of no value to any team.

According to BCCI sources, the Indian players feared that with the 96-hour incubation period factored in for the virus, they were at risk to test positive during the match and end up in 10-day quarantine.

There were many questions that cropped up for BCCI president Sourav Ganguly and Shah with a number of factors being taken into account.

The chances of the IPL's schedule, starting September 19, going haywire

were also taken into account as broadcasters and franchises wouldn't have taken the delay lightly.

Also, deferring the Test by a day or two would have caused logistical issues as the Indian and English players were supposed to fly together to the UAE in a charter flight.

"There is no guarantee that post Ravi Shastri's book release function which the team attended, there won't be more cases. So players were wary and more so about being in isolation for 10 days," a source said. That book release function has caused uneasiness within the Board with an official saying that no permissions were sought despite clear message from Shah to avoid gatherings.

"No permission was sought either from president (Sourav Ganguly) or from the secretary (Jay Shah). Perhaps they might have thought that since health safety rules have been relaxed in the UK, they didn't need permission," the senior official, privy to the developments, told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

However, it is unlikely that either the coach or the captain will face any action for the event and the former's tenure ends in six weeks and the latter would not be called into question just before a T20 World Cup next month.

"...The point here is that why didn't they apply common sense when they agreed to attend Shastri's book launch where outsiders were allowed?" asked the source. **PTI**

# 8 charged under POCSO Act for parading minor girls naked in MP village

**Damoh (MP):** A criminal case has been filed against eight persons, including six women, in connection with an incident in a village in Madhya Pradesh's Damoh district where minor girls were paraded naked as part of a ritual to appease the rain god and bring showers in the area, police said on Friday.

The eight accused allegedly paraded six minor girls naked and also filmed the act on Sunday in Baniya village under the Jabera police station area, about 50km from the Damoh district headquarters, on Sunday, they said. They were

charged under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and also relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the Juvenile Justice Act on late Thursday night, Damoh Superintendent of Police (SP) DR Teniwar told PTI.

Damoh Additional Superintendent of Police Shiv Kumar Singh said efforts were on to arrest the accused. Baniya village and surrounding areas are facing a drought-like situation and locals believe the ritual will please the rain god and bring showers, the police said. **PTI**



# AAP alleges ₹100 cr ‘Ad scam’ by MCDs

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Friday alleged an ‘Advertisement Scam’ of Rs 100 crore in the municipal corporations, saying that the BJP ruled corporation allowed a private company to earn more than Rs 100 crore through gantry and flyover panel advertisements.

Bhardwaj said that this Rs 100 crore should have come to the MCD but this money was given to a private company. He said that the Supreme Court had banned gantry and flyover panel advertisements because they can distract the drivers and accidents on the DND have increased due to illegal advertisements.

“Over the last few years, the BJP-ruled MCD has repeatedly claimed that its biggest problem is the lack of revenue and depleting funds. The AAP Government gives the MCD almost double the funds compared with that of the Congress Government. Even when the Centre was directly ruling Delhi through the Lieutenant-Governor then also they were paying only half as much as we



do. Despite all of this, the BJP-ruled MCD has no money,” he said.

“Doctors and teachers are not being paid. We have tried to investigate and inquire about this issue but the BJP-ruled MCD does not let anyone investigate their work. The AAP has on multiple occasions, unveiled how the sources through which MCD earned revenue have been made defunct.

The MCD is not making money from 90 per cent of the advertisement sites because the BJP has put up their own

advertisements for free,” he said.

Bhardwaj further showed gantries which have been put up with the advertisements of Hyundai and County 107, ATS, among others.

“The photos were taken between September 3 and August 1. They show that the SBI, County, GL Bajaj and even the Delhi Government have put up their gantries. The money has been taken even from the Delhi Government. Such is their audacity. But there’s no account for it,” he said.

# Delhi gets first-of-its-kind Urban Micro Grid System

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Power Minister Satyendar Jain on Friday inaugurated a first-of-its-kind Urban Micro Grid System (Solar+ Battery) at the LV distribution network in the national Capital.

With the growing integration of renewable energy into conventional energy sources, micro grids will play a critical role in enabling the transition and increasing the reliability of the power supply, a senior BSES official said.

The project’s set-up cost is estimated at around Rs 5.5 crore.

The micro-grid is a grid-connected system consisting of 100 Kwp Solar PV and 466 kWh Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

“It has several unique benefits, including reliable clean power-back for up to two hours, production of about 1.5 lakh units of clean energy per annum, offset of CO2 emissions of about 115 tonnes and avoidance of about 30 metric tonnes of coal; as well as smart use of space. The PV solar modules were installed on an elevated carport structure along with an electric vehicle charging station below,” he said.



The project has been implemented under the umbrella of the Indo-German Solar Partnership Project (IGSEP), commissioned by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) that is contributing towards India’s renewable energy goals.

On behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, has signed an agreement with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India. It has now partnered with Reliance Infrastructure

led BSES Rajdhani Power Limited to set-up a first-of-its-kind Urban Microgrid System at the LV distribution network in Delhi.

Commenting on the inauguration of Delhi’s first LV micro-grid, a spokesperson of the Reliance Infrastructure-led BSES stated: “BSES is committed to energy efficiency, adoption of green and new technology and smart procurement initiatives that will result in optimised solutions for our consumers. Commissioning of this micro-grid is a major development that has the potential to be a game-changer in the power distribution sector.”

# Fake call centre busted; 13 held

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With the arrest of 13 people, the Delhi Police on Friday busted a fake call centre in South Delhi that was allegedly involved in duping at least 300 unemployed men and women on the pretext of finding them a job.

According to Atul Kumar Thakur, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), South district, the police team received specific inputs about a fake call being operated at Raju Park on Devli Road following which the police team conducted a raid on Thursday from where 13 employees including the manager was arrested for duping people on the assurance of getting them jobs.

“Preliminary investigation has revealed the accused used to call their targets through the numbers taken from websites to confirm if they still needed a job.

The accused would then inform them about various fake vacancies in banks, airlines, Public Sector Undertakings and other sectors, and offer them jobs by inviting applications,” said the DCP.

“They would ask for processing charges of Rs 2,000 per



candidate. When they agreed to pay the amount, they would send them bank account details via SMS and never respond to them later once the money was transferred into their account,” said the DCP.

The police have recovered 19 mobile phones, 14 registers and copies containing the details of applicants and their payments and further investigation is underway.

The call centre in Neb Sarai’s Devli area had been operating for the past three months, police said, adding that among those arrested are its manager and some female employees. Police said the accused scouted various job portals to collect details of their prospective targets, and approached them by claiming to be from different placement agencies.

## PIC TALK



Afghan refugees during a protest against the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, in New Delhi on Friday

Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer photo

# Delhiites celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi via live telecast

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government organised a grand pooja celebration on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi on Friday. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced that two crore Delhiites joined the programme through live telecast.

Popular singers Suresh Wadekar and Shankar Mahadevan also performed the Aarti at the event.

Addressing the media, Kejriwal said kids need to be educated about the deep historical significance of Ganesh Chaturthi and parents must tell them about its role in the freedom movement; so that they develop the spirit of spirituality and patriotism.

He said that Ganesh Chaturthi has taught our country the strength of unity and Covid-19 too can only be defeated with unity. The Chief Minister appealed to all the people of the country to join the celebration remotely. The program was telecast live from 7 PM and attended by the CM along with the entire Delhi Cabinet.

Kejriwal began his address with the holy mantra of ‘Om Gan Ganapataye Namah’ and



said, “Today marks the ‘Chaturthi’ of ‘Shukla Paksha’ in the ‘Bhadrapad Maas’; it is the day when Lord Ganesha arrives in our homes, when we bring his idol home and pray to him with jubilation and galore. Lord Ganesha is the ‘Pratham Devta’, he is the ‘Vighnaharta’.

This is why we pray to his divinity before the commencement of any task. People pray to Lord Ganesha throughout the country in many different forms and in many different ways. Today, I want to make a request to all the parents. Please do tell your chil-

dren about the significance of Ganesh Chaturthi in India’s history. Discuss with them the valour with which it was celebrated.”

“In the British era, people were not able to celebrate any cultural programme or festival together as a community or by gathering at one place. That’s why people used to worship at home. Our revered freedom fighter Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak celebrated Ganeshotsav publicly for the first time in Pune. Later on, his efforts became instrumental in starting a movement. This

Ganeshotsav played an important role in uniting the people in the freedom movement,” the CM said, outlining the deep historical significance that the festival holds in India’s freedom movement.

“Ganesh Chaturthi became a way to gather the people of the country, and inculcate patriotism among them. They came together and worshipped Lord Ganesha and fought together for the freedom of our country. We all must educate our children about this special blend of spirituality and patriotism. We all must develop this spirit of spirituality and patriotism in our children,” he added.

“The country is currently fighting the biggest battle this century may have seen. This battle against Covid-19, can only be defeated with unity. Because of Covid-19, public programmes at ‘Pandal’ have not been allowed this time. This has been done so that any instance of crowding can be avoided. This is why we are organising a unique and wonderful Ganesh Puja programme. It will make all the people immerse themselves in the divine powers of Ganesha while being at home,” he added.

# Delhi Police files case in Gurdwara directorate elections ruckus

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has registered an First Information Report (FIR) in connection with the ruckus created at the Directorate of Gurdwara Elections in ITO area in the National Capital.

Police said that after receiving a complaint from the Directorate of Gurdwara Elections, a FIR has been registered at IP Estate police station under sections 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) 506 (pun-



ishment for criminal intimidation), 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) and 34 (common intention).

However, police said that no arrest has been made so far. On Thursday, a video surfaced on social media showing some people shouting slogans at the Directorate of Gurdwara Elections in the ITO area of the city.

# AAP to provide world-class training to all participants representing India in Shanghai World Skills

NEW DELHI: The Aam Aadmi Party Government will provide world-class training to all the participants representing India in the Shanghai World Skills – 2022.

Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister Manish Sisodia said the Delhi Government will provide all facilities for training. Sisodia said, “These participants will win in Shanghai and will bring laurels to the country and Delhi. For the first time in the State Skill Competition held in Delhi for the World Skills Competition, 55 winners in 30 different skill categories were awarded with prizes. More than 1000 participants took part in these competitions.”

“We want to see India win

in Shanghai. That is why we will stand with the selected participants from across the country. When you dream, we are with you. This time, 55 have been selected out of 1000 participants. Next time, this number will increase. But we stand together. We are ready for the work you are doing to increase the honour of the country,” he added. Vice-Chancellor Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University Prof. (Dr.) Neharika Vohra said, “I am glad that the youth understand the importance of skills and endeavour to develop them to make a bright future ahead. We plan to host an even bigger festival of skills next year and will be expanding on the categories for competition.”

# E-waste disposal gets easy as Delhi corporation launches web application



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NMC) has launched a web application to facilitate collection, transportation, processing and disposal of e-waste management. The portal i.e. <http://northmcd.com/ewaste> will provide a platform for the citizens and vendors for management of e-waste.

Now any citizen can directly dispose of various old, unserviceable, obsolete IT equipment, electronic items, etc online through the e-waste management web application of North DMC.

Commissioner of North DMC Sanjay Goel said that the application has various features like selection of vendors, price specifications for various items, scheduling inspection by the vendor, payment for the e-waste to the citizens who are

willing to sell/dispose the waste.

Goel said that e-waste contains complex combinations of highly toxic substances that pose a danger to health and the environment. “The complex composition and improper handling of e-waste adversely affect human health and the environment. Many of the products also contain recoverable precious materials, making it a different kind of waste compared with traditional municipal waste,” he said.

Goel said “The newly launched e-waste management application of the Corporation is a new hope for mitigation of health hazards linked to such waste through better e-waste management in a citizen friendly and remunerative way. The three empanelled firms will collect the e-waste from the house of residents of North DMC, wherever required.”



# Country moving from virtual to real world: PC Joshi



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi University Vice Chancellor Prof P C Joshi on Friday said that with covid pandemic subsiding hence the country is now getting prepared to return to the physical world from the virtual world. Talking about the back to normalcy particularly the education system which suffered a lot during the last one and half year due to corona, Joshi emphasised the need and the very significance of covid vaccine in the present scenario and that expected that people don’t lower the guard.

Joshi was speaking at the 27th Annual Day Function of the Maharaja Agrasen College affiliated to University of Delhi and is considered to be the most important college within the East Campus. On the occasion he inaugurated smart classrooms as well as the video conferencing facilities of the Conference Room.

The initiative of smart classrooms is being taken in order to promote a real-time learning experience.

# Delhi records 0 deaths, 36 new cases of Covid-19

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

As many as 36 fresh cases reported in Delhi the positivity rate stands at 0.05 per cent, according to data shared by the city health department on Friday.

According to official figures, no death due to Covid-19 was recorded in Delhi in a day while only one fatality due to Covid has been reported in this month so far, on September 7. The death toll due to the coronavirus infection in Delhi stood at 25,083.

A total of 76,883 tests, including 52,042 RT-PCR and 24,841 rapid antigen tests, were conducted a day ago, according to the latest bulletin. On Thursday, 36 cases were recorded while the previous day, 41 fresh cases were registered. On both days, the positivity rate was 0.05 per cent. On March 2, the national capital had reported zero deaths due to the virus. On that day, the number of single-day infections stood at 217 and the positivity rate was 0.33 per cent.



