

CITY 3
ENSURE SAFETY OF DEVOTEES
VISITING PANDALS: CM

OPINION 6
IN PURSUIT OF TRUTH
AND SELF DISCOVERY

WORLD 10
UKRAINE CLAIMS GAINS IN RUSSIA
ANNEXED REGION

LUCKNOW, TUESDAY OCTOBER 4, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3



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Prachand gives IAF unique advantage

It's only light attack copter in world that can take off at 5K m altitude

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/JODHPUR

India on Monday got its fleet of the first indigenously built light combat helicopter (LCH) named 'Prachand' nearly 23 years after the Kargil war. The helicopter is capable of destroying enemy targets, including bunkers, tanks and drones in high-altitude areas.

Built by the public sector aerospace conglomerate Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), the light combat helicopter is the only attack helicopter in the world that can land and take off at an altitude of 5,000 metres (16,400 ft) with a considerable load of weapons and fuel.

The 5.8-tonne twin-engine gunship helicopter is armed with air-to-air missiles, 20 mm turret guns, rocket systems and other weapons.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday presided over the ceremony to induct 'Prachand' into service at



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh after a sortie in the newly inducted indigenously built Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) 'Prachand', in Jodhpur on Monday

Jodhpur Air Force station. He also flew in the helicopter and later said, "No need to define 'Prachand', message received by the enemy."

The fleet comprising four helicopters was inducted into the IAF in Jodhpur in the presence of the Defence Minister, IAF chief VR Chaudhari and other senior military officials.

Rajnath described the induction of the indigenously-built LCH into the IAF as a

"momentous occasion" for India's defence production. "The IAF has been playing an important role in protecting India's sovereignty and I am confident that its overall capability will enhance further following induction of LCH," he said.

"We have been focusing on boosting the country's defence production following certain developments... Security of the country has been our foremost priority and it will remain

so," he said.

Rajnath also complimented the IAF for reposing confidence in indigenously developed platforms.

He noted the LCH meets the requirements of modern warfare and necessary quality parameters under varied conditions of operations. It is capable of self-protection, of carrying a wide variety of ammunition, and delivering it to the field quickly.

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5 killed in pandal inferno

3 kids among the dead, SIT to investigate Bhadohi blaze

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Five people, including three children, have so far died after a fire broke out at a Durga puja pandal in Bhadohi district, police said on Monday.

A Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been constituted to probe the cause of the incident from all angles, including it being part of any subversive activity.

Fire broke out on Sunday in a Durga puja pandal in Aurai town during the aarti session to mark the Saptami, or the seventh day, of Navratri festivities.

Bhadohi District Magistrate Gaurang Rathi said on Monday, "The death toll in the Bhadohi Durga puja pandal fire incident has risen to five. Three children and two women have died."

Among the five deceased were one Jai Devi and her two grandchildren and their death has left the family in a state of shock.

Devi's husband said, "Along with my wife, three of her daughters-in-law and two grandchildren had gone to the pandal. While the woman and one of the children died in hospital, one more child died today (Monday) morning at home."

On Sunday night, Bhadohi's Superintendent of



An injured is shifted to a hospital after a fire broke out in a Durga Puja pandal during the festival celebrations in Bhadohi, in Varanasi, on Sunday night

Police Anil Kumar had informed about the incident, saying the fire broke at the time of aarti.

"At around 9 pm, a fire broke out at Durga Puja pandal in Bhadohi as it was the time of aarti.

"Around 10-15 people were injured and were immediately rushed to the hospital," the SP said.

"Around 150 people were present during the Durga Puja aarti when the fire broke out. Fifty-two people were admitted to different hospitals.

People having 30-40 per cent burns have been admitted to trauma centres and every patient is stable," he added.

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Gandhi-lookalike Mahisasur: Hindu Mahasabha booked

PNS ■ KOLKATA

A day after a controversy erupted over the installation of a Mahishasura idol (buffalo demon) that resembled Mahatma Gandhi at a Durga puja here, the Kolkata police have lodged an FIR against the organisers of the All India Hindu Mahasabha Durga Puja pandal on Monday.

According to mythology, Goddess Durga slew Mahisasur in an epic battle to end his evil reign.

Its organisers, Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha (ABHM), said the police brought an artist and made some changes to the figurine in view of the furore.

The Mahishasura idol had a bald head and was dressed in a white dhoti and round glasses. "The police got an artist to remove spectacles, put a moustache and hair on the asura," Sundargiri Maharaj, the president of the state unit of the ABHM, said.

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UAPA slapped on PFI

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Monday booked the Popular Front of India (PFI) under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) in Southeast Delhi's Shaheen Bagh.

The development comes after Delhi Police's Special Cell unit along with district police conducted raids across six districts in the city last week and nabbed 30 people allegedly linked with the PFI.

The Government has already declared the PFI, Rehab India Foundation (RIF), All India Imams Council (AICC), National Confederation of Human Rights Organisation (NCHRO) and other organisations as "unlawful associations".

According to the FIR, Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora vide a gazette notification dated September 29, declared and notified some addresses in Shaheen Bagh,



Abdul Fazal Enclave and Jamia Nagar as being used for the purposes of carrying out unlawful activities of PFI and its associates or affiliates.

"Even after the said prescription and notification, reliable information has been received that certain leaders, members and associates of the referred unlawful associations, in continuation of their unlawful activities, are secretly conspiring to disrupt public order with the ultimate objective of targeting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India," the FIR stated.

"The leaders, members, and associates of the proscribed unlawful association/s are, in

continuation of their unlawful activities, conspiring further to cause massive disruption of public order by promoting communal enmity and for the purposes, are mobilising supporters for spreading incitement at various places of worship," it further stated.

According to a senior police official, based on the information, a case under sections 120 B (criminal conspiracy) and 153A (promoting enmity between different groups) 9f the IPC along with Section 10 of the UAPA, has been registered at Shaheen Bagh police station.

"In order to unearth the conspiracy, to prevent deterioration of public order and to curb the intended unlawful activities by the leaders, members and associates of the said proscribed organisations. All these matters will be investigated and the culprits will be caught," police stated.

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Russian arrested for JEE (Mains) hacking

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Monday arrested a Russian national accused in an ongoing investigation of a case related to the irregularities in the JEE (Mains) 2021.

Mikhail Shargin, the accused, was earlier detained by the Bureau of Immigration at IGI Airport, Delhi, after his arrival from Almaty, Kazakhstan.

A lookout circular was issued against him at the behest of the CBI. Shargin is suspected to be the main hacker for the alleged manipulation of the JEE Mains.

"During the investigation, it came to light that some foreign nationals were involved in compromising many online examinations, including JEE

(Mains), colluding with other accused in the instant case.

"The role of one Russian national was revealed who had allegedly tampered with the iLeon software (the platform on which the JEE (Main)-2021 examination was conducted) and he helped other accused in hacking the computer systems of suspect candidates during the examination. Therefore, a lookout circular was issued against the said Russian national," the CBI said in a statement.

On September 1 last year, the agency had booked Affinity Education Pvt Ltd and its three directors — Siddharth Krishna, Vishwambhar Mani Tripathi and Govind Varshney — besides other touts and associates/conduits for the alleged manipulation of the JEE Mains 2021.

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SU-30s escort Iranian flight out of India after bomb hoax

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

A bomb scare on board an Iranian civil aircraft bound for China forced the IAF on Monday to scramble its SU-30 fighter jets. The plane remained in the Indian airspace for nearly 40 minutes.

After Tehran informed India to disregard the bomb scare, the plane was escorted by the fighter jets to the Indian airspace limit for an onward journey to the designated destination. The initial warning about the bomb on the Mahan Air aircraft was sounded by the Lahore Air Traffic Control (ATC) about 9 am, it was learned.

A call regarding the threat was received at 9.20 am, said the Delhi Police. The Delhi airport was subsequently put on



alert. The IAF scrambled two SU-30s from Punjab and Rajasthan respectively.

