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Rupani quits for 'dynamic' CM Taliban cancel Govt

BJP's course correction in Gujarat before polls

A year before the high-stake State Assembly elections, Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani resigned on Saturday to make way for a new face. The surprise decision is seen as the acknowledgment of the fact that Rupani's political management had left the State unit in disarray, the BJP was facing new challenges from the Aam Aadmi Party, a well-entrenched spirited Congress, and the demand of influential "patidar" community to have a dominant share in the State power.

Rupani, hailing from the numerical smaller Jain community, submitted his resignation to Governor Acharya Devvrat in the afternoon and later said that he had "willingly" stepped down from the pos after a decision in this regard was taken by the party in the "larger interest of Gujarat".

Rupani was sworn-in as State Chief Minister in December 2017.

BJP's legislature party meeting is to take place on Sunday morning when a new name for the Chief Minister could be announced, according to party sources.

The probable names for the Chief Minister from the "patidar" community include Union

Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, who was sworn in as the Union Health Minister in July, Deputy State Chief Minister Nitin Patel, BJP Rajva Sabha member Parshottam, former State Home Minister Gordhan Zadafia, BJP administrator in Dadar Nagar Haveli Praful Khoda Patel, and State Minister RC Faldu. Patels, dominate the Saurashtra region of Gujarat.

Besides these names, a non-patidar State BJP president and Lok Sabha member CR Patil, under whom BJP scored well in local elections, is also a potential candidate

Mandaviya, who landed in Ahmedabad soon after Rupani's resignation and interacted with State leaders, maintained "he is not in the race".

However, it is understood that the BJP leadership in Delhi first decided on Rupani's successor before directing him to put in his papers. "The media can do as much kite flying as it wants. The name must have been finalised," said a senior

Rupani was found short of expectations during the peak of the Covid-19 second wave. His grip of the bureaucracy was also questionable as also his ability to check infighting in the



Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani submits his resignation letter to Governor Acharya Devvrat at Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar

"It has been a five-year journey for the development of Gujarat... under guidance of PM Modi. Now, to further develop the State, with new energy and power, I have decided to resign as Chief Minister," said Rupani.

"It is well known that the BJP, as a party, keeps changing as per requirements... it is a speciality of our party that every worker delivers to the fullest, and I too will continue to work for the party with the same energy," he said.

With 27 years ant-incumbency staring in the face of the BJP, the party leadership has decided to do course correction well in time for the Assembly

polls. The Congress wrested around 19 seats from the BJP in the last Assembly polls. The AAP is also making determined forays in the State by winning 27 seats in Surat municipal Corporation polls.

Under the situation, the BJP leadership has decided to hand over the command of the Prime Minister's home State to a more "dynamic" leader who could carve-out a fresh strategy to win Assembly polls in December next year.

"Many Ministers will make exit and new faces will find place in the Cabinet under a new CM," sources said.

Just before Rupani's resig-

nation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday morning virtually inaugurated "Patidar" promoted Girl's hostel in Ahmadabad as an indication that the Patels will be given more weight in the State.

The BJP has been in CM changing spree as before Rupani, it has organised exit of Karnataka CM BS Yediyurappa and shifted two CMs in Uttarakhand — Tirath Singh Rawat and Trivendra Singh Rawat — to ensure that antiincumbency doesn't rise until the next Assembly polls. Uttarakhand is due for elections early next year while Karnataka in 2023

inauguration on 9/11

On 20th anniv of attacks, Taliban flag flies at Prez **Palace, American Embassy in Kabul**

AGENCIES ■ KABUL/NEW YORK

The Taliban cancelled the I inauguration ceremony of their new Afghanistan Government that was earlier scheduled for Saturday, the 20th anniversary of 9/11, after the group was pressurised by its

allies against the plan.
The 9/11 terror attacks had killed nearly 3,000 people in the US.

A member of Afghanistan Government's cultural commission, Inamullah Samangani on Twitter said, "The inauguration ceremony of the new Afghan Government was cancelled a few days ago. In order not to confuse people further, the leadership of the Islamic Emirate announced the part of the Cabinet, and it has already

started to work."

The Taliban had invited Russia, Iran, China, Qatar and Pakistan to the inaugural ceremony. However, Moscow reportedly informed Qatar, the go-between for Western



Kabul University, Afghanistan, on Saturday

nations and the new Kabul government, that it would not participate in the inauguration event if it's held on the anniversary of 9/11.

The Taliban flag waved over the Afghan Presidential Palace the same day the US and the world marked the 20th anniversary of the September 11 attacks.

The milestone anniversary on Saturday takes place just weeks after the chaotic US withdrawal from Afghanistan and the return to power of the Taliban, the faction that sheltered the Muslim militant group founded by Osama bin Laden that carried out the

The Taliban flag was raised on Friday and could be seen waving over the Presidential Palace in Kabul on Saturday. The militant group also painted their white backdrop flag on the wall of the US Embassy building.

Americans solemnly marked the 20th anniversary of 9/11 on Saturday, remembering the dead, invoking the heroes and taking stock of the aftermath just weeks after the bloody end of the Afghanistan war that was launched in response to the terror attacks.

The US is now concerned that al-Qaida, the terror network behind 9/11, may regroup in Afghanistan.

Afghan situation 'central | Char Dham Purohits suspend stir concerns' for India, Aus

Both countries call for a free, inclusive **Indo-Pacific region**

India and Australia on Saturday stressed the need for fighting terrorism without compromise and said the situation in Afghanistan is a matter of "central concern" for both the countries. They also called for a free-open and inclusive Indo-Pacific region.

These were the main focus of the first 2+2 dialogue between the foreign and Defence Ministers of India and Australia here.

S Jaishankar and Rajnath Singh also held talks on the strategic and security architecture between the two countries with their respective counterparts Marise Payne and Peter Dutton. The leaders also reviewed their ongoing fight against the corona pandemic.

Sharing the outcome of the talks with the media after



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Australian Defence Minister Peter Dutton and Foreign Affairs Minister Marise Payne in New Delhi on Saturday

the talks, Rajnath said the partnership between India and Australia was based on shared vision of free, open, inclusive and prosperous Indo-Pacific

He said during the talks, a rules-based order was emphasised upon.

This came in the backdrop of China asserting itself in the

Indo-Pacific region and repeatedly opposing the Quad combine including India, Australia, Japan and the US. The Quad nations recently held Malabar series of naval exercise in the Western Pacific. Last year, Malabar exercise of the Quad nations was held off the Indian

Continued on Page 4

after CM promises to form panel

n a major breakthrough in the protracted impasse between the Uttarakhand Government and Teerth Devasthanam Dham Management board and start of Char Dham Yatra, the Teerth Purohits have suspended their agitation till October 30 after meeting Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Saturday.

A delegation of the Teerth Purohits, stakeholder Mahapanchayat Samiti met Purohits, Dhami at his residence on Saturday morning. Talking to the delegation, the CM said that the Char Dhams are the centre of the faith and the Government is working in the direction of strengthening the infrastructure facilities in the temples. He assured them that the Government was trying to start the Char Dham Yatra.

Dhami categorically said that the traditional rights of the stakeholders would not be allowed to be affected. He said



that the high-level committee would submit its report to the Government after listening to the Teerth Purohits. Dhami said that two Purohits, each from all the four Dhams, would be included in the committee.

He said that the State Government would take an appropriate decision after the committee submits its report. Later talking to the media,

convener of Mahapanchayat Suresh Semwal said that the CM has assured them that eight members of the

Teerth Purohits would be included in the high-powered committee and Government would take a decision based on the report of this committee. Semwal said that the Mahapanchayat has decided to suspend its agitation till October 30. Semwal thanked the CM for taking up their matter seriously.

Mahapanchayat Samiti member Umesh Sati said that interaction with the CM took place in a positive environment. Continued on Page 4

Farmers end Karnal protest after Govt orders judicial probe

IAS officer sent on leave till probe report comes within a month

PNS CHANDIGARH

After the Haryana Government on Saturday ordered a judicial probe into last month's clash between farmers and police and sent the IAS officer who is at the centre of a row over his remark "break the heads of farmers" on leave, farmers called off their five-day long sit-in outside the Karnal district headquarters.

Haryana Additional Chief Secretary Devender Singh said the probe will be conducted by a retired judge and will be completed within a month. SDM Avush Sinha will remain on leave during the time, he said.

A joint Press conference by Haryana Government officials and farmer leader Gurnam

Singh Chaduni was held in Karnal after both sides reached an agreement, leading to the was an indication of a possible ending of the impasse between the farmers and the Karnal administration on Friday evening itself as after a marathon meeting both sides had said that it was held in a

cordial atmosphere. About 10 protesters were hurt in the clash with police in Karnal on August 28 when they tried to march towards the venue of a BJP meeting. Sinha, a 2018-batch IAS officer, was caught on video allegedly telling policemen to "break the heads" of farmers if they

cross the line. Following the incident, farmers had been demanding the suspension of Sinha. On September 2, he was transferred out of Karnal and posted as Additional Secretary of the Citizen Resources

Information Department.

CAPSULE

SOME MLAS & LEADERS OF CONG TO JOIN BJP **Dehradun:** After roping in the

independent MLA from Dhanaulti, Pritam Singh Panwar, the ruling BJP is now all set to inflict damage on the Congress party by poaching its MLAs and leaders. It is learnt that the MLA from Purola in Uttarkashi district Raikumar is all set to join the BJP. He has been camping in Delhi from last few days and was to join the saffron party in presence of central leaders on Saturday, However the joining was deferred at the last moment as the State unit of BJP wants to keep the possible dissidence the entry Rajkumar could trigger under check

EX-K'TAKA CM CONDEMNS DEMOLITION OF TEMPLE Bengaluru: Former Karnataka

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday condemned the demolition of an 'ancient' Hindu temple at Nanjangud in Mysuru district and said the BJP Government should have consulted the local residents

Delhi deluged, knee-deep water at IGI Airport **Highest rainfall in 46 years chokes**



Staff workers sweep a waterlogged floor at the Indira Gandhi International Airport

City roads, throws life out of gear

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

highly unusual rainfall in Angniy unusua ramana Delhi on Saturday, the highest in 46 years and almost double the precipitation recorded last year, threw traffic movement and daily life of Delhiites in complete disarray.

national Capital remained waterlogged, railway tracks submerged and Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport flooded with knee-deep water.

A bus with 40 passengers got trapped at a flooded underpass of Palam flyover, towards airport road on Saturday morning to be later rescued by the fire department. Another 18 passengers got trapped in a tempo and a truck and were

rescued from the waterlogged

area of outer Delhi's Mundka. Netizens posted pictures and videos of waterlogged streets on social media. In a

video on Twitter purportedly showing waterlogging in Madhu Vihar, some DTC cluster buses could be seen standing in the water and other commuters manoeuvring their vehicles through the inundated road.

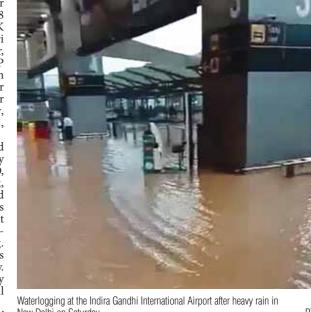
Due to heavy rainfall, an old building in Delhi's Narela area, which was declared a dangerous structure by civic authorities, also collapsed. However, no one was injured in the incident.

As many as 262 waterlogging complaints were received by the Public Works Department (PWD) and civic agencies till evening.

Some of the key areas that witnessed heavy waterlogging included Ring Road near WHO building, ITO, NH-48 (Airport road), Moti Bagh, RK Puram, Madhu Vihar, Hari Nagar, Rohtak Road, Badarpur, Som Vihar, Ring Road near IP Station, Vikas Marg, Sangam Vihar, Mehrauli-Badarpur Road, Pul Prahladpur Underpass, Mahipalpur, Munirka, Rajpur Khurd, Nangloi and Kirari.

Waterlogging also resulted in heavy traffic jams at busy road stretches, including ITO, Ring Road, Mukarba Chowk, Azadpur, Pul Prahladpur and Rohtak Road. The authorities had to shut traffic movement on the Pul Prahladpur underpass due to waterlogging. Nearly 10 instances of trees falling were reported in the city.

According to IMD, the city recorded 117.9 mm rainfall from 5:30 am to 2:30 pm. Continued on Page 4





'I was excited to play a different role'

CHHAVI PANDEY who is playing Goddess Lakshmi in SAB TV's Shubh Laabh, talks to SUPRIYA RAMESH about her experience of taking up a new role and the challenges which came along



■ What is Shubh Laabh about? The show has a very different concept, it is not a micro show or a normal daily soap. People would be able to relate to the show so much as it is made keeping in mind the daily hustle of life. I am playing the role of Goddess Lakshmi and my role will not just be to guide the main character Savita (Geetanjali Tikekar) but our Indian audience too. The show is full of messages for people. An example would be that through this we will tell people that God is not responsible for the good and the bad in our lives, it is our deeds. A lot of people would be able to connect themselves with this show, it might be for their betterment as people would be able to see things positively.

■ What made you say yes to the role?

It is a very positive role to play. There have been instances in my life when things have actually worked out in my favour and I think it is only because of my belief in God who listened to my prayers. And I have always been very grateful for everything in life. So, I could relate to the show myself. Being an actress, I have played different characters on TV. This was the first time I was very excited to play something really different. Another reason is that I love SAB TV shows, which I feel are very light and have good concepts and I haven't done anything of that sort till now. So, I was pretty excited and on top of that the producers are very humble and positive people to work with. It is always good to say yes to something different.

■ How different is your role from the previous serials? This one is quite challenging. Portraying a character on screen my pillar.

wearing EarPods. Does that mean you are a modern-day Goddess?

relate it to God.

of time and practice.

■ How different was it to shoot in a pandemic?

Shooting in a pandemic is quite as smoothly as they used to. unit due to safety protocols. more than just shooting. Now, we do have fun but we don't feel our minds we all fear the virus.

hand my mother has always supported me through it. She is

■ In the trailer, you are seen

It is just an element we have added to the show because samay ke saath parivartan zaroori hai. You can say that we have used it to denote that God is listening to everything. Nowadays, people are well equipped with technology and this was one way we could also

■ This is the second time that you will be acting as a Goddess for a serial. How tough or easy was it for you to adapt to a role of a different Goddess? I have played Parvati before in Namah, which was a completely mythological show. Both the characters are equally difficult and took the same efforts and hardwork to portray on screen. There are some characters for which you don't have to practice very hard because you have seen them in real life and have experienced something or the other but playing as someone you have never seen becomes little challenging as you have to set your mind in such a way that you can feel the character and act accordingly, which takes a lot

a task as things are not running People have been reduced in the Before, shooting was much free because somewhere back in

Plan Your Sunday

POEMS INDIA- THE STAGE IS YOURS

Doems India is proud to be a platform that inhabits poets and writers beyond geographical boundaries and time zones. We space as a first space and support to artists who stand out in the world of words and a

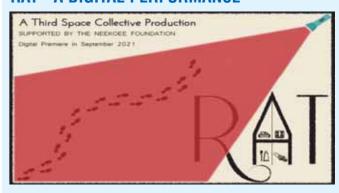
poetic experience to audiences. The Stage is Yours, is yet another footstep to make poetry break free and bring the finest quality of the written word of art to the stage. In this bi-monthly, online poetry showcase, our foremost aim



stands to be able to allow the performers a real-time experience of being keenly listened to in a literary environment. The event encompasses a versatile ensemble of creative voices and a wide array of perspectives that will leave you inspired. People outside the world of poetry can join in as an audience to witness a poetically rich evening from the comfort of their homes. The spoken word event is an effort to make the stage inclusive and accessible to all individuals from diverse backgrounds and journeys

What: Theatre and Arts Where: Online When: September 12, 2021 Time: 5 pm

RAT - A DIGITAL PERFORMANCE



Bertolt Brecht's radical text 'Fear and Misery of The Third Reich' is a disquieting vision of how authoritarianism percolates into people's lives. Our project reimagines parts of this work by seeing it through the lens of the objects that populate the text's world.

'Rat' explores how the information we share with others defines our relationship with them, how our ability to feel secure in our homes depends upon the words that leave our mouths, sometimes unknowingly. What are the dynamics of information and information sharing in private relationships? It probes into the machinery of surveillance- its designers, its channels and its subjects.

In essence, 'Rat' is an inquiry into how these pre-existing undemocratic structures within our homes inform and enable oppressive structures to thrive outside of them.

What: Theatre and Arts Where: Online When: September 12, 2021 Time: 5 pm and 8pm

AZAAD'S ORIGINALS - MERI DOLI MERE ANGANA & PAVITRAA BHAROSE KA SAFAR

There was

something about

the role that

instantly

connected with

me. A lot of

people would be

able to connect

themselves with

this show, it

might be for

their betterment

as people would

be able to see

things positively

whom you haven't seen or met

in real life is tough because we

don't know their true self. We

don't know what their behaviour

is or how they walk or talk. So,

I have to go through my script

again and again, I read it several

times so that I am able to get

myself into that state where I can

■ You are a professional singer

and have learnt Kathak. How

Once I performed in a reality

show and Sonali Bendre

suggested to me that I should try

my hands at acting. But it was

quite a task to convince my dad

for the same and on the other

did acting happen?

'WE SHOWCASED THE CELEBRATIONS IN A PURANA ANDAAZ'

Over the last three decades, Zee TV has entertained its audience with great stories, endearing characters, and shacklebreaking fiction shows that have connected with the masses. During the pandemic too, it has strived to provide its viewers with content that inspires them and keeps them the corner and the restrictions limiting the celebrations across India, Zee TV has a surprise coming your way! The channel is all set to give you the look, feel, and flavor of Ganesh Chaturthi at the comfort of your homes as it presents an extravagant celebration through a special episode of 'Ganesh Utsav with Zee TV'. This special episode will air



on the 19th of September at 12PM and it will surely captivate one and all. Zee TV viewers will witness some performances by Telly stars like Kumkum Bhagya's jodis Abhi (Shabir Alhuwalia) - Pragya (Sriti Jha) and Prachi (Mugdha Chapekar) - Ranbir (Krishna Kaul). Kundali Bhagya's Abhishek Kapur - Manit Joura and

actors like Ankita Lokhande will also be performing. Kumkum Bhagya's stars Mugdha Chapekar and Krishna Kaul performed a retro act on Bollywood songs like Humne Tumko Dekha, Ek Main Aur Ekk Tu and Khullam Khulla Pyaar Karenge Talking about her act, Mugdha

celebrate all the festivals like how we usually do. Being a Maharashtrian, I really missed celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi. Ganesh Chaturthi is not iust a festival for me. it's an emotion. Of course, we followed all the guidelines, took all the masks while we were not shooting, and sanitized everything, we don't forget that. But it was fun, and we showcased the celebrations in a Purana Andaaz, wearing all these retro clothes and performing on the songs from the 70s. In fact, Krishna and I dedicated this act to our beloved charming late actor Rishi Ji as well and we performed on most of

mentioned, "Last year, because of

the pandemic, we couldn't

announcing its Originals Content Offering exclusively for the 'Rural Mindset'. Azaad is India's First Premium Hindi Rural Entertainment Channel. The first

It's show time with Beginnen

Entertainment Channel, Azaad

Media's First Consumer Specific

two shows Titled Meri Doli Mere Angana and Pavitraa Bharose Ka created after deep understanding of the Rural Person through years of periodic syndicated research. Staying true to the brand proposition of 'Hamari Mitti Hamara Aasman', the show themes have been specially designed to attract, engage and connect with this super mass. Starting 14 September 2021, Mer Doli Mere Angana will air at 9 PM and Pavitraa Bharose Ka Safar will air at 9 30 PM, on Azaad as well on MX Player (The Digital

Partner). The first Azaad Original is titled Meri Doli Mere Angana. The title that evokes immediate curiosity is the first Hindi series produced by renowned producers. Jitendra Gupta and Mahesh Tagde from Tell-A-Tale Media. The show is based in Bithoor, where the entire Singh family, especially her father considers the daughter an apple of their eye. It a story of today's

rural family which portrays the beauty and complexities of relationships within the family. Due to some circumstances, these relationships change and it drastically affects our heroine's life. After her marriage, she realizes that the old societal norms where they differentiate between a daughter and daughterin-law still exists. The show cantures Janki's journey from being an in-experienced and innocent daughter to becoming an

experienced daughter-in-law who

learns to manage complex

situations and relationships with changing dynamics after her marriage. Astha Abhay plays the lead protagonist Janki and Surendra Pal, Rudrakshi Gupta and Ankit Raizada enact key characters in the show. The second Azaad Original is titiled Pavitraa Bharose Ka Safar and is produced by well-known producers. Santosh Singh. Rochelle Singh and Pearl Grev from Parth Production. This family drama set against the backdrop of Meerut, resonates with the rural mindset as its

encouraging women empowerment hattling societal issues and is also a passionate love story of two diverse personalities. The show touches upon the aspirations and hopes harboured by today's rural youth as a majority of them want better jobs after higher education and their life choices. The show touches upon the aspirations and hopes harboured by today's rural youth as a majority of them want better jobs after higher education and also desire the freedom to decide their life choices. The show captures the journey of a young girl called Pavitraa who is a daughter of an underprivileged taxi driver and aspires to complete her education and become selfreliant. She goes to any lengths to fulfil her goals, fights against all restrictions that impede her growth, gender discrimination and social stigma to eventually become a successful entrepreneur who helps other women become capable to take care of their families and themselves in all respects. The role of Pavitraa is played by Shaily Priva and the ensemble cast includes Neelu Vaghela. Kumaar Raajput and Sheezan Mohammed.

centered around the themes of

TABLES TO TURN FOR BALIKA VADHU'S ANANDI

Since the launch of COLORS' Balika Vadhu, the nayi Anandi, played by actress Shreya Patel, has been receiving immense love and appreciation from the audience across India. The viewers are hooked on to the show and love watching her

filled with innocence and iov. Anandi's iourney in the show has been smooth and light so far but it will shift gears quickly as the next phase of the plot kicks in. The

endearing childhood.

viewers will witness some highend drama in the upcoming episodes, leaving everyone on the edge of their seats Oblivious to the harsh reality of

her life that will hit her soon, little Anandi has been seen enjoying her sweet and innocent childhood in the show. The audience till now has witnessed Anandi's reaction when she found out about her marriage to Jigar while she was just an infant. She will now come face-to-face with her destiny during the Gauna ceremony when she will have to move out from her parents' home. Her life will drastically change when she is forcibly made to stay at Jigar's

Patel who plays the role of Anandi revealed "A big moment is going to come in Anandi's life, and it will totally turn her world upside down. The Gauna sequence will

Talking about the twist. Shreva

house as a bahu



be a crucial plot twist for the show as everyone will see Anandi going through myriads of emotions in the upcoming

episodes. Anshul Trivedi who plays the role of Khimji added, "Anandi is all set to face several challenges with the story taking an important turn that will bring her in front of the harsh reality of her life. We're all bracing ourselves for this new phase of 'Balika Vadhu', which is sure to keep the audience hooked!" While the Gauna sequence turns her world upside down, will Anandi fight against the system and traditions? Or will she succumb to it?

EUPHORIA MAKES A COMEBACK

As soon as Palash shared the poster on Koo, fans started to pour messages in to show their love and express good wishes. Some of the comments can be seen in the grahs below. The singer who is also a qualified doctor, joined Koo in June and now has close to 8,000 followers on the platform. SALE is the eight album by Indian Indie band 'Euphoria.' The 7-track spectacle will take you on a ride across genres, sounds, styles, emotions and life experiences. Written at various points of time in Palash's career, each song stands for a real life story witnessed or felt by him and the band. In a world where everything comes with a price tag, this album speaks about the one thing that cannot be bought SALE releases on the 10th of September as limited NFTs, and on worldwide streaming platforms on the 14th of September.

This album launch also marks

the official inauguration of the

honouring and celebrating Hindi

Creators across the country and

express and feature themselves.

providing them a platform to

inaugural edition of the Koo

Hindi Fest, a 7 day event



building up to the Hindi Diwas this 14th of September. The fest aims to provide the Hindi Creators and influencers of India a level playing platform to establish themselves as social media creators and influencers and will cover a diverse range of activities with participation from Hindi creators across the country spanning across literary (creative writing, poetry, debate) and cultural activities (music, acting, photography, blogging). It is only fitting that Palash and Euphoria, being one of India's legacy Indie creators, is inaugurating this first-of-a-kind digital festival. Euphoria is known for extraordinary music hits like 'Maeri' & 'Dhoom' that were massive hits in the 90's. Since then, the band has been on the favourite list of music lovers across the country.

MANOJ BAJPAYEE AND PRIYAMANI BACK ON SCREEN IN RUPEEK'S NEW BRAND CAMPAIGN

This year's most talked about on screen couple Manoj Bajpayee and Priyamani who perfectly showcased the aspirations of middle-class India in The Family Man are back on screen, this time in a heart-warming ad campaign for Rupeek. Through the campaign, Rupeek aims to 'inspire' the common man and woman to take pride in using their gold to access credit in a safe, personal and tension-free manner. Through its trusted relationship with lending partners, Rupeek offers online gold loans to its customers with minimal documentation and lowest interest rate of 0.69%* per month. In India, where access to secured credit is still scarce, Rupeek, a new age, innovative Fintech brand is designing offerings backed by disruptive technology that aim to solve credit pain points unlocking growth for a billion Indians. Rupeek's first ever brand campaign, starring Manoi Baipavee and Privamani, showcases technology led hassle free doorstep gold loan offering at the lowest



interest rates. Speaking on the brand collaboration, actor Manoi Baipavee said, "I am elated to associate with Rupeek and its core value of making credit available for the common man. It is wonderful to see how young entrepreneurs and companies are

addressing the issues that are deeply penetrated in our society. Through this film, we have tried to break the stigma associated with gold loans and convey a deeper message on the potential of gold loans to make people feel empowered during challenging times.

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8 discharged of arson charges in riots case

sunday pioneer

Delhi court has discharged A beint court has discharged Aeight accused from the charge of causing arson during the February 2020 riots, noting there is no CCTV footage and no complainant has identified themselves or alleged that they committed the offence.

Additional Sessions Judge Vinod Yadav said the ingredients of Section 436 of the Indian Penal Code (mischief by fire or explosive substance), which was added in the charge sheet, are "not at all made out" from the material produced by the investigating agency.

Eight people were arrested based on 12 complaints filed by various shopkeepers who alleged that their shops were allegedly looted and vandalised by the riotous mob during the communal violence in north-

The accused were arrested based on disclosure statements given by them in other cases filed against them and identification by police constables, who were posted as beat officers in that area.

Discharging eight accused, the judge said Section 436 IPC cannot be invoked merely on the basis of statements given by



complainants had stated nothing in this regard in their written complaints.

"A fine-tooth-comb analysis of written complaints reveals that none of the complainants has identified the accused persons to be part of the riotous mob which had vandalised their shops," the sessions judge said in an order dated September 10. He further said there are no allegations by the complainants regarding the commission of arson in their shops and as such ingredients of Section 436 IPC are not at all made out either from complaints or statements.

Even from the photographs filed on record, no incident of committing mischief by fire or explosive substance is borne out, he said, adding that there is no CCTV footage or video clip of the incident on record.

Furthermore, ASJ Yadav

said there is no connecting evi dence on record in the form of statements of independent eyewitnesses who could have seen the accused persons at the time of the incident.

The judge said one complainant said the alleged crime took place on February 25, while the others claimed that it happened on February 24.

"Whether these complaints of different dates could have been clubbed by the investigating agency in one FIR is a question which will be seen during the course of the trial," the judge said.

The police submitted that the distance between the various spots where looting and vandalisation took place is not much and the same unlawful assembly was operating in the area on February 24 and 25 and as such, they could be said to be part of the same transaction and accordingly one single FIR serves the purpose in this case.

The other sections invoked in the charge sheet such as sections 147 (rioting), 148 (rioting, armed with a deadly weapon) 149 (unlawful assembly), 457 (house-trespass), 380 (theft), 411 (receiving stolen property) are "exclusively triable" by a magistrate, the judge said.

Work for society, don't aspire for posts, tickets, CM exhorts volunteers

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Addressing the 10th National Council meeting of the party on Saturday, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal asked party leaders and volunteers not to harbour any desire for posts and tickets to contest polls and instead prove their worth by working for society and the country.

Kejriwal said that Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh and Babasaheb Dr Ambedkar are the ultimate ideals of the AAP and the party will follow the path shown by them. He said every AAP worker has to be ready to sacrifice and fight like The Chief Minister added

that everyone has to work a lot for society and country but never aspire for any posi-The AAP is focusing on

poll-bound Punjab, Goa, . Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat as part of its plan of national expansion.

Kejriwal said, "I am delighted that we have suc-

cessfully onboarded the



AAP's new National Council. I hope and pray that the tenure of this council is extremely fruitful and pros-

On the occasion, senior AAP leader and Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said that even in the last 70 years, political parties could not take the country to the quantum of the potential of the country.