# MCG employees’ strike postponed

**Gurugram:** After the assurance of the Municipal Corporation Gurugram (MCG), Commissioner Mukesh Kumar Ahuja, the strike of the MCG’s employees has been postponed. The Municipal Commissioner has assured the protesting employees that their demands will be resolved by Wednesday evening.

On Friday, there were three rounds of talks between the Municipal Commissioner and the representatives of the employee’s unions and after the assurance of the corporation commissioner, the employees decided to postpone the



protest. Earlier in the three rounds of talks, Ahuja said that the

responsibility of the civic body is to provide facilities to the people and it should be our

endeavour that the citizens should not face any kind of inconvenience. He sought the favour of the representatives of the associations.

The Commissioner said that he has issued orders on Thursday itself that following the provisions of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Act, 1994, members should participate in the meetings of the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram. Along with this, the officers and employees have also been asked to maintain decorum in the offices and give full respect to the public representatives.



The average retail prices of six edible oils — palm oil, sunflower, soya oil, groundnut, mustard and vanaspati — have increased in the range of 20 to 50 per cent in the last one year, according to official data. India meets 60 per cent of its edible oil demand through imports.



**UP ASSEMBLY POLLS**

# Congress to take out yatra across State

**Lucknow:** The Congress under the leadership of its national general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Friday decided to take out a 12,000 km-long yatra through villages and towns of Uttar Pradesh ahead of the Assembly polls next year.

The decision to take out the "Congress Pratigya Yatra:Hum Vachan Nibhayenge" was taken at a meeting Gandhi held with the party advisory and strategy committee members here, the party said in a statement.

"The yatra will cover 12,000 km and will pass through villages and towns of the state. The details of the yatra are being finalised," it said.

During the yatra, Congress leaders will assure people that they would fulfil promises made by the party in the run up to the polls.

Gandhi is taking feedback and suggestion of committee members on routes and issues that will be taken up during the yatra.

She will later in the day hold a meeting with members of the party's election committee.

Congress Legislature party leader in the assembly Aradhna Mishra Mona, state unit pres-



ident Ajay Kumar Lallu and senior party leader Promod Tiwari attended the meeting among others.

Gandhi, who is leading the Congress campaign in the politically crucial State of Uttar Pradesh, arrived here on Thursday to review the party's poll preparedness. Congress was reduced to seven seats in the 2017 assembly election in Uttar Pradesh.

The BJP had clinched 312 seats in the 403-member legislative assembly to form the Government for the second consecutive term. **PTI**

# AIMIM offers party ticket to Mukhtar Ansari

**Lucknow:** The AIMIM on Friday offered to field gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Anasri in the 2022 Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls, hours after the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) denied ticket to him.

Earlier in the day, BSP supremo Mayawati said her party will make efforts to not field 'bahubali' (strongmen) or mafia candidates in the upcoming polls and announced that Ansari, who is lodged in a jail in Banda, will not be given a ticket from Mau again.

The All India Majlis-e-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen's (AIMIM) national spokesperson Syed Asim Waqar said the party's doors are open for Ansari. **PTI**

"If Ansari wants to contest the election, the doors of AIMIM are open for him. We will give him a ticket and ensure his victory also," he told PTI.

Waqar asked other Muslims also not to "purchase tickets" from any other political party as they will ensure their defeat even after taking money from them.

"Votes of their communities (other parties) do not transfer to Muslims. I ask Muslims who want to contest elections to come and join AIMIM. The party will give them tickets," he said. Mayawati announced the name of BSP state president Bhim Rajbhar from the Mau seat, currently represented by Ansari. **PTI**

# Owaisi booked for vitiating communal harmony, insulting national flag

**Lucknow/Barabanki:** AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi has been booked for allegedly vitiating communal harmony, making objectionable remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, and disrespecting the national flag, police said on Friday.

Two FIRs were registered against the All India Majlis-e-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief at Barabanki city police station on Thursday night after his party's public meeting in Katara Chandana Baradari.

The first FIR against Owaisi and public meeting organisers was registered under IPC sections 153A (promoting enmity on ground of religion, race, etc.), 188 (disregarding order of a public servant), 269 (negligent act likely to spread disease dangerous to life), 270 (malignant act likely to spread infection of disease) and the Epidemic Act was slapped against them, Barabanki Superintendent of Police Yamuna Prasad said. Later in the night, another FIR was lodged against them for insulting the national flag during the public meeting, Kotwali in-charge Amar Singh said.

They have been accused of wrapping the tricolour on a pole at the dias during the meeting instead of unfurling it, Singh said.

Regarding the other sections imposed on Owaisi, the Barabanki SP said the Hyderabad MP violated Covid guidelines —on masks and social distancing —by arranging huge crowds at the public meeting. **PTI**

# UP Govt bans sale of liquor, meat 10 sq km around Krishna Janmasthan

**Lucknow:** Declaring 10 square kilometre area around Krishna Janmasthan in Mathura as a pilgrimage area, the Uttar Pradesh Government has banned the sale of liquor and meat there with immediate effect.

The total area consists of 22 wards of Mathura Municipal Corporation.

"The demand to declare Mathura as a religious area was constantly being raised. Keeping this in mind, the Yogi Adityanath government has declared an area of 10 square kilometers as a pilgrimage site, keeping Shree Krishna's birth place at the center in Mathura-Vrindavan," clarified a senior Government official in Lucknow on Friday. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who visited Mathura on Krishna Janmashtami on August 30, had announced a ban on the sale of meat and liquor in Mathura as per the wishes of the saints and had said that officers concerned had been directed to make plans for implementation of the ban as well as for the engagement of people involved in such activities in some other trade.

# Didi files nomination from Bhawanipore

**SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA**

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday filed her nomination for the Bhawanipore Assembly seat even as the main challenger BJP called upon the people of the South Kolkata constituency to "think twice" before voting a "deserter who had fled her home turf in fear of defeat" to fight the April-May Assembly elections from far away Nandigram in East Midnapore.

Banerjee who filed her nomination at Survey Building at Alipore was accompanied by her chief election agent Baishyanar Chattopadhyay and wife of State Minister Firhad Hakim, also a local resident.

Sounding confident about her victory Hakim later said that the "question is not whether Didi will win or not ... the question is by how many votes she

will win and whether she will win the seat by a record margin or not."

Banerjee who is also a resident of Bhawanipore-Kalighat locality won the seat for the first time in 2011 when she trounced the three-decade-old Left rule to win power in Bengal. She had also been a six-time MP from South Kolkata seat of which Bhawanipore is an Assembly segment.

Hakim also said that the people of Bhawanipore were eagerly "waiting to avenge the conspiracy that was hatched to defeat Mamata didi at Nandigram, adding "we are confident that the voters of this constituency will rewrite history by ensuring our Chief Minister's victory by a record margin."

The Election Commission earlier announced a by-election for the Bhawanipore Assembly

seat which was won left by local MLA and minister Sobhandev Chattopadhyay in support of Banerjee as she requires to win an Assembly seat by November 6 to continue as the Chief Minister.

She was defeated by Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari by a small margin of about 1,900 votes in the April-May Assembly elections following which the TMC supremo had challenged the result demanding a recounting of votes. A law suit is being contested in this regard in the High Court.

Even as the TMC supporters shouted "Khela Hobey" (the game will be played) and "Bhawanipore Nijer Ghoror Meyekei chai" (Bhawanipore wants her own daughter) Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh said "the people of Bhawanipore are prudent enough to take a deci-

sion on which party they want to vote because this is the same Chief Minister who having won the seat twice had left her home seat for Nandigram out of fear that the local people had left her ... the people will not forget this mistrust ... by deciding to quit Bhawanipore she proved to the people that she is an unreliable friend."

He further said that the BJP which had defeated her in Nandigram would defeat her again in Bhawanipore."

The BJP has fielded advocate Priyanka Tibrewal against the Chief Minister and is heavily banking on the 21 percent non-Bengali votes in the constituency. However Chief Minister a "gharer meye (local girl)" hopes to win the seat by a big margin. More so because, the Muslims too have a good percentage in the constituency. While the Congress has

decided not to field a candidate against the Chief Minister in Bhawanipore the CPI(M) has nominated another advocate Srijib Das for the seat. This affords Bhawanipore the distinctness of hosting three contestants coming from the same profession. The Chief Minister too is a qualified advocate.

Meanwhile, TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee has decided to hold a rally in Agartala on Wednesday. The Trinamool's decision comes within a week of the BJP and CPI(M) engaging each other in a violent clash in Tripura with alleged saffron workers torching several Left party offices and attacking many of their leaders.

Banerjee's decision is seen as his party's desperation to find a foothold in the north-eastern state by dislodging the Left from the main opposition's place.

# Spy racket busted by Army Intelligence, Rajasthan Police

**PTI ■ JAIPUR**

Army intelligence and police in Rajasthan have busted a "unique" spy racket by arresting a multi-tasking staff worker of the railways postal service for passing information by clicking photographs of defence-related letters, officials said on Friday.

The worker, identified as Bharat Godara, was under surveillance of the Army's intelligence agency for some time after technical inputs suggested that some pictures were being passed to Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) agents across the border, they said. According to the officials, Godara, a multi-tasking staff (MTS) worker who was posted in the sorting hub of the Railway Postal Service, used to open all letters that had the address of the Army Postal Office (APO).

This is for the first time that this kind of a spy racket has been unravelled where postal letters meant for Army personnel, both official as well as personal, were being passed on to the ISI, they said.

On Facebook messenger, he had come in contact with a woman, who claimed to be a nursing assistant posted at Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Island, and in the last seven months, Godara, who worked only night shifts, opened letters marked with APO address, clicked pictures and sent it to her, the officials said.

The "bond" between the two had grown stronger and they were talking on video calls through WhatsApp, they said, adding that the accused had helped her in activating the WhatsApp account with an Indian number, which she used for spying.

# BRO developing six foot tracks in Arunachal Pradesh

**Itanagar:** The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is developing six-foot tracks in Arunachal Pradesh in order to improve connectivity to the remote areas in the state.

Project Arunank of the BRO has attached priority on development of the six-foot tracks and has commenced work in full swing to achieve the desired goals within three years, BRO sources said here on Friday.

The tracks include Huri-Tapa (20.44-km), Tap-Goying (18.6-km), Tapa-Karu (43.18 km), Sarli-Semai (54.87-km), Sarli-Phulle (34.38-km) and Nacho-Bangte (41.6-km) in Kurung Kumey and Upper Subansiri districts bordering China, the sources informed.

"BRO in #ArunachalPradesh commenced construction of foot track Huri-Tapa. The endeavour is part of the larger aim of holistically addressing the challenge of improved connectivity to the remote areas in Arunachal and spur socio-eco development in the state," the BRO tweeted. BRO Director General Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhary with his committed officers down the line has been constantly monitoring the work progress, the sources said, adding Project Arunank has been entrusted with the responsibility of critical infrastructure development in the border areas. **PTI**

# ANTI-CONVERSION LAW

# Gujarat HC seeks reply from Govt on FIR quashing plea

**Ahmedabad:** The Gujarat High Court has asked the State Government if it has any objection to quashing of an FIR against the husband, in-laws of a woman and others filed under an amended anti-conversion law when the wife of the main accused has said forcible interfaith marriage allegations levelled in the FIR were not true.

Justice Hlesh J Vora on Wednesday asked the government to file an affidavit if it seeks to oppose the quashing of the FIR in the case, the first under the law, even after the wife of the accused has said a petty domestic dispute in the family, which led her to file a complaint against her husband and in-laws, has been amicably resolved.

The petitioner wife has sought that the the FIR be quashed as the angle of forcible conversion by marriage was added to the FIR filed by her against her husband and in-laws by "certain religio-political groups" looking to "communalise" the issue. She said her complaint before the Gotri police in Vadodra was nothing more than the issue of "petty and

trivial domestic matrimonial issue."

The court granted time to the Government to verify the claims related to the settlement of matter between the complainant and the accused, and kept the matter for further hearing on September 20.

The wife of the accused had approached the HC along with her husband, in-laws and the priest who solemnised the marriage, all (numbering 8) seeking quashing of the first FIR lodged in Vadodra under the Gujarat Freedom of Religion Act 2021, two days later it was amended and notified on June 15. Apart from various sections of the amended - the accused were also charged under various sections of the IPC and the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act after their arrest.

The Act lays down stringent punishment for forcible conversion through marriage. The wife of the accused, on whose complaint the FIR was lodged, told the HC in her affidavit that the FIR against her husband,

# RSS, BJP trying to break J&K's composite culture: Rahul Gandhi

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ JAMMU**

Putting up a 'united front' in the strong bastion of Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) in Jammu, Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on Friday accused the ruling party in power at the Centre and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) of trying to break the composite culture of Jammu & Kashmir and ruining the love and brotherhood that exists amongst the people.

Addressing an impressive 'sammelan of officer bearers of the Congress party, a day after visiting the Cave Shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi, Rahul said, "the feeling of love, brotherhood that exists amongst you all is being ruined by the people of BJP and RSS. Your composite culture was attacked, your brotherhood was attacked and they weakened you before snatching your statehood. You can yourself see that the union territory's economy, tourism, and business is badly hurt."

Attempting to strike an emotional chord with the people of Jammu, Rahul, sporting a saffron turban said, "Whenever I come to Jammu and Kashmir I feel that I have come home. Yesterday I went to offer prayers at Vaishnodevi ji and I felt at home."