Mahan Air later tweeted that the report was "fake" and that the flight was safe.

"In the name of Allah. Following the publication of an allegation of a 'threat to bomb' a Mahan Airlines flight over India and request an emergency landing the public relations of Mahan Airlines informed that the Airbus 340 passenger plane of this company was traveling from Tehran

to Guangzhou in China," read a statement by Mahan Air.

"The pilot, as soon as he learned about the possibility of a bomb in the flight, shared the situation with the control center... and recognised that this story was fake and the flight was completely safe."

"It seems that the design of such reports in the current international and domestic conditions was proposed in order to disturb the security and peace of mind," it added.

Giving details here, the IAF said, "On October 3, information was received of a bomb scare on an airline bearing Iranian registration, when it was transiting through Indian airspace. IAF fighter aircraft were scrambled, which followed the aircraft at a safe distance.

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CAPSULE



MULAYAM CRITICAL
Gurugram: Former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav is admitted to the "critical care unit" of Medanta Hospital here and is being treated by a "comprehensive team of specialists". The announcement from the hospital comes a day after the Samajwadi Party on Sunday said its 82-year-old patriarch's health had deteriorated.

MANGALYAAN MISSION OVER, CONFIRMS ISRO
Bengaluru: The Indian Space Research Organisation confirmed on Monday that the Mars Orbiter craft has lost communication with ground station, it's non-recoverable and the Mangalyaan mission has attained end-of-life.

Sweden's Svante Paabo gets Nobel for insight into human evolution

AP ■ STOCKHOLM

Swedish scientist Svante Paabo won the Nobel Prize in medicine on Monday for his discoveries on human evolution that provided key insights into our immune system and what makes us unique compared with our extinct cousins, the award's panel said.

Paabo has spearheaded the development of new techniques that allowed researchers to compare the genome of modern humans and that of other hominins — the Neanderthals and Denisovans.

While Neanderthal bones were first discovered in the mid-19th century, only by unlocking their DNA — often referred to as the code of life — have scientists been able to fully understand the links between species.

This included the time when modern humans and Neanderthals diverged as a species, determined to be



around 800,000 years ago, said Anna Wedell, chair of the Nobel Committee.

"Paabo and his team also surprisingly found that gene flow had occurred from Neanderthals to Homo sapiens, demonstrating that they had children together during periods of co-existence," she said.

This transfer of genes between hominin species affects how the immune system of modern humans reacts to infections, such as the coronavirus.

About 1-2 per cent of people outside Africa have Neanderthal genes.

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Vegetable prices skyrocketing as rain hits supply

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Rising prices of vegetables Rare jeopardising the common man's kitchen budget due to the supply crunch caused by heavy rain.

Apple, pomegranate and banana are cheaper than cauliflower, carrot, capsicum, and coriander in most parts of the north India. But there is not much change in the prices of onion, potato and garlic. Traders and vendors have blamed the short supply due to excessive rain in central India for the higher prices of vegetables.

According to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs and Agriculture, retail prices of vegetables will remain high till the arrival of the new crops.

The data collected from several vegetable markets across the national Capital showed that average retail prices of vegetables have surged sharply in the past few weeks.

Retail prices of cauliflower have sharply risen to nearly ₹100 per kg from ₹60 per kg a few weeks ago.

Carrot (Orange) is selling at ₹100 per kg; coriander leaves at ₹300-400 per kg; bottle gourd (Lauki) is around ₹55-60 a kg from ₹20-30 a kg a few days ago. Radish is selling at ₹60 per kg which was being sold at ₹30 a kg two weeks ago.

Sponge Gourd is selling at ₹60 a kg which was at ₹30-40 a kg last week. Capsicum price is selling at ₹120-150 a kg. Retail prices of potato and onion are stable being sold at ₹25-30 per kg. Tomato is also being sold at ₹35-40 per kg.

Spinach, a seasonal vegetable, is selling at ₹80 a kg from ₹60 per kg last week. Garlic is selling at ₹25-30 per kg. Lemon prices have gone up from ₹20 per 250 gram to ₹30 per 250 gram. Retail price of radish is at ₹60 per kg.

The retail prices of vegetables at Blinkit online stores showed that average retail prices of ladies' finger is at ₹60 per kg; french beans ₹228 per kg; cucumber ₹80 per kg; sponge gourd ₹110 per kg; carrot ₹120 per kg; green capsicum ₹220 per kg; pointed gourd ₹80 per kg; brinjal ₹60

Vegetables	Bigbasket (₹per kg)	Blinkit (₹per kg)	Sabzibhaji (₹per kg)	Local vendors (₹per kg)
Cauliflower	120		120	100
Carrot (orange)	75	120	100	100
Ladies' fingers	50	60	60	60
Radish	44	80	60	60-70
Cabbage	33 per piece	35 per piece	35 per piece	60
Capsicum	80-90	220	140	100-120
Potato	25-30	25-30	25	25



a kg; round gourd (tinda) ₹20 per kg; Radish ₹80 a kg and drumstick ₹360 per kg.

Similarly, in Bigbasket, retail prices of carrot (orange) is ₹75 per kg; tomato ₹39 per kg; lady finger ₹50 per kg; capsicum ₹86 per kg; coriander leaves ₹120 a kg; cabbage one piece (400-500 gram) ₹33; chilli green ₹60 a kg; ginger ₹118 a kg; radish ₹44 a kg; drumstick ₹150 a kg; brinjal ₹60 a kg and cucumber ₹60 a kg.

According to Naseeb Singh, a wholesaler in Ghazipur vegetables and fruits market, the unusually high rainfall in major and trading centres, causing extensive damage to vegetable crops and the high transportation cost due to spiralling diesel prices have significantly contributed to the increase in prices.

The monsoon which was around 8 per cent deficient in June is now 7 per cent excess. Several parts of the country, except Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and parts of Odisha, have experienced good rains this season.

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LU student sexually harassed

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A student of Lucknow University sexually harassed a junior girl student of other religious faith and threatened to defame her by making her morphed photos viral.

A case was registered in this connection on Sunday.

As per reports, the accused, identified as Irfan Ahmad Ansari, a post-graduate student, got the girl's number from the WhatsApp group of the class in which the girl studies and started calling her at odd hours and forced her to meet him at a secluded place.

The girl, who is pursuing BSc from the university, alleged that Irfan was chasing her for the last one month and after he secured her mobile number he sent her messages, forcing her to meet him and threatened to spoil her future if she refused his proposal. "He also used abusive language to force me into submission," she alleged.

She alleged that Irfan called her on September 29 and asked her to meet him on the university campus while threatening to make her morphed photos viral.

"I was frightened at this and reached the university to meet him. He took me to a park inside

the campus and showed me obscene photos/film on his phone. I shouted at him and broke his phone hitting it against a brick wall. He then fled the scene while threatening me with dire consequences," she alleged.

The victim said Irfan kept calling her using another mobile phone number and was still harassing her. She also gave the police the audio recording of Irfan's conversation with her. On her complaint the police registered a case of sexual harassment, using criminal force on woman, intentional insult and criminal intimidation and showing her obscene photos/film,

against Irfan.

DUPED: Unidentified miscreants duped a school owner of Rs 1.97 lakh by using a cloned cheque in Ghazipur police station area. A case was registered in this connection on September 30.

As per reports, the school had given four cheques for payment to a tourist bus service provider in May this year. The owner of the school, Sanjeev Sarkar, alleged that the bank had already made payment of Rs 1.975 lakh to four different persons against the cheque numbers and rejected the cheques given

to the tourist bus service company.

"Someone cloned the bank cheques issued by us for the payment. There is clearly a complicity of some bank officials and also of the person who submitted the cheques. We have lodged a report with the Crime Cell of Lucknow police commissionerate," he said.

Sarkar said the case needed a thorough probe to reach the miscreants.

On his complaint, the police registered a case of forgery and tampering of documents and a team of police are investigating the case.