Kejriwal said, "I am delighted that we have successfully onboarded the AAP's new National Council. I hope and pray that the tenure of this council is extremely fruitful and pros-

Probe into last yr's violence on campus delayed by pandemic, says JNU VC

Tawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Vice-Chancellor M Jagadesh Kumar said the coronavirus pandemic has delayed the probe into the violence on the campus in January last year that left around 35 people injured.

Asked why the committee set up by the university to probe the incident did not conduct online depositions, he said the students are already under a lot of stress and it is not the right time to send them notices for online depositions.

A group of masked men armed with sticks and rods attacked students and teachers and damaged property on the JNU campus on January 5, 2020, prompting the university administration to call in the

JNU Students' Union president Aishe Ghosh was among those injured in the violence.

Days after the incident, JNU set up a five-member committee to probe the incident and recommend measures to ensure the safety of stu-

The committee is looking

into the matter. It has to call the students for deposition. Is it the right time to call them when they are in their hometowns? For this, we need to see the condition. These are our stu-



dents. Considering the Covid situation, depositions have not been conducted. We are waiting for the situation to normalise," Kumar told PTI on

Asked why the committee did not conduct online depositions, the VC said, "The situation is not conducive. We are waiting. Students are already under a lot of stress. It is not the right time to send them notices for participating in an online deposition. We don't consider our students as criminals. They are our own students.'

In August this year, the Lok Sabha was informed by Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai that the Delhi Police had not arrested anyone in connection with the JNU violence, even though several people were examined. After the violence, there

was a clamour for Kumar's removal as the JNU VC and the Delhi Police came under attack for not acting when the mob was running riot on the campus and especially, for naming student union leaders, including Ghosh, in two FIRs for alleged vandalism.

On the Jawaharlal Nehru University Teachers' Association's (JNUTA) objection to the renewal of the contract of security agency Cyclops for another two years by the university's Executive Council (EC), Kumar said the contract had not been renewed but extended till the process of appointing a new agency is completed.

'If you want to appoint a security agency, then you have to follow the tendering process and the General Financial Rules laid down by the government. During this Covid period, many of our staff members were down (with coronavirus). You cannot suddenly ask the security people to pack their bags and leave and put the security of the campus at risk," he said.

"The EC took a decision that the security company will continue," he said. The VC stressed that the contract hasn't been renewed but only extended till the process of appointing a new security agency is completed. This process will require at least six months, he said.

BJP launches free

pilgrimage for

senior citizens,

40 passengers rescued from **underpass at Palam** due to waterlogging

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Fire Service (DFS) offi-L cials on Saturday safely rescued 40 bus passengers trapped at the underpass of Delhi's Palam flyover, towards airport road due to water-

According to Atul Garg, the Director of DFS, the call seeking assistance was received at around 11.30 AM after which two fire tenders were pressed into service.

"A bus with passengers got trapped at the underpass at Palam flyover due to water logging. Two fire tenders were rushed to the spot and all the passengers were rescued safely," said Garg. Heavy rains lashed the national

capital Saturday morning, leaving the forecourt of the Delhi airport and other parts of the city waterlogged.

According to civic agencies, several areas in the city including Moti Bagh, RK Puram, Madhu Vihar, Hari Nagar, Rohtak Road, Badarpur, Station, Vikas Marg, Sangam Vihar, Mehrauli-Badarpur Road, Pul Prahladpur Underpass, Munirka, Rajpur Khurd, Nangloi and Kirari also witnessed waterlogging.

People posted pictures and videos of waterlogged streets on social media.

The Delhi Traffic also posted tweets informing people about the stretches where they are expected to witness waterlogging.

Marriages can be registered in virtual presence of parties, rules Delhi HC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Marriages can be registered in the virtual presence of parties, the Delhi High Court has ruled, saying that in the present times, citizens cannot be prevented from exercising their rights because of a rigid interpretation of law which calls for "personal presence". Hearing a plea by a US-based Indian

couple seeking to register their marriage here through video conferencing, Justice Rekha Palli opined that not treating physical presence as a mandatory requirement would also encourages parties to easily get their marriages registered.

"I have no hesitation in coming to the conclusion that the term 'personal appearance' in Clause 4 of the Registration Order has to be read to include presence secured through Video Conferencing. Any other interpretation, would not only frustrate the very purpose of this beneficial legislation, but, it would also undermine the use of this important and easily accessible tool of Video Conferencing," the judge said in

She said the Delhi (Compulsory Registration of Marriage) Order, 2014 is welfare legislation, promulgated at the instance the Supreme Court to encourage the registration of marriages.

"The insistence of physical appearance even when their personal appearance can be easily secured through video conferencing, will definitely make it more cumbersome for parties to come forward for the registration of marriages. This will negate the very purpose of enactment of



the Registration Order and cannot be permitted," the order further reads.

The court allowed the couple to mark their "personal appearance" before the Registering Authority through video conferencing after submitting their application for the registration of marriage through their counsel/Power of Attorney Holder in physical form along with copies of all supporting documents duly notarized, either by the notary public in the United States of America or by a notary public here. It directed that the two witnesses

would appear physically before the Registering Authority with their original Registering Authority.

The Authority will then expeditiously register the marriage and issue the Marriage Registration Certificate within a period of two weeks' from the date of receipt of the application, the court added.

In the present case, the couple claimed that their marriage was solemnised in 2001 as per Hindu rituals, but they did not get the same registered as they moved abroad prior to the introduction of the Delhi (Compulsory

Registration of Marriage) Order, 2014. Considering that their application for

a green card was now not being processed in the United States for want of a marriage certificate, the couple approached the local authority here for issuance of a marriage certificate, who maintained that physical presence of the parties was a mandatory requirement.

The couple, represented through senior counsel Vibha Datta Makhija, moved the high court after their representation to the authority concerned for virtual appearance remained unanswered

The court observed that while the 'universe has undergone a sea change' since the time when the Registration Order was notified, the Registering Authority was "refusing to recognize the reality that with the technology as is available today, web portals and Video Conferencing have ecome almost the norm".

Acknowledging the acceptance of video conferencing even in the judicial system in this country, the court said that "these aspects appear to have been simply overlooked by the Registering that the parties must remain present physically before him"

"I am of the view that, in times such as these, when technology has proven to be the bridge that ensured uninterrupted communication, widespread dissemination of information in public interest and the smooth functioning of society, the Court cannot allow a rigid interpretation of the statute to prevent citizens from exercising their rights," the judge

Poshan Mela to be celebrated in Sept for female inmates in Tihar

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Prisons officials on I Saturday said that a 'Poshan Mela' wiĺl be celebrated throughout the month of September for over 5,00 female inmates lodged in jails of Tihar and Mandoli in order to sensitise and create awareness among them about the importance of having a nutritious diet.

According to prison officials, 399 women presently lodged in jail no 6 of Tihar and 163 women presently lodged in iail no 16 of Mandoli are part of the "Poshan Mela" initiative being celebrated by the Delhi

The initiative was kickstarted on Thursday at female jail no 6 of Tihar in association with National Commission for Women (NCW) where inmates value of nutritious diet through Power Point Presentation followed by speeches from members of the Commission, including Meeta Rajivlochan, IAS, Member Secretary NCW, a senior jail official said.

Special diet and fruits were also provided to the women inmates, he said.

"At the 'Poshan Mela', different stalls were arranged for children, lactating mothers, pregnant women and adults. They were explained about the importance of taking a nutritious diet at various stages during their pregnancy, menopause or in case they were anaemic," said Sandeep Goel, the Director General of Delhi Prisons.

As per rules, children below six years are permitted to stay with their mother in the jail and according to a data shared by the Delhi Prisons, presently there are 17 such children who are staying with their mothers inside the two iails meant for women. Besides them, there are four pregnant women lodged in the two jails including one in Mandoli Jail.

Out of the 17, eight children are in Central Jail no 6 of Tihar while the remaining nine 16 in Mandoli, the data stated. "The pregnant women and

lactating mothers are given Special Diet in the Prison. They remain under constant medical supervision of the Jail lady doctor. Proper care is taken of the nutritional needs of the children too. There is a creche in each of these Jails for children. They very much like going there," said Goel.

women: Adesh STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The State Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) president, Adesh Gupta, on Saturday said the party has launched the programme of free pilgrimage for senior citizens and women in the Capital.

He said this pilgrimage will continue for next three months in which senior citizens and women will be taken to various religious places including Haridwar, including Vrindavan, Khatu Shyam, Shri Balaji and Ayodhya among others.

"During the COVID period due to being confined within four walls of their homes, women went through a lot of mental tension and problems. It is to give them party has decided on this programme," Gupta said and thanked councilor Anju

'Ten buses have been sent from here Saturday to different religious places," he said, "Our idea is to send 100 buses each for different religious destinations from one ward each."

Admission process in SoE to start from Mon

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

dmission process in Schools A of Specialised Excellence (SoE) will begin from Monday. Results of SoE were announced on Saturday and students can check their result on SoSE website

(http://edudel.nic.in/sose/).

The application process was

closed by August 19. Around 26,687 registrations were made for the 4 types of SoSEs (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Humanities, Performing and Visual Arts and High-end 21st Century Skills). Aptitude test for the admission were organized from August 27-31 across 67 test centres. Around 14,245 students took their tests on the given

dates. A total of 2,794 students have been selected through the process and have been offered admissions in the STEM, Humanities and High-end 21st Century Skills schools.

Auditions for Performing and Visual Arts schools are going on and will finish on September 13. Final results for Performing and Visual Arts schools will be announced early next week.

Admission process for the selected 2,794 students will begin from September 13 in the

respective SoSEs where students had applied. In the STEM schools, admissions are being offered in Classes 9 and 11, while in the rest of the schools, students will be admitted in Class A rigorous process was fol-

lowed to evaluate the test papers and only the students above a cut-off have been selected. In the 8 STEM schools, 960 students have been offered admission in Class 9 while 814 students have been selected for Class 11. There are 5 schools each in Humanities and High-end 21st Century Skills in which 420 and 600 students have been selected respectively. Close to two-third of the selected students are from government and government aided schools while the rest are from recognized private schools.

Deputy ministerManish Sisodia congratulated all the students and their parents who have been offered admission in the SoSEs.

"In the SoSEs, the role of the teachers is going to change, and he/she will become a facilitator of learning for every student. Gradually, all the schools in Delhi will follow this model and adopt a learner-centric education system," said the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader who also holds the portfolio of education minister

SDMC makes RFID number plates must for commercial vehicles for entering Capital

NEW DELHI: Following the order of the Supreme Court, South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) has implemented use of radio-frequency identification (RFID) system a must for collection of toll tax from specified commercial vehicles while enter-

A senior SDMC official said that the toll tax department of SDMC while taking requisite actions to enforce the order has stopped entry of specified commercial vehicles in the city through all 124 toll plazas without paying toll tax through RFID system since 31st August 2021.

SDMC has also imposed a fine of ₹ 10 Lakh to the concessionaire, which was authorised to collect toll tax only through RFID system for non compliance of the direction of the civic agency, he said. Additionally, SDMC'S enforcement teams have issued notices at different toll plazassince last week and a total of 672 notices have been issued so far, he said, adding that SMS have been sent to all owners of all such erring vehicles with respect to actions being taken against them and such SMS have been forwaded to as many as 572 number of vehicles so far. The official further said that besides this, transport department of Delhi and neighbouring states have been asked to cancel the permits of 524 vehicles which failed to pay toll tax through RFID system. SR



BKU leader Rakesh Tikait stages a protest at the farmers' agitation site at Ghazipur in New Delhi on Saturday

Man stabbed to death with iron piece; 2 minor boys apprehended

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A³²-year-old man was on Friday stabbed to death with a sharp iron piece during a scuffle with two minor boys in west Delhi's Naraina, police

The deceased has been identified as Tinku, a resident of Ranjit Nagar, they said.

On Friday at 5.07 pm, information was received at the Naraina Police Station regarding the incident. Tinku landed in a fight

with the two minor boys and one of them attacked him with the iron piece. Tinku was rushed to hospital where he was declared brought dead, a senior police officer said.

According to the boys, they were collecting scrap parts of iron in Loha Mandi. The victim tried to snatch some money from them and one of them stabbed him with ne iron piece, the officer said.

Police have apprehended the two minors and verifying their age. Further investigation is underway, they added.

E-Delhi T20 Premier League in Nov: MP Gambhir The stadium was inaugu-

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $B^{\mbox{\scriptsize JP MP Gautam Gambhir}}$ Gon Friday announced to host a T20 cricket tournament on the lines of the Indian

Premier League in East Delhi. He made the announcement during the inauguration of the newly redeveloped archerycum-cricket stadium at DDA Yamuna Sports Complex here.

rated virtually by Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal.

Former Indian cricketer Gambhir said East Delhi Premier League will be held in the second week of November this year in which teams from 10 constituencies in east Delhi will participate, adding that the matches will be played at the Yamuna Sports Complex.

The ground will host both cricket and archery day and night, he said.

According to DDA officials, the cricket ground in the complex has been upgraded to Ranji Trophy standards with facilities, including two dressing rooms, high mast lights for night cricket, six pitches, practice pitches, digital scoreboard display and canopy.

Complaint against removal of Hindu objects from mosque

Petitioners in a Krishna Janmasthan case here submitted a video of some objects of Hindu faith, alleging that these were either being defaced or removed from a mosque, which they claimed have been built at the birthplace of the

deity.

The petitioners — advocate Mahendra Pratap Singh and four others — have sought the removal of the 17th century Shahi Idgah mosque from

the 13.37-acre premises of the Katra Keshav Dev temple here.
The petitioners said a video

showing the presence of a symbol of "shesh nag", lotus and a conch in the mosque was submitted in the court of the civil judge, senior division.

They alleged that the objects were either being noved or defaced.

Mahendra Pratap Singh said in the next hearing on September 15, they will press for a physical verification of the objects by the ASI.

MP: Devotees permitted to participate in Bhasma Aarti at Ujjain's Mahakaleshwar temple

Ujjain (MP): Devotees were allowed to participate in 'Bhasma Aarti' at Ujjain's Mahakaleshwar temple, one of the 12 'jyotirlingas' of Lord Shiva, on Saturday, after a gap of about 17 months amid the Covid-19 pandemic, an official from the shrine management said.

As many as 686 devotees participated in the two-hour ritual performed at 4 am with the opening of the shrine, temple administrator Moolchand Junwal said.

A large number of devotees from across the country participate in this ritual, but the practice was stopped in March last year in view of the Covid-19 outbreak. The temple committee chairman and district collector

Ashish Singh said in accordance to the committee's decision on September 3, devotees were allowed to take part in Bhasma Aarti from Saturday in compliance with Covid-19 guidelines and protocols. Only priests of the temple have been performing the ritual without devotees for the last 17 months, the official said. According to the temple administration, 1,000 devotees will be permitted to be present for the ritual, entry passes for which can be obtained on the temple's website by uploading necessary documents or can be procured from a kiosk at the

NC demands CBI probe into death of party leader Trilochan Singh Wazir

he Jammu & Kashmir National Conference on Saturday demanded a CBI probe into the death of senior party leader Trilochan Singh Wazir whose partially decomposed body was found in a flat in Delhi a couple of days ago. It also demanded that the investigation be fast-tracked.

The partially decomposed body of 67-year-old Wazir with the head wrapped in a plastic bag was found last Thursday in a washroom of the flat which was taken on rent by his acquaintance Harpreet Singh (31), a native of Amritsar.

The investigation has been transferred to the Delhi Police's Crime Branch while the force's

"Multiple theories are making the rounds about the death and therefore to bring out the truth, an inquiry by the CBI should be ordered forthwith," senior National Conference leaders, led by its provincial president Devender Singh Rana, said in a joint statement

here.
"Wazir was a prominent leader of the party and his contribution in different capacities like the president Gurdwara Prabandhak Board and the president of the transport union has been immense," it said.

According to the statement, the National Conference leaders are meeting Lt Governor Manoj Sinha also to press their demand for CBI inquiry into the death of Wazir.

Uttarakhand to be developed into country's cultural, spiritual capital, says CM

Dehradun: Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Saturday said the state will be developed into the country's cultural and spiritual capital.

Announcing this at a ceremony held at the Tehri district headquarters, Dhami said the State Government is working on a 10-year roadmap to make Uttarakhand the country's number one state.

He laid the foundation stone of 12 projects worth around Rs 51 crore and inaugurated 37 projects worth around Rs 112 crore. Dhami also inaugurated Tehri Youth Club and unveiled a local product called Hilans Tulsi Tea.

Cheques were also distributed among beneficiaries of the National Rural Livelihood Mission by the chief min-Dhami said people of Tehri are fortunate as the place has tremendous potential in the tourism sector.

World class consultants will be hired to transform Tehri into an ultra modern city, he said.

The state government is getting constant guidance from Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the development of Uttarakhand, he said.

Body of a missing victim of Nimati Ghat boat disaster recovered

The body of one of the two missing victims of the boat disaster at Nimati Ghat in Assam's Jorhat district was recovered four days after the incident near Biswanath Ghat, about 100 km downstream of the Brahmaputra river from the accident site, on Saturday morning, a top official said.

With the recovery of the body, the death toll in the boat tragedy has increased to two.

Jorhat deputy commission Ashok Barman told PTI that the body was recovered by Forest department officials of

"Documents were recovered on the body, from which was identified to be of Indreswar Bora of Lakhimpur district," he said.

The other missing victim, a doctor from Jorhat, is still to be traced and search operations near the accident site at Nimati Ghat in Jorhat as well as surrounding and downstream areas are continuing, Barman

The body has been brought to Biswanath Chariali and will be taken for post-mortem before handing over to family



MBBS students raise slogans during a protest at Patna Medical College Patna (PMCH) in Patna on Saturday

Initiative taken for NCC as elective subject in NEP: NCC DG

Bengaluru: The National Cadet Corps has taken the initiative of implementing NCC as an elective subject under the new National Education Policy, Director General of NCC Lieutenant General Tarun Kumar Aich said on Saturday.

We have taken major initiative of implementing NCC as an Elective Subject as part of New Education Policy," Lt Gen Aich said addressing the officers, staff and students here. According to the NCC DG, over 7,800 schools and colleges in the country are awaiting to seek the NCC affil-

The National Cadet Corps has planned to expand its footprint in the coastal and border areas of various States and enhance its authorised strength in a phased manner. Fully Self- Financing Scheme (FSFS) is yet another step in this direction which will provide a unique opportunity to a number of schools and colleges to include NCC in their curriculum, he added.

The DG NCC appreciated the performance of cadets during various NCC camps and competitions and outstanding work by them during the pandemic through 'Exercise Yogdaan' in assisting the civil administration.

He also commended them for their contribution to the flagship programmes of the Government such as, 'Swachh Bharat' (Clean India mission), 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' (Save daughters, teach daughters), 'Fit India' and 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' (Platinum Jubilee Festival of Indian Independence) celebrations. "Karnataka and Goa directorate is one of the finest directorates of NCC and has been performing its tasks diligently and professionally.

The directorate has adapted well to the changing requirement of shifting from offline mode of training to online to ensure that the training of cadets does not get hampered by the pandemic," he said.PTI

Kerala logs 20,487 new cases, 181 deaths

Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala on Saturday recorded 20,487 new Covid-19 cases and 181 deaths, taking the infection count to 43,55,191 and the death toll to 22,484.

A total of 26,155 persons recuperated from the disease today, taking the total cured in the State to 41.00.355. State Health minister Veena George said 1,34,861 samples were tested in the last 24 hours and 15.19 per cent. Among the districts, Thrissur reported the highest number of fresh cases - 2,812, followed by Ernakulam

2,490 Thiruvananthapuram 2,217. "Currently there are 2,31,792 active cases in the state of which only 12.9 per cent patients have been admitted to hospitals," the Minister said in a release.

The Minister said of those found infected today, 102 reached the state from outside while 19,497 contracted the disease from their contact. The source of infection of 793 is yet to be traced and 95 health workers are also among the infected.

There are 4,108 wards across 794 local self government bodies with a weekly infection population ratio above seven per cent.

NE needs more Ayush colleges, Centre keen to support: Sonowal

Guwahati: Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Saturday said more Ayush colleges should be set up in the northeast, and the Centre is keen to support the initiative.

He also said the central government has increased financial assistance to states for establishing new Ayush colleges.

"More Ayush teaching colleges are required in the northeastern states... earlier under the National Avush Mission (NAM), Rs 9 crore was given to colleges, but this has now been enhanced to Rs 70 crore. "The states may identify the

land and manpower to avail this opportunity as per the NAM guidelines," the Ûnion Minister for Ayush and Ports, Shipping and Waterways said.

There are only a few Ayush colleges in the northeast and traditional medicines can only be popularised by making available more qualified practitioners, Sonowal said while addressing a conference on 'Diverse and Fulfilling Career Paths in Ayush Systems: Education, Entrepreneurship and Employment Focus on North Eastern States' here.

He said the Ministry of Ayush has also accorded inprinciple approval for upgrading the Government Ayurvedic College here as a 'Centre of **PTI** | Excellence' with support of up to the sector.

to Rs 10 crore.

Sonowal said the Centre provides Rs 5 crore to upgrade under-graduate Ayush teaching colleges and Rs 6 crore to improve the infrastructure of post-graduate institutions in the northeast.

The Union minister announced a 'Panchkarma Technician Course' affiliated to the Health Sector Skill Council National Skill Development Corporation at the Central Ayurveda Research Institute for Class 10+2 students to produce skilled manpower and enhance employment opportunities in the northeast region.

"Career opportunities in the Ayush sector for professionals of all disciplines have increased dramatically during recent years. Consequent to these efforts, faith in the Ayush systems has been restored among communities worldwide," Sonowal said.

Ayush has a great potential to cater to a large number of healthcare needs of people and contribute to the growth and development of the country, he added. D Senthil Pandiyan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, gave the opening remarks, which was followed by detailed presentations on education, career opportunities and entrepreneurial options related

21 divyang couples get married in mass wedding ceremony in Udaipur

Udaipur: Twenty-one couples tied the nuptial knot during a mass wedding organised for differently-abled and underprivileged people by an Udaipur-based organisation here Saturday.

Most couples met during the course of treatment or skill development at Narayan Seva Sansthan. Their family members and relatives fixed the relationship and 21 couples entered the wedlock at the mass marriage ceremony.

brides, Sant Kumari (24), who has Polio since birth, said she met her husband, Manoj Kumar, during treatment and vocational training.

"It is a stigma to be a girl child who is born with Polio. It has been very difficult for me to live a normal life. Life has been a roller coaster ride for me and finding a job as well as a good partner are two most important things but I met Manoj here and both of us felt that we can live our life together so our families

fixed the marriage," she said.

Twenty-eight-year-old Manoj was operated at Sansthan

for a disability. "I work at a company in Gujarat at present and both of us will live happily because I have a job and she has acquired training in stitching. She wants to establish her own start-up and I hope that it will be successful," he said. The wedding ceremony was performed with traditional rituals at the NSS campus in Udaipur in the presence of families, relatives and other guests.

MP: 10 dengue cases detected in Indore on Sat **Tally for year reaches 122**

Indore: The dengue tally in Indore in Madhya Pradesh for this year reached 122 after 10 cases were detected on Saturday, officials said.

They added that efforts were on to prevent the spread of dengue, especially due to a gradual rise in numbers here over the past 10 days. Indore Divisional Commissioner

Pavan Kumar Sharma said officials have been directed to launch a massive campaign to spot and destroy the breeding grounds of larvae of denguecarrying mosquitoes. "We will also ensure dengue test

the same day of sample collection for treatment to start at the earliest," he said. Only one person has died here of dengue since January this year, offi-

to Opp leaders to give account of work done by them in UP Lucknow: Ahead of the crucial Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls next year, BJP president J P The saffron party had clinched 312 seats

Nadda throws open challenge

Nadda on Saturday threw an open challenge to opposition party leaders to give an account of work done during their respective tenures in the state. He also launched 'Booth Vijay Abhiyan'

in a bid to repeat the party's performance in the 2017 state polls.

"I challenge the leaders of the SP, BSP and Congress to come forward with an account of their respective terms and our booth-level workers are ready for an open debate with them over the same. None of the governments led by these parties did as much work Yogi Adityanath government," he said at a virtual function to launch the party's Booth

According to information received from BJP headquarters, Nadda issued directives to more than 15 lakh workers of the party at 27,700 Shakti Kendras (party units) through the Booth Vijay Abhiyan.

in the 403-member legislative assembly, decimating its rivals to form the government in the last assembly elections.

Claiming that the Adityanath government did in over four years what other governments could not do in 60 years, the BJP chief targeted the opposition parties for not extending enough support to people during COVID-19 pandemic.

"Amid the pandemic outbreak, these parties did politics only through tweets and virselves in closed rooms.

"History will remember that when people were in trouble, they (opposition leaders) turned themselves away from the people," he alleged.

Delhi deluged...

From page 1

Delhi recorded more than 100 mm of rainfall on two consecutive days at the start of the month -- 112.1 mm on September 1 and 117.7 mm on September 2.

The IGI airport was also waterlogged leading to diversion of five flights towards Jaipur and Ahmedabad while three were cancelled.

Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said he spoke to airport officials and "was told that the waterlogged forecourt was cleared up within 30 minutes".

The Aerocity area -- which houses multiple luxury hotels -- near the airport was also waterlogged in the morning with people trying to maneuver their cars through the accumulated water, showed another set of videos.

Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) said on Twitter that there was waterlogging at the forecourt for a short

period. "Due to heavy downpour passengers encountered waterlogging for a short while. The on-ground team was immediately mobilised and the operations are back to normal since 9 am," they tweeted.

Traffic police advised commuters to avoid roads that were affected due to water-

"There is waterlogging on NH 48 near Gurugram/Parade Road Crossing. Vehicles going from Dhaula Kuan to Gurugram are the worst affected. These vehicles may take the right turn on Carriappa marg and take a left turn from Thimmaayya Čhowk on Thimmaayya Marg to reach Airport/

Gurgaon," traffic police tweeted. Traffic Alert. Water logging near WHO on Ring Road. Kindly Avoid the

Stretch," it said in another tweet. 'Traffic is affected at Dwarka Sec- 20 road no-226 due to water logging. Please avoid using this route," traffic police said in another tweet.

'This to inform that near about T point of road number 210 and 224 near

DJB booster pump Dwarka, there is heavy water logging due to overflow of drain and rain. Commuters informed to avoid the stretch until situation is normal," it tweeted.

"There is 3-4 feet of waterlogging in Rani Kheda Under Pass, traffic is affected. Please avoid using this route," traffic police tweeted.

Taking a dig at Chief Minister Kejriwal, Delhi BJP leader and national secretary of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha Tejinder Bagga shared a video of himself on a rafting boat in a waterlogged street in

Bhajanpura area of northeast Delhi. This season I wanted to go to Rishikesh for rafting but due to coronavirus and continuous lockdown I could not go. But I want to thank Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal as he has made arrangements for rafting in every nook and corner of Delhi (as streets are waterlogged). He should also hang boards of his this feat as he does in every case," Bagga said in the

Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatiraj, Opp-IT Park, Sahastradhara Road, Dehradun Ref. No. 1539/I1-02(xix)/ITCO/URRDA/21

e-Procurement Notice-06/2021-22 The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Almora & Pauri for 02 number of Packages with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 6.53 Crore including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with

PWD/CPWD or equivalent*. Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 14-09-2021.

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in www.pmgsytendersuk.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.

The bidders are required to submit original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with CONCERNED CIRCLE OFFICES, mentioned in SBD/MBD, only up to or before the time and date of the submission of the Bids (for World Bank funded works) and on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid (for Regular PMGSY Works), either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 20-09-2021 01:00 PM. For further details please log on to www.pmgsytendersuk.gov.in

10.00 AM to 05:00 PM

Chief Engineer URRDA, Dehradur Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in

appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract. Note: For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2608125 number may be contacted

From page 1

Afghan situation...

In his remarks, Jaishankar called for combating terrorism without any compromise. "Today is the 20th anniversary of end," he said.

situation in Afghanistan at length and said, "Last month did see the fall of Kabul and along with the ongoing fight against terrorism, the future of Afghanistan remains a central concern to both our countries.

She also said India and Australia have been victims of "appalling terrorist attacks and this day September 11 will be forever remembered for those terrible events 20 years ago when terrorists struck at the heart of our friend -- the US -- and also by extension at a modern, pluralist and democratic world."

The Australian Defence Minister

hailed the bilateral defence ties between India and his country and said it was at a historic high. He had held bilateral meeting with Rajnath on Friday.

The foreign and defence ministerial talks took place amid renewed efforts by the Quad member countries to expand cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. Asked about the Quad grouping being

referred as "Asian NATO," Jaishankar said Quad is focussed on issues such as vaccines, supply chains, education and con-"I can't see any relationship between such issues and NATO or any other kind

of organisations like that. So I think it is important not to misrepresent what is the reality out there," he said. We call ourselves Quad and Quad is

to cooperate for their benefit and for the benefit of the world," Jaishankar said. "I think a term like NATO is very

much a cold war term, looking back. I of countries to work together," he said.