He also asked the party cadre to strengthen Congress saying, "The day party workers feel that they are being heard in the party, Congress will come back with not 100, 200, 300, but 450 seats."

Speaking of his meeting



Congress MP Rahul Gandhi being garlanded by party leaders during an office bearers sammelan in Jammu on Friday **PTI**

with a delegation of Kashmiri Pandits on Friday morning, he said, "During the meeting, I realised that I am part of this delegation. My family is also a Kashmiri Pandit family and I am a Kashmiri Pandit. Therefore, I want to say here that I don't lie and I want to tell my Kashmiri Pandit brethren that I will help you."

The two day long visit of the former Congress president has boosted the morale of the party workers in Jammu. Leaders belonging to different factions of the party including former Rajya Sabha leader Ghulam Nabi Azad also attended the impressive show of strength after a long gap in Jammu.

In February this year, Azad had promised over a function,

attended by dissident leaders of the party where they had demanded strong Congress leadership at the centre to take on the Narendra Modi led government at the centre. Azad was present in Srinagar last

month during Rahul's visit.

The organisers of the event too had worked hard to impress the central leadership.

Speaking on the occasion, Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee Chief Ghulam Ahmed Mir urged Rahul Gandhi to regularly devote time from his busy schedule to strengthen the party ahead of the Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir. Mir said, "On behalf of the party workers I promise you the day is not too far away when we can form a full fledged government of the Congress party here in J&K. Victory here in Jammu and Kashmir would strengthen the party in the whole country and establish your leadership".

Earlier, in his speech Rahul had also targeted the central government for installing people from the RSS background in the educational institutions and pushing farm laws, demonetisation, GST etc.

# Minor girl gangraped by her cousin, accomplice in Ballia

**Ballia (UP):** A 12-year-old girl was allegedly gang-raped by two men, including her cousin, in a village in Sukhpura area here, police said on Friday.

The incident took place on Thursday night when the victim's cousin took her to a secluded place where he and his friend gang-raped her, a senior officer said.

Superintendent of Police Ram Karan Naiyar, who visit-

ed the spot on Friday, said an FIR has been registered in this regard against the two accused under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act based on a complaint lodged by the girl's uncle.

The accused have been detained and the girl has been sent for a medical examination, the SP said. **PTI**

# Teenager found dead in field in Aligarh, family alleges rape

**Aligarh (UP):** An 18-year-old woman was found dead in a field in a village in Akraabad area, 30 kilometres from here, police said on Friday.

According to the victim's family, the teenager had gone to an agricultural field to relieve herself on Wednesday evening but did not return home.

The same evening, a villager spotted her body in the field about 500 metres from her home. Signs of struggle on her body led her family to suspect that she was sexually assaulted. **PTI**

# AP: Hunt on for culprits in gangrape case

**Amaravati:** The Guntur police in Andhra Pradesh are hunting for at least four suspects in a case of alleged gangrape that happened around midnight on Wednesday. At least four miscreants were said to be involved in the incident in which a 26-year-old homemaker's modesty was outraged. They beat her husband and tied him up to a tree before raping her, police said. "This is a case of unidentified suspects but we are narrowing down on them," Guntur Urban Superintendent of Police K Arif Hafeez told PTI over phone on Friday. **PTI**



A Lord Ganesha idol depicted as the slayer of coronavirus at a community puja pandal on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi festival in Kolkata on Friday **PTI**








FIRST COLUMN


WOONG JATS WITH UNIVERSITY

It's the BJP's idea to blunt farmers' movement in poll-bound UP



PRADEEP SAXENA

On September 5, the Kisan Mahapanchayat held in Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh, has raised the spirits of the opposition. The leaders of the United Kisan Morcha have called for giving a tough fight to the BJP in the forthcoming UP assembly elections. However, the BJP has its own plans to counter the Morcha. Farmers' leaders have also reminded that they had launched a mass movement against the BJP even before the West Bengal assembly elections and took credit for damaging the BJP's electoral prospects in that State. There is a discussion in political circles in UP that the program to be held on September 14 in Aligarh is the BJP's answer to the Kisan Mahapanchayat, in which the BJP wants to send a positive message among the Jat community by laying the foundation stone of a university in the name of prominent Jat leader Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh. It is a strategy to blunt the sharp edge of the farmers' movement as well. The Iglas and Khair area of Aligarh



is known as Mini Chhaprauli. It is the workplace of former Prime Minister and Jat leader, the late Chaudhary Charan Singh. Gayatri Devi, the wife of the Chaudhary, and his daughter have been legislators from Islas and Khair, respectively. That is why, to woo the Jat population, BJP has played what it calls its trump card — a university named after Jat leader Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh. The Raja was the king of Mursan State of Hathras. He was a freedom fighter who fought against the British and was exiled by the British as a punishment. Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh formed the government of India in Afghanistan. After Independence he came back to India. It is important to mention that in 1957, he defeated Atal Bihari Vajpayee, then representing the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, from Mathura Lok Sabha constituency. Vajpayee lost his deposit as the Raja won by a huge margin as an Independent.

A section of the BJP is not happy with the party glorifying the Jat leader who defeated Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Also, the Brahmin lobby is feeling humiliated by this action of BJP. However, the BJP has its reasons for focusing on the Raja. His great grandson Charat Pratap Singh was in the news some time ago for having sent a legal notice to the Aligarh Muslim University over lease expiration of the land donated for the setting up of the university. The Raja donated the land for the university but his name was never engraved on the walls. The political implications of a new university in the Raja's name thus become clear. BJP leaders and workers from the Aligarh-Agra division are being motivated to mobilize crowds in the programme to be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Preparations are being made to collect over two lakh people from the nearly 10 to 12 districts. For this, responsibility is being given to MPs, MLAs and party office-bearers. A sizeable crowd is expected to attend without any prompting if only to watch Modi speak. The BJP has plans to make this program bigger than the Kisan Mahapanchayat. Even without the farmers' issue, the programme would be significant because it will be the BJP's first massive public-contact exercise in the run-up to the 2022 assembly elections with Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in attendance. Police barricading and tight security are already in place at the entrance of the venue. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath personally inspected the rally preparations and security arrangements. Five helipads are being readied at the venue, three for the Prime Minister and two for the chief minister and the governor.

*(The writer is an Aligarh-based analyst. The views expressed are personal.)*

# Gender gap, inequity in healthcare access



ARCHANA DATTA

Only four States show a fair sex ratio in COVID vaccination. On the health and survival front, India already is one of the five worst performers in South Asia

As the world fights the COVID-19 virus, the giant toy company Mattel's designing of a Barbie doll in the likeness of Sara Gilbert, the co-creator of the Oxford/AstraZeneca jab, is indeed a thumbs up to women scientists. A number of women of science like K. Sumathy (Covaxin), Hanneke Schuitemaker (Janssen), Elen Smolyarchuk (Sputnik V) and Katalin Kariko (BioNTech), are also in league with her in such pioneering works.

Yet, the pandemic response strategies remained "largely exclusionary and male-dominated in the decision-making platforms", observed a study in the Lancet. A UN Development Program's review panel found only 24 per cent of women in national COVID-19 task forces.

The low gender diversity in policy planning fora for vaccine procurement, distribution, and treatment, has indeed "exacerbated the existing gender-based unequal access to healthcare", rued the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The Global Health (GH) 50/50's 2021 report, a research initiative towards gender health equality, categorically stated that "the fight against the virus starkly revealed that 'gender is the major driver of health, like who gets sick and who lives or dies, etc.'"

The Lancet study inferred that "since gender equity remained largely unrecognised, it created a wider blind spot, going beyond vaccine roll outs and uptake, and influenced the process of collecting and reporting data". The GH 50/50's June, 2021, Sex-Disaggregated Data Tracker, reported that only 34 of about 180 countries reported sex-disaggregated data between mid-April and mid-May, 2021, which registered "a decline by 30 per cent" in June.

Moreover, the Sex, Gender and COVID-19 Health Policy Portal, which reviewed over 450 policies from 76 countries across all the WHO regions and World Bank income groups, confirmed that in assessing people's health outcomes, "factors of sex and gender haven't been taken into consideration".

Looking at India, Dr Suneela Garg, advisor Indian Council of Medical Research, and member, Lancet Commission COVID-19 Task Force, confirmed that "there is already a vaccination gap of about three and a half crores till August 31, 21, which is likely to grow more in rural areas, where women are heavily dependent on men for resources". While, Dr Sivakami, Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), commented: "Even if vaccines are available, it doesn't imply that women will get them automatically, as the prevalent gender non-binary prevent them from availing the shots. Besides, the power structure in families, prioritise men as breadwinners, and discourage women for jobs, anticipating post-vaccination health disorders and thereby disruptions in the household work."



OFFICIAL DATA CLAIM THAT MORE THAN HALF OF INDIA'S ELIGIBLE POPULATION HAS RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE DOSE OF THE COVID VACCINE. THEY ALSO REVEAL A VACCINATION GENDER GAP OF ABOUT SIX PER CENT. THE NCW TOOK IT UP WITH THE STATES AND UTs AND URGED FOR MOUNTING PUBLIC HEALTH AWARENESS DRIVES TO COUNTER THE NOTION THAT WOMEN'S HEALTH IS NOT A PRIORITY

*(The writer is former Director-General, Doordarshan, and All India Radio. The views expressed are personal.)*



In India, only four states, namely, Kerala, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh and Himachal Pradesh, maintained a fair sex ratio in vaccination, while in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, the two high-prevalence states, a difference of over 10 per cent was found. A study, extrapolating Co-Win Portal's age-segregated data till June 4, made out the case of a clear gender bias, as only 36.5 per cent of women in the age group (45-year and above) received shots, despite, women having a favourable sex ratio in that particular age group.

Dr Harshita Sehgal, who teaches 'Gender, Development and Community Health' at SNDT University said that "vaccination gap is reflective of the gender health gap persisting in India". Global Gender Gap report, 2021, places India at 140 among the 156 countries benchmarked, slipping 28 places below from last year when the gap widened further by 62.5 per cent.

On the health and survival front, India is one of the five worst performers in South Asia. In 2016, a joint study by experts from India and Harvard University, noticed serious health-based gender discrimination, with only 37 per cent of women getting access to health care, as compared to 67 per cent of men. Moreover, "there is a close relationship between the gender and average health care expenditure (HCE), which is abysmally low for women, and even lesser, if, HCE has to be paid by any source of dis-

tressed financing, regardless of the type of disease a woman suffers", observed a joint study by Indian researchers and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria.

Nonetheless, many researchers consider socio-cultural factors like women's lack of decision-making power. As per NFHS (2015-16) data, only 40 per cent of women are allowed to go out alone, which includes visit to a health facility, poor access to a smartphone, with less than 20 per cent of women in India own such devices, or internet, only three in 10 women in rural areas have access to it, as compared to half the men (NFHS-2019-20) and vaccine hesitancy, stemming from misinformation, rumours, etc., are contributing to low rate of vaccination.

Dr Sivakami added that "women might not have all the information about vaccines, as they suffer from denial of access to digital facilities within the family". Dr Garg feels that "the vaccine hesitancy should be addressed with the help of community health workers like ASHA through door-to-door campaign, sensitising both men and women".

Now, the official data claim that more than half of India's eligible population has received at least one dose of the Covid vaccine. They also reveal a vaccination gender gap of about six per cent. The NCW took it up with the states and UTs and urged for

mounting public health awareness drives to counter the notion that "women's health is not a priority". Dr Harshita Sehgal, regrets that "India's ongoing vaccination drive is another instance of a lost opportunity for gender mainstreaming and inclusive planning for equal access". However, some states have gone for establishing "all-women pink booths" to facilitate immunisation for women, ensuring their safety and comforts.

At the 65th UN Commission on the Status of Women, 2021, the senior advisor, WHO, called upon the nations to "put gender equality at the forefront in planning and rollout of vaccines, and address all gender-related barriers". Furthermore, in a jointly authored article in the Lancet by the six UN global heads, underscored the imperative need for gender-disaggregated data for an "effective pandemic recovery plans", and it feared that the "absence of such data, or keeping them under cover, will only pre-empt devising any concrete gender-responsive action plan".

Now, this pandemic, has not been a portal for gender equity. It has, thus, necessitated a gender-focused containment and recovery efforts, by reinforcing the institutional capacities, committing to disseminate sex-based data, which provide visibility to gender disparity, and also in due course, restoring balance in structural determinants of gender bias.

## POINT COUNTERPOINT

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IS BLIND TO STUDENTS' DISTRESS. POSTPONE NEET EXAM. LET THEM HAVE A FAIR CHANCE.  
— CONGRESS LEADER RAHUL GANDHI



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— UNION EDUCATION MINISTER DHARMENDRA PRADHAN

# It didn't change the world forever

9/11 was a deliberate provocation and the US fell for it hook, line and sinker, but it still didn't produce the changes the perpetrators wanted

Changed the world forever is the most hackneyed phrase in journalism, and if you can get through this week (the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks) without hearing it half a dozen times you'll be very lucky.

It's a nonsense phrase because various aspects of the world are changing constantly (technology, politics, fashion, and now climate too), while others change not at all (human nature, for example). But it does give us a handy tool for evaluating the real impact of those attacks on the world.

With the benefit of hindsight, how much has the world changed as a result of 9/11? There was virtually no lasting impact on Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa, or East and South-East Asia, where even



GWYNNE DYER

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

the phrase '9/11' is meaningless to most people.