Man playing role of Lord Hanuman dies on stage in Fatehpur

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A 50-year-old man playing the role of Lord Hanuman in a Ramlila died on stage during his performance in Salempur village of Fatehpur district.

The incident happened on Saturday night when Ram Swaroop, who was dressed as Lord Hanuman, suffered a heart attack after his tail caught fire.

"During Ramlila's presentation, soon after the tail of Hanuman was set afire, Ram Swaroop, who was playing the character, slumped to the ground and died within a minute. He was taken to the hospital where he was pronounced dead," an official said.

According to reports, Ram Swaroop's wife Anusuiya and other family members were present when the incident took place.

"He is survived by his wife

and two-year-old daughter, Roopa," officials said.

Village head Gulab said Ram Swaroop used to ferry a cart to make his living.

The family performed the last rites of the body on Sunday evening without informing the police.

Station House Officer of Dhata, Praveen Kumar, said the incident had come to his notice and a police team would visit the village to investigate the incident.

In yet another similar incident in Mainpuri, a young man, Ravi Sharma, was playing the role of Lord Hanuman in a play staged on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi a few days back. He was seen dancing on the stage during his act when he suddenly slumped on the ground and later died in the hospital.

Meanwhile, in another freak mishap, a teenage girl was seriously injured in Aligarh

while she was taking part in Maharaja Agrasen Shobha Yatra on Sunday.

According to eyewitnesses, the girl was clicking photos and recording the procession with her relative when her hair got stuck in the genet fan mounted on a horse-driven carriage, which was moving along with the procession.

The victim's hair, along with skin, came out.

The badly injured girl was admitted to a hospital, police sources said.

On hearing the screams of the girl, family members and volunteers of the Agrasen Shobha Yatra shifted the girl to a private nursing home for treatment. The injured girl's brother, Saurav, said, "My sister was clicking photos and video recording the procession when her hair got stuck in the fan of the generator."

Doctors have performed surgery on Aarushi.

One killed in cylinder blast in BKT

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A man was killed while five members of his family, including an eight-year-old boy and two women, suffered serious burns after a cooking gas cylinder exploded in their house in Bakshi Ka Talab police station area on Monday night.

The deceased was identified as Zubair (30) of Bargadi of Bakshi Ka Talab and the injured as Salman (25), Saif (17), Samar (8 months), Shabnam (35) and Zakira (50).

Superintendent of Police (Rural) Hridesh Kumar said the police were informed of the incident by the police control room and a team rushed to the spot to rescue the victims. He said Zubair was pronounced dead while the injured were admitted at a government hospital.

Rubbishing reports that a firecracker unit was being run at the four-room house, the SP said four families, all of brothers, were staying at the house. He said the cooking gas cylinder in the kitchen of one of the brothers caught fire and exploded.

He added that the lint and a portion of the balcony collapsed due to the explosion.

"The situation is under control and the injured are getting treatment at the hospital," he said.

The residents suspect that a firecracker manufacturing unit was being run at the house.



Lucknow Commissioner Roshan Jacob holding a meeting to review cleanliness drives with Nagar Nigam officials in Lucknow on Monday.

Pioneer

Youth succumbs to burns in road mishap, 6 more killed

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Mishaps claimed over half a dozen lives, including that of a youth, who suffered fatal burns on the Lucknow-Varanasi highway in Sultanpur.

According to reports from Sultanpur, a bike rider succumbed to burns after his motorcycle was hit by a speeding truck on the Lucknow-Varanasi highway on Sunday night. The youth was posted as a clerk in the Varanasi District Court.

According to eyewitnesses, the truck going towards Sultanpur hit the bike rider on Lucknow-Varanasi Highway near Madanpur village of Lambhua kotwali area. The bike caught fire due to the collision. Soon the bike became a ball of fire and the rider was badly burnt. The local residents informed the police who rushed to the scene, doused the fire and took the victim to the district hospital where the doctors pronounced him dead upon arrival. Later, with the help of an identity card, the victim was identified as Ramashray Singh Yadav (28), a resident of Shivpur in Varanasi.

He was going to Lucknow to meet his elder sister when he met with the accident.

In another mishap in Unnao, a car collided with the divider on Agra-Lucknow Expressway after the tyre burst in which a lady and her niece died while half a dozen other family members were injured. The injured were sent to Trauma Centre in Lucknow. The occupants of the car were on their way to Delhi from Amethi and met with an accident near Auras area of Unnao.

Mukesh, a resident of Purelusa village of Musafirkhana area in Amethi district, along with his mother Ramdei, 28-year-old sister Shweta, wife Rita, son Nitin, six-year-old daughter Aadya, his father Ramhet and one another family member, Jeetan were returning Delhi after attending his (Mukesh) brother's engagement.

The tyre of the car burst near Panchmkheda village of Auras area on the expressway on Monday morning, due to which the car driver lost control and hit the divider. Shweta and her niece Aadya died in the accident. Others were injured. The car was being driven by Ramhet, who works in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

In another road mishap, in Lalitpur a tractor overturned in

which two people died on the spot while one person was injured. He has been referred to the district hospital in a critical condition. The accident took place on Birdha to Satora road of the district on Sunday late evening.

The deceased were identified as Kamlesh Kushwaha (45), a resident of Birdha, Devendra Singh Ghosh (32), a resident of Richhpura locality and the injured as Devendra's younger brother Udai Singh Ghosh (30).

In a mishap near Mohiuddinpur gate in Kharkhoda, Meerut, a farmer hailing from Baghat was killed and another was seriously injured when a tractor trolley loaded with paddy overturned due to a pothole in the road on Monday morning. Police sent the body for postmortem and also shifted the injured to hospital. Reports said that on Monday morning, farmer Sandeep Yadav (35), a resident of Nawada village of Baleni police station area of Baghat district, along with his another farmer Monu (34), were going to sell their paddy crop at Hapur Mandi after loading it in a tractor trolley.

As they reached Mohiuddinpur Road in

Kharkhoda area at around 5 am, the trolley fell in a deep pit in the road near the gate due to which the tractor trolley overturned. While Sandeep Yadav died after being crushed under the trolley, Monu was seriously injured. Soon after the death, the farmers also staged demonstration holding the local authorities responsible for the death. They claimed that there were several potholes on the road for a long time and no repair was carried despite raising the issue several times.

Local police registered a case and sent the body for post-mortem examination.

In Baghat, a truck collided with another vehicle parked on the Eastern Peripheral Expressway (EPE) in which the truck driver was killed. The driver, 30-year-old Lukman, a resident of Badkhal village in Hapur district, was going to Karnal (Haryana) with paddy in a truck. In the early hours of Sunday, his truck collided with a truck already parked there near Khekra Stadium.

Lukman was seriously injured in the accident. The police took him to the hospital, where the doctors declared him brought dead. Police sent the body for post-mortem examination.

Gola Gokranath bypoll on Nov 3

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Election Commission of India, on Monday, announced the schedule of the by-election to Gola Gokranath assembly seat in Lakhimpur Kheri district.

The polling for bypoll will be held on November 3 and counting of votes will be taken up on November 6.

The by-election to Gola Gokranath assembly seat has been necessitated by the death of BJP MLA Arvind Giri on September 6. The legislator succumbed to a heart attack. Giri was elected to the UP Assembly from this seat for five consecutive terms.

This is the first by-election in the tenure of the 18th UP Assembly. The state assembly elections were held in February/March this year.

The by-election is likely to witness a close contest between the opposition Samajwadi Party and the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party. The Bahujan Samaj Party as per its tradition never contests by-elections.

Toddler killed in road accident

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a tragic incident, a one and a half year old girl was killed in a road mishap in Talkatora police station area on Monday afternoon. As per reports, the victim, identified as Noor of Haider Canal in Sector E of Rajajipuram, was playing outside her house when a speeding pick-up van hit her around 1:30 pm.

The girl suffered serious injuries and was rushed to Rani Laxmi Bai Memorial Hospital where the doctors pronounced her dead.