Reflecting same views, Payne said as

Australia and India have re-energised relations, there is also the opportunity to work through smaller groups like the Quad and other pieces of regional architecture like the East Asia Summit or the ASEAN regional forum.

"Quad members are champions of ASEAN centrality, we actively engage in that ASEAN architecture. We are committed to supporting the practical implementation of the ASEAN outlook on the Indo-Pacific," she said.

We also say that we have a positive and practical agenda -- around vaccines, around climate, around critical technology also trying to address some of the dangerous misinformation that pervades the world experience in relation to the (Covid) pandemic," the Minister said.

Referring to the Quad, she said the constructive engagement in a normal diplomatic network was overwhelmingly about contributing positively for that "open, inclusive and resilient region in which we all want to live." The term "Asian NATO" was coined by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov as he criticised the

Char Dham Purohits suspend stir after CM promises to ...

From page 1

He said that everyone is hopeful the issue would be sorted out by the talks. Sati added that the agitation has been suspended till October 30 and a decision on the future of the agitation would be taken assessing the decision taken by the Government on the The Cabinet Ministers

Arvind Pandey and Ganesh Joshi, secretary Shailesh Bagauli, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Devasthanam Board, Ravi Nath Raman, secretary H C Semwal, and ACEO of Devasthanam Board, B D Singh, were also present on the occasion.

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)

9/11, it is a reminder, if one is still needed, of the importance of combating terrorism without compromise. Close as we are to its epicentre, let us appreciate the value of international cooperation to that Payne said the two sides discussed the

a platform where four countries have come

think Quad looks in the future, it reflects globalisation, it reflects the compulsions

CENTRE TO ROPE PRIVATE PLAYERS INTO RAIL TOURISM

Private players can lease or buy at least 16 train coaches

PNS NEW DELHI

In what could be perceived as a "backdoor" entry for private players in the Indian Railways, the Centre is considering engaging private players to run passenger trains, coined as theme-based trains for religious, tourism, hospitality and other activities.

According to a policy being formulated by the Ministry of Ràilways, the national trans-

porter's new regime led by Ashwini Vaishnaw is now looking at professionals from the tourism sector to utilise its train coaches for rail-based tourism.

The Railways wants to lease and even sell train coaches to private players for leveraging their expertise in tourism activities, a top Rail Ministry official said. The private players can run

these coaches as cultural, religious or any other tourist circuit train, the Ministry of Railways said in a statement on Saturday.

"To tap the potential of tourism sector and to leverage the core strengths of the professionals of tourism sector in

ing, hospitality, integration of services, reach with customer base, expertise in development and identification of tourist circuits, etc., Indian Railways is planning to spread rail-based tourism among masses through leasing of coaching stock to interested parties to run them as theme-based cultural, religious and other tourist circuit train," the Ministry said in a

An Executive Directorlevel committee has been constituted by the Railway Ministry to formulate the policy and terms and conditions for this project.



coaches to be leased as per So far, the broad features of the proposed model have been desired configuration of interformulated. These include

take bare shells on lease or purchase coaches. Sources said ested parties. They can also that private players will have to

lease or buy a train with at least 16 coaches.

Lessees and buyers will be allowed to make minor refurbishment to coaches. The lease will run for a minimum of five years and can be extended till the codal life of coaches. Codal life refers to the maximum service life of a coach, beyond which it has to be mandatorily replaced.

"The business model will be decided and developed by the private player. This will include route, itinerary, tariff, etc," a senior railway official said.

Sources said the Railway Ministry has promised that the registration process for be simple, based on eligibility

Indian Railways will levy haulage charges, nominal sta-

bling charges and lease charges. No lease charges will be taken if the coaches are purchased. Punctuality will be given priority. Also, coach refur-bishments and itineraries will be promptly approved. There will be no haulage charge for

maintenance runs. Once leased or sold, thirdparty advertisements will be allowed inside the train coaches. Branding of trains will also be allowed, added the Ministry statement.

Modi made these remarks

Phase-II 'Kanya

Ahmedabad, Gujarat

while performing Lokarpan of 'Sardardham Bhavan' and

'Bhoomi Pujan' of 'Sardardham

Chhatralaya' (girls hostel) at

Parl panel to Govt: Sign FTAs with US, EU to help domestic exporters

PNS NEW DELHI

A Parliamentary panel has said the Government should iron out the issues hindering the signing of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the US and the EU nations as domestic exporters are at a disadvantage due to the absence of these agreements.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce chaired by YSR Congress leader Vijaysai Reddy submitted the report to Chairman of Rajya Sabha Venkaiah Naidu on virtual mode on Saturday

The panel has expressed concern that India's exports contracted from 2019-20, registering a negative growth rate of (-) 15.73 per cent in 2020.

In view of the crucial role played by exports in the overall economic growth of a country, the Committee in the report opined that "India needs to step up its effort in export promotion, expand its export baskets and penetrate new export markets to recover from its current slump and increase its share in global exports".

The panel also underlined that the Indian exporters are at a "disadvantage" in the US and the European markets while competing with other exporting nations due to the absence of FTAs with the US and the EU countries.

"The Committee recommends the Department of Commerce to iron out the issues that hindered the signing of FTAs with our leading trade partners and enter into trade agreements that are beneficial for our country while balancing the interest of

♠ The panel has expressed concern that India's exports contracted from 2019-20, registering a negative growth rate of (-) 15.73 per cent in 2020

statement.

The panel also underlined that the Indian exporters are at a "disadvantage" in the US and the European markets while competing with other exporting nations due to the absence of FTAs with the US and the EU countries

The panel also expressed concern that the share of rail freight vis-a-vis road is only 35 per cent whereas the trend is reversed in developed countries



the domestic market with that of our exporters," the report stated.

The panel also expressed concern that the share of rail freight vis-a-vis road is only 35 per cent whereas the trend is reversed in developed countries.

The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry of Railways to undertake a detailed study on the reason for low share of rail and take a concerted effort to increase the share of rail in freight traffic, the report said.

At the same time, the panel said, it is "disheartening to note that the Ministry of Railways is unable to provide competitive freight rate for movement of

export consignment".

The Committee feels that this

will adversely affect the competitiveness of India's exports in global markets as freight cost plays a crucial role in determining the final price of the product, as per the report.

The panel undertook an indepth examination of export-oriented measures and held seven meetings with all stakeholders spanning over for nearly twenty hours, it said.

The panel led by Reddy, who is a noted chartered accountant, in the report recommended the Government to take appropriate measures, relook its export strategies and policies to achieve a positive growth rate of exports and higher share in global exports markets.

9/11-like attacks have permanent solution through Indian humanitarian values: PM

Recalling the terror strikes in the RUS two decades ago, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that the world was today realising that tragedies like 9/11 will have "a permanent solution, only through Indian humanitarian values."

Modi made these remarks while performing the Lokarpan of Sardardham Bhavan' and Bhoomi Pujan' of Sardardham Phase-II 'Kanya Chhatralaya' (girls hostel) at Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

The comments of the Prime Minister about "Indian values" resolving world problem, particularly terrorism, came against the backdrop of the withdrawal of the US troops which had landed in Afghanistan soon after American cities were attacked by Osama-bin-Laden's al-Qaeda terror group on September 11, 2001.

The American intervention then had led to the ouster of the Talibans which are again back in the seat of power in Kabul after 20 years of their political exile.

Addressing the Gujarat event, Modi recalled the 9/11 terror-strikes saying, "Today, September 11th, is a date in the history of the world that is known to have struck humanity. But this date also taught a lot to the whole world! A century ago it was on September 11, 1893, when the World Parliament of Religions was held in Chicago."

Modi reminded that on this day, Swami Vivekananda stood on that global stage and introduced the world to "the human values of India."

Today the world is realising that tragedies like 9/11 will have a permanent solution, only through







Prime Minister Narendra Modi performs Lokarpan of Sardardham Bhavan and Bhoomi Pujan of Sardardham Phase-II Kanya Chhatralaya through video conferencing in New Delhi on Saturday

The comments of the Prime Minister about "Indian values" resolving world problem, particularly terrorism, came against the backdrop of the withdrawal of the US troops which had landed in Afghanistan soon after American cities were attacked by Osamabin-Laden's al-Qaeda terror group on September 11, 2001 Addressing the Gujarat event, Modi recalled the 9/11 terror-strikes saying, "Today,

September 11th, is a date in the history of the world that is known to have struck humanity. But this date also taught a lot to the whole world! A century ago it was on September 11, 1893, when the World Parliament of Religions was held in Chicago"

these humanitarian values," he added. The PM's address through videoconferencing was attended by Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister

The Prime Minister also announced the establishment of a chair in the name of Tamil poet 'Subramania Bharati in Banaras Hindu University. The Prime Minister said September 11th is another big occasion — the 100th death anniversary of India's great scholar, philosopher and freedom fighter Subramania Bharati.

Bharati gave a new direction to his thoughts and new energy while living in Kashi, he said. The philosophy of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' envisioned by Sardar Saheb has been shining with full divinity in the Tamil writings of Mahakavi Bharati he said.

Modi said the hostel facility being inaugurated at Ahmadabad will also help so many girls to come forward. He said the state of the art building, girls hostel and modern library will empower the youth.

Entrepreneurship Development Centre will enrich the

strong business identity of Gujarat and the Civil Service Centre will give new direction to the youth interested in careers in civil, defence and judi-The PM said Sardar Dham will

not only become an establishment for building the future of the country, but also inspire the future generations to live the ideals of Sardar Saheb.

He lauded all the members associated with Sardar Dham Trust for their dedication to the service of humanity. He admired their emphasis on the empowerment of the youth of the Patidar society as well as the poor and especially women. Sardardham Vishwa Patidar Kendra is established to spread awareness about the strength of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's persona among Patidar youth as well as to strengthen the Patidar Community socially, financially, administratively and politically.

Moderna jabs more effective than Pfizer against Delta: Study

PNS NEW DELHI

Moderna's vaccine for Covid-19 is significantly more effective against the Delta variant of the SARS-CoV2 virus than Pfizer or Johnson & Johnson, a new study has said.

Published in Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, the study said Moderna was 95 per cent effective at preventing hospitalisation among adults ages 18 and older.
"These real-world data

show that vaccines remain highly effective at reducing Covid-19 related hospitalisation and emergency department visits, even in the presence of the new Covid-19 variant," said researcher Shaun Grannis from Indiana



University in the US.

"We strongly recommend vaccinations for all who are eligible to reduce serious illness and ease the burden on our healthcare system," Grannis added

The team also found that at preventing hospitalisation among adults ages 18 and

older, while Johnson & Johnson was 60 per cent effective. For the study, the team

analysed more than 32,000 medical encounters from nine States during June, July and August 2021, when the Delta variant became the predominant strain.

The results showed that unvaccinated individuals with Covid-19 are 5-7 times more likely to need emergency department care or hospitalisation, similar to the overall effectiveness prior to the variant.

The study also found that vaccine effectiveness is lower for people 75 years and older, which has not been shown in previous research. This could be due to a range of factors, including the increased time since vaccination, the researchers noted.



An artist makes a painting 9/11 terror attacks on its anniversary, at Lalbaug in

PLANECRASHATKOZHIKODEAIRPORT

Pilot didn't follow **SOPs: Probe report**



PNS NEW DELHI

The Aircraft Accident The Alleran Bureau Investigation Bureau (AAIB) on Saturday released its probe report into the plane crash at Rozhikode airport in August last year that killed at least 20 people and injured several others, pointed out that the pilot's non-adherence to the standard operating procedure is the probable cause of the Air India Express plane crash but the role of the systemic failures as a contributory factor cannot be overlooked.

According to the report, the investigation team is of the opinion that the role of systemic failures as a contributory factor cannot be overlooked in this accident. "A large number of similar accidents/ incidents that have continued to take place, more so in AIXL, reinforce existing systemic failures within the aviation sector.

"These usually occur due to prevailing safety culture that give rise to errors, mistakes and violation of routine tasks performed by people operating within the system. Hence, the contributory factors enumerated below include both the immediate causes and the deep-

er or systemic causes," it added. The report, released a little over a year after the deadly crash of the Air India Express plane, said the "probable cause of the accident was the non adherence to SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) by the

PF (Pilot Flying)".

The PF continued an unstabilised approach and landed beyond the touchdown zone, "half way down the runway, in spite of 'Go Around' call by PM which warranted a mandatory 'Go Around' and the failure of the PM to take over controls and execute a 'Go Around," it noted.

The crash of Air India Express's B737-800 aircraft happened on August 7 at the Kozhikode airport in Kerala. The plane coming from Dubai had overshot the runway at Kozhikode airport and later broke into pieces. There were 190 people onboard the illfated aircraft and at least 20 people, including the two pilots, were killed and several others were injured.

Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said in response to a question during a press conference on Thursday that the report has been submitted to the Ministry. We will release it in the next couple of days into public

Downpour inundates several States

PNS NEW DELHI

The downpour washe, and Delhi. Several States like ¬he downpour wasn't just in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh also witnessed heavy and unusual rainfall on Saturday.

The increase in the num-

directly linked to climate change. This may impact the onion crops and paddy sowing during the kharif season.

The India Meteorological Department's (IMD) latest predictions said these weather conditions are likely to persist over the next 3-4 days in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

According to the IMD, from Sunday onwards, there will be a gradual reduction in the rainfall in Punjab and Haryana. Delhi will receive

fresh spell of rain from September 17-18. The IMD said a low-pres-

sure area lies over East Rajasthan and the neighbourhood with associated cyclonic circulation extending up to middle tropospheric levels. The low-pressure area and its remnant are likely to persist over the same area during 3-4 days. Delhi has witnessed seven heavy rain events this monsoon season so far, the highest in a decade, and these spells account for more than 60 percent of the rainfall recorded in the city.

Mahesh Palawat, vice president of Skymet Weather, a

neutral conditions, lower sea surface temperature in east and central-Pacific ocean, neutral Indian Ocean Dipole and the Madden-Julian oscillation passing through the Indian Ocean were favourable for good rainfall in September.

global conditions such as ENSO

Commuters wade through a waterlogged road after heavy rain in Bikaner on Saturday

A car stuck in a waterlogged underpass road at Zakhira in New Delhi on Saturday

Sikkim shuts schools, colleges once again

Students test Covid-19 positive

The Sikkim Government on Saturday announced that all schools and colleges in the State would be shut down after Covid-19 cases were found among students.

Education Secretary GP Upadhaya said that schools and colleges were opened on September 6. In the schools, classes were being held for students of standard 9 and

However, after some schools reported that at least

five students were found to be Covid-positive, it was decided to shut the educational institutions again till October 31, he

The school and colleges were functioning with 50 per cent staff, and students were attending class only after obtaining the consent of their parents, Upadhaya said.

Covid-positive cases were reported from Government schools in Namthang in South Sikkim, Rhenock in East Sikkim and Yuksom in West Sikkim, besides a private school

at Mangan in North Sikkim district, he said. "The State Government is very concerned that if the schools are not closed the chances of more cases are very high," he said.

All primary contacts of the infected students were being traced and more cases could be reported, he said.

"This is a state-wide trend and we do not want to compromise with the health of the students, which is why the state government has decided to close all schools and colleges," he said.

Siddaramaiah condemns demolition of 'ancient' Hindu temple in Nanjangud

Bengaluru: Former Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday condemned the demolition of an 'ancient' Hindu temple at Nanjangud in Mysuru district and said the BJP Government should have consulted the local residents before taking such an action, 'which has hurt the religious sentiments of the people".

"The destruction of an ancient temple in Nanjangud is condemnable. Since it was a sensitive issue, the @BIP4Karnataka should have spoken to the local residents, The demolition is done without the consultation of the people in the region & has hurt the religious sentiments," he said in a series of tweets. The officials concerned have not followed the

due process, he said. Though there was a court order, the administration should have given a thought before implementing it (order)," he said in another tweet. The Congress leader demanded that a piece of land be earmarked to construct a temple there to compensate for the

18+ students will be vaccinated on priority for reopening educational institutions: J&K L-G

Srinagar: Jammu & Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday said a special drive will be launched to vaccinate students aged above 18 years on priority to enable educational institutions to reopen in the Union Territory.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a function at SKICC here, Sinha said most of the teachers have already been vaccinated against

"We are trying to vaccinate students aged above 18 years on priority and professors and teachers in the academic institutions as well because the aim is to restart the institutions,

A special drive will be conducted for the vaccination of students above the age of 18 as most of the teachers have already been vaccinatAsked about the security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir, the L-G said "all is well", without commenting further.

Earlier, Sinha released a book titled "Analysis of Accreditation Report of Union Territories of Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh" by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) at SKICC.

Speaking on the occasion, the lieutenant governor termed the assessment and accreditation process as an important factor to maintain the quality of education in universities and colleges.

Sinha said the publication will work as an intelligent assistant for academicians, vice-chancellors, prosors and students.

Highlighting the need to introduce new reforms to meet the requirements of the rapidly transforming education system and the changing market dynamics, he said the university and colleges have immense power and a small shift in curriculum can have a decisive impact on the socio-economic envi-

"The future belongs to those students and teachers who can realise their full potential and adapt to rapidly changing requirements," he

"As we are heading towards an era which will be dominated by the knowledge economy, our biggest asset would be the human capital, a combination of talent, skill and creativity. We are making efforts to continuously improve the courses in universities and colleges, incorporating students' feedback to create a conducive environment for learning and innovation," Sinha said.

Beneficiaries wait in queues to receive Covid-19 vaccine dose at the District Hospital in Mirzapur on Saturday

CPI upset with Raja, Annie 17 more Covid for criticising Kerala Police KUMAR CHELLAPPAN KOCHI charged that RSS gangs have infilThe State leaders of the CPI to

The Kerala unit of the CPI on Saturday expressed the party's displeasure over the comments made by its national general secretary D Raja and his wife Annie Raja about the State Police.

Kanam Rajendran, secretary of Kerala unit of the CPI told reporters on Saturday that the husband-wife duo's comments about the State administration and police have brought disrepute to the party and he would inform both of them that party do not subscribe to their views.

Early last week Annie Raja, the CPI's global face, had come down heavily on the Kerala Police and

trated into the police force and this was the reason for the increase in the attacks on women and children in the State. Though hailing from Kerala, Annie Raja is based in New Delhi and rarely comments on State politics.

The CPI(M) took the com-

ments seriously because the police department comes under Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan. But the party did not issue any rejoinder to the comments made by Annie Raja. Vijayan himself told reporters that the comment was serious and would be looked into.

But notes have been exchanged between the leaders of the CPI(M) and the CPI about the comments. objections to the reported comment by Annie and reacted strongly to it. This made D Raja, the national general secretary of the party come out openly and support his spouse.

On Saturday, Rajendran in his media interaction, said that Annie Raja's comments were made in poor taste. "we will inform Raja and Annie about the resentment created in the party over their comments. We do not mind whether Raja is the national secretary or not. Since he and Annie made comments which are not in synch with truth, we will definitely tell them that they erred in making such alle gations," said Rajendran.

deaths in AP

PTI AMARAVATI

Andhra Pradesh reported 1,145 fresh cases of coro-navirus, 1,090 recoveries and 17 deaths in 24 hours ending 9 am on Saturday. A health department bulletin said the state now has

15,157 active Covid positives has climbed to 20,28,795, recoveries to 19,99,651 and toll 13,987, it said.

In 24 hours, East Godavari district added 216 fresh cases to its tally.

SPS Nellore reported 173, Chittoor 132, Krishna 128, Prakasam 117 and Kadapa 111, while the remaining seven districts added less than 100 new cases each, with Kurnool and Vizianagaram logging six and seven Chittoor reported four fresh fatalities, Kadapa and

SPS Nellore three each, Krishna and Prakasam two each, East Godavari, Guntur and Srikakulam one each in a

After 97 yrs, Kerala seeks probe into poet death

KOCHI: Ninety seven years after he died in a boat capsize, Kerala is agog with demands for a comprehensive probe into the death of Kumaranaasan, the great poet and father figure of Malayalam renaissance movement.

It was on January 16, 1924, Kumaranaasan, one of the tri-umvirates of modern Malayalam poetry and a philosopher par excellence died in a boat mishap in the 25-meter-wide stretch of Pallana River. The poet and 34 others perished in the river while all employees and commuters on the deck swam to safety.

Kumaranaasan was travelretrieved on the third day but Redeemer.

curiously, the suite in which he was travelling was found to be locked from outside.

'The poet would not have drowned or sunk along with the boat because he was a good swimmer. He grew up along the backwaters and he was known as an ace swimmer," P Sujathan, veteran journalist who has undertaken a lot of research and studies on the life and times of the late

What has shocked thousands of fans of the late poet is the mysterious disappearance of the report by the P Cherian Commission of Enquiry, which was appointed by the then stature. His dead body was to probe the sinking of the boat

Lucknow: Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra held a review meeting with party leaders here on Saturday during which discussions were held on several issues, including

In a statement, the party said deliberations were held on the poll strategy for western UP and Gandhi sought reports from every village.

The farmers' protest over the three

the farmers' protest over the three agri

agri laws also came up for discussions, the statement said. Thousands of farmers from Uttar Pradesh and neighbouring states had

gathered at Muzaffarnagar on Sunday for a 'Kisan Mahapanchayat', months ahead of the crucial UP assembly polls. The event was organised by the

Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) at the Government Inter College ground in

In another meeting held for State's



Priyanka holds review meeting with UP party leaders

Ruhelkhand zone, Gandhi said a strong organisation is needed not only for the party but also for nation

She also urged the party workers to work for 24 hours during the elec-

to take out a 12,000 km-long yatra through villages and towns of Uttar routes and issues that will be taken up during the yatra, the party said. *PTI* Pradesh and on the basis of the works during the yatra, the party said. *PTI*

Pradesh ahead of the assembly polls The decision to take out the

"Congress Pratigya Yatra:Hum Vachan Nibhayenge" was taken at a meeting presided over by Gandhi, and attended by members of the party's advisory and strategy committee here, the Congress had said in a statement.

Priyanka had arrived here on Thursday to review the party's preparations in the run up to the polls.

The yatra will draw attention of people to issues of corruption, inflation, crime, violence against women, unemployment and poor health services, the party said on Friday.

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

SP launches 'Jan Mann-Vijay' campaign for UP Assembly polls

Lucknow: The Samajwadi Party (SP) on Saturday announced its Jan Mann-Vijay campaign for the next year Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls, on a day the BJP launched its 'Vijay Booth Abhiyan' for the elections.

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav also said that the party through its 'Har Booth Par Youth' programme will reach out to the people of the state and ensure the success of the cam-

power of the SP will create public

win the hearts of all the people and ensure the success of the Jan-Mann Vijay Abhiyan' at the booth level," he said in a tweet in Hindi. The former Uttar Pradesh chief

minister announced the 'Jan Mann-Vijay Abhiyan' and the 'Har Booth Par Youth' programme on the microblogging site.

"The awakened people of Uttar Pradesh will bring a democratic revolution," Yadav said.

Earlier on Saturday, BJP presi-"In the 2022 election, the youth dent J P Nadda launched his party's 'Vijay Booth Abhiyan' (organisational units) in Uttar

Maha: Man held for raping | Man sentenced to mentally-challenged girl

Palgha: A 31-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly raping a mentally-challenged girl in Maharashtra's Palghar district, police said on Saturday. The police on Thursday nabbed the accused, a labourer from Nalla Sopara in Vasai, senior inspector Pramod Badhak said.

According to the police, the accused allegedly kidnapped the victim, took her to an isolated place on his motorcycle and raped her there on Wednesday, he said.

Based on technical and intelligence inputs, the crime unit-3 zeroed in on the accused within 24 hours and arrested him under relevant sections of the IPC and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, the official

life imprisonment for raping 7-year-old girl

Hamirpur: A special POCSO court has sentenced a 45-year-old man to life imprisonment for raping a seven-year-old girl. Special judge POCSO court Praveen

Kumar Sonkar on Friday announced the verdict and imposed a fine of ₹5 lakh on the convict, Gayadeen Prajapati, manager of a private school. District Government advocate Rudra Pratap Singh said Prajapati raped the girl on February 28, 2019 when she had gone to attend a coaching class.

7 killed, 9 injured in road accidents in 2 Assam dists

Rangiya/Goalpara/Guwahati (Assam): At least seven people have been killed and nine others injured in separate road accidents in Assam, police said on Saturday.

Four people were killed and eight others injured when an ambulance collided with a tempo at Baihata Chariali in Kamrup (Rural) district late on Friday night. Two people died on the

The injured people, including the ambulance driver, have been admitted to the Gauhati Medical College and Hospital. In another accident, a vehi-

cle hit a motorcycle which in turn hit another vehicle coming from the opposite direction at Amjonga in Dudhnoi police station area of Goalpara district on Friday night, another officer said.

Two of the three persons riding on the motorcycle were spot, while two others later suckilled on the spot, while the third was hospitalised. *PTI* filled to operate them from 25 to 5 and decreasing the types of cumbed to their injuries at the hospital, a police officer said.

Medicine delivery by drones to be piloted in 16 green zones in T'gana, says Scindia

Vikarabad (T'gana): Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiradtiya Scindia on Saturday said "Medicines from the Sky project under which drugs and vaccines are delivered using drones, will be taken up on a pilot basis in 16 green zones in Telangana and scaled up to the national level based on data.

Launching 'Medicines from the Sky' project here, Scindia said the new Drone Policy brought out by the NDA government at the Centre recently eased rules regarding drone operations in the country by reducing the number of forms that need to be fee charged from the operator from 72 to 4. Under the Green zone, no permission is needed to fly drones. Whereas permissions are needed in Yellow zone while Red Zones are no fly areas.

"In 16 Green Zones this 'Medicines from the Sky' project will be taken up. The data will be analyased for three months. We along with the Health Ministry, IT Ministry, State Government and the Centre will together analyse the data and make model for the whole country. Today is a revolutionary day not only for Telangana but for the whole country," the Minister said. Scindia said under the visionary leadership of

the Drone Policy was envisaged. He further said an interactive aerospace map is being prepared.

With the help of the map, various zones are being earmarked with the help of states. The 'Medicine from the Sky' is an initiative of Telangana in partnership with World Economic Forum, NITI Aayog, and HealthNet Global (Apollo Hospitals). The project was launched on experimental Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) drone flights for delivery of vaccines using the identified airspace of the Vikarabad

Mumbai woman raped and brutally assaulted with rod dies

woman, who had been raped and brutalised with a rod by a man inside a stationary tempo in suburban Sakinaka area, died at a hospital during treatment in the early hours of Saturday, police said.

The crime which bore a chilling similarity to the 2012 'Nirbhaya' gangrape case of Delhi took place in the wee hours of Friday. The suspect who had been arrested within a few hours of the incident has been now charged with mur-While the city police formed a Special Investigation

Team to probe the incident, opposition BJP demanded capital punishment for the accused and questioned if women were safe in Maharashtra. Maharashtra

Minister Uddhav Thackeray termed the incident as a a "blot

"The trial in the case will be held on a fast track and the victim, who succumbed to injuries today, will get justice," he said in a statement. He has discussed the case with state Home Minister Dilip Walse-Patil and Mumbai Police Commissioner Hemant Nagrale, Thackeray added. The Sakinaka area in the western suburbs has several industrial

According to police, accused Mohan Chouhan (45) worked as a driver and lived on the pavement in the same area. Besides being raped, the victim woman was assaulted with an iron rod in her private parts and lost a lot of blood, a police official said. She had also been stabbed with a knife, he added. Police commissioner Nagrale told reporters that the crime

came to light when the watch-

man of a company located on Khairani Road called the police control room and said that a man was seen thrashing a woman. Police reached the spot within 10 minutes and found the victim inside a parked tempo.

As her condition was serious, they decided to take her to hospital in the same vehicle so as to save time. They got the key of the tempo from the watchman and drove her to Rajawadi hospital in suburban Ghatkopar, the commissioner

The police also obtained CCTV footage of the spot. A man seen leaving the tempo was identified as Mohan Chouhan who hails from Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, the commissioner said.

He was arrested and produced before a court which sent him in police custody till

His blood-stained clothes were They would be sent for

forensic analysis to find out if it is the victim's blood, the commissioner added. A Special Investigation Team has been formed to conduct the probe, said. "Assistant Commissioner of Police Jyotsna Rasam will be the investigation officer. The probe will be completed within a month, and the case will be tried before a fast-track court as the Chief Minister announced," the commission-

"As the victim was unconscious, her statement could not be recorded. Therefore police are as yet clueless about what exactly happened. But it will be ascertained during the investigation,"



A fisherman casts his net on River Hooghly, in Nadia district of West Bengal on Saturday

Biden, Obama, Clinton mark 9/11 US marks 20 yrs since 9/11, in NYC with display of unity

Three Presidents and their wives stood somberly side by side on Saturday at the National September 11 Memorial, sharing a moment of silence to mark the anniversary of the nation's worst terror attack with a display of unity.