In Europe, no year had gone by since the 1970s without terror attacks by extreme left-wing groups like the Red Brigades and the Baader-Meinhof Gang or Palestinian operations like the Munich Olympics massacre, although Islamist activity pre-2001 was restricted to a few overflows from the Algerian civil war. No panic there.

Which leaves the 'Greater Middle East' (from the Arab world to Pakistan), the United States itself, and a few US hangers-on like the United Kingdom and Australia.

Most Arab regimes were (and still are) absolute monarchies or military dictatorships, and although they doubtless felt a little frisson of delight at see-



ing Americans on the receiving end for a change, their main concern was for themselves. Would this threaten their own survival?

The main domestic opposition in all of them was (mostly illegal) Islamic parties. Would

Osama bin Laden's spectacular attack radicalise those groups into full-blown Islamists with enough popular support to drive the existing regimes from power? That's what bin Laden was hoping for, but it turned out that the support for Islamism was still too thin.

The only Arab leader to fall because of the attacks was the unfortunate Saddam Hussein of Iraq, who got invaded and killed by the Bush administration essentially because the invasion of Afghanistan had not slaked the American public's thirst for revenge on somebody or other.

Saddam had nothing to do with the terrorists (and he didn't have any weapons of mass destruction either), but he was a murderous dictator and Iraq paid the price. Pity about all the

dead Iraqis and their wrecked country, but they were just in the wrong place at the wrong time.

So, there were really no big changes in the Arab world as a result of 9/11, and that goes for the rest of the Middle East too. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei is still the Supreme Leader of Iran, the army still really runs Pakistan (behind a civilian facade), and as of last month the Taliban are running Afghanistan again.

What's left? Well, America's NATO allies sent contingents of troops to Afghanistan for a while, and some to Iraq as well, mostly out of a sense that any failure to support the United States militarily now would be remembered in Washington if they ever needed American help in the future. Casualties were low and the commit-

ment was superficial.

The only countries that did it with any enthusiasm, however, were the United Kingdom and Australia - in the former case because Prime Minister Tony Blair made it his personal mission, and in the latter case because the US alliance is the sum and substance of Australian defence policy. If the United States invaded Mars, Australia would send a battalion along.

Even in the United States itself, the damage was relatively modest: almost 3,000 civilian dead on the day, and another 6,800 military deaths in subsequent twenty years while a generation of American soldiers hunted down Iraqis and Afghans the vast majority of whom never posed any threat to the American homeland.

Any other costs? Well, around 900,000 people killed and eight trillion dollars wasted, according to a new report from the 'Costs of War' project at Brown University. But most of those deaths were just 'collateral damage', and the US would have found other excuses for that scale of spending if 9/11 hadn't happened.

Did the world change forever? No, it barely budged. 9/11 was a deliberate provocation and the United States fell for it hook, line and sinker, but it still didn't produce any of the changes the perpetrators wanted - or any other big changes either.

The only lesson we can learn from it is that spectacular, terrible events are not necessarily the same as real changes. Indeed, they usually aren't.



# No BRICS recognition for Taliban Govt: SA FM

PTI ■ JOHANNESBURG

The BRICS countries have agreed not to recognise the Taliban Government in Afghanistan until they receive assurances that it will comply with the precepts of international law, South African Foreign Minister Naledi Pandor said on Friday.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday chaired a virtual summit of the five-nation grouping. The 13th BRICS summit was also attended by Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro.

"We had a BRICS Summit (on Thursday) in which our President spoke, and we've adopted a statement, that is a



BRICS statement, very clearly articulating the view that we want to see the restoration of democracy and enjoyment of fundamental human rights by

the people of Afghanistan," Minister of International Relations Pandor told the radio station 702.

The BRICS (Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa) brings together five of the largest developing countries of the world, representing 41 per cent of the global population, 24 per cent of the global GDP and 16 per cent of the global trade.

"Until we are assured that the Government, once it's in place, intends to observe the precepts of international law, we wouldn't proceed with any form of recognition," Pandor said.

The Minister also explained why South Africa refused to accept Afghan refugees as an interim stop while their immigration permits to the US were processed.

# Taliban takeover may be 'morale boost' for terrorists: UK spy chief

London: The Taliban takeover of Afghanistan is likely to have "emboldened" terrorists and means that the threat of a 9/11 style terrorist attack remains alive, warned Britain's spy chief on Friday.

M15 Director General Ken McCallum told the BBC that there was greater need to be vigilant as there could be a "morale boost" for extremists as a result of developments in Afghanistan as the US-led NATO troops withdrew last month. He also revealed that the UK's police and intelligence services had foiled 31 "late-stage" terror attack plots against the country in the past four years.

"The big concern flowing from Afghanistan, alongside the immediate inspirational effect, is the risk that terrorists reconstitute and once again pose us more in the way of well

**UK's police and intelligence services had foiled 31 "late-stage" terror attack plots against the country in the past four years**

developed, sophisticated plots of the sort that we faced in 9/11 and the years thereafter," said McCallum.

"Overnight you can have a psychological boost or morale boost to extremists already here, or in other countries. So, we need to be vigilant – both for the increase in inspired terrorism, which has become a real trend for us to deal with over the last five to 10 years, alongside the potential regrowth of Al Qaeda style directed plots, that we saw more commonly some years ago," he said. **PTI**

# Isolating Afghanistan will have 'serious consequences' for region, says Pak FM

Islamabad: Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Friday urged the international community to adopt a "new positive approach" towards Afghanistan, warning that isolating the country will have "serious consequences" for the Afghan people, the region and the world at large.

Qureshi made the comments during a joint press conference along with Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares, who arrived in Islamabad on Friday to discuss the latest Afghan situation.

The two leaders held delegation-level talks in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs ahead of their media interaction.

"Isolating Afghanistan will have serious consequences and will not be helpful for the Afghan people, the region and the world at large," said Qureshi. **PTI**

# Interim Taliban Govt does not reflect what international community hoped to see: US

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The Taliban-led interim Government in Afghanistan does not reflect what the international community and the US hoped to see, the Biden administration has said, as it expressed concern over the lack of inclusivity and the track records and the backgrounds of some of the individuals involved in governing the country.

The Taliban insurgents seized control of Afghanistan in mid-August, ousting the previous elected leadership which was backed by the West.

The Taliban on Tuesday announced a caretaker Cabinet led by Mullah Mohammad Hasan Akhund, with key roles being shared by high-profile members of the headline Islamist group, including a

specially designated global terrorist of the dreaded Haqqani Network as the Interior Minister.

"We have spoken about our reaction to the initial caretaker government. You have heard us say that the lack of inclusivity, the track records, the backgrounds of some of the individuals involved, are a cause for concern. It certainly does not reflect what the international community and what, as a part of that, the United States hoped to see," State Department Spokesperson Ned Price told reporters at a Press conference on Thursday.

Taliban's hardline interim government includes specially designated global terrorist and Haqqani network leader Sirajuddin Haqqani as the acting interior minister.

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**PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The Superintending Engineer, PWRD, Nagaon & Hojai Road Circle, Nagaon on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites bid from Assam PWD registered contractors for 1 (One) no. of work under (PR)SDRF for the year 2020-21 under Jumanamukh LAC in Hojai District amounting to Rs. 68.78 Lakhs (approx).Details may be seen at website <http://assamtenders.gov.in> and also at the office of the undersigned during office hours.

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**No. 661 TENDER NOTICE Date : 10.09.2021**

The office of Executive Engineer (E&M), Pashulok Barrage, Rishikesh invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:-

Tender No.05/EE(E&M)/PB/2021-22 : (1) Annual Routine sweeping & cleaning at Virbhadra Barrage, Pashulok, Rishikesh.

Tender No.06/EE(E&M)/PB/2021-22 : (2) Annual Routine Trash Rack cleaning at Virbhadra Barrage, Pashulok, Rishikesh.

Estimated cost : (1) ₹ 5,48,788/- +GST Extra: (2) ₹ 9,89,555/- +GST Extra

Date of availability of bid document on website: 10/09/2021 from 17:00 Hrs.

Last date for submission of tender: 01/10/2021 Up to 15.00 Hrs.

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvn.com"

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**DEMAND NOTICE**

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from Axis Bank Ltd. We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset on the respective dates mentioned hereunder in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of Axis Bank Ltd. under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notice on the Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below mentioned dates.

The Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Axis Bank Ltd. The Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of The Borrower / Address/ Co-Borrower And Guarantor Name	1. NPA Date of Demand Notice	2. Date of Demand Notice	3. Outstanding Amt (Rs.) As On Date of Notice	4. Loan Amount (Rs.)	Property Address of Secured Assets
1. Rahul Singh S/O Rambeer Singh C-7, Appar Ground Floor, Number 02, Ganga Vihar, Sadullabad, Ghaziabad, (U.P.) 201102 <b>Also At:</b> H.No.168, Kabari Bazar, Meerut, (U.P.) 250001	1. 09-OCT-20 2. 27-APR-21	27-APR-21	Rs. 22,05,122/-	AS ON DATE 25-MAR-21	Immovable Asset: All- That Piece And Parcel of The Property In The Name of Mr. Rahul Singh and Ms. Mantia Singh At Flat No 401/Fourth Floor, Block-9, Opel-Oris, Behind Aakriti Ecocity Gram Misrod Bhopal 800Sq. Ft. (74.34 Sq. Mts.) East- Flat No. 408 West- Flat No. 402 North- Open South- Corridor
2. Mrs. Mantia Singh W/O Rahul Singh C-7, Appar Ground Floor, Number 02, Ganga Vihar, Sadullabad, Ghaziabad, (U.P.) 201102 <b>Also At:</b> H.No.168, Kabari Bazar, Meerut, (U.P.) 250001 <b>Both At:</b> Flat No 401/Fourth Floor, Block-9, Opel-Oris, Behind Aakriti Ecocity Gram Misrod Bhopal	1. 09-OCT-20 2. 27-APR-21	27-APR-21	Rs. 25,95,522/-	AS ON DATE 25-MAR-21	Immovable Asset: All- That Piece And Parcel of The Property In The Name of Mr. Ramvrat Singh S/O Premchand At Flat No 402, Fourth Floor, Block No. 9, Opel-Oris, E-8, Extension, Behind Aakriti Eco City, Gram Misrod, Bhopal Ms. Manju Singh W/O Mr. Ramvrat Singh R/O, A-26, Laxmi Enclave, S.F.1 3rd Floor, Ganga Vihar, Sabapur Choki Loni, Ghaziabad, (U.P.) 201102
Mr. Ramvrat Singh S/O Mr. Premchand R/O, A-26, Laxmi Enclave, S.F.1 3rd Floor, Ganga Vihar, Sabapur Choki Loni, Ghaziabad, (U.P.) 201102 <b>Also At:</b> Flat No 402, Fourth Floor, Block No.9, Opel-Oris, E-8, Extension, Behind Aakriti Eco City, Gram Misrod, Bhopal Ms. Manju Singh W/O Mr. Ramvrat Singh R/O, A-26, Laxmi Enclave, S.F.1 3rd Floor, Ganga Vihar, Sabapur Choki Loni, Ghaziabad, (U.P.) 201102	1. 10-DEC-20 2. 27-APR-21	27-APR-21	Rs. 25,95,522/-	AS ON DATE 25-MAR-21	Immovable Asset: All- That Piece And Parcel of The Property In The Name of Mr. Ramvrat Singh S/O Premchand At Flat No 402, Fourth Floor, Block No. 9, Opel-Oris, E-8, Extension, Behind Aakriti Eco City, Gram Misrod, Bhopal, 1022 Sq. Ft. (94.95Sqmts.) BoundedAs:- North – Open East- Flat No. 401 West-Open South – Corridor

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules thereunder.

Kind attention is invited to provisions of sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act where under you by tender the entire amount of outstanding dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank only till the date of publication of the notice for sale of the secured asset(s) by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty. Please also note that if the entire amount of outstanding dues together with the costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank is not tendered before publication of notice for sale of the secured assets by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty, you may not be entitled to redeem the secured asset(s) Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

**Date : 11-09-2021**  
**Place: Delhi**

**Sd/-,**  
**Authorized Officer,**  
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**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Name of work and its location: 30-Elect-04-T-2021-22-E3 Electrical work in connection with renovation of ward no. 2, 3, 6, 17, 18 and double cabin no. 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and pathology lab etc. in NRCH, New Delhi.

Approx cost of the works in: Rs. 44.62 lacs

Address of the office: Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

Earnest Money: Rs. 00.00

Date & time of submission of tender: 04.10.2021, 12.00 Hrs.

Opening of tender: 04.10.2021, 12.00 Hrs.

Website & notice board: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
& Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

2033/2021

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**THE BIRLA COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS LIMITED**  
Regd Office: 9th Floor, Hindustan Times House, 18-20, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi 110 001; CIN: L65100DL1920PLC099621, Phone-011- 66561206  
Email: [secretariat.ht@rediffmail.com](mailto:secretariat.ht@rediffmail.com), website: [www.birlacotton.com](http://www.birlacotton.com)

**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the 125<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the members of the Company will be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 at 11:30 A.M. at the Registered Office of the Company at Hindustan Times House, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, 18-20, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001 to transact the business set out in the notice convening the AGM.

In compliance with Regulation 42 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and pursuant to provisions of Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013, read with Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company shall remain closed from Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2021 to Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 (both days inclusive) in connection with the Annual General Meeting to be held at the Registered Office of the Company on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.