The girl's father, Shah Mohammed, lodged a report with the police.

The police said they had identified the registration number of the vehicle involved in the accident and were making attempts to nab the errant driver.

LOOT: An unidentified miscreant riding a motorcycle looted a mobile phone from a

passenger traveling in an e-rickshaw in Hasanganj police station area on Sunday night. Reports said the man, identified as Rubul Ameen of Ashiyana, was going to University Metro station by e-rickshaw and the miscreant looted his mobile phone near the metro station and sped off. The victim noted down the registration number of the motorcycle and gave it to the police. A case of loot was registered in this connection.

ARRESTED: The Chintah police, on Monday, arrested a man who killed his wife at their house and absconded. The accused was identified as Krishna Kumar Yadav of Basti district. He was booked for dowry death and for torturing his wife Asha. The miscreant owned up his crime. He said he had a verbal spat with Asha on the fateful day and in a fit of rage he had strangled her to death using her dupatta before fleeing the scene.



सूचना

सूचित किया जाता है कि Ateeq S/o Suleman को अब Ateeq Ahmad S/o Suleman Ahmad से जाना व पहचाना जाये। फ़ोन-303 सुल्तानपुर, अतनपुर बहरीया, प्रयागराज

NOTICE

I Arzoo Singh D/O Late Krishan Bhan Singh resident Village & Post Kuchlail. District Sitapur (U.P.) have change my name Aarjoo Singh to Arzoo Singh & D.O.B. 14.02.2003 to 14.02.2005 Vide affidavit dated 03.10.2022 before Notary of Tahsil Sidhauri, District Sitapur(U.P.).

सूचना

सूचित करते हैं कि पासपोर्ट में मेरा नाम Mohammad Saqib लिखा है जो कि गलत है। सही नाम Mohammad Saqib Shahab है अब मुझे इसी नाम से जाना जाये। Mohammad Saqib Shahab S/o Abdul Shahab R/o 108/226 Model House Lucknow.

NOTICE

In my records at Indian Army wherein the name & DOB my wife wrongly mentioned as Rashmi Devi & DOB 17.7.1989 instead of Rashmi Sahu and DOB 12.11.1991. So the true & correct name Rashmi Sahu & DOB 12.11.1991 Vide Affidavit Dt.3.10.2022. NK Sunil Kumar Sahu S/O Shri Dhani Ram Sahu R/O Vill. Champatpur, Post Kathara Kanpur Nagar

NR to run more CRACK trains

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Northern Railway General Manager Ashutosh Gangal held a review meeting with the departmental heads and DRMs of Northern Railway on Monday.

Gangal said that for achieving optimum utilisation of rolling stock in freight movement, Northern railway had run 991 CRACK trains between September 22 and September 28 and more such trains would be operated. He emphasised on better crew management and utilisation of manpower.

The NR GM also emphasised on focusing on electrical

safety on tracks, trains and premises. He said enhancing the speed of trains was a priority over the zone. The GM also took stock of the tree cutting activity and removal of vegetation alongside the tracks.

Gangal emphasised upon minimising human failure in train operation, extensive monitoring of rail fractures and rail welds and said no error should be left.

The GM instructed business development units to create an environment of trust, support and confidence amongst the customers. He added that the initiatives and concessions offered by the Railways should reach the

clients. Meanwhile, the remodeling of Yard at Pratapgarh railway station of Lucknow Division of Northern Railways was completed on Sunday.

Senior DCM Rekha Sharma said the railway station was now equipped with nine up and down main lines, five platforms of full capacity, a long washing line, three lines for keeping coaches, a new foot over bridge which connects all the platforms, a tower wagon shed and a track machine siding. She said the additional number of diamond crossings had been removed and this would end the speed limit and the train would run at the decided speed.

RERA allows LDA to give possession in Basant Kunj scheme

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) on Monday granted permission to Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) to begin the procedure to register the names of those who were interested in buying flats in Sector-A of the Basant Kunj housing scheme located at Hardoi Road on the bank of river Gomti. It has also directed LDA Vice Chairman Dr Indramani Tripathi to give possession of the property to the home buyer within two months. As many as 275 flats have come up at the proposed site.

The project was completed in 2021 but the registration and handing over of the possession of properties was postponed due to the pandemic. A group of home buyers had approached the RERA in June this year for the delay in the allotment procedure and urged the authority to make an effort so that their names were registered and possession of the flats was given to them at the earliest.

For Mulayam's long life, SP workers pray

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party workers organised special prayers in many temples across the state on Monday for long life of the party founder Mulayam Singh Yadav, who is admitted in a "critical care unit" of a private hospital in Gurugram.



In Lucknow, party workers prayed at Hanuman temple at Vikramaditya Marg, just a stone's throw from the Yadav's residence, a SP office bearer said.

In Varanasi, they offered prayers at various temples including Hanuman temple in Gilat Bazar and Bada Ganesh Mandir in Lohatia, a party leader said. SP spokesperson Manoj Rai said everyone in the party needs blessing of 'netaji', (as Mulayam is fondly addressed) and they held special prayers in different temples including performing havan at Assi ghat in Varanasi.

SP leader Ajay Yadav in Varanasi said he was ready to donate his kidney, if needed.

In Saharanpur also prayers were held for the speedy recovery of Yadav.

Former SP city President Faisal Salmani held an all religion prayer for the SP leader's speedy recovery.

In Deoband also, prayers were held for Yadav.

Samajwadi Party in Lucknow issued an appeal to party workers stating not to visit Medanta Hospital,

Gurugram as he was admitted in a critical care unit there and his condition is stable. "Meeting 'netaji' and entering the hospital is not possible. It's a humble request not to reach there. You will be updated about netaji's health from time to time," the party said on its twitter handle. Former Uttar Pradesh chief minister Mulayam Singh Yadav is admitted to the "critical care unit" of Medanta Hospital in Gurugram, Haryana and is being treated by a "comprehensive team of specialists", the hospital said on Monday.

The announcement from the hospital comes a day after the Samajwadi Party on Sunday said its 82-year-old patriarch's health had deteriorated.

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE VIII JUNIOR CIVIL JUDGE; CITY CIVIL COURT AT HYDERABAD.

O.S.No. 267 OF 2022
Between:
Union Bank of India, [formerly] Andhra Bank Credit card Division, rep. by Smt. S.Vijayalakshmi, Senior Manager [Law], Head Office, Koti, Sultan Bazar, Hyderabad. ...Plaintiff.

AND
Mr. Manish Gupta, S/o. Mrs. Geeta Gupta, Aged about 37 years, E-76, Kurmanchal Nagar, Ramliha Maidan Ki Pass Lucknow-226016. ...Defendant.

Whereas the above named Plaintiff has filed the above suit O.S.No.267 of 2022 on the file of Hon'ble V Junior Civil Judge, City Civil Court, Hyderabad against you for recovery of due amount of Rs. 2,34,247.62 pertaining to your credit card no. 4373-7820-7637-1008. You are therefore directed to appear in person or through Advocate on 13.10.2022 at 10.30a.m. to answer the suit, failing which the suit will be decided ex parte. Take notice accordingly.

[AS PER THE COURT ORDER]
Sd/- M.V.Nagaraj,
V.V.S.Annamaram,
Counsel for Plaintiffs,
H.No. 1-1-336/18, Chikkadapalli,
Hyderabad. Cell:98496-66587

COURT NOTICE (BY ADVERTISEMENT)
(Chapter XXX, Rule-21)
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD ORIGINAL JURISDICTION TESTAMETARY AND INTESTATE JURISDICTION TESTAMETARY CASE NO. 89 OF 2022 IN THE MATTER OF

Late Prakash Giri son of Niranjan Dev, R/o Akhara Panchayati Shri Niranjan Madhi Brahmmathi Mayapur Hariadwar, Head Quarter at Panchayati Akhara Shri Niranjan Gosaiyan Nagaset, 47/44, Mori, Daraganj, Allahabad Now Prayagraj.Deceased.
Onkar Giri.Decedent.