Presidents Joe Biden, Barack Obama and Bill Clinton all gathered at the site where the World Trade Center towers fell two decades ago. They each wore blue ribbons and held their hands over their hearts as a procession marched a flag through the memorial, watched by hundreds of Americans gathered for the remembrance, some carrying photos of loved ones lost in the

Before the event began, a jet flew overhead in an eerie echo of the attacks, drawing a



President Joe Biden, centre, calls out as he is joined by, from left, former President Bill Clinton, former First Lady Hillary Clinton, former President Barack Obama, former First Lady Michelle Obama, First Lady Jill Biden and former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, during the annual 9/11 Commemoration Ceremony at the National 9/11 Memorial and Museum on Saturday in New York

glance from Biden toward the crossed and head bowed, lissky. For much of the ceremo-

tening while the names of the

victims were read. At one point,

ne president wiped a tear from his eye.

Biden was a senator when hijackers commandeered four planes and executed the attack. Now he marks the 9/11 anniversary for the first time as commander in chief.

The president was spending Saturday paying his respects at the trio of sites where the planes crashed, but he left the speech-making to others.

Vice President Kamala Harris spoke at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, commemorating the heroes who brought down a hijacked plane that was headed for the US Capitol. Harris praised their courage and the resilience of the American people, and spoke about the unity that Americans experienced in the days following the

in shadow of Af war's end

The 9/11 anniversary com-I memoration at ground zero began Saturday with a tolling bell and a moment of silence, exactly 20 years after the start of the deadliest terror attack on US soil.

President Joe Biden, former presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton joined a crowd of victims' relatives and first responders at the Sept. 11 memorial plaza in New York. The memorial stands where the the World Trade Center's twin towers were rammed and felled by hijacked planes.

Observances are also planned at the the two other sites where the 9/11 conspirators crashed the jets: the Pentagon and a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Biden is scheduled to pay respects at all three places.

The anniversary comes under the pall of a pandemic



debris explode from the second tower

and in the shadow of the US withdrawal from Afghanistan, now ruled by the same militants who gave safe haven to the 9/11 plotters.

The attacks killed nearly

3,000 people and marked the start of a new era of fear, war, politics, patriotism and tragedy.

"It's hard because you

hoped that this would just be a different time and a different world. But sometimes history starts to repeat itself and not in the best of ways," said Thea Trinidad, who lost her father in the attacks and has signed up to read victims' names at the ceremony at ground zero in

RNI, as the country's new Prime Minister and tasked him with MERKEL'S LAST VISIT TO WARSAW AS CHANCELLOR Warsaw: German Chancellor Angela Merkel is visiting the

APPOINTS A NEW PM

Mohammed VI has named Aziz Akhanouch of the liberal National Rally of Independents Party, or

Polish capital on Saturday for talks with PM Mateusz Morawiecki. The Polish Government said it would be Merkel's last visit to Warsaw as the chancellor of Germany.

GUNMEN KILL 2 PAKISTANI SOLDIERS IN BALOCHISTAN

Quetta: Two Pakistani soldiers were killed and another was seriously hurt when unidentified gunmen opened fire on their convoy in the country's restive Balochistan province.

EIGHT KILLED IN GAS EXPLOSION IN CHINA Beijing: Eight people were killed and five others injured in an explosion and fire caused by a liquefied gas cylinder leakage on Saturday at a residential building in the Chinese city of Dalian, local officials said.

4 PALESTINIAN ESCAPEES CAPTURED, 2 AT LARGE Jerusalem: Israeli media reports

say two more of the six Palestinian who broke out of a maximum-security prison this week have been arrested at dawn Saturday, leaving two prisoners

South Korea backs America in terrorism fight Seoul: South Korean President Moon Jae-in has

expressed his "deepest sympathies" to U.S. President Joe Biden and the American people marking the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and says South Korea as a key ally will continue to support U.S. Efforts to fight terrorism. Moon in a message posted on Twitter and

Facebook Saturday said the "shock of that day still remains as deep wounds in the hearts of so many" and that "no violence can win against peace and inclusiveness.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

NIT No:- 06/EE/PMGSY/Bla/e-TENDERING-OF 2021-22 Dated:- 08/09/2021 or and on behalf of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Baramu nvite e-tenders on **Item Rate Basis** for the following works including ⁹ts maintenance as per PMGSY MORTH guidlines from the eligible & approved contractors of J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and othe

S.No. 1 Name of Work/ Package No.: Construction & Maintenance of Road from Seeru to Dangerpora Stage 2nd, Package No. JK03-117, Phase VIII (Balance Portion)

Tender Cost Incl GST (Rs In Lacs.) Construction Part: 78.95, Tender Cost Incl GST (Rs In Lacs.)

Maintenance Part: -7.90, Tender Cost Incl GST (Rs in Lacs.) to the Lacs.) Total: -86.85, Cost of documents (Rs in Lacs.): -0.08, Time for completion (Days): -185 Days, Tender Call: -2nd, Time and date of opening of tenders online (Technical Bid): -16-09-2021 At 11.00 AM, Class of contractor: -'A' Class in PWD or equivalent in CPWD/Railways and other state Governments

1. The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in from 09-09-2021 (09:00 AM) to 15-09-2021 upto 4:30 PM, 2. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website three transfers of the contractor o

the website www.pmgsytendersik.gov.in from 10-09-2021 (10:00 AM) to 15-09-2021 upto 04:30 PM. The bid uploaded on the Website up to due date and time will be opened online on 16-09-2021 at 11:00 AM in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue. 3. The complete bidding process will be online. 4. Cost of Bid Form: - Rs. 8,000/- (Rupees Eight Thousand only, per package (non-refundable) only in form of Demand Draft in favour of Accounts Officer PMGSY Kashmir payable at Srinagar. 5. The bidders are requested to quote their rates excluding GST. GST @12% shall be added to the contract value by the allotting authority at the time of issue of allotment. 6. A Pre-bid neeting will be held on 09-09-2021 at 11:00 AM in the Office of Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Baramula to clarify the issues and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage as stated in Clause 9 of instruction to bidders of the Bidding documents. <u>The intending Bidders, before</u> attending the Pre-bid meeting, are advised to visit the site of work and acquaint themselves with the site conditions. It has been made mandatory for all the intending bidders to participate in the pre-bid meeting on the scheduled date and time. 7. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website <u>www.pmgsytenders.gov.in</u>. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (cA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: <u>www.pmgsytenders.gov.in</u> Bids must be accompanied by cost of documents and bid security declaration in the form as specified in the Bidding Document. The Demand Draft on account of cost of bidding document shall be pledged to Account Officer PMGSY Kashmir payable at srinagar. The bid security declaration should be submitted as per formal ble in the Standard Bidding Dod nent duly attested by the First Class Magistrate, 9. The Hard Copy of original instruments in respect of <u>cost of bidding document</u>, <u>bid security declaration, Bank Credi</u> <u>facility</u> and <u>original copy of affidavits</u> must be delivered in the office of Executive Engineer PMGS\ Division Baramulla on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technica qualification part of the bid either by Registered Post or by hand failing which the bids shall be eclared non-responsive. 10. The bidders are advised to upload the required documents/information trictly as per the formats given in Section 3-Qualification Information. The bidder who fails to comply with th said instructions shall be declared as non-responsive. 11. The date and time of opening of Financial Bids shall be notified on Web Site http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in. This is conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids shall be opened accordingly on line on same Web Site at the Office of Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Baramulla 12. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

Note:- The intending bidders are advised to study the entire bidding document before preparation and submission of their bids. This includes clause 3 (Eligible Bidders), 4 (Qualification of Bidders) of ITB (Instruction to Bidders), Appendix to ITB, Section 3 (Qualification Information), Contract Data to G.C.C. & Section 7 of Bidding Documen

No:-EE/PMGSY/Bla/e-Tendering/2122-55 No. DIPK-8243/21 Dated: 10.09.2021

Sd/- Executive Engineer **PMGSY Division Baramulla**

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PMGSY DIVISION BARAMULLA

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

NIT No:- 05/EE/PMGSY/Bla/e-TENDERING-OF 2021-22 Dated:- 07/09/2021 or and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Baramul

nvite e-tenders on **Item Rate Basis** for the following works including its maintenance as per PMGSY MORTH guidlines from the eligible & approved contractors of J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and othe

S.No. 1 Name of Work/ Package No.: Construction & Maintenance of Road from Seeru to Dangerpora Stage 2nd, Package No. JK03-117, Phase VIII (Balance Portion)

08-09-2021 (11:30 PM) to 14-09-2021 upto 4:30 PM. 2. The Bids shall be deposited in electron

Tender Cost Incl GST (Rs In Lacs.) Construction Part: - 34.97, Tender Cost Incl GST (Rs In Lacs.) Maintenance Part: - 3.50, Tender Cost Incl GST (Rs In Lacs.) Total: - 38.47, Cost of documents (Rs in Lacs): - 0.06, Time for completion (Days): - 185 Days, Tender Call: - 2nd, Time and date of opening of tenders online (Technical Bid): - 15-09-2021 At 11.00 AM, Class of contractor: - 'A' Class in PWD of the contractor in the uivalent in CPWD/Railways and other state Governments

The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in from

the website www.pmgsytendersjk.gov.in from 09-09-2021 (10:00 AM) to 14-09-2021 upto 04:30 PM. The bid uploaded on the Website up to due date and time will be opened online on 15-09-2021 at 11:00 AM in the resence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of th bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue. 3. The complete bidding process will be on line. 4. Cost of Bid Form:- Rs. 6,000/- (Rupees Six Thousand only) per package (non-refundable) only in form of Demand Draft in favour of Accounts Officer PMGSY Kashmir payable at Srinagar. 5. The bidders are requested to quote their rates excluding GST. GST @12% shall be added to the contract value by the allotting authority at the time of issue of allotment. 6. A Pre-bid meeting will be held on 08-09-2021 at 11:00 AM in the Office of Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Baramula to clarify the issues and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage as stated in Clause 9 of instruction to bidders of the Bidding documents. The intending Bidders, before attending the Pre-bid meeting, are advised to visit the site of work and acquaint themselves with the site conditions. It has been made mandatory for all the intending bidders to participate in the pre-bid meeting on the scheduled date and time. 7. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission. The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website. www.pmgsytenders.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cos or submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password fo participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: www.pmgsytenders.gov.in i. Bids must be accompanied by cost of documents and bid security declaration in the form as specified in the bidding Document. The Demand Draft on account of cost of bidding document shall be pledged to Account Officer PMGSY Kashmir payable at srinagar. The bid security declaration should be submitted as per formation wailable in the Standard Bidding Document duly attested by the First Class Magistrate. **9.** The **Hard Copy** original instruments in respect of **cost of bidding document**, <u>bid security declaration</u>, **Bank Cred** acility and original copy of affidavits must be delivered in the office of Executive Engineer PMGS Division Baramulla on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technica qualification part of the bid either by Registered Post or by hand failing which the bids shall be eclared non-responsive. 10. The bidders are advised to upload the required documents/informatio trictly as per the formats given in Section 3-Qualification Information. The bidder who fails to comply with th strictly as per tine formats given in Section 3-Qualification information. The bloder who fails to comply with each great part and time of opening of Financial:

Bids shall be notified on Web Site http://pmgsytendersik.gov.in. This is conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail messaage on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids shall be opened accordingly on line on same Web Site at the Office of Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Baramulla 12. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

Note:- The intending bidders are advised to study the entire bidding document before preparation and submission of their bids. This includes clause 3 (Eligible Bidders), 4 (Qualification of Bidders) o ITB (Instruction to Bidders), Appendix to ITB, Section 3 (Qualification Information), Contract Data to

G.C.C. & Section 7 of Bidding Document

No:-EE/PMGSY/Bla/e-Tendering/2071-2104 Sd/- Executive Engineer PMGSY

Terrorists failed to shake belief in democracy: Boris

 $T_{9/11}^{he}$ terrorists behind the United States failed to shake the belief in freedom and democracy, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said on Saturday, as the world marked the 20th anniversary of the terror strikes.

In a message on Twitter, Johnson said that while the terror threat may not have gone away, people have refused to live in "permanent fear".

"Today we remember the 2,977 people taken from us on September 11th 2001," said

Kabul: The Taliban flag waved over the

Afghan presidential palace the same day

the U.S. And the world marked the 20th

anniversary of the September 11 attacks.

takes place just weeks after the chaot-

ic U.S. Withdrawal from Afghanistan

and the return to power of the Taliban,

the faction that sheltered the Muslim

militant group founded by Osama bin

and could be seen waving over the pres-

The Taliban flag was raised Friday

Laden that carried out the attacks.

Sub: Upgradiation of Existing David System.

Hip Abduction Assembly

No: SIMS 324-37-2021-Eq-2734-39

The milestone anniversary Saturday

Johnson in his message.
"But while the terrorists imposed their burden of grief and suffering, we can now say with the perspective of 20 years that they failed to shake our belief in freedom and democracy," he said.

That we are coming together today — in sorrow but also in faith and resolve demonstrates the failure of terrorism," he said.

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II also offered her sympathies to the victims, survivors and families affected by the attacks 20

The iconic Taliban flag is painted on a wall outside

The militant group also painted their

Diagonal Shoulder Abduction

Sd/- Materials Management Officer,

the American embassy in Kabul on Saturday

Taliban flag flies at Af

Presidential Palace

Singapore PM warns that fight against terrorism 'is far from over'

Singapore: Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong warned on Saturday that the fight against terrorism is "far from over" two decades after the 9/11 attack in the United States, and that terrorist groups in faraway places were serious threats to Singapore.

"Terrorist groups in these faraway places were serious threats to Singapore," he said in commentary published on the 20th anniversary of the Al-Qaeda attacks in the United



A firefighter places his hand on the name engravings on the south pool during ceremonies to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks on Saturday at the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York

at least 15 after uprising call

 $F^{\text{ifteen to 20 villagers, including several teenagers, have}$ been killed in some of Myanmar's deadliest fighting between July Government troops and resistance forces, a villager and reports by independent media

said on Friday. The fighting near Gangaw white backdrop flag on the wall of the township in the northwestern Thursday, two days after a call for a nationwide uprising was issued by the National Unity Government, a Opposition organisation that seeks to coordinate resistance to military

> The fighting broke out when more than 100 troops arrived in four military vehicles to secure the area in Myin Thar

and five other nearby villages, a resident told The Associated *Press* by phone. Members of a lightly

Fighting in Myanmar kills

armed village self-defense militia fired warning shots but could not stop the soldiers from entering the area and clashes continued after that, said the resident, who spoke on condition of anonymity to safeguard his personal security.

The opposition movement February seizure of power from the elected Government of Aung San Suu Kyi was initialpeaceful, but gradually began fighting back after security forces used deadly force to break up nonviolent protests.

The National Unity Government's call on Tuesday for a "people's defensive war" has received an enthusiastic response on social media, but its actual impact on the ground is hard to measure.

Media sympathetic to the opposition reported an out-burst of small-scale shootings and sabotage by the resistance, particularly the toppling of cell phone transmission

But similar activities have been happening for several months and details are difficult

The villager who described the new fighting said at least 11 members of the self-defense group were killed, according to what others in his village told him. Photos of what were described to be their bodies circulated widely Friday on the internet, and were clear enough to be identifiable to those

Taliban's victory in Afghanistan might embolden other groups in different parts of world: UN chief

United Nations: The Taliban's victory in Afghanistan might embolden other groups in different parts of the world, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has warned, expressing his worry over global terrorism while asserting that dialogue with the militant group is "absolutely essential" as the UN wants the country to play a "constructive role" in international relations.

"I must tell you, I am very worried with what we are witnessing in different parts of the world. And the fact that in Afghanistan, the Taliban were able to win might embolden other groups in different parts of the world independently of the fact that they are different from the Taliban and I am not seeing there is a similarity among them," Guterres said during a Press conference on Friday at the UN Headquarters.

US pulls missile defences in Saudi amid Yemen attacks

Dubai: The US has removed its most advanced missile defence system and Patriot batteries from Saudi Arabia in recent weeks, even as the kingdom faced continued air attacks from Yemen's Houthi rebels, satellite photos analysed by The Associated Press show.

The redeployment of the defenses from Prince Sultan Air Base outside of Riyadh came as America's Gulf Arab allies nervously watched the chaotic withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan, including their last-minute evacuations from Kabul's besieged international airport. While tens of thousands of American forces remain across the Arabian Peninsula as a counterweight to Iran, Gulf Arab nations worry about the US's future plans as its military perceives a growing threat in Asia that requires those missile defences.

Covid-19 infections spread through gorillas at Atlanta zoo

tlanta's zoo says at least 13 Atlantas zoo says at React I have tested positive for Covid-19, including 60-year-old Ozzie, the oldest male gorilla in captivity. Zoo Atlanta said on Friday

that employees noticed the gorillas had been coughing, had runny noses and showed changes in appetite. A veterinary lab at the



the gorillas at risk of developing complications from SARS-

bodies. The zoo is also testing all 20 of its gorillas, who live in four troops Zoo officials say they

CoV-2 with monoclonal anti-

believe an asymptomatic employee who cares for the gorillas passed on the virus. The employee had been fully vaccinated and was wearing protective equipment such as a mask and gloves.

The zoo says there's no evidence that the gorillas can

University of Georgia returned Sd/- Chief Engineer PMGS) positive tests for the respiratory illness. Zoo Atlanta says it's

waiting on confirmation from the National Veterinary Services Lab in Ames, Iowa. The zoo says it is treating

pass the virus back to humans and says visitors are too far away to be infected by gorillas.

No. DIPK-8175/21 Dated: 09.09.2021

Division Baramulla

No:-CEJ/PMGSY/10840-10909

No. DIP/J-6371/21 Dated: 09.09.2021

Bidding Documents can tender for the works.

Dated:-06-09-2021

DIPK-NB-3355/21 Dated :- 10.09.2021 **GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR** OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER PMGSY (JKRRDA) JAMMU.

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS E-NIT No:- CEJ/PMGSY/681 of 2021-22 Dated:- 06/09/2021 Chief Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Jammu on behalf of The Government of Jammu & Kashm vites e-tenders on %age Above/Excess (+) OR %age Below/ Less (-) basis (i.e. on Percentage Rate Basis) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt, CPWD, Railway or equivalent and other State Govts up to 5.00 PM on 18-09-2021 for each of the following works

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, SOURA SRINAGAR- 190011

Email: aamoimports@SKIMS.ac.in, Fax: 0194-2403403

SKIMS intends to procure the following accessories from M/S, David Health Solutions Ltd. Finland being their proprietary item as claimed by the company, for updating the existing computerized digital spinal hip and knee shoulder analyzer in PMR SKIMS

In this connection, objections (if any) from companies manufacturing/marketing, such equipment capable of

delivering the same result as intended from the above equipment, regarding the proprietary nature of the above item should be communicated within 10 days on the above mentioned email id/fax after which the

IMPORTS SECTION

2. Spine Concept Rotary Torso Back Lateral Flextion

claim of the company who has claimed for the proprietorship of the said item shall not be accepted.

S.No. 1 Name of Work/ Package No. :- Construction of 99 Mtr. (Revised 115 Mtr) Span Through Type Steel Truss Girder Motorable Bridge in Km 1st RD 0-125 on Ganjote to Phalni Road, Package No. JK14-688, Regular PMGSY, Batch-I, 2018-19 Block Mahore District Reasi. Advertised Cost

including Defect Liability & Maintenance Period of three years for Stage-I and five years for Stage-

excluding Maintenance but inclusive of GST = Rs. 419.75 Lacs

Name of the PIU :- Reasi, Constt. Part (Rs. In Lacs) :- 419.75, Maintt. Part (Rs. In Lacs :-Total (Rs. In lacs): -419.75, Cost of documents (Rs in Lacs): -0.06, Earnest Money (Rs. In Lacs) :-----, Time Allowed for completion: 12 Months, Call of tender: 2nd, Time and date of opening of tenders: 21-09-2021 10.00 AM, Class of contractor: Any registered contractor with State PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard

S.No. 2 Name of Work/ Package No. :- i) Construction of 40 Mtr. (Revised 50 Mtr.) Long Throug Package no. JK14-652, Regular PMGSY (Batch-1, 2018-19), Block Mahore, District Reasi Advertised Cost excluding Maintenance but inclusive of GST = Rs. 190.00 Lacs

Block Mahore, District Reasi Advertised Cost excluding Maintenance But inclusive of GST = Rs. 190.00 Lacs

Construction of 50 Mtr. Long Through Type Steel Truss Girder Motorable Bridge in Km 8th RD 100-200 on Hamusan to Dankdot road, Package no. JK14-653, Regular PMGSY (Batch-1, 2018-19), Block Mahore, District Page Advertised Cost excluding Maintenance but inclusive of GST = Rs. Block Mahore, District Reasi Advertised Cost excluding Maintenance but inclusive of GST = Rs

Name of the PIU: - Mahore, Constt. Part (Rs. In Lacs): - 380.00, Maintt. Part (Rs. In Lacs: ---,Total (Rs. In lacs) :-380.00, Cost of documents (Rs in Lacs) :-0.06, Earnest Money (Rs. In cs) :------, Time Allowed for completion :-12 Months, Call of tender :-2nd, Time and date of opening of tenders: 21-09-2021 10.00 AM, Class of contractor: Any registered contractor with State PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard Bidding Documents can tender for the works

1.(a) The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http://pmgsytendersik.gov.ii On 08-09-2021 to 18-09-2021 (5.00PM). (b) The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.i from 05.00 PM on 10-09-2021 to 05.00 PM on 18-09-2021.

(c) A Pre bid meeting will be held on 09-09-2021 at 12.00 Noon in the Office of The Chief Enginee PMGSY (JKRRDA) Jammu to clarify the issues and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage as stated in Clause 9 of instruction to bidders of the Bidding documents.

2. Only online submission of bids is permitted, therefore; bids must be submitted online on websi www.pmgsytendersjk.gov.in. The technical qualification part of the bids will be opened online at 10 A.M on 21-09-2021 by the authorized officers. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening if the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day at the same time 3. For further details kindly visit our website https://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in.

> (JKRRDA) Jammu Government of Jammu & Kashmi

Custom duties on edible oil reduced to ease prices

In order to arrest price rise in Ledible oils, the Government has slashed import duty on palm, sunflower and soyabean oil to bring relief to the common man reeling under skyrocketing cooking oils prices. The decision comes after edible oil prices have seen a spike up to 50 per cent in the last one year. The reduction in taxes could bring down prices of the edible oils in India and boost consumption, effectively increasing overseas buying by the south Asian country. In the last few months, the Centre has cut import duty on various edible oils and asked states to take details of stock of edible oils and oilseeds from wholesalers, millers, refiners and stockists. "With effect from Saturday,

the base import tax on crude palm oil has been slashed to 2.5 percent from 10 percent, while the tax on crude soyoil and crude sunflower oil has been reduced to 2.5 percent from 7.5 Finance said in a notification.

The import duty along with cesses on crude palm oil (CPO) will be 24.75 per cent against 30.25 per cent. On RBD (refined, bleached, and deodorized) palm oil, it will come down to 35.75 per cent from 41.25 per cent. For crude degummed soybean oil, the new rate will be 24.75 per cent against 30.25 per cent and on refined soybean oil, the rate has been lowered to 35.75 per cent from 41.25 per cent. Duty has also been lowered in crude sunflower oil to 24.75 per cent from 30.25 per cent. After the cuts, crude palm oil, soyoil and sunflower oil imports will be subject to a 24.75 percent tax in total, including a 2.5 percent base import duty and other taxes, while refined grades of palm oil, soyoil and sunflower oil would carry a 35.75 percent

Earlier, the government has also reduced import duty on edible oils last month. In a

percent," the Ministry of major step last month, the government has reduced the price of cooking oil. The Centre has made 7.5 per cent reduction in the import duty of soya oil and sunflower oil in August. While the move was meant to cool down domestic prices of edible oils, it failed to do so as international prices in Indonesia and Malaysia rose quickly to near record highs anticipating a renewed demand

from Indian buyers.

India fulfils more than two-thirds of its edible oil demand through imports and has been struggling to contain a rally in local oil prices for the last few months. The country imports palm oil mainly from top producers Indonesia and Malaysia, while other oils, such as soy and sunflower, come from Argentina, Brazil, Ukraine and Russia.

The Kharif soyabean crop of the 2021-22 crop year (July-June) is expected to be 5-10 per cent higher than the same period a year ago.

Report: CNG price may rise 10-11% in October

PTI NEW DELHI

CNG and piped cooking gas prices in cities such as Delhi and Mumbai may be hiked by 10-11 per cent next month as the Governmentdictated gas price is set to rise by about 76 per cent, ICICI Securities said in a report. The Government, using

rates prevalent in gas-surplus nations, fixes the price of natural gas produced by firms such as state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) from fields given to them on nomination basis, every six months. The next review is due on October 1.

The price, referred to as APM or administered rate, will rise to \$ 3.15 per million British thermal unit (mmBtu) for the period from October 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022 from the current USD 1.79, the brokerage said.

The rate for gas from deepwater fields such as KG-D6 of Reliance Industries Ltd and BP Plc would rise to \$7.4

per mmBtu next month.

Natural gas is the raw material that is converted into compressed natural gas (CNG) for use in automobiles as fuel or piped to household kitchens for cooking pur-

"The expected surge in APM gas prices would pre-sent a challenge to city gas distribution (CGD) players as it would mean a rise in their gas cost for CNG and residential piped natural gas," it said. "ÂPM gas price rise would mean hefty price hikes would have to be made by IGL (that retails CNG in national capital and adjoining cities) and MGL (which retail CNG in Mumbai) in the next

The city gas distributors (CGD) "would have to make price hikes of 10-11 per cent in October," ICICI Securities said in a report.

Going by the trend in international markets, the APM gas price is likely to rise to USD 5.93 per mmBtu in Ltd (RIL).

2022 and to USD 7.65 during October 2022 to March 2023

This would mean another 22-23 per cent hike in CNG and piped natural gas prices in April 2022 and 11-12 per cent in October 2022,

"Rise in APM gas price from USD 1.79 per mmBtu in H1FY22 to USD 7.65 per mmBtu in H2FY23E would mean MGL and IGL would have to make price hikes of 49-53 per cent during October 2021 to October 2022," it said. "CGD players may be able to make the required hefty price hikes given sharply higher prices of competing fuels, petrol and diesel. However, some hit to prevailing lofty margins of MGL and IGL cannot be ruled out."

The rise in gas price would help boost margins of ONGC and Oil India Ltd as well as private companies such as Reliance Industries

CBIC directs officers to take steps for easing availability of containers for exporters

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs has directed its officers to expeditiously dispose the unclaimed, uncleared, and confiscated goods that are holding up containers, a move aimed at easing availability of containers for exporters.

In an instruction to its field officers, the CBIC said that they should take proactive steps so that containers housing imported cargo that are under enquiry are expeditiously released.

"To continue the emphasis on enhancing the availability of containers, the Board has decided that the field formations also....Dispose expeditiously unclaimed/uncleared/seized/confiscated goods including that are

holding up containers following the timelines and procedures prescribed in a Board's circular," it said. It added that field formations had reported certain reasons such as court cases, held by intelli-

gence agencies for non-release of Exporting community has time

and again raised the issue of shortage of containers as it affects exports.

Commenting on this, Ludhiana Hand Tools Association President S C Ralhan said that it is a good move by the government, but the big question is that where court cases are there, it will not be possible to lease those containers.

"But at the moment, it looks like there will be a lot of containers available for exporters," Ralhan said.

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) DG Ajay Sahai said that about 20,000 containers are still stuck up with custodian (Ports/ CONCOR/ CWC) as these have been either detained by agencies or abandoned by the importers. "The number is not very large but at this point of time when supply is inadequate, this will help. The proactive action by Customs will help in releasing them and adding them to supply. However, similar time bound action is needed by the Custodians as well," Sahai said.

Sharing similar views, FIEO Vice-President Khalid Khan too said that "it is really a good move" as availability of about 20,000 containers will be a huge benefit to trade.