Notice is further given that in compliance with the Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Amendment Rules, 2014, the Company is pleased to provide its members the facility to exercise their right to vote at the AGM on the resolution mentioned in the AGM notice by electronic means. The facility of casting votes using an electronic voting system from a place other than the venue of the AGM ("remote-e-voting") is being provided to the members by Central Depository Services Limited (CDSL). The notice of the meeting and instruction for remote e-voting have been sent to all members at their registered addresses.

The members are further informed that (a) The e-voting instructions forms an integral part of the Notice of the Annual General Meeting which is also displayed at the Company's website [www.birlacotton.com](http://www.birlacotton.com); (b) A person whose name appear in the register of members as on the cut-off date i.e., 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2021, shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting or ballot papers at the meeting; (c) The remote e-voting shall remain open from 9:00 A.M. on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 to 5:00 P.M. on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 and no e-voting shall be allowed beyond the said date & time; (d) The facility for voting through ballot papers shall be made available at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the members attending AGM who have not cast their vote by remote e-voting shall be able to vote at the AGM however those members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting may attend the meeting but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again (e) In case of any queries/grievances pertaining to voting by electronic means, the members may contact Ms. Silky Gupta, Company Secretary at [secretariat.ht@rediffmail.com](mailto:secretariat.ht@rediffmail.com) or 011- 66561206.

For The Birla Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills Limited  
**Sd/-**  
**V.K.Charoria**  
Director  
DIN-00046895

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2021  
Place: New Delhi

**AXIS BANK**

Retail Asset Centre: UG Floor, Himalaya House, 23 K.G MARG, Delhi, Axis House, Tower-2, Sector-128, Noida Expressway, Jaypee Greens Wishtown, Noida (U.P.)-201301 Axis Bank Ltd., Axis House, Tower T-2, Corporate Office: 'Axis House', Block-B, Bombay Dyeing Mills Compound, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai-400025, Registered Office: 'Trishul', 3rd floor, opposite Samartheswar Temple, Law garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-380006

**POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002**

Whereas

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Axis Bank Ltd. under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notice upon the Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below mentioned dates.

The Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Axis Bank Ltd. The Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of Borrower / Co-borrower	Description of Property	1. Date of Demand Notice	2. Date of Possession	3. Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)
1. Mr. Jitender Singh Dhaka S/O Sh. Raj Singh Dhaka H.No-64, 3rd Floor, Vaishali Enclave, Pitam Pura, New Delhi-110034 <b>Also At:</b> Mr. Kulkant Upadhyay S/O C.P. Upadhyay G-30B, Krishna Vihar Sultampur Block-C North West Delhi-110086 <b>Also At:</b> Mr. Kulkant Upadhyay S/O C.P. Upadhyay Sr. Executive Swagatam Pvt. Ltd 203 Swagatam Chamber, 23-A Shivaji Marg Najafgarh Road Moti Nahar, New Delhi-110015 <b>Also At:</b> Mr. Kulkant Upadhyay S/O C.P. Upadhyay Flat No. 73, G.F., Pocket-11, Rohni, Delhi	Entire Third Floor (With Roof Rights Upto Sky) of Property Bearing No. 64, Built On Land Measuring 300 Sq. Yds. (250.84 Sq. Mtrs.) Situated In The Layout Plan of Delhi University Teacher Co-Operative Group House Building Society Ltd. Known As Vaishali Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 <b>Also At:</b> Job line Consultants India Pvt. Ltd. East: Road 30 Ft. Wide West: Service Lane North: Plot No. 65 South: Plot No. 63	1. 15-06-2021 2. 07-09-2021	2. 07-09-2021	Rs. 2,40,42,124/- (Rupees Two Crore Forty Lakh Forty Two Thousand One Hundred Twenty Seven Seven Only)
1. Mr. Kulkant Upadhyay S/O C.P. Upadhyay H.No-28-B, Ground Floor Block-K-2, Kharsa No.-73/9 Krishna Vihar, Sultampur Block-C North West Delhi-110086 <b>Also At:</b> Mr. Kulkant Upadhyay S/O C.P. Upadhyay G-30B, Krishna Vihar Sultampur Block-C North West Delhi-110086 <b>Also At:</b> Mrs. Munni Devi W/O C.P. Upadhyay Flat No. 73, G.F., Pocket-11, Rohni, Delhi	All That Piece And Parcel of Freehold DDA UG Flat No-73, Built Up Area Measuring 36 Sq. Mtrs., Ground Floor, LIG, Pocket-II (Gr-Iv), Sector-21, Rohini, Delhi-110086 East: As Per Deed West: As Per Deed North: As Per Deed South: As Per Deed	1. 15-06-2021 2. 07-09-2021	2. 07-09-2021	Rs. 21,69,977/- (Rupees Twenty one Lakh Fifty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Seven Only)

The above-mentioned Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagor(s) are hereby given a 30 days' Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days' from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

**Date : 11-09-2021**  
**Place : Delhi**

**Sd/-,**  
**Authorized Officer,**  
**Axis Bank Ltd.**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is to inform the public at large that Mrs. Bharti Tiwari who is the owner of the Shop bearing No. LGF-35-6, having super area measuring 24.71 sq. mtrs. (266 sq. Ft.), situated in the commercial complex known as "Sushant Shopping Arcade" situated at Sushant Lok, Phase I, Gurgaon, Tehsil & District Gurgaon, (Haryana) vide of Sale Deed dated 30.12.2016 executed by Mr. Narendra Kumar, Mr. Naresh Kumar and Mr. Ranveer, vide Document No. 25418, in Book No.1, Volume No.131424835, on Pages 1169-10, of Sub-Registrar, Gurgaon, registered on dated 30.12.2016 and same to be financed by Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited. That, Original Transfer Deed (in Blood Relation) dated 26.03.2015 executed by Mrs. Ranveer in favour of Mr. Narendra Kumar, Mr. Naresh Kumar and Mr. Ranveer in respect of said property and other property, vide Document No. 29986, in Book No.1, Volume No.13109/4179, on Pages 101/556-57, registered on dated 26.03.2015 was lost / misplaced and an FIR for the same was lodged. If any Person having any type of claim/right / title / interest over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below within a week, about his objections, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all types of Encumbrances, lien etc.

**Lucern Legal LLP**  
269, Rama House, Ground Floor, Masjid Moth, Opp. Uday Park, South Ex. II, New Delhi-110049 Contact : # 011-40046316

Notice is hereby given to the public that the property more particularly described in schedule hereunder written, Mr. Vinod Kumar Jain S/o Mr. Biswas Chand Jain is the current owner of the subject property died on 06.05.2021. The owner Vinod Kumar Jain mortgaged the subject property on 15.03.2021 against the credit facilities of his proprietorship firm M/s Jayco Metal Industries availed from DBS Bank India Limited, New Delhi. The Owner Mr. Vinod Kumar Jain is Survived by his son Mr. Sameer Jain through surviving member certificate 90660000084987 dated 13.07.2021.

All Person having any claim in respect thereof by way of sale, exchange, Gift, Mortgage, Charge, Trust, inheritance, Possession, Lease, Lien, or otherwise howsoever are requested to inform the same in writing to the undersigned having their office at C-10, Basement, Nizamuddin (West), New Delhi within 15 days from date of hereof failing which the claims if any of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and succession shall be completed in the name of Sameer Jain.

**Schedule Above Referred to**  
Property bearing No. 375, area measuring approx. 149 sq yds situated at Kucha Bulaki Begum, Dariba Kalan, Ward/ Ilaga No. 4, Delhi-110006.

**BRIJESH KUMAR TAMBER** Advocate on Record, Supreme Court of India, Code No. 2254 Insolvency Professional, (IBBI No. 18811/PA-002/IP-No 0523/2017-2018/11595)  
C-10 Basement, Nizamuddin (West) New Delhi-110013  
Ph No: 41030212-15  
Mob No.: 9891125411,  
Email: [brijesh\\_tamber@hotmail.com](mailto:brijesh_tamber@hotmail.com)  
[office@brijeshktamber@gmail.com](mailto:office@brijeshktamber@gmail.com)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform public in general that Kotak Mahindra bank ltd has organized an auction in below mention respect of Vehicles.

**VEHICLES FOR SALE**

- 1) TT\_LPS4923- REG. NO. RJ05GB4341-YOM-2017
- 2) T1518FBGD REG. NO. UP86T7555-YOM -2019
- 3) T1518FBGD REG. NO. UP85BT0724-YOM -2017
- 4) T1518FBGD REG. NO. UP86T7556-YOM -2019
- 5) T3118FBGD REG. NO. UP42AT9033-YOM-2016
- 6) T3118COGD REG. NO. UP78DT2379-YOM-2017
- 7) TATA MOTOR LPT 407 REG. NO. DL1L33318 YOM -2017
- 8) MARUTI ECHO REG. NO. UP14GT4716-YOM -2017
- 9) AL4019CBTT REG. NO. HR55T3194-YOM -2014
- 10) ALEC1212FB REG. NO. UP42BT2468-YOM-2017
- 11) CB\_SML SAMRAT REG. NO. HR69C2849-YOM-2017

UNDER HYPOTECATION WITH M/S KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK IS UNDER SALE IN ITS "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" INTERESTED PARTIES CAN GIVE THEIR QUOTATIONS WITH IN 07 DAYS AT KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK 3RD FLOOR, PLOT NO 7, SECTOR 125, NOIDA-201313 OR CONTACT : DEEPAK KUMAR KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD. CONTACT: 09839215099

# Lebanon's new PM pledges to stabilise economic meltdown

Beirut: Lebanon's new Prime Minister Najib Mikati pledged on Friday to gain control of one of the world's worst economic meltdowns, saying lifting subsidies would be critical for the small country's Government formed after a year of political stalemate.

Holding back tears, Mikati, one of the richest men in the

country, said he recognised the pain of Lebanese mothers who cannot feed their children or find aspirin to ease their ailments, as well as to students whose parents can no longer afford to send them to school.

"The situation is difficult but not impossible to deal with if we cooperate," Mikati told reporters

at the presidential palace, where the new Government line-up was announced.

Lebanon has been without a fully empowered government since the catastrophic August 4, 2020 explosion at Beirut port, which forced the resignation of then Prime Minister Hassan Diab's Government. **AP**

# Mass booster doses not needed, says vax creator

PTI ■ LONDON

A widespread booster shots campaign as planned by the UK Government is not required for everyone as immunity against Covid-19 among fully vaccinated people is "lasting well", the creator of the Oxford University vaccine said on Friday.

Professor Dame Sarah Gilbert, a leading scientist who led the development of the

Oxford University/AstraZeneca vaccine — being administered in India as Covidshield — said the elderly and people with weakened immune systems may well require the boosters but other doses should be prioritised for countries with low vaccination rates.

"As the virus spreads between people, it mutates and adapts and evolves, like the Delta variant," she told *The Daily Telegraph*.

# Sunil Perera, outspoken Sri Lankan singer, dies at age 68

Colombo: Singer and musician Sunil Perera entertained generations of Sri Lankans with captivating songs, but won their minds and hearts with his outspoken comments against social injustice, corruption, racism and suppression of democracy.

Perera, a versatile singer, musician, composer and entertainer, died of apparent complications from Covid-19. He was 68.

Sunil tested positive for the coronavirus last month and was treated at a hospital in Colombo, the capital. **AP**

**RAIL KAUSHAL VIKAS YOJNA**

**Notice for the Application of 'Kaushal Vikas Training Program' in Fitter and Welding Trade for Year 2021-22 (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Batch)**

A short term (3 Weeks) Kaushal Vikas Training Program (skill development) is being organized by Carriage & Wagon care center/ Bhoor Bharat Nagar Ghaziabad for the Youths under 'RAIL KAUSHAL VIKAS YOJNA'. Each Trade will have 12 Males/Females in this Training Program and this program is free of cost.

**Eligibility-1.** Matriculation (10<sup>th</sup> Standard pass) **2.Age-** 18-35 Years (as on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021).

Interested candidates may obtain form from Technical Training Center; Carriage & Wagon, Training Center, Ghaziabad or download from the Website <http://nr.indianrailways.gov.in--> News & Recruitment Info -> Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana> Please do mention full name, Father's name, Address, Educational qualification and Mobile no./E-mail in the application form.

Self-attested photocopy of the following documents are required along with application. Mark-sheet of Matriculation (if date of Birth DOB not mentioned on mark sheet & Certificate also) then for proof of Identity - any one document out of Aadhar Card, Voter ID Card, Driving License or Ration Card. Application will not be accepted if the above required documents are not submitted along-with the Application form. All documents are must be readable Candidates will be selected on the basis of the Marks obtained in the matriculation subject to availability of slot.

**Application duly filled can be submitted at Carriage & Wagon, Training center / Bhoor Bharat Nagar, Ghaziabad till 23.09.2021 (5:00 PM except Sunday or National Holiday) Or Scanned copy be Emailed on Email id:- [citccnw@gmail.com](mailto:citccnw@gmail.com)**

**For Assistance :-** May contact to Shri Sunil Dutt (Chief Instructor), Carriage and wagon Training center, Ghaziabad on Mobile No. 9717631473 (on working days/Hrs)

- List of selected candidates for the Training Program will be displayed on the Notice Board/Main Gate of Carriage & wagon, Training center, Ghaziabad on 30.09.2021 and on the website <http://nr.indianrailways.gov.in --> News & Recruitment Info -> Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana>
- Training of 1<sup>st</sup> Batch for each trade will be conducted from 06.10.2021 to 28.10.2021 and for 2<sup>nd</sup> Batch from 08.11.2021 to 29.11.2021 on Monday to Friday 9:30 AM to 17:00 PM & on Saturday from 9:



# Industry output grows 11.5 in July on low-base effect

**GOOD PERFORMANCE BY MANUFACTURING, MINING SECTORS**

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

Industrial production surged 11.5 per cent in July mainly due to a low-base effect and good performance by manufacturing, mining and power sectors but the output remained slightly below the pre-pandemic level.