WHEREAS an application has been made by Onkar Giri Son of Niranjan Dev Occupation- Mahant, Akhara Panchayati Shri Niranjan Madhi Brahmmathi Mayapur Hariadwar R/o 487, Niranjan Akhara Mayapur Hariadwar, Uttarakhnad Head Quarter at Panchayati Akhara Shri Niranjan Gosaiyan Nagaset 47/44 Mori, Daraganj, Allahabad now Prayagraj for the Probate at the will (or Letters of Administration to the estate) of Late Mahant Prakash Giri deceased, who died at Niranjan Akhara, Mayapur, Hariadwar Uttarakhnad, 249401 on 14.12.2021 AND WHEREAS, the 22nd day of November, 2022 has been fixed for hearing of the said application.

THIS CITATION is issued calling upon all persons claiming to have any interest to come and see the proceedings if they think fit before the grant of probate (or Letters of Administration).

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 28th day of September, 2022.
DEPUTY REGISTRAR
HIGH COURT, ALLAHABAD
Pradeep Kumar Singh, Advocate
Counsel for the Plaintiff.

Ensure safety of devotees visiting pandals: CM

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday appealed to the committees associated with religious events, including Durga puja, to fully comply with the electrical and fire safety standards in the construction of puja pandals.

Giving this information here on Monday, an official spokesman said that the chief minister said that the administration should ensure compliance with electrical and fire safety standards in the puja pandals by communicating with the organising committees.

The chief minister said that some incidents/accidents that happened recently in puja pandals should be taken seriously and for this it was necessary that a comprehensive awareness programme was conducted regarding electrical and fire safety.

He said the safety of the devotees visiting the puja pandals should be the topmost priority. Guidelines have been issued following a massive fire that broke out in a puja pandal in Bhadohi claiming five lives and leaving over five dozen others injured.

Yogi Adityanath earlier also took cognisance of the tractor-trolley accidents and directed officials to ban them for carrying passengers.

An official communal said that on the direction of the chief minister, a special campaign would be run on the roads of UP for the next 10 days during which, if someone is seen riding on a goods vehicle, he will be fined Rs 10,000. If someone violates the



Devotees offering prayers at the Bengali Club Durga Puja pandal in Lucknow on Monday

traffic rules then information can be communicated on phone numbers 0522-2390468 and 9454402555.

The chief minister has appealed to the people to strictly follow the safety standards during the journey. He said that traveling by tractor-trolley and truck was unsafe therefore under no circumstances should a tractor-trolley or truck be used for the journey.

The chief minister was holding a high-level meeting of the Transport and Home Department regarding road safety at his official residence on Sunday, before leaving for

Kanpur Nagar to offer condolences to the victims of two road accidents in Kanpur Nagar and to enquire about the well-being of the injured.

He said that tractor-trolleys should be used only for agricultural work or freight transportation. He said keeping this in mind people should adopt only safe means for the safe journey of themselves and their families. The chief minister has directed officials to conduct special awareness campaigns in rural areas in view of road safety. He said that by holding meetings in each gram panchayat, the police and the

Transport Department should sensitise the general public to adopt safe transport means. He said hoardings should be put up by the Information, Public Works and Transport departments at prominent places for awareness in this regard.

The chief minister directed the officials to expedite the enforcement works keeping in view road safety and with Transport and police departments playing a special role in it.

He said the cooperation of the public should be taken in this process and for this, phone numbers should be issued, on

which aware citizens could give information about overloading and violation of road safety. HE said the '112' service should also be connected with this work. Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Transport Dayashankar Singh, Additional Chief Secretary to Chief Minister SP Goyal, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Home and Information Sanjay Prasad, Acting Director General of Police DS Chauhan, Principal Secretary (Transport) L Venkateshwarlu and other senior officers were present in the meeting.

UP's green energy sector attracts investors

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a major push to the renewable energy programme of Uttar Pradesh government, private sector firms have proposed to invest nearly Rs 19,000 crore in the state green energy sector.

These include investment proposals of about Rs 13,000 crore and Rs 5,900 crore by Greenco and JSW Groups, respectively, in different renewable energy projects.

It is for the first time that the Uttar Pradesh government has received such mega investment proposals in the nascent domestic green energy space.

According to official sources, the state is aligning with the overarching target of the Centre to achieve 450 gigawatt (Gw) in renewable energy and 500 GW in non-fossil energy capacity by 2030. It is part of India's commitment to meeting its international climate and green energy goals.

The green energy universe will play a major role in reducing carbon emissions and curbing environmental pollution in future.

In the run-up to the mega UP Global Investors' Summit 2023 next year, the Yogi Adityanath government is pulling all stops to woo the private sector companies in an array of sectors, including green energy. The state is targeting to net Rs 10 lakh crore in fresh investment proposals from domestic and multinational companies (MNCs) at the high ticket event in January 2023.

To build momentum for the summit, the state has planned to organise road shows in major countries, including the US, the UK, Canada, the UAE, Sweden, Singapore, the Netherlands, Israel, France, Germany, South Korea and Australia. Over the last six months, the state has claimed to have received

total investment proposals worth Rs 45,000 crore from 55 private sector companies, including MNCs. These include the projects in the green energy sector.

For example, the Causis Group has proposed to invest Rs 6,000 crore in green mass transit projects, while Varun Beverages will pump in about Rs 3,600 in four different beverage projects. Similarly, JK Paints and Keyaan Distilleries will invest Rs 600 crore and Rs 500 crore, respectively, in their projects.

The information technology (IT) and electronics sector has garnered the maximum investment proposals of almost Rs 95,000 crore in the past five years. These include seven projects in the data centre space with a total investment profile of nearly Rs 20,000 crore. While five of the projects have been approved, two remaining are expected to get the state cabinet nod soon.

CM performs puja in Gorakhnath temple

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister and the head of Goraksha Peeth, Yogi Adityanath will offer his prayers to 'Matri Shakti' (mother power) by washing the feet of maidens on the ninth day of Shardiya Navratri on Tuesday morning and then ride a chariot to lead the traditional Vijayadashami procession leaving from the Gorakhnath temple in the afternoon.

Prior to the procession, 'tilakotsava' of the CM will take place at Gorakhnath temple while at the end of the journey, he will be worshiped by saints for being the Gorakshpeethadhishwar, as per tradition.

Earlier, at the outset of Ram Navami festival, Yogi Adityanath had placed the kalash at Shaktipeeth, located on temple premises. He is again staying at the temple since Sunday (October 2). On Sunday, he completed the havan and the ritual of Mahanisha Puja to honour the occasion of Ashtami (eighth day). On Monday also, the Chief Minister offered his prayers to Jagatjanani Maa Adishakti.

Yogi Adityanath will per-



form Kanya Pujan at 8 am on Tuesday after offering his prayers to Goddess Siddhidatri, the ninth form of Maa Durga, on the occasion of Navami.

Yogi Adityanath will then serve food to the girls with full devotion and also give them dakshina (donations) and gifts while seeking their blessings. Batuk Puja (young boys) will also be performed as per tradition on the occasion of Navami and the boys will receive dona-

tions from Yogi Adityanath.

Besides, CM Yogi will offer his special prayers to Shrinathji and to all the deities. The Tilak Utsav programme of Gorakshpeethadhishwar will be celebrated in the Tilak Hall of Gorakhnath temple from 1pm to 3pm. During this programme, Gorakshpeethadhishwar Yogi Adityanath will be the devotees. The grand Vijayadashami procession will be taken out at 4 pm onward

with CM Yogi seated on the chariot with the blessings of Guru Gorakshanath. The procession of Gorakshpeethadhishwar will reach Mansarovar temple amidst the sounds of trumpets, drums and bands where he will worship Devadhidev Mahadev and other deities at the Mansarovar temple attached to the Gorakshpeeth.