कार्यालय कलेक्टर जिला दक्षिण बस्तर, दन्तेवाड़ा (जिला निर्माण समिति)

ः मैनुअल पद्धति द्वितीय निविदा सूचना ः निविदा विज्ञप्ति क्रं.03/जि.नि.स./लो.नि.वि./21-22

दन्तेवाड़ा, दिनॉक 07/09/2021 एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अन्तर्गत समक्ष श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेत मैनअल निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:

क. कार्य का नाम अनुमानित निविदा प्रपत्र								
क्र .	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित	निविदा प्रपत्र					
		लागत	प्राप्त करने की					
		(प्रत्येक कार्य	अन्तिम तिथि					
		हेतु)						
1	2	3	4					
1	बी.टी. सड़क का चौड़करण	199.75	20/09/2021					
	कार्य नकुलनार से ब्लाक							
	आफिस कुआकोण्डा							
	कुल 01 कार्य							
2 1	2 उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें धरोहर राशि							

विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञप्ति, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी कार्यालयीन अवधि में कार्यालय से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

कलेक्टर

R.O. Date. :09/09/2021

जिला दिक्षिण बस्तर

IST LIMITED CIN: L33301HR1976PLC008316

Registered Office: Dharuhera Industrial Complex, Delhi Jaipur Highway No. 8, Kapriwas, Dharuhera, Dist. Rewari - 123102, Haryana Tel: (91) 1274 - 267346, 267347, 267348, 267419, 267420 Fax: 01274- 267444 Website: www.istindia.com; E-mail: istgroup.ho@gmail.com NOTICE OF THE 45TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

REMOTE E-VOTING INFORMATION AND BOOK CLOSURE

NOTICE is hereby given that the 45th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Members of the Company is scheduled to be held on Thursday, 30 th September, 2021 at 11:30 AM at Registered Office of the Company at Dharuhera Industrial Complex, Delhi-Jaipu Highway No. 8, Kapriwas, Dharuhera, Distt. Rewari-123102, Haryana to transact the business as set out in the Notice dated 27th August, 2021 convening the said AGM

In terms of the provisions of Section 101 and Section 136 of the Companies Act, 2013 read along with Rule 18 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, including any amendment thereto, the Notice setting out the business to be transacted at the 45th AGM along with the Explanatory Statement pursuant to Sec. 102(1) of the Companies Act. 2013 and the Annual Report of the Company for the financial year 2020-21 have been sent through electronic mode to those shareholders whose e-mail IDs are registered with the Companies/Depository Participants on Tuesday, 7th September, 2021 and to all other Members, whose e-mail IDs are not registered with the Company, Depository Participants or to members who holds shares in physical mode at their Registered Address in permitted manner on Saturday, 4th September, 2021. The dispatch

of the Notice in both the modes has been completed on 7th September, 2021 In compliance with Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, as amended from time to time, and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the Company is offering the remote e-voting facility to all its Members, holding shares as on the cut-off date i.e. 23rd September, 2021 to enable them to cast their vote electronically in respect of the business as set out in the Notice of the 45th AGM of the Company. The Company has allied assistance for remote e-Voting from National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) to provide remote e-voting facilities which can be

accessed at the website www.evoting.nsdl.com. The Company has appointed Shri Rupinder Singh Bhatia, Company Secretary in wholetime practice, New Delhi as the Scrutinizer to scrutinize the voting process in a fair and

transparent manner The members are informed that

R.O. N.o. :63574/4

(a) The Business as set out in the Notice of the AGM may be transacted through voting

(b) The remote e-voting shall commence on Monday, the 27 th day of September, 2021

(9.00 A.M.): (c) The remote e-voting shall end on Wednesday, the 29th day of September, 2021 (5.00

(d) The cut-off date for determining the eligibility to vote by electronic means or at the AGM is Thursday, the 23rd September, 2021

Any person who acquires shares of the Company and become Member of the Company after the dispatch of the Notice of the AGM and holds shares as on the cutoff date i.e. Thursday, the 23rd September, 2021 may obtain the login ld and password by sending a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in or to the Company's Registrar - Mas

(f) The members may note that the: The remote e-voting module shall be disabled by NSDL beyond 05:00 PM on

Services Limited at info@masserv.com, sm@masserv.com;

Wednesday, the 29th day of September, 2021; The facility of voting through Ballot Papers will be made available at the AGM for

members present at the Meeting

Members who have casted their votes by remote e-voting prior to the AGM may attend the AGM but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again

Only the Members whose names are recorded in the Register of Members or in the Register of Beneficial Owner maintained by the Depositories as on the cut-off date i.e. 23rd September, 2021shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote evoting facility as well as voting using Ballot Papers at the AGM. A person who is not a member as on the cut-off date should treat this Notice for information

(g) The Notice of the AGM and the Annual Report for the financial year 2020-21 are available on the website of the Company at www.istindia.com;

For any grievances/ queries/clarification relating to e-voting, the Members may refer the Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") and e-voting manual available at www.evoting.nsdl.com or call toll free no. 1800-222-990. Members can also contact Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent - M/s. Mas Services Limited, having their office at T-34, 2nd Floor, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase II, New Delhi-110020 Email id: info@masserv.com / sm@masserv.com, contact no. 011-26387281 26387282, 26387283 to resolve any grievances;

Notice is hereby also given pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 42 of the SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015, that the Register of Members and the Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from Friday. 24th September, 2021 to Thursday, 30th September, 2021 (both days inclusive) for the

purpose of Annual General Meeting For IST Limited Date: 10.09.2021 Bhupinder Kumar Company Secretary

316 DMF Trusts exempted from income tax: Joshi

oal and Mines Minister Pralhad Joshi on Saturday said the increase in number of District Mineral Foundation Trusts exempted from income tax payment will result in more fund availability with them, thus ensuring better implementation and outcome-oriented activities for welfare of mining affected

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Procurement Tender Notice

On behalf of the President of India, Senior Divisional Materials Manager, North

संचालनायल, खेल एवं युवा कल्याण विभाग छत्तीसगढ़

सरदार वल्लभ भाई पटेल अंतराष्ट्रीय हॉकी स्टेडियम,

खेल भवन जी.ई.रोड रायपुर

फोन 0771-2262178, वेबसाईट:- www.sportsyw.cg.gov.in

ई–मेल– dir-sportsyw.cg@gov.in

हॉकी खेल सामग्री क्रय हेत् निविदा

द्वारा हॉकी खेल सामग्री क्रय हेतु दिनांक 12.10.2021 के

दोपहर 12.30 बजे तक ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की

जाती है। निविदा दिनांक 12.10.2021 को उपरान्ह 02.30

बजे खोली जायेगी। प्रपत्र एवं नियम शर्तें शासन के

ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट वेबसाइट http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in से

संचालनालय खेल एवं युवा कल्याण, छत्तीसगढ़, रायपुर

Central Railway, Jhansi, invites the E-procurement tender for following item.

Brief Description

92215138A Compressed Air Petrol Pre-Heating Syastem 10 Nos.

क्रमांक / खेल अकादमी / 2020–21 / 880

डाउनलोड किये जा सकते है।

(संचालक द्वारा अनुमोदित)

R.O. N.o. :63543/2

R.O. Date. :09/09/2021

people.
District Foundation (DMF) is a nonprofit statutory 'Trust' for every district affected by mining-related operations. It is an initiative of the government to ensure that funds are collected under DMF and utilised for welfare of those affected by m i n i n g - r e l a t e d operations. "Thank you PM @narendramodi ji & FM

रायपुर दिनांक 08/09/2021

Tender closing

हस्ता-

सहायक संचालक

छत्तीसंगढ़, रायपुर

खेल एवं युवा कल्याण

FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that

one male namely Shivprasad, S/o

Tara Chand, R/o: Jhuggi Yamuna

Khadar, Mayur Vihar, Delhi, Age: 32

years, Height: 5'6", Complexion:

Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Thin,

wearing Blue colour T-Shirt and Black

Pant and Chappal in feet, has been

missing from his house at 01:30 PM

Ph. No.: 011-22711048, 22710335

@nsitharaman ji for exempting 165 DMF trusts from Income Tax payment. This will result in more fund availability with the Trust, thus ensuring better implementation and outcome-oriented activities for welfare of mining affected people," Joshi said in a tweet. Collections under DMF as well as interest accrued will be exempted from IT. A Gazette notification has been issued to this effect.

"I thank @FinMinIndia for exempting 165 Trusts. Adding to earlier exemption of 151, now a total of 316 Trusts stand exempted from IT," the minister tweeted. DMF has been created in

each district under the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015 and falls under the

Share of insolvency process initiated by debtors declining over time

¬he share of corporate insolvency resolution processes (CIRP) initiated by corporate debtors themselves have declined over the years since the inception of the Insolvency Bankruptcy Code (IBC).

and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) showed that as of March 2017, out of the total CIRPs, seven were triggered by operational creditors, eight by financial creditors and 22 by

As of March 2021, 2,250 CIRPs were inititated by operational creditors, 1,887 were initiated by financial creditors gered 277 CIRPs.

313, those by financial cred-

50.93 per cent of the CIRPs, foldebtors.

North Eastern Railway Tender Notice No. 10 Dated: 10.09.2021

-mail : cos@ner.railnet.gov.in Invitation of tenders through e-Procurement system

behalf of the President of India, invites tenders through e-Procurement system for the supply of the following items. Complete description of the item and other condition are available on website www.ireps.gov.in.

Item Tender Due on Brief Description Reserved to

No.	Number		of Stores	be procured from	Required	Money (Rs.)
1.	23211024	04.10.21	Aluminum checkered sheet etc.		23338 Kgs.	136040/-
2.	22201311	05.10.21	Dump valve connector etc.		269 Nos.	84940/-
3.	22211097B	05.10.21	Set of Non Asbestos etc.	RDSO	6000 Nos.	423500/-
4.	22210225	07.10.21	Hanger block for bolster etc.	ICF, MCF, RCF	39508 Nos.	99120/-
5.	22200778	07.10.21	Thermoplastic Polyester etc.	RDSO	11624 Nos.	298910/-
6.	32210809	07.10.21	Low maintenance etc.	RDSO	28 Set	173520/-
7.	22211148	08.10.21	Face plate for buffer plunger etc.	ICF, MCF, RCF	3057 Nos.	120930/-
8.	22210229	08.10.21	Double acting etc.	RDSO	1000 Nos.	166880/-
9.	22211682	08.10.21	60 KVA, etc.	ICF, MCF, RCF	19 Nos.	71380/-
10.	28210651A	11.10.21	Paint enamel etc.	RDSO	67500 Ltrs.	89180/-
11.	24215012A	11.10.21	Bogie Frame assembly etc.	CLW	1 Set	52000/-
12.	28210900	11.10.21	DRDO Anaerobic Bacteria etc.		610560 Ltrs.	134200/-
13.	28210932C	12.10.21	Flux cored mig-mag etc.	RDSO	17862 Kgs.	63230/-
14.	22211949	13.10.21	Set of air Brake etc.	RDSO	540 Set	94350/-
15.	22210345	13.10.21	Slack Adjuster Type etc.	RSDO	268 Nos.	73190/-
16.	24215016	14.10.21	Main Transformer etc.	CLW	1 Nos.	100300/-
17.	22211852	14.10.21	Set of Valve for escorts etc.		20 Sets	66850/-
18.	22211314	15.10.21	Set of Connector to KBI part etc.		51 Nos.	72220/-
19.	22211621	15.10.21	Distributor Valve KE-II etc.		50 Nos.	82600/-
20.	24210253	18.10.21	Traction Braking Switch etc.	CLW	6 Nos.	71050/-
21.	30211207	20.10.21	Low Maintenance etc.	RDSO	40 Sets	96860/-
22.	30210462E	20.10.21	Battery for AIR etc.	RDSO	151 Sets	2000000/-
23.	30210372E	20.10.21	120 AH VRLA etc.	RDSO	879 Sets	2000000/-
24.	22211149	21.10.21	Auxiliary reservoir etc.	RDSO	400 Nos.	63800/-

29.10.21

26.

CPRO/S-49

22211335

Pad for secondary

Wheel Set earthing

"About any Passenger Amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No. 09794845955"

Never travel on roof and foot boards

ICF, MCF,

ICE MCF

Principal Chief Material Manager, Gorakhpu

SEARCH FOR MISSING

have any information about this missing girl please inform the

since 25.08.2021. In this regard a DD No. 83A. Dated

31.08.2021 has been registered at P.S. Mayur Vihar,

Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace

out the male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one

having any information about him please inform

Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Mayur Vihar, Delhi



undersigned.

Website: http://cbi.nic.in

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in

Fax: 011-24368639

DP/694/ED/2021

General Public is hereby informed that one girl Namely: Manisha @ Garima, D/o: Sh. Manoj Kumar, R/o: Jhuggi No. JB-2/153, Trilok Puri, Delhi, Age: 14 Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Mental Condition: Normal, Wearing: Green Colour Kurta with Blue Colour Jeans Pant & Red Colour Sandal in feet has been missing since 01.09.2021 from her house. In this regard FIR No. 460/21, U/s 363 IPC, Dated 02.09.2021, has been lodged at P.S. Kalyan Puri, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone

undersigned. Web-site: http://cbi.nic.in E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-23011334 DP/688/ED/2021

SHO P.S. Kalyan Puri, Delhi Ph.: 011-22772287, 22772251

purview of Ministry of

IANS NEW DELHI

Data from the Insolvency corporate debtors.

Further in June 2021, resolution processes initiated by operational creditors rose to itors stood at 1,942 and corporate debtors had triggered

The IBBI data showed that operational creditors triggered lowed by about 42.77 per cent by financial creditors and remaining by the corporate

However, about 80 per cent of CIRPs having an underlying default of less than Rs 1 crore, were initiated on applications by operational creditors, while about 80 per cent of CIRPs, having an underlying default of more than Rs 10 crore, were

Principal Chief Material Manager, North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur, and o

download the Cisco Webexapplication

Registrar/Recovery Officer-I/and Recovery Officer-II shall be displayed in the daily

at Ph. No. 23748478. Given under my hand and seal of this

616750.

603630.

1095

By order of the Tribunal Assistant Registrar

Govt wants Tesla to first start production

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Heavy Industries Ministry has asked USbased electric car major Tesla to first start manufacturing its iconic electric vehicles in India before any tax concessions can be considered, Government sources said.

in India before any tax concessions

can be considered: Sources

They said that the Government is not giving such concessions to any auto firm and giving duty benefits to Tesla will not send a good signal to other companies that have invested billions of dollars in India.

Tesla has demanded reduction in import duties on electric vehicles (EVs) in India.

At present, cars imported as completely built units (CBUs) attract customs duty ranging from 60 per cent to 100 per cent, depending on engine

size and cost, insurance and

freight (CIF) value less or above USD 40,000. In a letter to the road min-

istry, the US firm had stated that the effective import tariff of 110 per cent on vehicles with customs value above USD 40,000 is "prohibitive" to zeroemission vehicles.

It has requested the government to standardize the tariff on electric cars to 40 per cent irrespective of the customs value, and withdraw the social welfare surcharge of 10 per cent

It has stated that these changes would boost the development of the Indian EV ecosystem and the company will make significant direct investments in sales, service, and charging infrastructure; and significantly increase procurement from India for its global operations.

India sourced: Boeing maintains 'billion-dollar' sourcing from India

New Delhi: Global aerospace giant Boeing has maintained the momentum of sourcing from India by going in for deep localisation as well as growing supplier base which caters to its Accordingly, despite challenges posed by the pandemic and global economic upheaval the aerospace giant has continued to source around a billion worth of components and

Study abroad platform raises fund

New Delhi: South Asia's largest overseas education company Leap that runs LeapFinance and LeapScholar has raised \$55 million in Series C funding led by Owl Ventures. Leap is building the infrastructure to enable students to pursue international higher education. "We have seen an unprecedented demand from students to move abroad this year as international borders open post-Covid," said Leap co-founder Vaibhav Singh.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of DCB Bank Ltd, that 1. Mr. Toni Aggarwal, Mr. Akhii Aggarwal (owner of 1367 share). 2 Mr. Amil Jain (owner of 1367 share), vide a Sale deed dated 02 05 2014, 3 Mrs. Sarla Aggarwal (with Albin Aggarwal owners of (137d share), as legal heirs of late Mr. Chand Kishore who was owner as of 175 share wide above sale deed dated 02 55 2014, of Property having land measuring 150 sq., Yds., out of Khasra No. 41 27, Shuated at Village Kadipur, Presently the residential Cohory, known as Hari Nagar, Gurgaon, the Said Property). All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owners want to sell the said property to someone who is taking Loan for purchase of same from DCB Bank Ltd., if anybody has any objections upon the ownership of above owners in respect of the said property its Sale /Mortgage, & any kind of objections kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 15 days of the present. Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 200, lind Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, N. Delhi-15 Ph.: 011-41112527-28. kumarassociates.advocate@gmeil.com Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001 Dt. 07-09-2021 O.A. No. 230/19

STATE BANK OF INDIA Applicant Versus MANOJ KUMAR SEHRAWAT & ANR.

1. Manoj Kumar Sehrawat S/o Mr. Ram Phal. R/o E-140 Sushant Lok-1 Opp. Paras Hospital Gurgaon HRY - 122002 Also at: Midland Credit Management India Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. 28P, Sect.-44 Gurgaon Hry -122002 2. M/s Idea Builders Pvt. Ltd., C-10

Ramprashtha Ghaziahad LLP Site Office Khasra No. 998, Near KDP Circle Rajnagar Extension Ghaziabad, Also at: C-294, 1st Floor Near Park Vivek Vihar New Delhi -110095. Whereas the above named applicant(s)

has / have instituted a case for recovery of Rs 19,33,540/- (Rs. Nineteen Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Only) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that tis not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 16-11-2021 at 10.30 A.M.

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence. Due to ongoing Pandemic situation, all

the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that (i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall

(ii) Meeting ID and Password for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by

cause list itself of DRT Official Portal i.e. (iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates Litigants can contact the concerned official

Tribunal on this the 07th day of Sept., 2021.

NOIDA Authority; AWHO and as per the records of the concerned Arun Vihar Resident's Welfare Association, Smt. Shalini Kanwar is the sole successor and owner of Kanwar is the sole successor and owner of the aforesaid Scheduled Property. Therefore, any person company authority, society, organization, etc., having any right or claim over the scheduled property may come forward with their respective claim or objection along with cogent evidence/documents substainting their claim(s) or objections whatsoever, within 15 days from the date of this publication. Post expiration of the abovementioned time period any claim or objection if raised or received in regard to the objection if raised or received in regard to the scheduled property shall be deemed as null and void and the said claim, right, title, interest, or objection etc. in the "Scheduled property" shall be deemed to be have been waived off. Venket Rao (Advocate)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large that Smt. Shalini Kanwar, is in possession the Flat No. 1272, Type-V, 2nd Floor, Arun Vihar, Sector-37, Noida -201303, (hereinafter referred to as the 'Scheduled Property') as much as in capacity of owner. That the aforesaid flat was allotted to Major Raj Kumar Verma, vide allotment letter dated 06.05.1985. And, subsequent to the death of the original allottee the same was transferred in the name

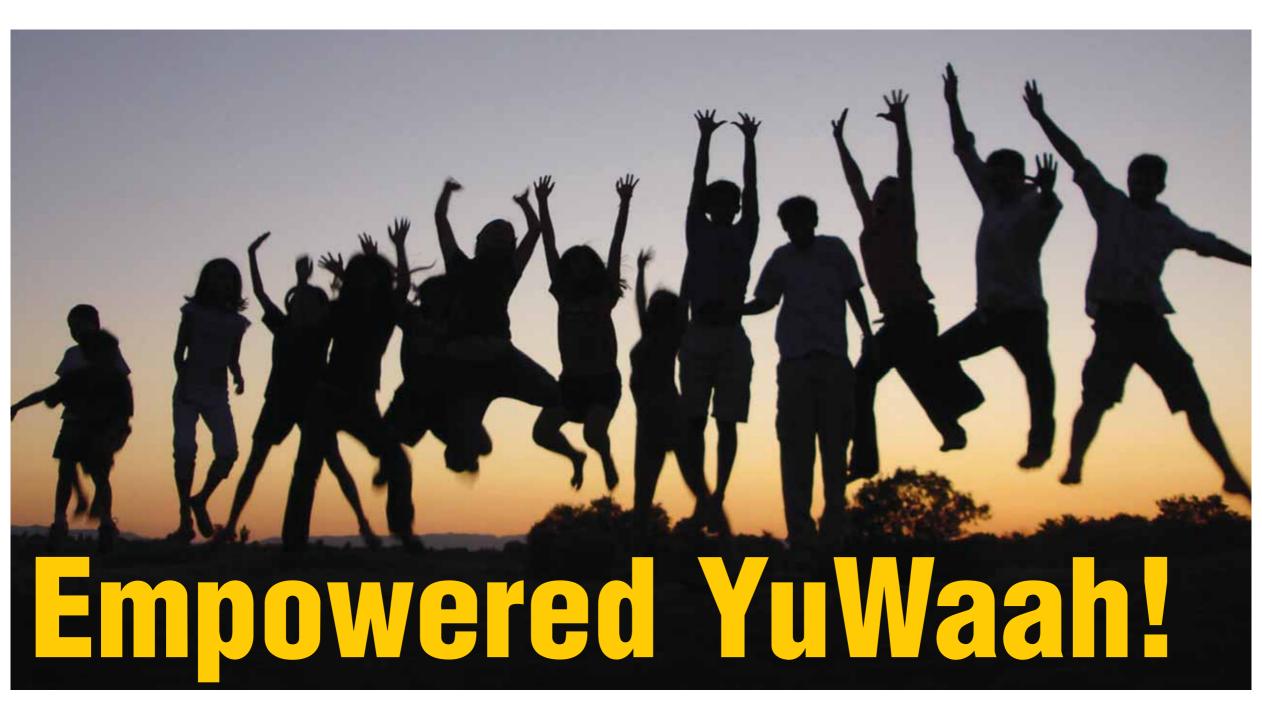
allottee the same was transferred in the name

of Mrs. Kamla Verma, wife of the original allottee, vide AWHO letter dated 07.06.1996. That on 10.08.2001, the said flat was transferred in the name of Mrs. Kamla Verma

transferred in the name of mis. Namina verma and her daughter Ms. Shallini Kanwar, the subsequent allottees herein. Mrs. Kamla Verma has passed away on 15.10.2013, leaving behind Smt. Shallini Kanwar, as the sole and successive owner of the Scheduled Property. That as per the records maintained by the competent authority including the

the competent authority including the

Venket Rao (Advocate Intygrat Law Öffices LLP 204, 2nd Floor, Manisha Building 75-76, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019



The present pandemic has thrown up many challenges. However, there are just as many people who have come forward to ensure that they cause least problems. SHALINI SAKSENA chats up a few such young warriors who were awarded by YuWaah (Generation Unlimited India), a multi-stakeholder platform formed by UNICEF, to bring you stories of positive change from across the country

INITIATIVE BY GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB. YUWAAH-UNICEF AND CIVIL SOCIETY **ORGANISATIONS**

t takes all sorts to make this world go round. While on one hand there were people who took advantage of others during the second wave of the present pandemic, they were way to help those in need Meet Manpreet Kaur, who hails from a small village in Ferozepur village, Punjab.

The 22-year-old, who is pursuing an Elementary Teacher Training course tells yu that while she didn't the opportunity to study beyond high school, she wants the other children in her village to get as much education as possible.

"Education is the gateway to not just knowing and learning from the book; it is also about being mature enough to understand the importance of hygiene and sanitation," Kaur says. She has also taken up the task of cleaning up the village pond which is very dirty

Due to the pandemic, the classes shifted to online mode. Most children in villages don't have smatphones and even if they do, the idea to sit alone in a room and listen to the teacher proved to be boring for them.

To ensure that the students didn't miss out of the most important aspect of life education — Kaur opened the doors to her home to teach these kids.



"My mentor introduced me to Pride of Punjab initiative. Even before the pandemic hit us, I was teaching in a local school. When the COVID-19 forced the schools to shut, I decided to do my best to make sure children did not discontinue their studies. I opened doors to my home. I ensured that the children who came wores masks, sanitised themsevles and main-

batch. I also convinced the parents to send their children t me. I told me that I would ensure that they would snai-tise their hands regularly," Kaur explains.

She didn't have many fancy things. She made do what she had. She combined modest resources and taught the kids in a play way manner. This way the kids enjoyed same time they learnt to read and write as well.

Recalling a case of a student in Class IV, Kaur tells you that this student didn't know how to read or write. "I was shocked to know that he didn't know even the basics. I started teaching him from the beginning. It took time but slowly he gained confidence and now he is at par with other students in his class and doing well," Kaur recounts.

While Kaur herself didn't manage to study further but since she is pursing her teaching training, she will be able to relise her dream — that children in her village never miss out on education.

"There are so many small issues that come up. People in my village are not educated. People lack the basic understanding and need for hygiene. Because of my association with Pride of Puniab and the work they are doing here, a lot of improvement has come in. Education gives confidence and with it comes the knowledge and the understanding that it is possible to achieve what they want," Kaur

'Education helps gain confidence'

MANPREET KAUR
YODDHA YUWAAH NINJAS

tained social distacing as they sat while I taught them. On a rotation basis, I held classes with sight to 10 students per

Table 1 to 10 students per

'I don't let my handicap stop me

21 YEARS OLD **MEMBER OF SAMARTHANAM** TRUST FOR DISABLED

hat if someone were to tell you that a visually challenged person is out on the streets lending a need during the present pandemic? Meet Kavya NR from Tumkur district in Karnataka. This 21-year-old is not just a COVID-warrior, she is also a marathon runner and a national wall climbing cham-

"I have never let my visual disability to stop me fro pursuing my dreams and achieve goals that I set for myself. Rather than use it to get sympathy or not do things, I used it to push myself in sports that some of my friends avoided. Through sports I am able to express what I want to achieve. By representing Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled in sporting championships, I am able to test my boundaries," Kavya

She tells you that the trust in response to the COVID-19, provided disabled people, the elderly and the poor with dry ration. "I wanted to contribute as well and joined the team. I helped them to coordinate and plan out how to go about it," Kavya says.

At present, she is working as a librarian with the trust. Her work for those who needed help during COVID-19 began when the lockdown started last year.

"During the lockdown I realised that there were so many people who were worse off than I am. That is when I decided that I needed to help them out. I am visually challenged. I wanted to tell people that disability should not be the reason why you should not step out to help others. I want-'normal people' that they should help. I wanted to motivated them. There is so much work that one can do even if you don't go out in the field," . Kavya tells you.

She began collecting data from disabled people in the area. She compiled it and sent it to the trust who on the basis of this rationed the dry ingredients that needed to be delivered to those in need.

"I even coordinated vaccination for the people who were physically, mentally and visually challenged. There are designated centres for them. I helped them to identify the centres and reach there. I helped all those who needed help," Kavya explains.

She tells you that her parents were very scared for her and did their best to dissuade her. But she was determined and insisted that she needed to help the less fortunate.

"My parents, to begin with, were scared; it is natural; they are farmers. But I convinced them. I took all the precautionary steps t ensure I was safe. I went with a group of five. My wall climbing coach also came home. He told them that I should be allowed to help others since it would would encourage them. We collected the supplies that we needed from people. Through the trust, the dry ration kits were then given to the needy," Kavya says.

She tells you that she has never her disability affect her — whether it was working long hours to help competii sports. She competed in 2018 in wall climbing competition held in Kashmir.

"I went to Kashmir for the competition and was placed third. This is a annual com-

petition," She says. She tells you that rock climbing comes with instense training that requires mental and physical fitness. "My coach would take us through intesne exercises. He would tie a cloth over our eyes and then train us; he would then give us instructions on how to and where to find the holds. He taught us how to feel for support with our hands. In this we would explore the terrain. The touch and feel on the rocks would help us pull up our bodies. That's how I learnt this sport," Kavya says.

This is not all, her goal is to play cricket; she already represents the State in the visually challenged team.

"I am an all-rounder. My favoutite is Prakash Jayaramaih; he is the VC of the India national blind cricket team. My other favourite is Virat Kohli, Captain of Team India,"



YASHVARDHAN JAYRAJ RANE **20 YEARS OLD MEMBER OF YUWAAH'S MAHARASHTRA YOUNG PEOPLE**

ike tens and thousands of other students in the country, Yashvardhan Rane also headed home with the first lockdown was announced due to COVID-19. Rane. who is pursuing law from Pune went back to his village in Kudal district, Maharashtra.

It was during the lockdown that Rane saw what devastation the COVID-19 was creating. The 20-year old, who has received a Presidency Award and Raivapuruskar honouring his success in public service campaigns, decided to do something about this and help people in need.