The manufacturing sector, which constitutes 77.63 per cent of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), grew 10.5 per cent in July, according to the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Friday.

The mining sector output rose 19.5 per cent in July while power generation increased 11.1 per cent. In July 2021, the IIP stood at 131.4 points compared to 117.9 points in the same month last year. The index was at 131.8 points in July 2019, as per the NSO data. The data showed that industrial production recov-



ered but was still slightly below the pre-pandemic level of July 2019.

The IIP had contracted by 10.5 per cent in July 2020.

Industrial production plunged 18.7 per cent in March last year following the COVID outbreak and remained in the negative zone till August 2020.BWith the resumption of economic activities, factory output rose 1 per cent in September 2020 and grew 4.5



per cent in October. In November 2020, the factory output fell 1.6 per cent and then entered the positive territory with a 2.2 per cent growth in December 2020.

The IIP had recorded a contraction of 0.6 per cent in January and 3.2 per cent in February this year. In March, it grew 24.2 per cent.

For the month of April, the NSO held back the release of complete IIP data.

## Govt enhances scope of TMA scheme for agri exports

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

The Government on Friday enhanced the scope of Transport and Marketing Assistance (TMA) scheme for specified agriculture products by including dairy products under its purview and increasing the rates of assistance.

The scheme has been extended till March 31, 2022, according to an official statement.

Enhanced assistance under the revised scheme is expected to help Indian exporters of agricultural products to meet rising freight and logistics costs, the statement said.In 2019, the Government announced the scheme for providing financial assistance for transport and marketing of agricultural products to boost exports of such commodities to certain countries in Europe and North America.

Under the TMA plan, it reimburses a certain portion of freight charges and provides assistance for marketing of agricultural produce.

## Semiconductor shortage hits domestic automobile wholesales in Aug; dispatches dip 11 pc

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

Automobile wholesales in India declined 11 per cent year-on-year in August, as the semiconductor shortage hit production processes across the industry, SIAM said on Friday.

The total wholesales across categories, excluding commercial vehicles, declined to 15,86,873 units last month, compared to 17,90,115 units in August 2020.

According to the latest data by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), two-wheeler dispatches from OEMs to dealers declined last month while passenger vehicle and three-wheeler wholesales witnessed an increase over August 2020.

Two-wheeler dispatches from the OEMs to dealerships declined by 15 per cent to 13,31,436 units in August, compared to 15,59,665 units in the year-ago period.

Motorcycle sales were at 8,25,849 units last month as against 10,32,476 units in August 2020, down 20 per cent.

Similarly, scooter dis-

patches declined 1 per cent to 4,51,967 units last month from 4,56,848 units a year ago.

The total passenger vehicle sales -- including dispatches of cars, utility vehicles and vans - from OEMs to dealerships increased by 7 per cent to 2,32,224 units in August compared to 2,15,916 units in the same month last year.Three-wheeler wholesales increased 60 per cent to 23,210 units last month as against 14,534 units a year ago. Commenting on the August sales, SIAM Director General Rajesh Menon said the Indian automobile industry is reeling under pressure due to supply chain challenges.

"The global semiconductor shortage continues and now it is having an acute impact on output across the auto industry," he added.The usage of semiconductors in the auto industry has gone up globally in recent times, with technological advancements and new models coming with more and more electronic features such as Bluetooth connectivity and driver-assist, navigation and hybrid-electric systems, besides the engine control unit.

## DoT flags unauthorised sale of mobile signal booster by e-commerce firms, writes to Customs dept

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

The Department of Telecom (DoT) on Friday wrote to the Customs department flagging unauthorised sales of mobile signal boosters by some e-commerce firms and sought strict implementation of import rules to curb such practices.

The telecom department in a letter to the Chief Commissioner of Customs and Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) chairman said that it has come to its notice and has also been reported by the Intelligence Bureau about certain models of walkie-talkie sets are available for sale on some e-commerce platforms without any com-

pliance to the regulatory requirement of the department.

The mobile signal booster and walkie-talkie sets fall under the category of transmission apparatus incorporating reception apparatus which are not permitted to be imported without a licence.

"Whilst, the department is continuing to take appropriate action in this regard in cases of violation, but to restrict the inflow of such unauthorised wireless equipment including mobile signal booster/repeater in the country, it is requested to strictly enforce the provisions enshrined in the import policy of DGFT in this regard," the letter said.

## Investors turn positive for Gold ETFs in Aug on positive global outlook

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

After witnessing net outflow in July, gold exchange-traded funds (ETFs) attracted ₹24 crore in August on a positive global outlook, reflecting an improving sentiment towards the yellow metal.

The total inflow has reached ₹3,070 crore in the asset class during the first eight months of the current year (January-August), data with the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) showed.

The inflow helped in pushing the number of folios in the category to 21.46 lakh in August from 19.13 lakh in the preceding month.

## Forex reserves rise by \$8.895 bn to record high of \$642.453 billion

**PTI ■ MUMBAI**

The country's foreign exchange reserves increased by USD 8.895 billion to reach a record high of USD 642.453 billion in the week ended September 3, RBI data showed.

In the previous week ended August 27, the reserves had surged USD 16.663 billion to USD 633.558 billion, mainly due to a rise in Special Drawing Rights (SDR) holdings. International Monetary Fund (IMF) had made an allocation of SDR 12.57 billion to India.

For the week ended September 3, the increase was on account of a rise in foreign currency assets (FCAs), a major component of the overall reserves, Reserve Bank of



India's (RBI) weekly data released on Friday showed.

FCA rose by USD 8.213 billion to USD 579.813 billion in the reporting week, according to the data.

Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves.

Gold reserves were up by USD 642 million to USD 38.083 billion in the reporting week, as per the data.



**UJVN Limited**  
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax No.: 0135-2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

**Tender Notice** Dt. 10-09-2021

Office of the Executive Engineer (C&M) MB-II Joshiyara, Uttarkashi invites sealed tender from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below :

Tender No. : 12/EE(C&M)/MB-II/Joshiyara/2021-22

Name of work : Renovation of Barrage Control Room at MB-II Joshiyara, Uttarkashi.

Estimated cost : Rs. 22,99,995.00 (excluding GST)

Date of availability of bid document on website : 13-09-2021

Last Date for submission of Tender : 08-10-2021 upto 11:00 AM

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The Tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvn.com"

**"Avoid Wasteful use of Electricity"** **Executive Engineer (C&M)**



**UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD.**  
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking) (Corporate Identity No. U40109UP2001SGC025867/2358)  
Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun-248001  
Telephone: 0135-2763672-75, Fax: 0135-2763330

**DATE EXTENSION OF e-TENDER NOTICE-I**

In reference to this office e-tender specification no. 11/SE(MM)/2021-22 for sale of Steel Scrap (Meltable Iron/Empty T/I tank/Plate etc.) available at Dehradun/Roorkee/Haridwar/ Rishikesh /Kotdwar/Haldwani/Kashipur/Tanakpur/Almora/Pithoragarh Store under Electricity Stores Division Dehradun/Haldwani. Due to unavoidable circumstances the tender will be opened on dated 22.09.2021 at 16:00 hrs. Last Date & time of online request for purchase of tender document & submission of tender in online and offline mode will be on dated 21.09.2021 upto 17:00 hrs.

All other terms and conditions will remain same as per original tender notice. For further details, please visit website [www.uktender.gov.in](http://www.uktender.gov.in).

**No : 359/EE(CM)/UPCLA-2** **Superintending Engineer (MM)**  
**Dated:- 10/09/2021**

**SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATIONS** Use LED Bulb to Save Electricity (Toll-Free1912)

"Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from [www.upcl.org](http://www.upcl.org)" (For information on Electricity Theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185)

**OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER**  
**P.H.E.D CIRCLE TONK**

No.-: 2792-2798 Date:- 07/09/2021

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS THROUGH E-procurement system NIT No. 20/2021-22**

Online tenders through e-procurement system are hereby invited, on behalf of the Governor of vajajM lan rom enlisted contractors with the department in appropriate class under the Government of Rajasthan and enlisted contractors with CPVVD/ Postal, Telecom, Railways, VIES, other state Govt./Central Govt. undertaking / organization equivalent to "AA" Class of Rajasthan provided they meet out prescribed eligibility criteria for the following works. He details may be seen on tie DIPR web site and tenders can be downloaded from website <http://eproc.rajesthan.gov.in>

Bidder who wash to participate in online bidding will have to procure digital certificate as per IT Act-2000 to sign their electronic bids. Offers which are not digitally signed will not be accepted. Bidder shall submit their offer in Electronic format on above mentioned website.

Work detail of NIT	NIT No 20/2021-22
NIB No	PHE2122A3A183
UBN No	PHE2122WSOB06977
Available/Submission of tender document at website	8.9.2021 To 18:00 Hrs up to 29.9.2021 up to 18:Hrs
Opening of PQ tender	30.09.2021 to 16:00 Hrs.

Submission of Rupees 50 stamp paper original physically on dated 30-09-2021 up to 13:30 Hrs. निविदा पत्रच वेबसाईट <http://eproc.rajesthan.gov.in> पर देख के वाचनलोक फिले जा सकने है। सर्वेसह राशि एंव टेन्डर राशि ई फालन के मायम से जमा फिले जावे।

Sd/-  
Superintending Engineer  
PHED Circle Tonk

RO No.-: DIPRC/9082/2021

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE**

**Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)**

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-IV, Northern Railway, Delhi Division for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender on prescribed form for the following work.

1. Name of work with its location	1. Crossing of 600mm dia Carrier Pipeline through 1000mm and 1200mm dia casing pipelines for sewerage across Railway Track at KM 10/2-3 between PPDE and Siwana stations on JHI-PNP section under ADEN/JHI. (NIT 07-W-IV-21-22)
2. Approx. cost of work	1. Rs. 1,36,26,803.64
3. Earnest money	Nil
4. Date and Time of submission of tender and opening of tender	Bidding Start date Up to 15:00 hrs. on 21.09.2021 opening of e-Tender at 15:00 hrs. on 05.10.2021.
5. Website particulars, published e-tender, notice location etc. complete details of tender can be seen and website where the tender form can be downloaded	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

No. 128-W/260/Tender Notice/NIT 07-W-IV/21-22 Date : 09.09.2021 2031/2021

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**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**



General public is hereby informed that this person **Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 33 Years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Shallow, Built: Medium, Wearing: Unknown** was found Dead at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, on 04.09.2021.

In this regard a DD No. 29A, dated 04.09.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this dead person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this dead person may kindly inform to the following.

**SHO**  
**P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi**  
**Ph.- 011-24106346, 7065036231**

**DP/828/SW/2021**

## Release of pending export incentive dues to help ease liquidity, boost shipments: Exporters

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

The Government's decision to release the pending export incentive dues worth ₹ 56,027 crore will help the sector in increasing competitiveness and easing liquidity crunch, according to exporters.

The Plastics Export Promotion Council of India (Plexconcil) Chairman Arvind Goenka said the release of MEIS (merchandise export from India scheme) incentives of the past two years will be a "great help and support to exporters".

It is estimated that more than ₹2,000 crore will be released to plastic processors, Goenka said, expressing hope that FIBC (flexible intermediate bulk container) bags too would be covered under the announcement as its exports are on a downward trend since MEIS was removed.

The government on Thursday said it will release ₹56,027 crore to exporters

India's merchandise exports to touch \$98 billion during Q2 of FY 21-22

**Chennai:**Export-Import Bank of India (India Exim Bank) on Friday said it forecasts India's total merchandise exports to \$98.45 billion for the second quarter of FY22. According to India Exim Bank, India's merchandise exports during the second quarter of FY22 is expected to be \$98.45 billion and non-oil exports to be \$85.63 billion as against \$74.02 billion and \$66.73 billion respectively logged during the previous year corresponding period.

**IANS**

against pending tax refunds under different incentive schemes for outbound ship-

FPIs net investment of ₹7,575 cr in September so far

**New Delhi:**Foreign portfolio investors (FPI) have so far made a total net investment of ₹7,575 crore in India so far in September, as per NSDL data.

The net investment in the equities segment stood at ₹4,385 crore, while that in the debt segment stood at ₹3,220 crore, including those debt investments made through VRR.

However, hybrid securities, consisting of the investments in REITs and InvITs, have witnessed a net outflow of ₹30 crore.