Later, the Yogi Adityanath's procession will reach

Mansarovar Ramliila Maidan where he will perform the coronation of Lord Shri Ram at the ongoing Ramliila in Gorakhpur. Aarti will also be performed after offering prayers to Lord Shri Ram, Mata Janaki, Lakshman and Hanumanji. Subsequently, the procession will return to Gorakhnath temple where from 7 pm onward, distribution of traditional prasad will be organised in front of Digvijaynath Smriti Bhavan. A large number of people, including rich and poor, irrespective of caste and religion, will join the feast.

Yogi Adityanath will also settle disputes of saints at Gorkashpeeth. According to the tradition of Nathpanth, every year on the occasion of Vijayadashami, the disputes of saints are settled by the Peethadhishwar in Gorakhnath temple. Yogi Adityanath is also the president of Nathpanth's apex body Akhil Bharatvarshi Avadhoot Bhes Bahar Panth Yogi Mahasabha and his position is that of a magistrate in the organisation. Before the settlement of disputes, saints will worship Yogi Adityanath in the form of a deity as per tradition.

UPPCL procuring meters based on 4G technology

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Even as 5G telecom technology has been launched in India and three service providers have announced the roll out of the plan in all major cities by the end of this year, UP Power Corporation Limited continues to rely on old technology. The public sector power utility UPPCL has floated tenders for procuring smart meters based on 4G technology. The UPPCL intends to buy 2.5 crore smart meters worth Rs 25,000 crore through the tender.

Moreover, the UPPCL has no plans for upgrading over 12 lakh smart meters operating

with obsolete 2G and 3G technology.

Avadesh Verma, chairman of UP Power Consumer Forum, said here on Monday that it was an ironic situation that the prime minister was leading the march for the upgradation of technology while the UPPCL had floated tenders for purchasing 2.5 crore smart meters with old technology. He said the UPPCL was doing this profligacy even as its accumulated losses were over Rs 1 lakh crore.

Verma said he had raised this issue with the power regulator UP State Electricity Regulatory Commission. He said as per the provisions of

Indian Electricity Act, it was mandatory for the UPPCL to obtain the consent of the power consumers before installing smart meters at the premises of the consumers.

He said the Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), the PSU company handling the installation of smart meters, had demanded payment of several hundred crore from the UPPCL for upgrading the 2G and 3G smart meters to 4G.

He said before settling these issues with the EESL, the attempt of the UPPCL to go for procuring 2.5 crore new smart meters was in violation of the Indian Electricity Act.

Complainant held for false report of theft

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A team of Government Railway Police (GRP) at Charbagh, led by a circle officer rank official, on Monday solved the mystery of theft of a passenger's bag containing 1,400 grams of gold and Rs 65 lakh in cash on board Amritsar Tinsukia train.

The victim, Vivek Rastogi of Bareilly, was going to Bareilly by train.

Those arrested were identified as complainant Vivek Kumar Rastogi and his aides Ashish Rastogi and Laxmi Yadav, both of Bareilly district. "Vivek filed a complaint of theft at GRP Bareilly railway station. He had complained of theft of 1,400 grams of gold though he was carrying only 140 grams of gold on the day of the incident," Senior Superintendent of GRP, Puja Yadav, said.

Giving further details, the SP said a team led by CO Sanjeev Sinha nabbed the miscreants, including the informant of the theft. The SP said Vivek had taken huge money as



loan from different persons and played the trick to avoid refunding money.

"Vivek also wanted to help his woman friend and so he faked theft of cash and gold while travelling by the train," she said.

"Vivek had told police that he was being trailed by 2-3 persons in the train and at the platform but he was seen associating with a woman, who is his friend/ live-in partner, on the day of incident at the Charbagh railway station. The police teams also collected details of the persons to whom Vivek had talked on the day of incident and he was finally nabbed from Bareilly," she said.

Another 1.07 lakh families get access to tap water

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Setting another milestone on the occasion of the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on October 2, the Yogi Adityanath-led government in Uttar Pradesh provided as many as 1.07 lakh tap water connections in the rural parts of the state in a single day.

While Uttar Pradesh has set two records in the last 20 days in terms of providing tap water connections in rural areas, many states, including Rajasthan, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Maharashtra, have failed to even reach the 10,000 mark.

Earlier, the Yogi government had set a record on September 17 by providing about 1.21 lakh tap water connections in rural households in the state which coincided with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 72nd birthday.

It may be noted that on Gandhi Jayanti, as many as 1.34 lakh tap connections were provided nationwide. The districts of Bulandshahr, Shahjahanpur, Mirzapur, Varanasi, and Gorakhpur made the biggest contributions to

connecting most of these households to tap water, helping the state rank first in the nation.

Of the 1,34,968 tap water connections provided in the country, UP alone accounted for over 1,07,774 connections.



As per data, other states that provided tap water connections on October 2 were Tamil Nadu (10,064), Andhra Pradesh (3,121), Maharashtra (2,954), West Bengal (2,159), Rajasthan (2,027), Chhattisgarh (1,517), Odisha (1,439), Karnataka (1,422), Madhya Pradesh (696), Jharkhand (627), Uttarakhand (514) whereas in Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Punjab, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur,

Sikkim, not even a single tap water connection was provided on the day.

The Yogi government 2.0 has set a target of ensuring 100 per cent saturation in drinking water in water starved areas of Bundelkhand and Vindhya regions of the state by 2024. Among the districts, Bulandshahr topped by giving 7,506 tap water connections, followed by 6,418 in Shahjahanpur, 6,054 in Mirzapur, 5,047 in Varanasi, and 4,012 in Gorakhpur. Besides, 3,681 tap water connections were installed in Bareilly, 2,857 in Sitapur, 2,516 in Deoria, 2,356 in Meerut, 2,158 in Hardoi, 2,488 in Gonda, and 2,023 in Shravasti.

So far, under the Har Ghar Jal Scheme, pure drinking water is being supplied to as many as 48,43,733 houses through tap connections in Uttar Pradesh. Pure drinking water is being supplied from tap to 46,51,759 households in Odisha, 30,57,249 in Kerala, 29,28,134 in Rajasthan, 25,00,622 in Assam, 1,53,009 in Arunachal Pradesh, 14,39,077 in Jharkhand, 9,92,206 in Uttarakhand, 4,02,413 in Tripura, 3,34,864 in Manipur, and 2,57,794 in Meghalaya.

Potholes leading to accidents: CPI-ML

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) expressed grief over the death of devotees in the tractor-trolley accident in Kanpur Nagar and asked the state government when the roads in Uttar Pradesh would be free of potholes. In a statement, CPI-ML state secretary Sudhakar Yadav said the government had announced the time frame to cover/fill the potholes in the roads in the past but none of the roads were repaired. "During the rain, the roads have suffered further damages and it is impossible for any person to drive safely on these roads. The Public Work Department has been allotted a hefty budget for getting the roads repaired but the officials have not taken any measures and the government is not bothered about the problems being faced by the public," he said.

इंडियन बैंक **Indian Bank**

इलाहाबाद **ALLAHABAD**

Zonal Office: 15/287 Mahatma Gandhi Marg, The Mall, Kanpur

POSSESSION NOTICE (Rule 8(1) for immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Indian Bank, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice (details of which have been mentioned hereunder) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(14) of the said Act read with rule 8 & 9 of the said rules. The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the Indian Bank for an amount and interest & charges there on as described here in below. We draw attention to the provisions of Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act and the Rules framed there under which deals with your rights of redemption over the securities.