This is when he decided to contribute to the battle against COVID-

19 and YuWaah. "It was so sad when saw people in distress as they ran around looking for a hospital bed for the family member. The second wave of COVID-19 was devastating and it left people stranded with not knowing where to go and how to get a bed for their patient. I wanted to give them

their right to information — authentic

updates on beds, ambulances, doctors

and medicines," Rane tells you. He tells you that since his village his small, people have to travel at least 50-70 km before they can reach the nearest hospital. "I saw how people travel this distance with the patient and come back empty handed because they were unable to secure a bed. This is when I decided that I had to do something for these people. I made a team. To begin with, I roped in people



I knew. Of course, none of them were forced. Only those who came willingly joined. We devised a plan and started a mission — Find a Bed initiative," Rane says. Today, there are over 350

Education is not just

knowing and

learning from the

book, it is also

about understanding

the importance of

hygiene and

sanitation

volunteers who are working across the To ensure that only authentic

information found its way he and his

team tied up with Government and

ambulances, doctors and even hospital clerks who gave them the necessary information that was then uploaded on the yuva support portal. Not all the people in his village or surrounding areas know how to use a smartphone let along have one and have the ability to fill in the necessary details. In such a case, a team member personally visits the home and help

private hospitals. They tied with up

"When we started this work. people started coming forward with requests. We gave our numbers so that we could be reached at all times Seeing a family take shelter under a tree with their 32-year old COVID-19 affected son, waiting for a patient to die, so they could be next in queue,

was so heartwrenching," Rane recalls. Of course, this is not the first time

that Rane stepped in to help those in need. When he was 12, he set up Bal Vishwa Sena. The work? To rescue stray animals and provide food to the homeless. When he turned 18, he founded the Yuva Forum India Organisation. With a large number of volunteers, the team started working on issues like sanitation, menstrual hygiene and setting up public libraries.

All this takes money. "My foundation till date doesn't have a bank account. When we work for the betterment of the society, the idea is to improve their lot and not amass money. We usually request family and friends to buy things that we need so that we can give it to them directly. Take an example. We supply sanitary napkins to 500 women every month. This costs ₹9,000. Instead of asking

for money, we ask people to donate the product which we then give it to the women," Rane explains.

He tells you that his need to do good comes from his father who is a social activist. "To begin with, my parents were apprehensive because of the rampant virus spread. But I was supported by my father. Other parents were just as scared. But once people started praising their children, they came around and are now happy that we are doing such good work," Rane

After finishing his degree, he plans to continue his organisation's work. But this is not all. During the recent flooding of Chiplun region. Rane and his adopted four villages to provide them whatever they need from cleaning their homes to getting the electric lines in working order. "No task is big or small for us," Rane

ONE WIN

Djokovic to play for Calendar Slam against Medvedev in US Open final tonight

ovak Djokovic will play Daniil Medvedev to try and complete the first men's singles calendar-year Grand Slam since 1969 after defeating Tokyo Olympic champion Alexander Zverev in Friday's US Open semi-

Top-ranked Djokovic outlasted the German fourth seed 4-6, 6-2, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 to reach Sunday's championship match at Arthur Ashe Stadium against Russian second seed Medvedev. "I'm going to treat the next match like it's

the last match of my career," Djokovic said.

One more victory will give the 34-year-old Serbian star the first calendar-year Slam since Rod Laver accomplished it 52 years ago. "There's only one more match left. All in. Let's do it," Djokovic said. "I'm going to put my heart and my soul and my

body and my head into that one." Djokovic seeks his fourth career US Open title and his 21st overall Slam crown, which would lift him one above the all-time record he shares with Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer, both absent with injuries.

"These are the moments we live for," Djokovic said. "These are the kind of unique opportunities we dream of when we are looking for motivation."

Australian legend Laver, 83, was in the stands to watch as Djokovic took a measure of revenge for Zverev, 24, beating him in an Olympic semi-final, denying Djokovic's bid for a 'Golden Slam' with a Tokyo Gold medal. "I knew coming onto the

court it was going to be a great battle," Djokovic said. "Alexander is a big champion. He's someone I admire on and off the court." Medvedev, the 2019

US Open runner-up,

defeated Canadian 12th seed Felix Auger-Aliassime 6-4, 7-5, 6-

US Open men's final

reach his third career Slam

"I don't think I played my best today but I'm really happy to be in the final," Medvedev said. Djokovic is the old-

est ÚS Open finalist

since Andre Agassi at 35 in 2005 and could be the oldest US Open champion since Ken Rosewall at 35 in 1970. By beating Zverev, Djokovic matched Federer's all-time record of 31 men's Slam final appearances. Djokovic is 20-10 in major

"If I can make this, I'll probably be in the history books a little bit somewhere like not letting him do this," Medvedev said. "But I don't really care about it. I think it's more about him, that



Daniil Medvedev, left shakes hands with Felix Auger-Aliassime, after winning their US Open men's semifinal match on Friday

The final is a rematch of February's Australian Open final won by Djokovic in straight sets. Medvedev Djokovic 5-3 in their alĺ-time rivalry.

"I'm just going to throw it everything and I'm definitely not going to be thinking about Grand Slam or whatever." Djokovic has won

27 consecutive Slam matches, three shy of his all-time record streak from 2015 and 2016 when he won all four major titles in a row.

Zverev, last year's US Open runner-up, saw his 16-match win streak end.

Salisbury, Ram win men's doubles

Toe Salisbury has a chance at the doubles double at the

Salisbury and Rajeev Ram won their second Grand Slam men's doubles title together with a 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 victory over Jamie Murray and Bruno Soares on Friday.

The women's doubles final is Sunday, when Coco Gauff and Caty McNally will try to win their first major

Salisbury and Ram, who won the 2020 Australian Open together, turned their match around after the No 4 seeds got off to a rough

start.
"We didn't play a great first set," Salisbury said.

"We found it tough, the conditions. It was my first time playing on Ashe. It was really tough with the sun and the shade. It was kind of one half of the court was in sun, one half in shade. We were struggling to see the ball

He'll be back out there on Saturday in the mixed doubles final. He and part-

Joe Salisbury, of Great Britain, left, and teammate Rajeev Ram, of the United States, hold their US Open men's doubles trophy

ner Desirae Krawczyk, seed- Grand Slam mixed doubles ed second, beat the team of Americans Jessica Pegula and Austin Krajicek 7-2 (2), 6-4 later on Friday.

Salisbury is trying to become the first player to win the men's and mixed doubles titles at the US Open since Bob Bryan in 2010.

The British player and Krawczyk won the French Open, before Krawczyk won Wimbledon with Neal Skupski. The American can become the first to win three titles in a year since Martina Hingis and Leander Paes in

Gauff, 17, and McNally, 19, advanced to the women's final when Luisa Stefani landed awkwardly near the net during a first-set tiebreaker, collapsed to the ground and was unable to continue.

The No 11-seeded Americans will play the No 14-seeded team of Sam Stosur and Zhang Shuai.

Why should I be happy? The job isn't done: Djoker

AFP ■ NEW YORK

One match from finishing the first calendar-year men's singles Grand Slam in 52 years, Novak Djokovic isn't getting ahead of himself by talking

"I know everybody wants talk about history," Djokovic said. "I'm just trying to look into what I know works for me."

World number one Djokovic will try to complete the first calendar Slam since Rod Laver in 1969 and only

1962 and Don Budge in 1938.

Australian legend Laver, 83, was in the stands to watch Djokovic continue his quest for history.

But the task remains unfinished. so talking seems premature to Djokovic. "Why should I be happy? The

job is not done," he said. "That's kind of the attitude I have." Djokovic is keeping his usual

routine between matches. "I'm focusing on recovery, calibrating all the systems, getting that

Djokovic, who would be the oldest US Open champion since Ken Rosewall at 35 in 1970, also takes pride in honing his game to perfec-

"I know what my strengths are. I stick to them," Djokovic said. "I've worked over the years to perfect my game so that my game can have literally no flaws.

"Every player has some weaknesses in his game. There's always something you can improve. I want to have as complete of an all-around game as I possibly can so that when I'm playing someone I can adjust on any surface.
"I can come up with different

styles of play. I can tactically implement the game that I need for that particular match in order to win.

"Over the years, working on perfecting the game has really helped me just be very adaptable to anybody's game and to any surface.

Medvedev hopes 3rd time charmed

New York: Daniil Medvedev win the third one. You never is getting tired of losing Grand Slam finals after dropping a pair and he's hoping the third time is charmed when he plays in Sunday's US Open

The 25-year-old Russian dropped the 2019 US Open final to Rafael Nadal and lost February's Australian Open final to world number one Novak Djokovic — the man he'll face on Sunday.

"The more you lose something, the more you want to win it, the more you want to gain it and take it," Medvedev

"I lost two finals. I want to

know what's going to happen, but I'm going to try more than I did the first two times." Medvedev has dropped

only one set in the Flushing Meadows fortnight, saving him valuable energy for the grind to come against Djokovic, who is chasing the first calendar-year Grand Slam since Rod Laver won all four majors in 1952.

"There were some tight moments. There were some tight battles. It's never easy, but I'm happy that I managed to save a lot of physical abilities, physical power, and mental

India's IPL stars off to Dubai |

PTI MANCHESTER/DUBAI

The Indian cricketers, contracted to play the Indian Premier League (IPL), left for the UAE in chartered and commercial flights after returning negative RT-PCR tests for the second time in two days.

The travel arrangements iade by players' respective "The good news is that all

the players and support staff members have now tested negative for the RT-PCR for the second time. The reports arrived late on Friday evening and most of them are already on their way to Dubai for the IPL," a senior BCCI official said.

"Two non-IPL players Abhimanyu Easwaran and Arjan Nagwaswalla will be flying out on Monday with the rest of the support staff. They will be flying to their respective Indian cities via Dubai and will take a commercial flight," the senior official said.

The players started departing in clusters — some in charter flight arranged by their franchises like Mumbai Indians and Sunrisers Hyderbad while Chennai Super Kings cricketers



Mumbai Indians skipper Rohit Sharma and pacer Jasprit Bumrah reaches Dubai took commercial flight.

"Mumbai Indians flew in three of its Indian contingent members, captain Rohit Sharma, Jasprit Bumrah, and Suryakumar Yadav, to Abu Dhabi on a private charter flight. The trio, along with their families, arrived today morning and will now undergo six days of hard quarantine, starting today as per the IPL's guidelines," MI issued a statement.

"All members had returned negative RT PCR results before departure. A new RT PCR test was undertaken upon arrival at Abu Dhabi, which are negative as well," it also stated.

RCB captain Virat Kohli and pacer Mohammed Siraj also took a charter flight from Manchester. "Keeping the safety and security of our players as the utmost priority, Royal Challengers Bangalore have arranged a special charter flight for captain Virat Kohli and Mohammed Siraj to ensure their safe transit to the UAE.

'The players will be flying out at 11.30 PM (UK time) on Saturday and will arrive in Dubai early Sunday morning. Both, Virat and Siraj will undergo 6-day quarantine in Dubai before joining the team biosecure bubble," RCB said.

Gavaskar welcomes BCCI's offer of rescheduling cancelled Test

vital energy," he said.

Manchester: The legendary Sunil Gavaskar has lauded the BCCI's offer of rescheduling the cancelled Old Trafford Test, saying India should never forget England's gesture of returning back to complete a tour, which was halted midway due to the

"Yes, I think that (rescheduling the cancelled Test) would be the correct thing to do. Look, we, in India, should never forget what the England team did in 2008 after the horrific attack, the 26/11. They came back," Gavaskar told official broadcaster of the series Sony Sports.

"They would have been perfectly entitled to say 'we don't feel safe. We are not coming back."

The visiting England team was playing an ODI against India in Cuttack on November 26 when terrorists attacked Mumbai, leading to the cancellation of the last two ODIs of the seven-match series.

England headed home immediately, but later returned for the two Test series which India won 1-0.

Gavaskar said that the then skipper Kevin Pietersen was instrumental in England's decision to return back for the Test matches. "Never forget that Kevin Pietersen led the team. and he was the main man. If KP had said, no I don't want to go, the matter.

Gavaskar termed BCCI's rescheduling offer as a "fantastic news" and said the cancelled Test can be held next year after

"Don't forget, the gesture of the ECB has to be remembered," he said. "It's absolutely apt that the BCCI now says, right next year, we are still coming to England. I think there will be a little lean period. I think the IPL will finish in early June. So there is enough time for them to go a few days early, depending on whether we still have Covid and all the restrictions and maybe play a Test match before or after,"

Gavaskar said. "This is fantastic news coming that the BCCI will make up for it. This is exactly what the relations between boards should be.

English trio of Bairstow, Malan and Woakes pull out of IPL

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Sunrisers Hyderabad opener Jonny Bairstow, Punjab Kings batsman Dawid Malan and Delhi Capitals all-rounder Chris Woakes have pulled out League (IPL) due to personal

players were supposed to fly into UAE from Manchester together in a bubble to bubble transfer but Covid-19 cases in the visitors' camp forced IPL teams to make their own arrangements. All players arriv-

ing in Dubai now have to do a sixday quarantine and that could be the reason behind Bairstow and Malan pulling out.

A BCCI official said that Bairstow and Malan the players won't be part of the IPL resuming September 19. The Guardian reported on Woakes' unavailability.



"They won't be boarding the flight to UAE. One of the reasons for their pull out is the six-day quarantine which they didn't need to do earlier," said the official.

While Bairstow is a regular number one T20 batsman Malan made his IPL debut with Kings earlier this year. Aiden Markram has been named his

> "Malan will be taking some time off to be with his family ahead of the #T20WorldCup and Ashes," tweeted Punjab

> Kings Bairstow had made 248 runs at strike rate of 141 plus in seven games

earlier this season. Bairstow, Woakes and Malan were part of

England's Test squad in Manchester. Bubble life has taken a toll

on players and with the T20 World Cup to follow in UAE, not playing the IPL would allow more family time to Bairstow, Woakes and Malan.

could still play

AFP ■ KABUL

Women could still be allowed to play cricket, the chairman of Afghanistan's Cricket Board has claimed to an Australian broadcaster in an apparent backflip on the Taliban's hardline stance.

Azizullah Fazli said the governing body would outline how this would happen "very soon", adding that all 25 of the women's team remained in Afghanistan and had chosen not to leave on evacuation

flights.
"We will give you our clear position on how we will allow women to play cricket," he told SBS Radio Pashto on Friday, the broadcaster reported on its English-language website. "Very soon, we will give you good news on how we will proceed." His comments appear to

contradict the deputy head of

the Taliban's cultural commission Ahmadullah Wasiq, who told the same broadcaster on Wednesday that it was "not necessary" for women to play sport.

Those remarks saw Australia threaten to cancel a historic maiden men's Test between the two countries, set to take place in Hobart in November.

Cricket Australia said in brief comments on Saturday that it remained in regular dialogue with the Afghanistan Cricket Board and that "we made our position very clear in the statement".

It was referring to a statement on Thursday in which it supported "the game unequivocally for women at every level", adding that it would have "no alternative" but to cancel the Hobart Test if the Taliban banned women



 $T^{
m he}$ New Zealand Cricket squad arrived in Pakistan on Saturday after 18 long years to play a bilateral ODI and T20 series in Rawalpindi and

The visiting players were whisked away from the Islamabad international airport to their hotel amidst heavy security The Pakistan Cricket Board

(PCB) has made arrangements to have a bio-secure bubble for the New Zealand players and officials at their hotel. New Zealand last toured Pakistan in 2003 for a white-ball series and since then have

avoided touring the country because of security reasons. Led by Tom Latham, the New Zealand squad is missing its regular captain, Kane Williamson and other key players of their white ball formats who are either set to compete

in the IPL or have taken breaks.

Regular coach, Gary Stead



iting squad which will play three ODIs in Rawalpindi and five T20Is in Lahore.

The PCB and New Zealand Cricket have mutually agreed to change the status of next week's ODI series to a bilateral series

Cup Super League fixtures due to the non-availability of Decision Review System (DRS), a requirement in the event playing conditions.

As New Zealand will return to Pakistan in the 2022-23 season to play two Tests and three ODIs, the two boards have agreed that these 50-over matches will now count towards the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 qualification.

Some key players will join the New Zealand squad by tomorrow as they were not part of the squad that recently played a T20 series in Bangladesh Daryll Mitchell, Todd Astle,

Ish Sodhi, Mark Chapman and

Martin Guptill will be joining the T20 squad. **NEW ZEALAND SQUADS**

Tom Latham (c) (wk), Finn Allen, Hamish Bennett, Tom Blundell (wk), Doug Bracewell, Colin de Grandhomme, Matt Henry, Ajaz Patel, Blair Tickner, Will Young, Ish Sodhi, Martin Guptill, Mark Chapman, Todd Astle, Daryl Mitchell; (Jacob Duffy, Scott Kuggeleijn, Cole McConchie, Henry Nicholls, Rachin Ravindra only ODIs); Ben Sears (only T20I).

It's about continuing momentum from first phase, says Padikkal Bangalore to win the trophy this

IANS DUBAI

 $R_{(RCB)\ opener\ Devdutt}^{\rm oyal\ Challengers\ Bangalore}$ Padikkal said on Saturday that the break between the two halves of the IPL 2021 wasn't huge and therefore all the team has to do is continuing with the momentum it had gained in the first half.

"It's almost felt like we ment again. It doesn't feel like are continuing the tournathat we have had a long break because we have had enough cricket in between as well. It does not feel like a huge break. So, it's just about continuing with the momentum we had in the first phase of the season," said Padikkal in a video interview posted by the fran-

mistic. "I would hope so. Every year, everyone comes with the same hope to win the IPL. Hopefully, this is our year. We have a good squad and got some good replacements coming in as well. So, we look ready for the challenge and continue with the momentum that we have." Padikkal concluded

season, Padikkal sounded opti-

y saying he got no individual goals for the second half of IPL 2021 and wants to contribute to the team's success. 'Nothing specific. I

just want to continue to contribute to the side and help the team win at the end of the day. That's what every one of us wants. No specific individual goals as such. Just want to contribute to

Asked about the expectations for

chise on their Twitter

Ronaldo scores brace on his Man Utd return as Red Devils go top with 4-1 win; Chelsea

AFP ■ MANCHESTER

ristiano Ronaldo enjoyed a dream return as a Manchester United player with a double as the Red Devils beat Newcastle 4-1 in front of a rocking Old Trafford and Romelu Lukaku also scored twice against Aston Villa in Chelsea's 3-0 win on Saturday.

Ronaldo now has 120 United goals to his name, but scored his first since leaving for Real Madrid 12 years ago to take Öle Gunnar Solskjaer's men top of the Premier League table.

United were made to work harder than expected for the three points, but were able to rely on Ronaldo's predatory instincts to strike twice either side of Javier Manquillo's wellworked equaliser. Bruno Fernandes then sealed a day where Portuguese stars shone with a stunning long-range effort 10 minutes from time before Jesse Lingard rounded off the scoring in stoppage time.

United's fortunes on the field have declined dramatically since Ronaldo's departure with no Premier League or Champions League success since Alex Ferguson retired as manager in 2013.



His return was enough to generate a feverish atmosphere among 74,000 in attendance not seen at Old Trafford for many years.

The 36-year-old arrival has added even more firepower to an already loaded selection of attacking options on offer to Solskjaer.

Jadon Sancho and Mason

Greenwood flanked Ronaldo in a front three with Fernandes and Paul Pogba supplying the ammunition from midfield

The crowd who had come for a party were starting to get restless as Newcastle held out relatively comfortably until Ronaldo's first big moment arrived in first-half stoppage time.



Greenwood had scored in all of United's first three Premier League games before the international break and provided the spark once more as

Freddie Woodman spilled his deflected effort and the ball fell perfectly for Ronaldo to smash home.

Rather than opening the floodgates for a comfortable win, Newcastle emerged for Premier the second-half with a far League more potent threat and cut United open to stun the home support 10 minutes into the second-

Miguel Almiron, who was only cleared to play on Friday after the Paraguayan football federation withdrew a case for him to be banned for not being released for international duty, burst through midfield and released Allan Saint-Maximin.

The Frenchman then rolled the ball perfectly into the path of

AFP BERLIN

Manquillo to slot home his first Newcastle goal in 85 appearances.

United on the other hand now have one of the deadliest finishers in the history of the game and Ronaldo ensured the day would be all about him on 62 minutes.

Despite his advancing years, Ronaldo showed no shortage of pace to burst away from Isaac Hayden to latch onto Luke Shaw's pass and his powerful strike went straight through Woodman's grasp.

United still needed the intervention of David de Gea to secure the win as the Spaniard brilliantly turned behind Joelinton's shot that was destined for the top corner.

Fernandes has been United's talisman for the majority of the 20 months since he joined from Sporting Lisbon, just as Ronaldo did in 2003.

And the midfielder ensured he was not completely overshadowed by his compatriot with a sensational strike into the top corner from Paul Pogba's

Pogba was also involved in the fourth as Lingard turned onto his pass and curled into the Wilfried Zaha's penalty and a far corner.

CITY WIN, SPURS LOSE

Silva showed Manchester City can cope two bookings in quick succesjust fine with their array of talent as he sion in the second half at fired the champions to a 1-0 win at Selhurst Park.

the 62nd minute with a close-range fin-former Celtic striker Edouard's ish after Caglar Soyuncu blocked Joao debut brace made it a first win Cancelo's drive.

Aubameyang eases pressure on Arteta



Arsenal's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, 2nd from right, celebrates after scoring his side's opening goal against Norwich City on Saturday

London: Arsenal eased the pressure on under-fire manager Mikel Arteta and earned their first Premier League win of the season after Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang sank Norwich 1-0 on Saturday. The Gunners captain's 66th-minute winner released the tension that had been bubbling up inside the Emirates Stadium and lifted his team off the foot of the table.

Arsenal broke their Premier League duck 24 minutes from time in chaotic circumstances.

Pepe saw his effort tipped onto the post by Krul and hit the post again in a rebound tussle with Williams before Aubameyang tucked away the loose ball for his fifth goal in his last three games

Referee Michael Oliver confirmed the goal to Norwich's fury after a VAR review, with relieved Arsenal fans ironically chanting "We are staying up". Aubameyang, Emile Smith Rowe and Pepe all had chances to put the game to bed but Arsenal held out for a much-needed win.

Second placed City have now won their last three games.

Crystal Palace ended 10man Tottenham's perfect start to late double from Odsonne Edouard sealed a 3-0 win.

Nuno Espirito Santo's side Despite Ronaldo's snub, Bernardo had Japhet Tanganga sent off for

Zaha netted from the spot Portugal playmaker Silva struck in after Ben Davies's handball and for Palace boss Patrick Vieira.

South Korea forward Hwang Hee-chan scored his first Premier League goal for Wolves in their 2-0 win at Watford.

Wolves' first league goal this

season — an own goal by Watford's Francisco Sierralta – was followed by Hwang's 83rd minute tap-in in his debut appearance after joining from Leipzig last month.

Brighton won 1-0 at Brentford thanks to Leandro Trossard's 90th minute strike, while West Ham striker Michail Antonio was sent off in their 0-0 draw at Southampton

ISL to introduce 9:30 pm weekend double header kick-offs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The country's premier foot-L ball tournament, Indian Super League (ISL) is set to introduce a 9:30 pm kick off time for its weekend double headers in the upcoming 2021-22.

It is learnt that ISL, organised and promoted by Football Sports Development Limited, for the first time in its seven years history will attempt for a late evening weekend kick

"The league had informed to the weekend double header start," confirmed an ISL club source.

"From players point of view, the 9:30 pm will be a much-welcomed decision as it will bring respite from the sweltering humidity," the source added.

While the regular weekday fixture will be a 7:30 pm start, the double headers on weekends, which until last season were a 5:30 pm feature, will now move to 9:30 pm

"The league is likely to announce 2021-22 fixture by early next week," informed another source while confirming change in the weekend double header.

ISL now runs from November to March, with an increased matches to 115 involving 11 clubs.

The league has selected Goa to conduct the upcoming 2021-22 season commencing November 19. The tournament will be held behind closed doors at three stadiums until March 2022

Newly-appointed Indian women's football coach

Thomas Dennerby on Saturday

said the team needs to play at

least 10 international matches

against opponents with diverse

playing styles in the run up to the AFC Asian Cup.
The 62-year-old Dennerby,

who was earlier in charge of the

Indian U-17 women's World

Cup squad, was last month roped in to help the senior

team prepare for the AFC Asian

Cup, which will be hosted in the

country from January 20 to

to play 11-13 matches before the

tournament (AFC Asian Cup)

starts. The federation is working

"It is very important for us

February 6 next year.

PTI ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Napoli keep Juve winless Dortmund win 7-goal thriller AFP NAPLES

 $K^{
m alidou}$ Koulibaly made sure that Juventus' miserable start to the season continued on Saturday with the late winner in a 2-1 triumph for Napoli that put them top of Serie A.

Senegal defender Koulibaly knocked home the winning strike from practically on the goal line with five minutes to go at the Stadio Diego Armando Maradona to maintain Napoli's 100 percent start and move them three points clear in first place. Matteo Politano levelled

for Luciano Spalletti's side depleted Juve ahead early on. Defeat for Massimiliano

Allegri's Juve drops them down to 16th place in Italy's top flight after a second



straight defeat which leaves an embarrassing home defeat them with a single point from their first three matches.

after Alvaro Morata had put a and AC Milan will attempt to maintain their perfect starts when they play on Sunday.

Juve had come into the match against one of their fiercest rivals off the back of

to Empoli and the sudden departure of Cristiano

tional break. In Saturday's early game Venezia got their first points of the season after running out 2-1 winners at fellow promoted team Empoli.

goal difference. The Norwegian striker's brace in Leverkusen means he has now scored eight goals in his last five games for club and country having also netted a hat-trick against Gibraltar in a

World Cup qualifier. The 21-year-old scored five times in three qualifiers over the last ten days having also netted Hoffenheim a fortnight ago.

Erling Braut Haaland scored two goals on Saturday as

Borussia Dortmund twice came

from behind to seal a thrilling

4-3 win at Bayer Leverkusen to

go second in the Bundesliga on

Haaland has scored 13 goals this season — five for Norway and eight for

In Leverkusen, teenage



Borussia Dortmund players celebrate after win over Bayer Leverkusen

Wirtz put the hosts ahead, then set up team-mate Patrick Schick for their side's second to make it 2-1 at the break after Haaland had earlier headed Dortmund Haaland then set up Julian

Germany international Florian

Brandt to put Dortmund on level terms early in the second half only for Leverkusen's Moussa Diaby to put the hosts 3-2 up with 35 minutes left.

Dortmund levelled for a

third time through Raphael Guerreiro before Haaland put the visitors ahead 13 minutes before the whistle when he converted a penalty after a foul

Wolfsburg consolidated first place in the league table with a 2-0 win at newly-promoted Greuther Fuerth and Bayern Munich beat RB Leipzig 4-1 at Red Bull Arena

PSG continue perfect start

AFP PARIS

nder Herrera scored twice Aas Paris Saint-Germain defeated promoted Clermont 4-0 on Saturday in the absence of Lionel Messi and Neymar, both rested after their exertions this week in World Cup qualifying.

The Spanish midfielder nodded PSG in front at the Parc des Princes on 19 minutes and then fired in a second from close range on the half-

Kylian Mbappe, who shook off a calf injury picked up on international duty with France, raced clear of the

know about the situation with

corona," Dennerby said during

not less than 10 games before the

tournament starts and we need

to play different opponents with

different playing styles," he

Federation (AIFF) has struggled

to find an opponent due to the

The All India Football

"It is tough for us to find

added.

"It is important to us to play

a virtual media interaction.



Clermont defence to add PSG's third before Idrissa

Gueye headed in a fourth.

team made it five wins from five in Ligue 1, stretching their lead to five points over Angers, who take on struggling Brest on Sunday.

Clermont, playing in the top flight for the first time, entered the weekend a surprising third, and unbeaten after two wins and two draws.

But the visitors were without forward Mohamed Bayo, the Guinea striker ruled out of the game after the coup d'etat in the African country delayed his return to France.

Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma made his first start for PSG since signing from AC Milan.

Pele feeling 'a little better'

Sao Paulo: Brazilian football legend Pele remains in intensive care but is making a satisfactory recovery after undergoing surgery for a suspected colon tumor, his doctors said on Friday.

Pele's medical team at the Albert Einstein Hospital in Sao Paulo said in a statement that he was "actively conversing and displaying vital signs within normal range.

Pele, 80, took to Instagram to reassure his fans.

"My friends, with each passing day I feel a little better. I'm looking forward to playing again, but I'm still going to recover for a few more days," he

Verstappen in pole at Italian GP

Max Verstappen will start the Italian Grand Prix in pole position despite finishing second in Saturday's qualifying sprint

Mercedes driver Valtteri Bottas won the 18-lap race ahead of Verstappen but the Finn was already condemned to start Sunday's race at the back of the grid after being penalised for taking on power unit components in qualifying on Friday.

Red Bull's Verstappen also claimed two championship points to extend his lead on Lewis Hamilton to five after the reigning champion finished fifth, some 20 seconds off the pace.

'That went a little bit better than expected," said

Up to second, scored some points, up to pole tomorrow. It's going to be an interesting bat-

Hamilton had started the sprint in second behind teammate Bottas but was overtaken by Verstappen and dropped back in the field after a dreadful start which will make his lat-

est bid for a 100th victory that much hard-Alongside Verstappen on the front row will be McLaren's Daniel Ricciardo, who also breezed past Hamilton in the

opening moments and held on to third position to claim second in the grid. Ricciardo promised "full attack"

against Verstappen on Sunday even though he finished over 12 seconds behind the Dutchman and he will have his teammate Lando Norris backing him up in the second row after he finished fourth. Seven-time F1 champion Hamilton

has been stuck on 99 wins since victory at the British GP in July, but after strong displays in both practices and qualifying ooked in good shape to make his centu-However he will have his work cut out

for him from the second row after Verstappen and Ricciardo came up either side of him in a chaotic start.