**IANS**

ments. The amount will be disbursed to more than 45,000 exporters.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION OF PLEDGED ASSETS BEING GOLD ORNAMENTS						
THE BORROWERS, IN SPECIFIC AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE GOLD ORNAMENTS PLEDGED IN THE BELOW ACCOUNTS IS PROPOSED TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE AXIS BANK AT THE BELOW MENTIONED BRANCH. THE BELOW MENTIONED BORROWERS HAS AVAILED THE CREDIT FACILITY FROM THE AXIS BANK LIMITED AGAINST THE PLEDGE OF GOLD ORNAMENTS ("GOLD LOAN FACILITY") IN FAVOUR OF THE BANK TOWARDS THE SECURITY. THE DEMAND NOTICES WERE ISSUED TO THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS CALLING UPON THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS TO PAY THEIR OUTSTANDING AMOUNT TOWARDS THE GOLD LOAN FACILITY AVAILED. AS THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS HAVE FAILED TO REPAY THE OUTSTANDING LOAN AMOUNT, THE BANK IS CONSTRAINED TO INVOKE THE PLEDGE AND PROPOSED TO CONDUCT AN E-AUCTION SALE OF PLEDGED GOLD ORNAMENTS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY HEREUNDER ON 21.09.2021 AT 12.30 PM TO 3.30 PM ON "AS IN WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS", "WHATEVER THERE IS" AND "NO RECOURSE BASIS". DETAILS OF BORROWERS AND OUTSTANDING AMOUNT						
SR. NO.	BRANCH NAME	CUSTOMER NAME	LOAN A/C NO.	AMOUNT OUTSTANDING	DATE OF RECALL	GROSS WEIGHT
BRANCH: ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]						
1.	ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	URMILA	920060001911050	532230	22-Jun-21	135
2.	ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	URMILA	920060049644693	426015	22-Jun-21	32.3
3.	ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	SHERE ALAM	920060052703204	313570	15-Mar-21	109.6
4.	ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	LAVA KUMAR AGRAWAL	920060051187139	249965	22-Jun-21	42.3
5.	ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	RAGHAVENDRA CHAUBEY	919060060899427	28400	25-Mar-21	10.2
BRANCH: DARYAGANJ, DELHI [DL]						
6.	DARYAGANJ, DELHI [DL]	MEESAM RAZA	919060047899404	55799	19-Jul-21	41.5
7.	DARYAGANJ, DELHI [DL]	ANIL KUMAR	920060051243941	81897	Recall Linked NPA-27-Jul-21	29
BRANCH: FARIDABAD [HR]						
8.	FARIDABAD [HR]	POOJA RANI	920060047959047	296218	26-Dec-20	14.2
BRANCH: GHAZIABAD [UP]						
9.	GHAZIABAD [UP]	JITENDER KUMAR RANA	919060020903391	48627	27-Oct-20	20
BRANCH: KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]						
10.	KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]	RAJVANT SINGH	920060053681101	211430	22-Jun-21	44.2
11.	KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]	SUNDER SINGH	920060052064994	148996	27-May-21	49.4
12.	KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]	DIMPLE SINGH	919060054903275	157077	27-Oct-20	65.8
13.	KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]	MD NAZ	920060049733573	59674	25-Mar-21	21.9
14.	KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]	ABAS ALAM	919060074767253	42622	27-Oct-20	13.9
BRANCH: LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]						
15.	LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	ANJU SAINI	920060052689001	2029433	22-Jun-21	231.7
16.	LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	VIJAY SINGH	920060016337913	179570	19-Jul-21	96.3
17.	LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	SHIVNATH SINGH	920060037121601	517956	20-May-21	187.2
18.	LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	DEV VRAT	920060012376758	87516	30-Apr-21	40.3
BRANCH: NOIDA [UP]						
19.	NOIDA [UP]	USHA	920060048530432	1084856	15-Mar-21	394.8
20.	NOIDA [UP]	PREETI BALA	921060050983397	112910	22-Jun-21	35
21.	NOIDA [UP]	BIVASH MONDAL	920060051255229	109601	22-Jun-21	29.8
22.	NOIDA [UP]	RAJ KUMAR	920060049929017	657000	22-Jun-21	73.3
23.	NOIDA [UP]	RAJ KUMAR	920060049929082	387746	22-Jun-21	107.9
24.	NOIDA [UP]	RAM PRAKASH KUMAR	919060082773765	36898	27-Oct-20	7.4
25.	NOIDA [UP]	KULDEEP SINGH	918060004036551	60814	25-Feb-20	5.5
BRANCH: ROHINI, DELHI [DL]						
26.	ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	ABHISHEK	920060014819392	58005	19-Jul-21	59.5
27.	ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	SANDEEP KUMAR	920060050994134	260734	7-Aug-21	81.4
28.	ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	LAVA KUMAR AGRAWAL	920060050561624	170780	20-May-21	58.6
BRANCH: SECTOR 10A, GURGAON [HR]						
29.	SECTOR 10A, GURGAON [HR]	NEERU RANI SARASWAT	920060050085382	27739	25-Mar-21	2.87
BRANCH: SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]						
30.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	JAGBIR	920060049802853	228783	22-Jun-21	68.3
31.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	MAYANK DIXIT	919060085136992	65102	30-Apr-21	29.1
32.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	NAMRATA MATTOO	919060065882699	895948	27-Oct-20	395.9
33.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	NARENDER KUMAR	920060006731480	352862	22-Jun-21	65.2
34.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	HARISH KUMAR	921060049757262	261586	20-May-21	83
35.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	ARUN KUMAR TARAI	920060050212597	224554	26-Dec-20	79.4
36.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	AMIT BERA	921060049667994	119679	22-Jun-21	19.4
37.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	ARUN SO OMPARKASH	919060005715588	175479	25-Feb-20	69.2
38.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	BHOLA PASWAN	919060070597467	117933	18-Jan-21	51.4
39.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	KUMAR AKASH	919060075031072	119370	25-Mar-21	59.3
40.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	MUN MUK GOGOI	919060061509684	85593	27-Oct-20	35.1
41.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	MAYANK DIXIT	919060085136992	62479	30-Apr-21	29.1
42.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	MANGAL SINGH RAWAT	918060105224354	91468	27-Oct-20	31.1
43.	SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	VIJAY SINGH	920060049597296	68453	22-Sep-20	21.9
BRANCH: SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]						
44.	SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	POONAM SINGH	920060050430753	690379	22-Jun-21	27.2
45.	SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	SHIV KUMAR	920060017781825	332810	19-Jul-21	113
46.	SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	SHIV KUMAR	921060051343446	238038	19-Jul-21	94.6
47.	SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	NITIN JINDAL	920060050791618	173036	18-Jan-21	61.1
48.	SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	JITU KUMAR SINGH	920060050081377	129000	Recall Linked NPA-27-Jul-21	46
49.	SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	ANIL KAPOOR	919060044569775	107564	25-Feb-20	30.2
50.	SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	VISHAL MEENA	919060044613050	61115	27-Oct-20	25.2
BRANCH: SHALIMAR BAGH, DELHI [DL]						
51.	SHALIMAR BAGH, DELHI [DL]	RAM KUMAR	919060091897333	40150	27-Oct-20	9.3
BRANCH: SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]						
52.	SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	KHUSHAL PREET SINGH	921060053536649	288342	20-May-21	91
53.	SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	KHUSHAL PREET SINGH	920060051310122	237922	22-Jun-21	3.2
54.	SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	RAHUL	921060053578455	706275	20-May-21	229.3
55.	SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	KANHAIYA KUMAR	921060052611982	397271	18-Jul-21	75
56.	SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	KANHAIYA KUMAR	921060053239936	351909	22-Jun-21	57.6
57.	SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	AMIT KUMAR	921060057030974	341722	22-Jun-21	71
58.	SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	RAVI KUMAR	920060038583491	186099	27-Nov-20	10.8
59.	SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	RAJESH KUMAR	919060051288135	91121	15-Mar-21	28.5
60.	SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	AJAY KUMAR	919060095748019	60000	30-Apr-21	29.5
BRANCH: TILAK NAGAR, DELHI [DL]						
61.	TILAK NAGAR, DELHI [DL]	SANDEEP KUMAR	920060050264789	106884	20-May-21	59.78
BRANCH: VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]						
62.	VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	ARVIND NAGAR	919060063021476	1770075	19-Jul-21	73
63.	VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	DINESH KUMAR	921060050170047	506958	22-Jun-21	9.6
64.	VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	AWADH BIHARI PANDEY	920060051287556	238955	22-Jun-21	38.4
65.	VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	AWADH BIHARI PANDEY	921060052888111	29326	22-Jun-21	15.2
66.	VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	NASIM	920060051603741	190788	26-Dec-20	69
67.	VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	SANTOSH KUMAR	919060093830389	137004	30-Apr-21	29.4
68.	VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	ADITYA GANJOO	920060052307864	44361	22-Jun-21	14
69.	VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	DHEERENDRA SINGH SURYAVANSHI	920060050462255	36747	19-Jul-21	13.2
BRANCH: VIKASPURI, NEW DELHI [DL]						
70.	VIKASPURI, NEW DELHI [DL]	JOSEPH	920060050001077	652642	20-May-21	207.3
71.	VIKASPURI, NEW DELHI [DL]	AMIT KUMAR KASHYAP	920060052898171	336950	25-Mar-21	100.5
72.	VIKASPURI, NEW DELHI [DL]	ARUN ANAND	919060021952963	50580	27-Nov-20	23.5

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PLACE: DELHI

DATE: 11-09-2021

AUTHORIZED OFFICER

AXIS BANK LTD.







**TRAVELBUG**



# A MOUTHFUL OF SEA

Walking from Coogee to Bondi Beach, AKASH AGRAWAL revels in the breathtaking oceanic views

We're taking the reverse route," said Niyati, my cousin and tour guide for the day, as we trekked to Bondi Beach. We left from Wolli Creek to undertake one of Sydney's must-take coastal walks, after eating a croissant and orange juice for breakfast. We started our walk from Coogee, where most people end the trail. A sun-flushed hiker grinned at me on his way up as I squeezed past in the opposite direction. Wading through stories, stairs and ocean cliffs, Sydney's architectural marvels — the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge — loomed up as my first two panoramic views. I was soon convinced that a 10-km long trek down a coastal hill might be worth all the hassle. If honesty was something to abide by, the idea of walking for six km wasn't something that I looked forward to since I don't particularly enjoy long walks. It was here that Niyati with many scintillating arguments clinched the deal.

A spoiler: I couldn't agree more when she said that the trek offered striking geology, some no-fuss encounters with nature, epic Australian landscapes, dramatic cliff tops and deep oceanic bays. In short, a photographer's paradise! I made sure that my camera batteries were well-charged the night before.

The route that one takes depends upon one's convenience. The one from Bondi to Coogee Beach is more popular even though we did it the other way round.

## THE JOURNEY TOWARDS THE END

Tucked within Sydney's eastern suburbs, the easiest way to reach Coogee is to take a bus to the nearby stations — the Central or the Green Square. We chose the former and boarded bus number 372. One can also book a cab but it weighs a little heavy on the pocket.



We got down the bus and headed towards the trail and walked past a series of cafes before reaching the staircase. The expanse of neon blue lagoon dominates the sight as far as the eyes can see. Naturally, it makes it to all travellers' social media profiles. Although the primary reason for taking the reverse route was a match that we had to catch later at the SCG stadium near Bondi beach, we soon realised that the other trail would have been slightly tougher. Taking the Coogee to Bondi route saved us some slack. The trail is full of boardwalks but some areas are rocky as well.

**AN OASIS OF JOY**  
A raised boardwalk, a small wetlands area and an

underwater trail took us to Gordon's Bay, a secluded oasis near Clovelly's Beach. Since we had just begun the journey, I clicked a few photographs of the stunning blue water and carried on. The Bay can only be accessed via the coastal walkway and I felt grateful to have taken it.

The path towards Clovelly Beach was steeper (and if taken from Bondi to Coogee, this could probably turn out to be the steepest point). There is a concrete platform to stroll along the waterside or plunge into the ocean.

## BOLLYWOOD WAS HERE & (NATURALLY) SO WAS I

Traipsing through a graveyard may not be everyone's idea of fun. People like me



(Clockwise from top left): Steep staircase on the way to Clovelly Beach; Waverly Cemetery; the beachside cafes have a variety of food and drinks; the sea makes for a perfect backdrop for pictures; Bondi Beach and Aamir Khan during the shoot of Tanhayee which has made the spot popular with Indian tourists



**the trek offered striking geology, some no-fuss encounters with nature, epic Australian landscapes, dramatic cliff tops and deep oceanic bays. In short, a photographer's paradise**

convinced me to make the trek. However, I didn't know the exact scene. Once, we reached the cemetery, the song Tanhayee, starring Aamir Khan as Akash in the film, practically started playing in my head on a loop. This was certainly the highlight of this trek! Coming across something related to Bollywood in a foreign land hits the sweet spot, doesn't it? I now knew why the Waverly Cemetery is a hotspot on the city's tourism map for Indian visitors.

## AROUND THE LAST MILE

Our next stop was Bronte Beach, one of the larger beaches, on this route. It offered a resting park for the passersby

to relax, drink and admire the landscape. It was a bright, sunny afternoon so sunbathing sessions and family picnics seemed to be the order of the day. We then reached Tamarama Beach, the smallest and, one of Sydney's favourites. The beach is famous for Bondi Icebergs, an outdoor swimming pool, alongside the shore.

We finally came to the vantage point which revealed the Bondi beach in all its glory. My camera was poised to click a bird's eye view of the coast. But I was unprepared for the large swathe of the ocean with its mix of beauty and biology. It was a perfectly calming moment irrespective of the surging crowd. The phrase, 'happiness is found in the most unexpected places' holds true for such moments. Finally, exhausted, but thrilled by the walk, we headed straight to grab a bite at the nearby cafes.