S. No.	Name and address of the Borrowers/ Branch	Name of Mortgagees Guarantors	Description of the Immovable Property	Date of Demand Notice /Outstanding Amt.
1.	Mrs. Beena Gupta W/o Late Rajeev Gupta	Mrs. Beena W/o Late Rajeev Kumar	All that part & parcel of land & Building situated at A-1981, Awasthi Vikas No.2, Hansapuram Kanpur Nagar-208002. Area of the Property: 40.74 Sq. Meter in the name of Smt. Beena W/o Rajeev Kumar	Demand Notice Date 08.07.2022 Possession Notice Date 29.09.2022 Rs. 5,99,881.00 (Rs. Five Lakhs Ninety Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty One Only) as on dt. 28.09.2022 + interest & other charges/expenses w.e.f. dt. 29.09.2022
Branch: Gujaini, Kanpur M. 8957286769				

Date : 4.10.2022 Place: Kanpur The Authorized Officer: Indian Bank



Children participating in a drawing contest held on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti in city. Transport Minister Dayashankar Singh attended the event and interacted with students.

उत्तर प्रदेश आवास एवं विकास परिषद

U.P. Awasthi Vikas Parishad Lucknow Invites online tender for Detailed Design, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance for 5 Years of the Facade Illumination work at Awasthi Ship Gram Awasthi Vihar Yojna Lucknow (U.P.) on Q.C.B.S. Basis and Kakori Shaheed Park, Amrapali Yojna, Hardoi Road, Lucknow (U.P.) on Q.C.B.S. Basis.

Short Term E-Tender Notice

Detailed Documents/Corrigendum/Clarification can be seen/Download from the website www.upavp.com or <http://tenderup.nic.in>. The bidder shall submit bid online on E-tender portal <http://etenderup.nic.in>. Bidder can contact in the office of Executive Engineer Electrical Division-1 U.P. Awasthi Vikas Parishad India Nagar Lucknow for any information.

U.P. Awasthi Vikas Parishad Lucknow Reserves the all rights to make any changes in the terms and conditions of the document.

Period of Availability of Tender, Date Schedule are given below

Date of Issue RFP	18.10.2022
Pre-Bid Meeting	22.10.2022
Proposal Due date	25.10.2022 Time 12.00 PM
Date of opening of Technical Proposal	25.10.2022 Time 04.00 PM
Evaluation of Technical Proposal	After Presentation
Date of Opening of Financial Proposal	Shall be informed by letter

(बीडिंग सिटी), अधिसूचना क्र. (वि/110)



KDA Vice-Chairman Arvind Singh inaugurating the beautification work of Mama Talab with legislator Surendra Maithani.

KDA starts beautification work of Mama Talab

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Development Authority (KDA) has started the development/beautification work of the historical Mama Talab and its surrounding 24,490 square metre area in Maswanpur. The project also aimed at ensuring ground water conservation, rain water harvesting, environment protection and solid waste water management. Vice -Chairman

Arvind Singh inaugurated the project by lighting the ceremonial lamp in the presence of legislator Surendra Maithani, Additional Secretary Dr Gudakesh Sharma, KDA Board member Pramod Agrahari and chief engineer Rohit Khanna. Speaking on the occasion Arvind Singh said beautification work was launched on the initiation of the legislator Surendra Maithani and keeping in view the sentiments of gen-

eral masses. It would be developed as a model spot and the best picnic place in the city. The design of beautification work was finalised in consultation with Anand Malligawad known as the 'Lakeman of India', he said. Legislator Surendra Maithani praised the efforts of KDA vice-chairman in quickly launching the beautification work of Mama Talab and said that his work done in

Landanpur Grant village of Lakhimpur Khiri had already been appreciated the prime minister and chief minister in the past. The project involved the works of cleaning the pond, preventing domestic polluted water from falling into the pond, natural pathway, kids play area, construction of ghat and stairs, development of island and boundary wall railing.

Workshop on female nutrition

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Chief scientist, Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), Dr Sadhna Pandey, while addressing a virtual workshop on 'Female Nutrition' jointly organised by Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology (CSAUA&T) and Kannauj Krishi Vigyan Kendra in the adopted village of Dileep Nagar on Monday said it was a matter of great concern that little focus was laid on health of women farmers as compared to male farmers. She said when male farmers and agricultural land were important for agriculture the health aspect of female farmers was equally important and cannot be overlooked. Addressing the gathering she said female farmers not only looked after fields and crops but also the family, especially children, and thus good

nutrition was highly essential for them. She said protein, antioxidant and iron were a must in their daily diet and the government had decided to introduce umpteen schemes for better nutritional care of female farmers. She said ironically despite the fact that approximately 30 per cent of farmers were women yet their safety and health needs were being overlooked. She commended the role of female farmers and said they performed dual responsibilities and to some extent they performed it better than their male counterparts. Dr Pandey said while women were perfectly capable of performing equally well as men in any role on the farm, there were some health and safety risks that either apply specifically to women or which were more pronounced for female farmers. She said female

farmers in India were facing several health-related issues, which ultimately affected the economic output of the nation. She said the health of Indian women was intrinsically linked to their status in society and Uttar Pradesh was one of the few states in India which belonged to Indo-Gangetic plains where an overwhelming number of rural women had always been a part of the active work force in agriculture, forest protection, cattle care and dairying. She said it was found that the diets were inadequate in energy, protein, iron, antioxidants and ascorbic acid contents. She added that iron intake in the daily diet of women in villages was found to be quite less than recommended level (30 mg) and as a result Chronic Energy Deficiency (CED) was found to be higher among the farm women of UP. She said foods

for energy included cereals like wheat, rice, jowar, maize and bajra; roots and tubers like potatoes, sweet potatoes and tapioca, jaggery and sugar, fats and oils like ghee, vegetable oil, butter and vanaspati. Dr Pandey said proteins were required for the growth and maintenance of body, especially pregnant females and lactating mothers. She advised them legumes, pulses, peas, beans and nuts which were good sources of proteins. She said farmers had abundance of milk and milk products which were rich sources of protein. She added certain foods were required for proper functioning and protection of the body and these foods contained important nutrients like minerals and vitamins. Coordinator, Dr Arvind Kumar Singh, Dr Poonam Singh and Dr Chandrakala Yadav were present on the occasion.

Rajbhar exhorts students to impart knowledge of law

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Laying an emphasis on apprising the people, living in villages and remote areas, of the knowledge of law and protection of law which is available to them, the UP Minister of Labour & Employment Anil Rajbhar has exhorted the law students to start imparting the knowledge of law right from their own villages and localities.

Speaking as chief guest the 32nd Installation Day of Law Department, Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth (MGKV) and its alumni meet on varsity campus here on Sunday, Rajbhar said that the knowledge of law was a big opportunity to serve the society and added that one should spend at least one hour time to uplift the society as it is also a way of patriotism and a medium wisdom-immortality. The new National Education Policy-2020 should have been implemented about 50 years ago, he said. Rajbhar also gifted a lift to the divyang students of the department. Presiding over the Day and Meet, the Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof Anand Kumar Tyagi said

that the ex-students of the department were extending services in various sectors and so this is an opportunity for budding students to learn the mantra of success from them. A pamphlet of the alumni was also released on the occasion. In the beginning of the programme, the Dean of Law Faculty and head of Law Department Prof Ranjan Kumar welcomed the guests and Dr Hansraj offered a formal vote of thanks. Many graced the occasion including the PRO Dr Navratna Singh. Meanwhile, a seminar on the subject of "Relevance of National Educational Policy-2020 in the present circumstances" was organised on the occasion of the Installation Day of Education department of the university its

alumni meet in which while expressing his views Prof Arvind Kumar Pandey said that there are provisions in NEP-2020 through which the fundamental responsibility, constitutional values and determination for the global welfare could be developed among the students. Mosheen Fatima threw light on the specialties and apprehensions of NEP-2020. Dr Prashant Singh and Dr Praveen Pandey also expressed their views. The head of department Dr Shailendra Verma welcomed the guests and Dr Surendra Ram proposed a vote of thanks. Many were present on the occasion including Dr Dhanendra Mishra, Dr Rajendra Yadav, Dr Tarkeshwar Gupta, Dr Dinesh and Dr Abhilasha Jaiswal.