Covid-19 quarantine restrictions in various countries. The team is currently gathered in Jamshedpur for the preparatory attractive opponents to play. camp, leading to the continen-But I know they are doing tal event. verything they can."

Dennerby, who comes with opponents, countries which over three decades of experience allow us to come. Still in some and has previously guided countries India is red marked. It's Sweden's women's national team

FIFA World Cup in 2011, and a quarter-final spot in the 2012 London Olympics, said it is vital the Indian team plays diverse opponents.

"The FIFA window opens tomorrow but so far we have no

confirmation of a game. We are trying whatever we can. We need to play some teams which are a little bit weaker to implement attacking ideas and (need) some games against equal teams. "It is also important to find

opponent who are a little bit better, who will help us to speed up the pace of the game, the decision making, the passing and receiving and all that you need

to do.

"Even if we prepare the team now with good endurance training, we need to put all the training into the game," he added. Dennerby said the target is to reach the quarterfinals of the continental showpiece.

'We will put in a huge effort to reach the knock out stage that means going into the

quarterfinals and if we can do that it will be successful tournament for us." We have a good squad, we

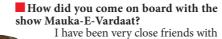
have different types of player. We have good defenders, strong one on one players etc." Talking about the preparation, Dennerby said "We have

been in camp for about three and a half weeks now. A normal week for us is 11 sessions, the girls are working very hard. "It's only five and a have months for the AFC women's championship. We have a longtime plan also we can't do everything in the first week, we can't overload the work, we are trying to increase the load gradually," he added.

AMAN VERMA

The actor, who made a debut in the TV serial Pachpan Khambe Laal Deewarein, will now be seen playing a cop in Mauka-e-Vardaat. He speaks with Shalini Saksena about how he came on board with the project among other things

nday pioneer



ing for someone to spice up the show. I was a little apprehensive because I have done a show called Shapath a couple of years back. But it was more of a fantasy show where you had superheroes versus super villains. It was liked by the kids very much because we had an Indian version of Super cops and fighting with super powers is something very exciting.

Mauka-E-Vardaat is more of a realistic show and is more connected to emotions.

the producer Arav. He was look-

■ What made you say yes to the series? I have been away from television for quite sometime so, I thought it would be a good break for me. I had

■ We haven't seen you doing many

enough time and it also offered me

Nothing much has happened from the last two years and the last film I shot was three years back. Four years back I got more into events, shows and public speaking, I

I HAVE REACHED THAT STAGE OF MY LIFE WHERE I KIND OF SWITCH ON AND SWITCH OFF BECAUSE IN TELEVISION THERE IS NOT MUCH PREPARATION YOU NEED TO DO. THERE ARE CERTAIN THINGS YOU NEED TO

FOLLOW. FIRST, YOU NEED TO KNOW YOUR LINES, SECOND IS THAT THERE IS A SPECIFIC EXPRESSION YOU NEED TO KEEP

didn't have much time. In the film industry everything seems to be changing now because of the OTT platforms coming in due to COVID-19. There is nothing happening in the film fraternity right now. And whatever is happening is being released on OTT platforms. I think I still need to take some time to make the right

■ You do stunts by yourself. What kind of preparation do you do?

To be honest, I have reached that stage

of my life where I kind of switch on and switch off because in television there is not much preparation you need to do.

Moreover, there are certain things you need to follow. First, you need to know your lines, second is that there is a specific expression you need to keep while you are playing a character because everybody is fighting against the time because the episode needs to go, there is a telecast issue. Television is now like a newspaper, which you read and throw away. But yes, it is a medium where you reach out to people in various parts of the country and around the world. So, I would definitely love to be a part of it.

■ What is the attraction of doing stunts

I am a very physical person and a lot into physical activities. I play every kind of sport, I swim, I cycle, I do horse riding. There are action directors and stuntmen available but I like to do my own action because I am a very physically fit person.

Bolly World

Ajay Devgn launches Panorama Music

ith their many years of experience in the entertainment world, Kumar Mangat Pathak and Abhishek Pathak have now launched a label called Panorama Music. Actor Ajay Devgn launched this music label by sharing information about it on his social media



and also requested his fans to subscribe to the channel The music label will be headed by Rajesh Menon. Panorama Music will promote original music, film music, independent music, and regional music. It has also been established with the intention of providing a platform to budding musicians and artists. The label will lay emphasis on producing regional content as well as include a variety of genres in Hindi content, mainly Sufi, Ghazal and Bhakti

Ajay Devgn says, "Music has always had a special place in my life. The possibilities of music through the digital medium are endless. The music culture of India has always been rich, which is still unexplored; Panorama Music. A step in the right direction for Panorama Studios and I wish them all the best for their new venture."

Karan Anand's next is 'It's Over'

ctor Karan Aanand, acting performances in films like 'Gunday' and 'Kick', will be seen next in the film 'It's Over'.

Talking about his character in 'It's Over', where he plays the role of a director having an affair with an actress, he said, "'It's Over' is a film which has a lot of surprising changes in it. I am playing



this kind of character for the very first time in my life and I was very excited to play it. I am playing the role of a renowned director from the Bollywood film industry whose family life is very disturbed. But later on, there are some major twist and turns which depicts me having an affair with an actress from

The saturated climate is a breeding ground for termites or other décor predators that are waiting to devour those wooden consoles and metal seaters handpicked by you. A generous load of enduring polishes on the furniture is the ideal escape route for your

of the eternal red.



Prudently cleaned surfaces of these assorted layers radiate a healthy glow in the indoors amidst a reassuring resilience. - Courtesy Punam Kalra, Creative Director. I'm The Centre for Applied Arts

One of the most important things to keep in mind if you have a green aralia is that it has to be kept away from cold drafts and windows during the winter months to ensure that it thrives.

It needs a feed once a every other month during the spring. During summer months, the plant needs liquid fertiliser. However, be careful if you buy this plant; it is mildly toxic to humans and pets. Ingestion can lead to gastrointestinal irritation, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea. They are best as landscape plants. While watering aralia which is indoors, deep water it only when the soil is nearly dry.

ART AND CINEMA FOR ALL

The TGIFF is a touring film festival with its first edition held in the Capital that brought cultures of the world together ensuring art and cultural cinema reached all. SUPRIYA RAMESH tells you more

ilm festival and that too in the Capital? That's a bit strange and unheard of. But the present pandemic has thrown a curveball and the fact that The Great Indian Film Festival (TGIFF), a touring film festival, a cultural initiative that aims to bring the different cultures of the world together on a single platform making art and cinema reach one and all, was organised in New Delhi was definitely good news for cinema

Initially, the TGIFF's first season was to happen on March 27-28, 2021 in Mumbai as it's the film capital of India. Unfortunately, because of the pandemic and the second wave hitting us just at that point in time, it had to be postponed. "Mumbai is still not open to movies in theatres and we had to do justice to our filmmakers who had waited for the entire year for their films to be screened. So, the moment we got a window in Delhi through the PVR cinema, we decided that we nity to talk about their creation," Vevek Paul, founder TGIFF, says.

Who said only a feature film could make for a great movie with a message or an award-winning film? A film as short as that can be shot on a mobile phone can also have an amazing story to tell, a story that could be an Academy Award winner. Paul decided to start a film festival of his own when his short films got accepted by the international film festivals and one of them called Feast, was selected at the Vancouver film festival and was also screened. It was his

"I was so thrilled that a very short film or a micro-short film can also be played in the theatre. People gave reviews on it and it made me happy.



That day, I decided that I would like to have a festival of my own. I want to make sure that the films are screened at the best venues in the world," Paul tells you.

TGIFF started as an open frame at a co-working space in Gurugram, where people would come out every Friday and Saturday to enjoy films. Few films were curated to be shown to the public and few award-winning short films from all over the world were screened. Every weekend, Paul and the team would have outings for filmmakers, film enthusiasts. It was a validation platform, he started receiv-

IT WAS **HEARTENING TO** SEE THAT IN THE FIRST YEAR ITSELF, I RECEIVED **CLOSE TO 120** FILMS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

ing films from many countries.

"I would take feedback from the audiences and send it back to the filmmaker. And in 2020, we officially opened the festival to the world. It was heartening to see that in the first year itself, I received close to 120 films from all over the world," Paul tells you.

A lot goes into deciding the best movie when you have some great stories from around the world under different categories. There are certain parameters set by the judges on which a movie is selected to be screened. A one minute film can also give a strong message as a 15 or 20minute film could do. "As a festival, our responsibility is to give the filmmakers a platform. We have about seven categories in which we receive these short films, starting from documentaries to under 60 minutes to a one minute film," he explains.

The Oscars is something that everybody looks up to but in the case of short films, not many people are aware that the Oscars also has a category for short films. In this season of TGIFF, the short film 'The Neighbors' Window' was chosen as an opening film because the subject was very appealing in the times that we are living in right now. The film is directed by Marshall Curry and won an Oscar last year.
"This movie came our way as it

had won Oscar last year. It is a story of a couple who lives by looking at the window of the neighbours and the times that we have lived in because of lockdown, it was coincidentally a very good choice for us to have it as an opening film," Paul tells you.

passing time, it is about understanding the story, learning something out of it and understanding the creativeness and efforts put into it by a filmmaker. Paul, who received 110 films last year for TGIFF, watched all of them. "Once you watch them, you feel like watching the other films because all these films are so different and as a filmmaker and a producer, it satiates my appetite looking at these films," he

The next event will be held in Dubai and they will also have a midyear event coming because they are worried that the number of films that they are receiving, they might not be able to do justice to all of them if their mission is to screen only through the bigger venues.

SAHIL SALATHIYA, known for making style statement, speaks with SHALINI SAKSENA about how he bagged the role in Everest and precautions he takes while travelling

♦ How did you come on board for Panipat?

When I made my debut as lead with Everest made by Ashutosh Gowariker. Panipat is his project as well. He called him and said that he had a part for me — Shamsher Bahadur, Baji Rao I and Mastani's son. I thought it was a great part. I did tested with him as well. It makes it possible to find out if you can kill the part. I am happy that I was able to crack

❖ Was acting always on the

No. I was studying to be an engineer. I was a good student. For pocket money, I started doing modelling. That's how it all started. But after Everest, I

studied acting.

Vou got the Best Fresh Face by Luon Gold Awards and Star Guild Award for your role in Everest. What was your reaction?

When you are from Jammu

and manage to get a role in a series like *Everest* and the music is by Mr AR Rahman; all these things are big for a newcomer. I was not even thinking about what would happen after the show. I was concentrating on how good I can be here. To be in screen on biggies, there was a bit of pressure. I was not even thinking about what award I would get. I am grateful that I got it.

* From Jammu to Mumbai, how has the journey been? My journey has been

smooth. I have turned down many reality show. I know what kind of projects I want to do and what I don't want to do. I am a committed actor and enjoy playing different people; that's my craft. The TV series that I did were made by filmmakers. Yes, there are hardships when you don't get a part but one has to be emotionally

❖ You are an avid traveler.

'I know what kind of roles I don't want to do'



How are you managing this

with the pandemic? I definintely travelled a lot during the pandemic, within the country of course. I went to the North-east for the first time. I was so impressed with

the places I visited; the people are warm and welcoming. Whichever city I visited, what was stark was how clean these were. The people was so sofisticated. I went to Rajasthan and visited Delhi, Goa and Benguluru as well. Of course, all throung I carried a bottle of sanitiser. Most hotels were particular with sanitising the rooms. Taking the precautions has kept me negative till now. ❖ You love to make style statement. what does fashion mean to you?

Fashion is about being vourself. I hate it whrn people follow trends blindly. I am not saying don't follow them but at the same time, it is important to stay real and be unique. Whatever is your inner personality is, it is important to bring it out through fashion. Being an artist, fashion is a way of showcasing your art; it is abouting showcasing your persoanlity and mood.

Sound of •



Here are the top 10 songs of the week that will lift up your weekend mood

BOLLYWOOD VIBES

Masakali (Mohit Chauhan) Chand Sifarish (Shaan, Kailash Kher) Kabhi Kabhi Aditi (Rashid Ali) Kyon (Papon, Sunidhi Chauhan) Jugni 2.0 (Kanika Kapoor)

ENGLISH VINGLISH Fix You (Coldplay) My Heart Will Go On (Celine Dion) Someone Like You (Adele) Photograph (Ed Sheeran) Like A Rolling Stone (Bob Dylan)

The trend of online fitness classes has made us realise that you don't need to JITENDRA CHOUKSEY

travel anywhere to stay fit. Your favourite fitness regime is just a click away, writes

have seen the world transform remarkably in the last one and a half years. The post-Covid-19 world has taught us to cope up with our mental, physical and emotional health as part of our daily routine.

One key trend that emerged was the grow ing conscious awareness towards getting fit. From Generation X and Y to Generation Z and Alpha, everyone took to the ground and home arena to establish a regime to get healthy, while encouraging others to follow suit. Social media streams and communities became the virtual ground for people from different demographics registering their journey of enrolling with a Fittr coach to transform their lifestyles. Many couples started their fitness journey by promoting body positivity and highlighting fitness as a form of couple therapy, sharing #CoupleFitnessGoals and inspiring others to join their fitness expedition which the fitness sector could attest!

The fitness community in India has evolved rapidly with an advent of a budding ecosystem consisting of vigilant consumers, fitness service providers coupled by government initiatives. However, the idea of a healthy mind in a healthy body is not new to Indians yoga, akhadas, ayurveda, and meditation have always been a part of our culture. With globalisation and ease in the availability of information, traditional practices and exercises are being reinforced and supplemented by a modern, dynamic, and rising fitness industry in India.

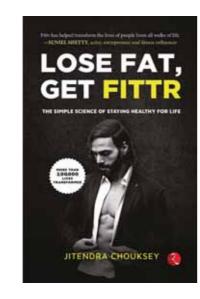
As per a report by Redseer Consulting, the country's fitness industry, which includes equipment, sportswear, fitness services, and recreational sports was valued at US\$12 billion

Recent industry reports from FICCI, E&Y, Redseer Consulting, Global Wellness Institute, and IHRSA & Fitternity on the fitness services segment estimate that there are six million active users spending on an average US\$350 to US\$400 annually towards fitness services, amounting to a US\$2.6 billion market size.

The overall fitness industry is expected to grow at an annual rate of 27 percent and touch the US\$32 billion mark by 2022, of which fitness services (like gyms, slimming services, and formats like zumba, aerobics, crossfit, etc.) will contribute around US\$6.6 billion.

VIRTUAL FITNESS: BRINGING GREATER ACCES-SIBILITY FOR ANYONE AND EVERYONE!

As we continue to grapple with the effects and after-effects of the pandemic, there is now a new breed of fitness enthusiasts that have come into the fold. According to a 2020 report, 77% of Indians tried staying fit by combining household chores with virtual classes and DIY home workout routines. With gyms and fitness centers closed, limited space to exercise indoors and lack of gymlike-set up with little to no access to fitness equipment, being innovative to stay fit became the need of the hour. With fitness apps such as Fittr and others in play, finding



ONE OF THE MAJOR REASONS FOR DIGITAL FITNESS INDUSTRY **BOOMING IS THAT** PEOPLE NOW **UNDERSTAND THE** PERKS OF WORKING OUT AT HOME IN ONE'S **OWN COMFORTABLE** SPACE. IT'S ALMOST LIKE HAVING YOUR PERSONAL TRAINER WITH YOU AT YOUR

the right exercise, coach, diet as per one's need has become seamless.

From terraces and living rooms, any place with good connectivity that allowed for live online coaching became everyone's very own private fitness centre! Fitness coaches became creative, curating routines with exercises that were adapted to these environments.

DIGITAL FITNESS: HAVING A PERSONAL TRAINER AT HOME

With the threat of the virus still at large and easy access to online training sessions, workouts-at-home have become the pandemic fitness trend, leading to a sharp boom for the virtual fitness industry and diverse offerings for consumers. As per a survey conducted, 84% of fitness enthusiasts tried live-streaming fitness classes at least thrice during the lock-

Along with online offerings, there's also been an increase in demand of fitness accessories and equipment such as yoga mats, dumbbells, among others. People have recognised need of inculcating quantified nutrition and physical exercises in their lifestyle and are increasingly becoming more aware and conscious about their health and are looking at various alternatives to integrate fitness into

With fitness industry seeing one of the biggest leaps to online development and becoming almost entirely digital, the need for fitness specialists and nutritionists have increased. Keeping in mind the prevailing situations, fitness specialists have also equipped themselves with the craft of world wide web and have quickly modified their offerings to online. In no time, online fitness coaching has become a lucrative business and an alternative career option with many applying to become a certified trainer and even earn specialized fitness certificates by taking online fitness

One of the major reasons for digital fitness industry booming is that people now understand the perks of working out at home in one's own comfortable space. It's almost like having your personal trainer with you at your home

• Time not being an issue

The excuse that 'I don't get time to work out because of a hectic work schedule' is no longer applicable. Previously, while going to and from the gym or a studio was time-consuming, making it difficult to commit to a daily workout, is no longer an issue anymore! With virtual workouts, you have the leisure of working out at your own convenience and therefore, find the time to insert a sweat session in your routine. So, no more excuses, all you have to do is leave them behind, put on some comfy clothes, set up your mat and turn on your fitness app.

• No more hassle to finding a perfect gym

The hassle to find a gym accommodating your health goals, budgets and within proximity is no longer a challenge. With virtual fitness

One should always be careful while following online health tips and diets. Most of these tips that are shared online are not verified by an expert and can do more harm to your body than good. The trending videos on social media about different exercises and diets that help lose weight instantly and quickly needs to be verified by your personal fitness expert and not to be followed without consulting a certified fitness experts.

The most effective way to begin your fitness journey and stay fit is to understand that everyone has a unique body which functions differently. A fitness tip that could do wonders for one individual may not even work for someone else. There is no one shoe that fits all when it comes to fitness. Thus, it is imperative to understand the needs and requirements of your own body to stay fit and

you have a gym right in the comfort of your home! All one needs to do is find a comfortable spot, place your smartphone, laptop, or tablet, option and start working out. You can also take your workout with you outside, on vacation, to a friend's house or in your own living room.

No peer pressure

When you exercise amongst a bunch of fitness fanatics at a studio or a gym, for beginners especially, it can be an intimidating experience. By working out virtually, much of that pressure dissipates since you're only competing

A community can help build discipline

Especially for beginners finding discipline is very important. Once you are disciplined with your routine and you start seeing results, motivation will follow. In the beginning persuading oneself to lace up sneakers and get the body moving can be challenging. That's where virtual trainers and communities can help generate discipline, passion, guidance, and support, which will amplify your drive. Such fitness communities help in becoming more invested in your workout so that you are more likely to show up for the next one. A study from the University of Michigan discovered that individuals who worked out virtually demonstrated more motivation and performed better than those who worked out alone.

Workouts are boring? Nah!

Following the same routine and frequent exercises can become monotonous and make you lose interest. Fitness historically has been a motivating light, bringing in discipline, focus and camaraderie in some cases. Overcoming a stale workout routine can be simple. You can switch up exercises, change exercise order, or modify activity targeting that muscle you are working on or your aim.

To avoid injuries during exercises, one should always consult with certified fitness experts before beginning a new fitness regime. If you are just starting with your fitness journey

Take five to ten minutes to warm up and cool down properly around your workout.

Plan to start slowly and gradually increase the intensity and the duration of the exer-

Even a simple pull-up or an arm twist or even stretching can harm your body, if not done in the right way. If you previously have had a bone or muscle injury or a major surgery, it is advisable to consult a medical practitioner before exercising to avoid any future repercussions. Also, keep your fitness coach or consultant informed about all your past injuries and surgeries to steer clear of any major tear that can spur up.

Moreover, online tools and platforms like Zoom, YouTube, Fittr and Instagram have increasingly united a wave of virtual fitness communities in the last eighteen months. Lockdowns even forced people to adapt their living spaces to support home fitness routines, allowing people to create new groups, invite families and loved ones for engaging fitness

• Easy access to qualified instructors

Professional guidance is very important to help you chalk out your fitness regime. With virtual programs, exercises to nutrition intake have been detailed out craft fully by your personal coaches for you to get the most out of your workout.

FUTURE OF FITNESS INDUSTRY: AMALGAM OF PHYSICAL AND DIGITAL

The emerging trend of online fitness classes has also made us realise that a person doesn't need to travel anywhere to stay fit. Anyone can perform exercises anywhere in the world and your favourite fitness regime is just a click away. But will the increase in live streaming of workout sessions and the ever-increasing rise in the number of home workout and fitness apps affect the future of people going to the

Personally, I don't see that happening. I see the future as a blend of both digital and physical. It is also the testament of how the general thinking around fitness has expanded. Besides workout arenas and gyms are places where people meet, socialise, and even form friendships. In a post-pandemic world, I see people wanting to meet — and the gym is a great way to start. However, gym packages will be a combination of physically visiting the gym, online classes, and a personal trainer coming home.

The writer is the author of Lose Fat, Get Fittr and Founder & CEO, Fittr



New Delhi, September 12, 2021

KRISHNA'S ENERGIES

The lord is the reservoir of all pleasure. We can derive unlimited pleasure from him just by pleasing him, writes RADHANATH SWAMI



t is explained by Kaviraj Goswami and the previous acharyas that Krishna has three primary energies. His internal energy, which is his spiritual energy. His external energy or material energy and the marginal energy which is the part and parcels spirit souls that are eternally sub-ordinate to one of these two energies as tatatha shakti. The living entity must be a servant under the subjugation of either the internal energy or the external energy.

The internal energy is where the constitutional nature of a *jiva* can be fully expressed. The internal energy is that which is eternal, full of knowledge, full of bliss. Where the bliss of loving ecstatic pastimes is all that takes place forever. It is the land of unlimited happiness. The external energy is the land of exploitation. The land of envy and greed

And the Lord has explained through his representatives that this internal energy has three principles: Sandini, Samvit and Hladini. The Sandini potency of the internal energy of the Lord is that energy in which the Supreme Personality of Godhead

maintains all of existence. And the Samvit potency is that in which the supreme Lord knows Himself and makes Himself known to others. And Hladini potency is that potency which gives the Lord unlimited eternal pleasure and also gives all of His devotees unlimited eternal pleasure. And it is for the purpose of this Hladini shakti that Sandini and Samvit are manifested; are existing. Because ultimately ananda mayo abhyasat Krishna is ananda mayi. That means he is the reservoir of all pleasure. And it is only for pleasure that the Lord transcendentally performs his various functions and pastimes in the spiritual world.

Krishna is the supreme enjoyer. His enjoyment is the all and all of his existence. And because Krishna is the supreme enjoyer, the *jivatma*, which is part and parcel of Krishna, our life and soul is also to enjoy. We find the conditioned soul under the illusions of this external energy. Every part of that soul's existence is simply to try to find enjoyment in one way or the other. Even when we make sacrifices and perform great austerity it is ultimately for the purpose of enjoyment. Even when

KRISHNA HAS
MULTIFARIOUS
ENERGIES. WE HAVE
DESCRIBED THE
PRINCIPAL THREE.
THESE HAVE
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ARE ALL KRISHNA, THEY ARE ALL WITHIN KRISHNA, THEY ARE ALL OF KRISHNA... a man goes to the battlefield to die for his country, it is so that he can enjoy the fact that his country would be free and he has given his life for that purpose.

Factually, everything we do is for the purpose of enjoyment. We have children for the purpose of enjoyment, we raise children for the purpose of enjoyment. We go to work and suffer so many austerities for the purpose of enjoyment. We even remain in this body and suffer birth, old age, disease and death just for the purpose of little enjoyment. The whole existence of our life is to seek pleasure because we are part of Krishna, because Krishna existence is simply to taste pleasure, to enjoy pleasure

enjoy pleasure.

But the illusion is we think we can enjoy apart from Krishna. But the natural function of the pleasure seeking nature of the soul is to experience unlimited pleasure in giving Krishna pleasure. When you water the root of the tree every part of the tree is satisfied. Similarly, when we satisfy Krishna automatically our soul is satisfied, all the Demi-Gods are satisfied, everyone is satisfied. That if we surrender to

Mukunda we have no other responsibilities or duties to anyone because all obligations are fulfilled when we please Krishna. Because He is the reservoir of all pleasure which means that we can all derive unlimited pleasure from Krishna just by pleasing him.

But where does Krishna get his pleasure from? This is the great question that Krishnadas Kaviraj Goswami is herein explaining in such wonderful, wonderful shlokas. That the supreme absolute truth is one. There is one God, there is not a second God.

Krishna says I am the source of all material and spiritual existence. Everything emanates from me.

That Krishna is the supreme truth. There is no truth superior to Krishna. He is the supreme enjoyer. But where does that one supreme truth and enjoyer get his enjoyment from? Obviously he gets it from himself. Because everything is contained within him, nothing exists separate from Him.

Krishna has multifarious energies. We have described the principal three. And they have innumerable sub-divisions, but they are all Krishna, they are all within Krishna, they are all of Krishna. So when Krishna wants to enjoy supreme bliss he is the supreme enjoyer, so in order for Him to enjoy supreme enjoyment He needs someone who is supremely enjoyable. Therefore Krishna expands Himself as His own Hladini shakti or pleasure potency. And the function of this pleasure potency is to give Krishna unlimited pleasure. And in giving Krishna pleasure, the pleasure potency enjoys even greater pleasure than Krishna. And in this relationship of supreme pure spiritual pleasure, Krishna becomes the reservoir of all pleasure and then all living entities, all the jivatmas can derive unlimited bliss from Krishna and he gets that bliss from his eternal consort Shrimati Radha Rani. She is the source of all pleasure. She is the source of all happiness. And just as Krishna expands Himself in various avatars to enjoy various rasas or pleasures at different times and at different places and in different moods for all of eternity, similarly Shrimati Radha Rani, his pleasure potency, expands alongwith Him. When Krishna expands in Vaikunta into Lord Narayan Shri

When Krishna expands in Vaikunta into Lord Narayan, Shri Radhika expands Herself as Laxmi Devi. Simply to give Narayan unlimited pleasure. Radha is the supreme energy of Lord Krishna and accompanies Krishna in all his incarnations. This year on 14th Sept we celebrate RadhaAshtami the appearance day of Shrimati Radha Rani

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HIDDENSOULS PRAMOD PATHAK



The soul lives on...

ife and death are the two sides of the same coin. They complement each other. They complement one anoth-✓er. It was this reality that Lord Krishna explained to Arjun in the Gita when he says that one that is born is certain to die at a predestined time. And one who dies is bound to be born again. All living beings of this world before their births were unmanifest, that is, without the physical bodies. In death they again become unmanifest or without the physical bodies. The physical body is merely an intermediary stage. The soul is defined as unmanifest, beyond imagination and faultless. As a man discards old, worn out clothes and puts on new ones, similarly the soul leaves the old, aged body and gets into a new one. It does not die when the body perishes. It is eternal, omnipresent, immortal and stable. This eternal lesson of *Bhagwad Gita* gives an answer to the biggest mystery of life and death. Swami Prabhupada opined that life is a question none can answer and death is an answer none can question. But still death is grieved by all. That is the mystery of life. We don't want our near and dear ones to depart from this world though we all know that death is a necessary end that will come when it will come. That is the weakness of human nature. We know that death is inevitable. Yet, we do not like death. This is natural. The indestructibility of soul is something that does not give any kind of solace to human beings as we know that one who has departed will never come back. Yes, it is a hard fact, the most difficult reality of life. It is this reality that we have to face time and again but coping with it even after knowing it is not easy. It is this issue that is the most difficult to resolve. The sad news of the demise of a dear friend, Dr. Chandan Mitra, was something that put me in a similar predicament. It was sudden and had a big impact. True, it would have given a similar impact to many people, and for a number of reasons, all equally genuine. But my case was different. A good friend, a noted journalist, and of course, a known personality who also was close to me were definitely there at the back of the mind as the reasons that caused pain. But there was another very significant reason. He was the person behind the idea of this Hidden Souls, the column that I have been writing religiously for around a decade. We had been discussing about this idea of starting a column on spirituality, values and ethics on many occasions that we met. And then suddenly, after a gap of some twenty days or so I received a call from him that we are going ahead. Had it not been for him, *Hidden Souls* would have remained hidden from the readers over today. It was an idea with a land that the readers over today. readers even today. It was an idea with a laudable objective. To sensitise readers on issues that stir the soul, make them look inwards and bring about an awakening to create a better society. It was an attempt with a lofty objective and it did bring about some encouraging responses from not only different parts of the country but many corners of the globe. presence will be felt. The soul lives on.