If I were to list the 'Top 10 things to do in Sydney', this coastal walk would top the chart. If one prefers seaside runs, this route cannot be missed. And if one seeks for the uncertain and the unusual, like me, this should figure in your go-to destination.



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# Did Shastri, Kohli pay enough heed to BCCI’s health protocols?

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The cancellation of the fifth Test between India and England at Old Trafford on Friday due to a Covid-19 outbreak in the visitors’ camp has led to questions being raised over head coach Ravi Shastri’s book release function in London where health safety protocols went for a toss.

It was after that book release event at a five-star facility ahead of the fourth Test that Shastri along with bowling coach Bharat Arun, fielding coach R Sridhar and physio Nitin Patel tested positive. All of them were fully vaccinated.

However, things took a turn for the worst when assistant physio Yogesh Parmar was found positive and apprehensive Indian team decided against taking the field in the match which was called off two hours before toss.

Indian captain Virat Kohli and his teammates were present at the function where outside guests were also allowed and most of them were unmasked owing to relaxation of rules across the United Kingdom.

It is learnt that neither Shastri nor Kohli took any written permission from the BCCI on attending the function at the team hotel.

“No permission was sought either from president (Sourav Ganguly) or from the secretary (Jay Shah). Perhaps they might have thought that since health safety rules have been relaxed in the UK, they didn’t need permission,” a senior BCCI official said.

This brings into focus, the role of team’s administrative manager Girish Dongre, whose job is to ensure that all paper work and necessary protocols are in place for



events like these.

“There is very little chance that Shastri and Kohli will be penalised for this act of theirs with the T20 World Cup around the corner (in October). Also Shastri is leaving for good after that.

“Kohli is the captain. May be a rap on the knuckles at best. May be it’s good time to ask Dongre that what’s his domain of work as an administrative manager,” the official said.

It is now an open secret that skipper Virat Kohli led the players in their demand for cancellation of the match and they were successful in having their way after several rounds of talks with BCCI brass as well as England Cricket Board Chief Executive Tom Harrison who tried to convince a “visibly scared Indian skipper”.

Kohli, however, would just not relent.

“The BCCI wanted them to play but such were the anxiety levels among some notable senior players that both boards were concerned about their



## Wasn’t outbreak of Covid, it was perception of what might happen that caused cancellation: ECB CEO

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

A “gutted” England Cricket Board (ECB) CEO Tom Harrison on Friday said it was the Indian players’ anxiety over “what might happen” and not the Covid-19 outbreak itself that caused the cancellation of the fifth and final Test here even though all efforts were made to comfort the visitors.

Harrison said the develop-

ments of the past couple of days have been devastating and everything necessary was done to convince the Indian players, who were spooked by assistant physio Yogesh Parmar’s positive Covid-19 test on Thursday and refused to take the field.

“It’s a really sad day, my heart goes out to fans. We are absolutely gutted. Internationally this game gets

mental health. One can understand that they were scared of another 10-day isolation and bubble life,” the official said.

“But the point here is that why didn’t they apply common sense when they agreed to attend Shastri’s book launch where outsiders were allowed?” he asked.

That event is now being seen as a super spreader affecting four support staff members apart from Shastri.

So the question that is now being asked in the BCCI corridors is whether secretary Jay Shah’s letter asking the team to avoid crowds after Rishabh Pant tested positive during the break after the World Test Championship final, was at all taken seriously? In that particular letter, Shah had asked the players not to attend crowded events like the Wimbledon and the European Cup football, where some of the members of the contingent were seen.

“Yes, there has been relaxation in the UK but they could have avoided this gathering of outsiders. These people attended social gatherings and then when there was a case, they got scared,” he said.

## Proposed Test could be one-off: Harrison

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

The Test match that BCCI has proposed to play in lieu of the cancelled fifth Test here would be a one-off game, England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) chief executive Tom Harrison said on Friday. “No, I think it’s a stand-alone situation. We have been offered a few other options, probably need to take a look (at those),” Harrison told *Sky Sports* when asked whether it would be a stand-alone game or the series-decider.

“The glass half full version of it is that the prospects of playing a one off Test match against India as a focal point on this ground, let’s try to deliver on that. It can be the only good news that comes out of a day like today,” he added.

If the rescheduled match is a one-off engagement than India would be deemed winners of the series as it stands right now, something that has not been officially confirmed yet.

The most likely window for the rescheduled game is July next year when India would be here for a limited-overs’ assignment.

## Delhi capable to perform even better in 2nd half of IPL: Smith

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Capitals batsman Steve Smith says his Indian Premier League side will have to play their best cricket in the second half of this year’s cash-rich T20 tournament if they want to make it to the final.

With 12 points from six wins out of eight games, DC are currently at the top of the standings.

Smith believes the Rishabh Pant-led team has the potential to do even better in the second half of the IPL to be played in UAE from September 19 to October 15.

“We have to pick up from where we left off. We were playing some really good cricket, getting the results we were after.

And I think

we can do even better so we should be playing our best cricket in the back end of the tournament.

“You have to play well enough to get to the final, but hopefully, we can play our best cricket in the final,” the 32-year-old Australian said in a DC release.

He said the team will certainly have to rebuild itself for the remainder of the IPL.

“It’s been a few months since we have played together so we have to build again. We have a great squad and we have Shreyas Iyer back in the side as well, which adds a lot more to us. He’s a quality player and good to see him back out in the park.”



## MI, CSK, Punjab players to fly commercial; 6-day quarantine

**Dubai:** Mumbai Indians stars including skipper Rohit Sharma are leaving for Dubai on Saturday while CSK and Punjab Kings have also made individual travel arrangements with BCCI’s plans for a charter flight on September 15 aborted after cancellation of the fifth Test. For MI, the other players who would be leaving for Dubai are Jasprit Bumrah and Suryakumar Yadav; Ravindra Jadeja, Cheteshwar Pujara, Shardul Thakur, Moeen Ali and Sam Curran are part of the CSK squad and captain K L Rahul, Mayank Agarwal, Mohammad Shami and Dawid Malan are the Punjab players who are in Manchester. “The BCCI isn’t arranging any charter flights since the Test match has been cancelled. So every franchise is making their own travel arrangement. Since they are all flying commercial, they will be doing six-days of room quarantine,” a senior IPL official said.

PTI

# Messi breaks Pele’s record

AFP ■ BUENOS AIRES

Lionel Messi scored a hat-trick to overtake Pele as the top international goalscorer in South American football history on Thursday as Argentina cruised to a 3-0 victory over Bolivia in their 2022 World Cup qualifier.

Messi pounced for his 77th, 78th and 79th international goals to keep Argentina firmly on course for a place at next year’s finals in Qatar against a Bolivia team languishing near the foot of the table.

The 34-year-old Paris Saint-Germain forward, making his 153rd appearance for Argentina, drew level with Pele’s longstanding mark of 77 goals in the 14th minute, nutmegging a defender and then curling a sublime shot past Bolivia goalkeeper Carlos Lampe.

The Argentina captain then moved one clear of Pele in the 64th minute with his second of the night, surging into the Bolivian box and playing a one-two with Lautaro Martinez before tucking away a finish from close range.

Messi completed the seventh international hat-trick of his career two minutes from time, burying a rebound from close range after a shot from the edge of the area was only parried by Lampe.

“I’ve waited a long time for this,” an emotional Messi said afterwards. “Now I’m going to enjoy it, it’s a unique moment after waiting so long. I am very happy,” he added.

The former Barcelona star’s great rival Cristiano Ronaldo holds the outright record for goals scored in international football with 111 from 180 games

## BRAZIL STAY PERFECT

Elsewhere leaders Brazil maintained their 100 percent qualifying record with a 2-0 win over Peru in Recife.

Everton Ribeiro and Neymar scored the goals for an under-strength Brazil, who were missing nine Premier League stars.

Brazil have now won all eight of their qualifying games and have 24 points.

Uruguay moved into third place in the standings with 15 points after an injury-time winner from Gaston Pereiro gave them a 1-0 win over Ecuador.

Ecuador are fourth on 13 points, level with Colombia who advanced up the table with a convincing 3-1 win over Chile.

## CR7 TO PLAY TODAY

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has revealed Cristiano Ronaldo will make his first Manchester United appearance since his blockbuster move from Juventus when Newcastle visit Old Trafford on Saturday.

United manager Solskjaer confirmed on Friday that Ronaldo would play at least some part in the Premier League clash with Newcastle but it remains to be seen whether the five-time Ballon d’Or winner will start or come off the bench.

“He’s been having a good pre-season with Juventus, he’s played for the national team, he’s had a good week with us here,” Solskjaer said.

“He will definitely be on the pitch at some point, that’s for sure.”



# Proteas down SL in T20 opener

AFP ■ COLOMBO

Disciplined bowling and a quickfire 48 by Aiden Markram helped South Africa beat Sri Lanka by 28 runs in the first T20I on Friday.

Markram’s 33-ball knock guided South Africa to 163-5,



a total they defended by restricting Sri Lanka to 135-6 to lead the three-match series 1-0 in Colombo.

Skipper and left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj led the bowling with impressive figures of 1-19 on his T20 debut to flatten the Sri Lankan batting despite a career-best unbeaten 66 by Dinesh Chandimal.

Markram set up victory with his attacking innings laced with one four and two sixes to add to the South African total after they elected to bat first.

Openers Quinton de Kock (36) and Reeza Hendricks (38) set the tone with a stand of 73 before losing their wickets to leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga.

Markram put on 65 runs off 35 balls for the fourth wicket with David Miller, who hit 26 off 15 deliveries, to take the attack to the opposition bowlers.

Sri Lanka lost wickets at regular intervals in their chase with Avishka Fernando run out for 11 and Maharaj getting Bhanuka Rajapaksa out lbw for nought.

Chandimal then played a valiant innings to record his sixth T20 half-century and surpass his previous best of 58. He hit five fours and two sixes in his 54-ball knock.

The second match is on Sunday at the same venue.

## Do not isolate us from Int’l cricket: ACB CEO to CA

**Kabul:** Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) CEO Hamid Shinwari on Friday asked Cricket Australia (CA) to reconsider its decision not to host its men’s team for a Test in November after the Taliban banned women from playing sport, saying such a move will only isolate the strife-torn country. In a statement, ACB CEO Hamid Shinwari expressed “shock and immense disappointment” at the potential cancellation of the Australia-Afghanistan Test, which it described as “sudden and unexpected”.

The ACB CEO said there is an alternative to cancelling this “significant, history making Test match”. But, instead of offering any such alternative, the ACB said it is “powerless to change the culture and religious environment of

Afghanistan.”

“We ask Cricket Australia and the whole cricketing world to keep the door open for us, walk with us, do not isolate us and avoid penalising us for our cultural and religious environment,” Shinwari said.

“We accept that CA sees cricket as ‘a sport for all and we support the game unequivocally for women at every level’.

“We understand, too, why ‘if recent media reports that women’s cricket will not be supported in Afghanistan are substantiated’, CA might believe they have ‘no alternative’ but to refuse to host the scheduled Test match,” he said.

Shinwari said it fears that if other countries follow CA, then Afghanistan will be alienated from the cricket world and the game may cease to exist in the country. PTI

# Raducanu vs Fernandez in all-teen US Open final

AFP ■ NEW YORK

British 18-year-old qualifier Emma Raducanu and Canadian 19-year-old Leylah Fernandez completed astonishing runs to their historic first Grand Slam final on Thursday at the US Open.

Raducanu became the first qualifier to ever reach a Grand Slam final, and the youngest Slam finalist in 17 years, by ousting Greek 17th seed Maria Sakkari 6-1, 6-4.

“I’m in the



final and I can’t actually believe it,” Raducanu said.

Fernandez, a 73rd-ranked left-hander, beat second seed Aryna Sabalenka 7-6 (7/3), 4-6, 6-4, for her third Open win over a top-five rival, a feat not

seen at a Slam since Serena Williams at Wimbledon in 2012.

“Now I can say I’ve done a pretty good job of achieving my dreams,” Fernandez said.

In a real-life epic as amaz-

ing as any fairy-tale, the teen prodigies will meet on Saturday at Arthur Ashe Stadium, where one of them will claim her first Grand Slam title.

“Is there any expectation?” Raducanu said. “I’m a qualifier so technically on paper there’s no pressure on me.”

It’s the first Slam final between teens since 17-year-old Williams beat 18-year-old Martina Hingis at the 1999 US Open, and just the eighth all-teen Slam final in the Open era (since 1968).

“I just want to play a final,” Fernandez said. “I’m going to enjoy my victory and worry about it tomorrow.”

Raducanu is the youngest Slam finalist since 17-year-old Maria Sharapova won at Wimbledon in 2004.

She became only the second woman ranked outside the top 100 to reach a US Open final after unranked Kim Clijsters came out of retirement and won the 2009 US Open.

“Today I wasn’t thinking about any-

one else except for myself,” Raducanu said.

Raducanu is trying to become the first British woman to win a Grand Slam title since Virginia Wade at Wimbledon in 1977 and the first British woman to win the US Open since Wade in 1968.

Fernandez, who turned 19 on Monday, had earlier ousted defending champion Naomi Osaka and fifth-seeded Elna Svitolina before Sabalenka, 23, become her third top-five victim.

“I had opportunities but I didn’t use them in the key moments,” Sabalenka said. “I didn’t play well. She deserved this win.”

Raducanu could become the first US Open champion not to lose a set since Serena Williams in 2014.