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Vaastu tips for happy home

Architecture and decor play a vital role in your happiness. Pay attention to details, says ACHARYA VINOD KUMAR OJHA



any people dream of owning an abode, but very few are lucky enough to make their dreams come true. A house becomes a home because of the members who live in it. However, your architect plays a crucial role in the happiness of your family. When the architect plans your dream home, the small negligence of following *Vaastu* can cause profound joy or pain in your life.

your life.

A Vaastu practice is mainly followed to achieve overall wellbeing and prosperity. Vaastu Shastra architecture revolves

around the structure and design of a building. By having the right shape or shell, a home can channel the right energy and prevent negativity from coming in. *Vaastu* principles are best conducted using symmetrical or right-angled shapes, such as rectangles and squares. Houses with these plot shapes are prosperous and happy. Ancient science believes that irregular or curved-shaped buildings (oval, circular, or semi-circular) restrict an individual's growth and cause various health prob-

lems, losses, and a general feel-

ing of unhappiness in the indi-

vidual life.

According to *Vaastu*Shastra, spaces are organised and shaped based on their functions and purposes within a room, a structure, or a collection of rooms. *Vaastu Shastra* has been incorporated into the design of cities, towns, gardens, roads, and water systems, as well as in cities, townships, playrooms, offices, and prayer rooms.

Besides illustrating how to build a building, *Vaastu* offers guidelines for designing it. An architect can play a vital role in your happiness and prosperity by following or not following the *Vaastu* norms. As an Architect, you can look up to few factors while designing. In the context of *Vaastu Shastra*, which encourages positive energy flow, the setting of the house property — which identifies the location and orientation of the living space — is crucial because it establishes the flow of positive energy.

Vaastu Shastra says any direction a home faces is good, whether it's East, West, North, or South because every one of them has advantages but, an architect could look for some of the following instructions while designing and planning:

- Positioning the *puja* room in your house affects prosperity and peace in the home.
 A furniture arrangement can
- influence a room's energy balance, affecting health and mental wellbeing.

 Health and happiness can be
- enhanced by placing mirrors in the key locations in the home.

 • For healthy and hygienic environment water should be
- placed correctly.

 Choosing the right colours for every room in the house can also affect the mood or feeling in the room and should be done with care.

So, next time you look to purchase a property, ensure and check if your architect knows the basics of *Vaastu* and live your life with happiness.

The writer is an astrologer & Vaastu Consultant

Spirituality, a mirror

Spirituality shows the true picture. A conscious entity can not be oblivious of its own reality, writes AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

This article is in the Indian context, because of our widespread awareness about God, soul, etc. Then, why aren't so many spiritualists amongst us? There are several reasons. The first and the most basic one is not realising what one is missing.

We are born in material bodies, and from then on we identify ourselves as material bodies only. Spirituality changes everything. Spirituality reinforces the knowledge/reminds us that we are spirits or souls. One of the basic qualities of the soul is consciousness. A conscious entity will not be oblivious of its own reality. Spirituality works as a mirror in the sense that it shows the true picture. Why don't we want to see the true picture? Because the identity of being a soul requires us to connect to the whole, who is God, and that requires 'tapasya'. We would rather live in ignorance, because we don't wish to give up our unlimited desires for lustful enjoyments.

This is bad enough but worse is for those who are engaged in sinful acts. They are not oblivious of the fact that these sinful acts will be punished as per the 'karmaphala' principle. All acts are being duly recorded. A time of reckoning will come. But they will rather be not reminded of the harsh reality. Spirituality will shake them.

There are some other reasons as well for shunning spirituality or specifically God. 'Ahankar' (ego) is a big spoiler. Though ego is an intrinsic part of the human body, it is used in a wrong way. We need to have this feeling that I must do what I have to, who else? But we go wrong when we begin to think that we are better than other people or begin to think and talk too much about



ourselves. In this mindset, where is a place for God. Ravana, before dying, famously said that ahankar was the cause of his undoing. Bad company is another reason. Because when we interact with anyone, something of us rubs on that person and vice versa. In bad company one justifies whatever one is. Then, where is the chance of changing, which is required for the progress on the spiritual path?

Some people don't try, because spirituality is somewhat of an unknown territory, though as souls it shouldn't be. Here again identifying self as a material body is a big hindrance. Don't we struggle for quarter of our lives just to be able to earn our living? Then, why should spirituality, which brings enormous rewards, be so easily attainable. Similarly, gains in spirituality are subtle, unlike material achievements, which are gross and visible to our sens-

es. But those who practice spirituality can sense that they are progressing, because God responds. He has to, otherwise how else will we make the necessary efforts, or more specifically do 'tapasya'. When we don't embrace spirituality, we hurt ourselves badly, especially in old age when we need God the most. The human life has been divided in four parts and the last part is meant specifically to pursue spiritually. Shelter of God is absolutely essential then, when the body begins to weaken or gets stricken with some diseases. God can help and does help. Spiritualists never suffer 'durgati' (end up badly). The Lord has given a specific promise that His devotees never perish. (9.31) But will we ignore the mirror and go on living a life of delusion?

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Grief and aftermath: Grasping nuances of links

Grief has been with us in poem: HAMESHA DER KAR DETA HOON MAIN. What along. Off and on, it has visit-sensitive lines from a sensitive ed all of us. Understanding grief is concerned with one of the most intrinsic activities of human mind, namely mental events or experiences that cause grief. Grief, essentially speaking, is a phenomenal experience: a phenomenon connoting a sense mind directly takes note of. The concept of grief goads us to know not only how mental activities occur or get altered during grief but also how it affects our physical and psychological being. Grief provokes more investigation into the relationship between grief and facts of life. Let us look at the wood instead of the trees. Simplicity eludes us in explaining most simplistic situations in life. The objective of this article is to cover limited aspects of grief related situations.

A friend of mine, in employment almost a thousand miles from his home town, on his visit to home town, met his elder brother who was gripped by severe physical problems. Elder brother requested for some financial help. Younger one obliged and promised him some help in future. Months later, younger one kept his promise and sent him some amount as per his financial capacity through money order. With no mobiles/landline in the house, he got no confirmation. Moreover communication with members of his house had significantly declined with yawning time gap as he was employed far off. But younger brother had no worries. Money had gone; it would reach. Internet facility was yet to come to shape. Movement tracking was not possible on the postal department website.

About a month later, the money order came back with a cryptic message. "The addressee expired six months back. Hence money returned." Shock came to younger one in two forms: first why none in the family thought of informing him of his brother's death, and second: Did he delay his action in sending money to his brother? Could he present a coherent face to his relatives and friends? The aftermath of an incident causing grief assumes greater significance dent. But is it so?

all of us reminding us of

"Hamesha der kar deta hun main har kaam karne men, Zaruri baat kahni ho, koi vaada nibhana ho.

Use avaz deni ho, use vapas

hamesha der kar deta hun

Kisi ko maut se pahle kisi gham se bachana ho,

Haqiqat aur thi kuchh, us jake ye batana ho,

Hamesha der kar deta hun main har kaam karne men".

The eminent poet harped on the essence of time. Time is crucial in rendering help to any. A person in need may not be able to tell of his woes next moment. Then only the haze remains. To be more precise grief or its remains: the haze of grief. Had money reached in time, would something better have occurred to the elder brother? Would he have lived a few more months or years? Perhaps not. Nevertheless, grief overtook the younger brother. He had answers to none. But this element of grief stayed with him throughout. It might be that in no way, the eldest brother was a pillar of younger brother's existence. He was a complete self-made man. Grief strikes self-made men and women too. This incident took place almost twenty years back but traces of devastated personality of my friend are still

easily perceptible.

Grief distorts the equanimous infrastructure of life, though it is possible from outside, a man's face reveals nothing or he does not display any outer disturbances when confronted with grief-causing episodes. Many times clear images of grief are not easily discernable from a man's face which may harbour among many elements, sadness; anxiety; distorted thoughts; disoriented realties; fear, tiredness, remains of last night's dreams and above all a sense of regret. Gloomy faces, social withdrawal, irritability, obsessional worrying are part of picture of grief. Alternatively said, these are the general contours of grief. Of late psychologists have reached some consensus on severe complexity of nature of grief. Individualistic charis kicking in of "fight or flight" Such incidents do occur to behaviour with stress hormones flooding the body. Pakistani poet Muneer Niyazi's Researchers have shown grief character's rendezvous with



has strong effect on griefstricken people. It disturbs the limbic system of the brain which controls memory and emotions. Resultantly the prefrontal cortex which plays a central role in cognitive control functions like attention, cognitive flexibility, decision making, etc, roll back to backwater. Excessive grief causes an individual to experience feelings of profound sadness and depression slowly leading to loneliness. Emptiness becomes prominent in his joyless life with significant slowing down of thought processes. Often times he is visited upon by guilt of "unpardonable sins" like the younger brother above. If the haze of grief continues for beyond a reasonable time and in a disproportionately greater proportion, depressive patterns and other mental aberrations raise their heads.

Grief has many ramifications. What if a person is bereft of capacity to feel sorrow and grief or is unable to express these publicly? World is replete with strange creatures and by the same corollary strange Outsider got a telegram informing him of his mother's death. The rest of the novel handles

earth's atmosphere, affecting

human and ecosystem's health.

According to the WHO, over

91 per cent of the world's pop-

ulation live in places where the

the grief his mother's death caused and its aftermath which led to his refusal to tell lies, his confession of truth, then his trial and then punishment. During trail a barrage of unpleasant questions he had to account for such as weather he "had displayed a lack of emotion" on the day of his mother's death; if he "had felt any grief" on the day of funeral; if he "believed in God"; if mother's death was "a personal sacrifice for" him; if he had cried seeing his dead mother, etc. What followed his mother's death were sequences centring on "grief" but leading to other directions away from the principal theme of death and grief. The character chose to die for the sake of truth: he refused to lie. He did face the haze of haunting grief before he went to suffer punishment. Grief does not end instantaneously, it lasts. At times it is a life-time

punishment. Vladimir Nabokov's book INSOMANIC DREAMS too merits consideration. Nabokov was a die-hard insomniac using high and strong doses of medwaking up from restlessness of disturbed sleep throughout the night. Then he had an enlarged prostate gland causing him repeated urge to rush to loo for urination. These facts are bare minimum to see the context. Staying in a grand Swiss hotel in Montreux, Nabokov toyed with an experiment. During October 14, 1964, to January 3 1965, immediately after waking up, he recorded the rescued portions of his dreams. Thus this book is a dreamer's log. What for? Next few days he would search for something that happened and had anything to do with his dreams. He was keen to put a theory to scrutiny. The theory believes dreams: fragmented, jumbled and mis-labelled, may not only relate to past events like death of a beloved one or divorce but could be precognitive. Let us look at following lines:

'Got up, lay down, got up Daybreak, like death, drew nearer, creeping.

If I'll keep going on without sleeping,

I shall complain.'

A closer look at the analysis of his dreams unquestionably convinces readers that dreams may be ornamental while life is seemingly stabilising once one travels long distances from the time of incimany consequences. One such Nabokov's personal world of grief, anxiety, pain, intense cannot cope with external depression and woes. It's an threats. Therefore, individuals

surreal. Grief-stricken people very often see different types of fear arousing, tormenting dreams an analysis of content of which gives a graphic picture of the internal upheavals of such people. Sleeplessness enhances problems further.

What causes grief and resultant mental issues is a question which has been sought to be answered by psychologists. Way back in 1959, psychiatrist Silvano Arieti attributed severe depressive reactions to three causative factors: First, death of a loved one (like the younger brother's brother); second, failure in a personal relationship; and third, a setback in the work to which an individual has devoted significant portion of his life. These still remain three broad categories, though one can add many more to the list. These conditions first create grief and then lead to conducive environment for aberrations in behaviour. How long does grief last? From a few days to years? When grief lasts for long time, it becomes a disease known as prolonged grief disorder just like anxiety disorders requiring psychiatric treatment.

One way to rescue oneself from severe consequences of continuing grief (deep depression, melancholy and other psychic issues) is to draw a balance between seeking pleasures from life and avoiding pain and discomfort. One has to learn to perceive and cope with real-life situations: joyous or inevitable hurts. Needed social, emotional, intellectual, moral competencies have got to be learnt though problemsolving and decision making processes in life. This in abnormal psychology is called "the process of maturation". In an experiment, Harlow & Harlow observed that if infant monkeys were subjected to partial deprivation, (they could see but not interact with other monkeys), it would lead to permanent inadequacies in social behaviour. To handle grief, one needs to have required adequacies at one's command. If that is not available, a person will not be able to tackle stressful situations stemming from grief and it, in turn, will pave the way for her/his disorganisation. Fear has serious links with grief.

individuals are helpless and anxious world: violent and who unfortunately don't learn

needed competencies and adequacies to handle external danger become vulnerable later. These competencies enable a person to come out of what psychologists Woodworth and Schlosberg call "blinding effect" or "functional fixidity". "Blinding effect" in brief connotes a person's inability to look beyond a few alternatives. For solving problems, say for example, arising out of grief situations, a matured individual has to initiate process of stimulating new ideas; they might show that there is more than one way of looking at things. Life does not have only one facet. There should be continual attempt to embrace more and more phenomena and options. One ought to forget single-peaked nature of grief. He has to tease out psychological nuances of his own situation and behaviour. Correct appreciation of grief, its nature and aftermath is instrumental in understanding himself.

Considering that prolonged grief disorders have much to do with lack of competencies and maintenance of maladaptive behaviour, a time has dawned to reduce focus on individual dynamics of sufferers and focus on social injustices and inequities that exacerbate feelings of grief. Solution to grief-related problems lies in helping concerned individuals to become more spontaneous and authentic and try out newer ways of experiencing, communicating and being. Isolated aspects of grief should not be divorced from the context of the whole life and vice versa.

(The writer, a civil servant who superannuated in July 2020 as Additional Deputy Comptroller & Auditor General in the rank of Special Secretary to the Govt of India from the office of CAG. He is a poet, writer and columnist. Author of three volumes of poetry, his poems have been translated into Hindi (Andhere Se Nikli Kavitayen PRAKASHAN (2017) and his book "Shadows of the Real" into Russian by veteran Russian poet Adolf Shvedchikov. His fourth book "Soliloquy of a Small-Town Uncivil Servant": a literary non-fiction published in March 2019 by Rupa It is during infancy and Publications, New Delhi, has collection of Essays& Critiques is expected shortly. Views expressed here are his personal **Considering that** prolonged grief disorders have much to do with lack of competencies and maintenance of maladaptive behaviour, a time has dawned to reduce focus on individual dynamics of sufferers and focus on social iniustices and inequities that exacerbate feelings of grief. Solution to grief-related problems lies in helping concerned individuals to become more spontaneous and authentic and try out newer ways of experiencing, communicating and being. Isolated aspects of grief should not be divorced from the context of the whole



life and vice versa

KK SRIVASTAVA

and exhibit the tendency for

transboundary movement,

affecting non-source regions.

Thus, even if there was no

emission of these pollutants in

a particular region, these areas

can still be affected by exposure

to POPs transported from hun-

an Associate Professor, SRM

(Paromita Chakraborty is

dreds of kilometre away.

PERSPECTIVE

Legacy and new pollutants destroying human capital

Even if there is no emission of persistent organic pollutants in a region, these areas can still be affected by exposure to these pollutants transported from hundreds of kilometre away



PAROMITA CHAKRABORTY



DANIEL SNOW

Water and air pollution pogenic activities heavily influences the composition of the health of human and the ecosystem, with a rapidly growing, resource-consuming population. Less than 1 per cent of world's freshwater is available for human consumption, and everyday, over 2 million tonnes of sewage, industrial and agricultural wastes are released into waters around the world.

Riverine pollution is caused by numerous factors, but the biggest determining factor continues to be development in areas vulnerable to run-off. The anthropogenic activity follows a template of resource consumption, utilisation, and wastage. Applied to the context of freshwater from rivers, we consume water from our rivers, use it for our needs and dispose downstream for another set of users

Unplanned and uncontrolled disposal of solid waste, not just wastewater, has exacerbated the problem of passing on pollutants to other water users. The dependence of river flow on regular freshwater inputs from precipitation and snowmelt underlines the intrinsic connection between the atmosphere and the water

flowing in our rivers. The nature of anthroair quality has sunk beyond the recommended limits. Air pollution accounted for over 12 per cent of all deaths in 2019.

To add to these issues, the occurrence of both legacy and new "emerging" organic pollu-

tants has become increasingly common. Chlorinated pesticides used for agriculture and vector control, brominated fluorinated surfactants used in

non-stick cookware, and many such chemicals are all examples of persistent organic pollutants (POPs), which pose plastic additives added as flame immense risk to human health retardants for fire resistance, owing to their ability to resist degradation.

> impact health. riverwater.

Research Institute SRM Institute of Science & Technology, Kattankulathur, India. Prof Daniel Snow is Laboratory Director, Water Sciences Laboratory, University of Nebraska-Lincoln/Nebraska Water Center, USA. The Water Science Laboratory, part of the Nebraska Water Center and Daugherty Water for Food Global at the University of Nebraska, is at the forefront of emerging pollutants analysis including steroids, pharmaceuticals and other toxicants. Environmental Science & Technology Group at SRM Research Institute, Department of Civil Engineering, Institute of Science and Technology, has developed protocols especially for wastewater-based epidemiological surveillance and concurrence of SARS-CoV-2 with chemical markers during this

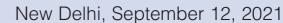
pandemic.)

ing pharmaceuticals and plasticisers, are deemed to be pseudo-persistent because of their constant release into the environment. Some of these chemicals are carcinogenic, can cause endocrine disruption and mutagenicity. Despite being present at trace levels in the environment, chronic human exposure to these toxic compounds can significantly During the recent Covid-

Other compounds, includ-

19 pandemic, day-to-day and regular commercial activities were crippled and pollutants in air like PM10, PM2.5, oxides of sulphur and nitrogen saw a marked decline in their concentrations. Some surface water quality characteristics, like dissolved oxygen levels and nutrient concentrations, showed slight improvements in the

However, despite a slowdown in economic activities, the presence of POPs in the environment will continue to linger for decades despite decreased manufacturing and use. Once released into the environment, POPs continue to occur due to their persistence. POPs can also undergo longrange atmospheric transport (dubbed "grasshopper effect")











ARIES March 21-April 19















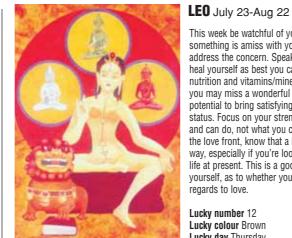






This week Stress may take a toll. Look at ways to ease your risk factors and deal with stress. If all else fails, think about changing your lifestyle and the things you're spending your money on. On the career front, you need to take care of emotional matters and relationships with colleagues and boss which had given you tense moments in the past. The situation will improve and you must make the best use of this time to repair and improve your contacts and enhance your career. The changes you make at this time will lead to interesting money-making opportunities later on. On the relationship front, try to give your partner some breathing space. A lifestyle change may not please everyone but it should lift your spirits.

Lucky number 13 Lucky colour Maroon Lucky day Wednesday



This week be watchful of your health. If you feel that something is amiss with your health, make sure to address the concern. Speak for yourself. Support and heal yourself as best you can with diet, exercise, nutrition and vitamins/minerals. On the career front, you may miss a wonderful opportunity that has the potential to bring satisfying improvement in your status. Focus on your strengths, on what you have and can do, not what you can't do and don't have. On the love front, know that a little effort goes a long way, especially if you're looking to improve your love life at present. This is a good time to look hard at yourself, as to whether you are being realistic with regards to love.

Lucky number 12 Lucky colour Brown Lucky day Thursday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

This week your health is good. Be careful while exercising: there could be minor injuries or sprains. If you're in the process of healing from an injury, don't overdo it, or you could end up in worse shape than you were earlier. On the work front, use your energy in creative pursuits. There may be some constraints in the workplace. You will experience stagnation/ retirement or the job is very demanding which you find difficult. Worrying about your job is not going to help matters. Focus on what you can control, and try to leave your anxiety by the wayside. On the personal front, conflicts, a difference of opinions are foreseen in the relationship area. There are restlessness and unreliability. Learn to value others opinions and words.

Lucky number 11 Lucky colour Golden Lucky day Monday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week you must manage your stress level to stay in good health. Deal with any problems that come up, don't try to avoid them. Ensure you get enough rest. If you need healing, ask for it. Hearty talk with dear friends will go a long way towards keeping you healthy and sane. On the professional front, conflict with a superior will lead you to change track. Try not to close all doors unless you have another opportunity. Be patient as this is a temporary situation. Self-improvement projects will be successful. You will make progress by making corrections. Be adjusting to the current environment. On the personal front, a committed relationship will need to take action for survival.

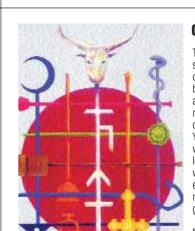
Lucky number 7 Lucky colour White Lucky day Monday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Your firm approach towards life can help solve half of the problems. Restless mind and aggression bring increased BP problems and hypertension. You have an intelligent and sensitive nature, and you may suffer if there is no channel to let out your ideas and feelings. On the career front, go ahead with creative ideas. This is the right time for making deals, connections and collaborations. Don't rush, finish what you have started before you decide to call it off. On the relationship front, your logical nature may spoil your connection with your partner. Avoid heated arguments. You need to be grounded and firm in your decisions. Your partner may be very demanding. You need to be honest with him/her.

Lucky number 10 Lucky colour Yellow **Lucky day** Sunday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week your life is likely to get affected by worry, stress, and anxiety. Be sure that you are taking good care of yourself and to the best of your capabilities. Try and bring balance in exercise, food and water intake. Getting adequate rest is a must. Breathing exercises and meditation are particularly useful for you now. On the career front, some unexpected event may surprise you. You may decide to leave your job if you are currently working, even if it's a good job because your heart is no longer in it. You want to follow your dream, no matter what it is. On the personal front, you will be able to establish a solid family line and become a pillar of a wide network of family members. You are practical and grounded

Lucky number 20 Lucky colour Grey **Lucky day** Friday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

This week health will improve. If dealing with a serious illness, new healing or a new doctor will be of great hope. Think positively and expect the best, and do not hesitate to ask for healthcare if you need it. Your life will get a new meaning if you reach out to spiritual practices and have immense faith in God. On the career front, keep the office and personal life separate. You are likely to try a different tactic or may even choose to leave the job that you're currently in. Due to sensitive time, if you plan to stay back then look for alternate ways to make your work easier. In the matter of heart, mild conflicts with loved ones are indicated Allow your partner to have his or her space for a healthy relationship

Lucky number 2 Lucky colour Green Lucky day Friday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

This week your health will be good. You are outgoing and energetic and some quick movements will make you busy and you enjoy doing so. You will have the drive and determination to move forward. Do not force things, as that is likely to backfire on you. On the professional front, this is not the right time to take important decisions. You may feel as if your energy is blocked. Secret motives, undercover information could make you tensed up. There is a need to go deep into the matter and find a solution for your anxieties, fears and psychic blocks so that they will no longer haunt you. On the personal front, this week will be filled with romance and passion. The time and energy you have invested in the past will now give you rich dividends.

Lucky number 16 Lucky colour Orange Lucky day Tuesday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week you may be suppressing your emotions. This will impact your health adversely. Be careful about how, when, and where you vent your emotional reactions. Anything that reduces your stress level will be helpful now, even a five-minute walk. Your emotions are the gateway to opening up your spiritual life. Professionally, this is a great time to take some time off from work, if you can, to relax. Meditation, solutions, commitments and confrontations can and should be made now. This will bring positive changes in your career. On the relationship front, if you are already committed, then you can enjoy a happy, generous, fair and balanced relationship for at least a while. You and your partner should have a fair contribution to the relationship.

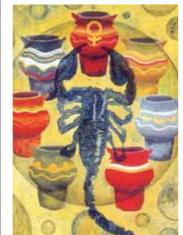
Lucky number 3 Lucky colour Sky Blue **Lucky day** Thursday



CANCER June 21-July 22

This is a good time to improve your health. You will keep a positive attitude. You would be loving toward everyone and everything. Share that good energy, others might need it too. Going for a walk or practicing yoga with your friend or partner is good for your health and wellbeing. Professionally, you will be wise to follow established social structures and traditions. Some of you may consider starting your own business or join a family business. You feel happy being self-employed than working for others. You may meet someone new through your work, or feel attracted to your working colleagues. In love, for those in a committed relationship, be sure that your communication is as clear as it can be

Lucky number 8 Lucky colour Red Lucky day Saturday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week you will overcome problems of the past and it will soothe tensions in your relationships. On the career front, a little sorrow arises but you will overcome the situation and also understand the necessity for that brief sorrow. As peace and joy enter your career sector you'll see that the previous change simply energised you to enter a more profitable phase. The week looks promising in terms of finance. The money will be coming your way through different sources. Your dream may come true, maybe not in the form you expected. On the personal front, various events are likely to happen that will guide you in a direction that is most auspicious for you. Don't lose hope when things are not as per your planning. Destiny knows what is right for you.

Lucky number 5 Lucky colour Indigo Lucky day Saturday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This week health issues may bother you. Take one moment at a time, think positively, and know that it may take a while to get to the bottom of what is happening. Believe in yourself, ask questions, and educate yourself. Keep working and things would be fine. At work, big ideas coupled with determination can help you achieve your targets. Choose your activities and projects wisely. This is a period of increased learning, joining an educational course, vocational training, and research and for a master degree. Artistic interests will draw your attention. On the love front, know that love doesn't know of age. Love can mean that someone is about to sweep you off your feet. Give them a chance. Existing relationships find ways to bring more charm to their life.

Lucky number 9 Lucky colour Magenta

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Work towards self-improvement

duality. That makes you see things Lin relative terms. Two persons exploring the same issue/object may perceive it differently. Even truths pertaining to the living mortal world becomes relative. For, there remains thin dividing line between seeming reality and the underlying truth. Put almost equal amount of milk in two transparent glasses. Mix little water to one of them. To the onlookers, it will be difficult to figure out which one is adulterated. But if you offer the adulterated milk to a swan, it will consume pure milk and leave aside water content. Such a fine sense of discriminatory ability is arrived at by what is termed in spirituality as becoming a Paramhansa. This state is arrived at when one transgresses all limitations of mind.

The ones who could become Paramhansa, were able to explore and comprehend even subtle realities of life, operative at imperceptible level. Ancient India's rishis, Buddha, and realised masters all across come under this category. They came out with profound philosophies. Those, who could overcome their limitations even partially, emerged as acclaimed scientists who created history

ruman mind is driven by a sense of with their remarkable inventions. Even many social reformers who led people improve their lot, come under this category. It is believed that Einstein could use 10% of his mind-power against 5 to 7% ordinarily available with ordinary mor-

> That is why Swami Vivekanand used to say: "The history of the world is the history of few men, who had faith in themselves. Faith calls out divinity within; you can could do anything. You do not fail in life simply because destiny is so scripted. It is because you do not strive sufficiently to unfold immense power

> What happens when you become a Paramhansa? He/She has access to the full landscape of mind, when wholesome powers of mind spontaneously come into play. It then knows no limits. The irony, however, is that with limited mindpower available, ordinary mortals get a narrow window frame to look at. Evidently, with a narrow vision, one fails to look at issues in hand in the right perspective due, and with obvious consequences. And because of one's habit tendencies, we dissipate a large part of our mindpower, towards unproductive ends. One, thus, is hardly



left with enough to do justice to the callings of the targeted destination. This is not to suggest that each one of us could become a Paramhansa. Even if one could optimise what is already available, it will help successfully negotiate the callings of usual life with relative ease. If one could raise the mindpower little higher through conscious efforts, he could make it big in

The question now is: why is it that an ordinary mortal is born with a limited mind power? And how come they fail to optimally use even what is available? Answer lies in our inherent ignorance, coming as it may as Karmic carryover from the past. That holds the key to an individual's desire trends as well as habit tendencies and attitudes. The habits and attitudes do not let you weigh your desire trends objectively — whether they are achievable. They do not let you look beyond for better options suited to your skill sets either. Nor do they allow you to carry on the task in hand in a focused

While I was explaining the above concept to someone who has often failed to strike his targeted destination, came out with a counter question: "Can destiny,

which is a sequel to our own doing and undoing in the past be changed? Applying the same logic, is it possible to change the habits and attitudes identified with a being?"

Yes, one could do it through sustained conscious efforts, I answered. Elaborating further, I explained that it was with the intent to find answer to the above question that learned masters such as Buddha toiled day in and day. In the process, they explored the subtle as well as living realities of life. Pursuing further, they not simply found the root cause underlying human suffering, but also worked out ways and means to overcome them. To make things further clear, two aspects of life need attention. First, the premise on which the theory of Karma stands. Second, the construct and chemistry of mind, which remains the primemover of a being. For, all that happens out in open, begins in mind. First you visualise and then articulate ways and means to successfully pursue the task in

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