Truth & non-violence pillars of Gandhi's philosophy: Bhoi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Vice-Chancellor of Binod Bihari Mahto Koyalanchal University, Dhanbad, Jharkhand, Prof Sukhdev Bhoi on Monday expressed that truth and non-violence are the pillars of the philosophy of Gandhiji. Gandhi's relation was not to formulate a system of philosophy and rather it was to implement the ideals and principles which have become the parts of his life, he added while

speaking in a webinar on 'Relevance of Gandhi's ideals in the present time' organised by Sampurnanand Sanskrit University (SSU), here. Prof Bhoi asserted that India could become Vishwaguru only by following the philosophy of Gandhiji who fought for the cause of labourers, farmers and deprived sections of society through non-violence and also adopted it in his entire life. The guest of honour Padma Bhushan Prof Vashisth Tripathi

said that the word 'Mahatma' before the name of Gandhiji depicts his simple life style, best manner and great thought and added that Gandhiji is indeed an ideology. Presiding over it, the V-C of SSU Prof Hareram Tripathi said that in the opinion of Gandhiji, the first condition of non-violence is to be brave because only the brave persons could use the weapon of non-violence against the injustice and not cowardice and weak persons.

'Spandan' organised to celebrate essence of Hindi language

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur along with Hindi Sahitya Sabha, Rajabhasha Prakoshth, and Shivani Centre for the Nurture and Re-integration of Hindi and Other Indian Languages, IIT Kanpur jointly organised 'Spandan' (a series of competitions) to celebrate the essence of Hindi language. The function was organised in two phases where first phase took off in the first week of September with poetry writing and story writing competitions. The UG and PG students enthusiastically participated and took part in all the competitions. In 'Kavyanjali', a poetry recitation competition was organised on the last day of phase 1 and all participants enthralled the judges and audience with their great performances. The second phase started in the last week of September with 'Tark' and in this competition a picture was given to participants for 30 seconds to think about it and then in the next two minutes to present their views regarding the



IIT-K Director Prof Abhay Karandikar felicitating the winning team on Monday.

topic given to them. This competition was aimed at developing quick thinking skills and eloquence among the participants. Similarly the concluding event was Spandan which was in fact "Sansadiya Vaad-Vivaad" (parliamentary debate)

in which students participated in teams and debated on pertinent topics around the globe. The final topic of the debate was "The Parliament opposes the system of 'Freebies' by political parties". Both the sides countered their views strongly by giving the judges a hard

time selecting the winner. Later on September 30, students delivered poetry with aplomb. IIT Kanpur Director Prof Abhay Karandikar distributed prizes to the winners and this marked the end of a fun-filled and insightful Hindi Pakhwada (Hindi Fortnight).

Accidents involving stray animals have increased by almost 23 pc: Tripathi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Convener of Society For Prevention of Cruelty against Animals (SPCA) Kanpur Chapter, Archana Tripathi while addressing presspersons on Monday said a special campaign will be carried out in the city all through the week to identify injured and sick stray animals and house them in shelter homes and provide them care and treatment. She said every year on October 4 World Animal Welfare Day is celebrated to strengthen the relation between humans and animals.

She said it was a well known fact that animals were an important part of our ecosystem and they not only give support and improve our lives but they also taught human the true meaning of friendship. She said it was highly shocking that as per the official data the number of accidents involving stray animals had increased by almost 23 per cent and the reason were the speeding four wheelers and other heavy vehicles.

Tripathi who had been working with the SPCA for the past over two decades said it is no exaggeration to state that animals were being slaughtered around the world and to improve the condition and lives of animal around the world this day was celebrated. She said SPCA organises events to spread awareness on animal issues and to inspire people to

protect animals around them. She said on this day all animal lovers were summoned and presented on a common platform and efforts were made to promote awareness.

She said apart from these events and programmes were organised for people so that they were aware, ensure immunisation of their pets and in case of any cruelty witnessed in the city jointly organised protest rallies to fight for animal rights. She said cruelty against animals was always hidden and added that the two main cruelties were abuse and neglect while the former involved intentional harming of an animal through actions such as mutilating, whereas the latter was neglect which was a

failure to provide adequate care, including access to food and water and veterinary care when needed. Tripathi discussing neglect said it was a fundamental failure to provide for the needs of animals and this could be leaving a dog outside without access to clean water or shelter from the elements, failure to feed an injured animal or not providing for medical needs of an animal that had been injured and needed veterinary attention. She said another was physical abuse which involved causing physical trauma to an animal. She advised people of Kanpur to adopt cats, dogs and birds and keep them as pets. Dorothy Tripathi was also present on the occasion.

DLO flags off awareness rally

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

District Leprosy Officer (DLO) Dr Mahesh Kumar while flagging off awareness rally on Sunday in memory of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri in which a large number of school children and officials took part said there was a misnomer that leprosy was infectious and added the fact was that it was not only curable but does not spread by touch.



District Leprosy department took out a rally on Gandhi Jayanti on Sunday

He said the Uttar Pradesh Government was making every effort to provide all medical facility and free medicines to the leprosy patients and said the focus was to ensure India was successfully able to eradicate leprosy.

He said leprosy disease was also known as Hansen's disease and was an infection caused by slow-growing bacteria called mycobacterium leprae. He said it can affect the nerves, skin, eyes, and lining of the nose (nasal mucosa) but with the early diagnosis and treatment, the disease can be fully cured. Coordinator Dr

Sanjay addressing the rally at the flagging off site said there were three main types of leprosy first tuberculoid leprosy this type of leprosy usually had mild symptoms, developing only a few sores. He said the

second was lepromatous leprosy and this type of leprosy had widespread sores and lesions affecting nerves, skin and organs and the immune response was poor and the disease was more contagious. He said the third was borderline leprosy which involved symptoms of both tuberculoid and lepromatous leprosy. He said the three main symptoms of leprosy included skin patches which may be red or have a loss of pigmentation or with diminished or absent sensations, numbness or tingling in hands, feet, arms and legs and painless wounds or burns on the hands and feet. Dr Sanjay said with modern antibiotics, leprosy was curable and over the past 20 years over 16 million people had defeated the disease. He said even today there was social ostracism despite knowing that it was curable.

Homoeopathic medical camp held

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Under the aegis of Arogya Dham, Gwaloli, a free homoeopathic medical camp was organised at Kripa Dham Temple in Fazalganj on Monday. Devotees visiting the temple were given free homoeopathic immunity booster medicines by senior homoeopaths Dr Hemant Mohan and Dr Arti Mohan to prevent them from dengue, typhoid and viral fever. Dr Hemant Mohan said people afflicted with dengue or chikungunya were not required to be admitted to hospital as homoeopathic medicines deliver alarming results in treating key symptoms of thrombocytopenia (platelets deficiency) in dengue. Dr Arti Mohan said homoeopathic medicines work like an immunity booster in such patients. Over 100 devotees were given free immunity booster medicines in the camp. Chief priest Ashok Kumar Tewari and Ankit Shukla were also present.



Free homoeopathic medical camp organised at Shiv Kripa Temple on Monday.

teenaged boy drowned in a pond in Kathara village under Vidhnu police station area on Monday morning. When his friends raised an alarm, a shepherd rescued the boy who, on being taken to the primary health centre (PHC) was declared dead by the doctors. Suraj (17), younger son of a

labourer Gangaram Kureel of Kathara had gone for a bath in the Devi pond situated on the outskirts of the village with his two friends on Monday morning. While taking a bath near the stairs, he slipped into water and got entangled in the silt of the pond. On seeing him caught in silt, his friends raised

an alarm and the shepherd Mukesh Sahu immediately jumped into the pond and rescued the boy. On seeing the body of her son, his mother fell unconscious in the PHC. SHO said after taking the body in possession further action is being initiated in the matter.

COURT NOTICE
CITATION (BY ADVERTISEMENT)
(Chapter XXX, Rule-21)
IN THE HIGH COURT OF
JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD
ORIGINAL JURISDICTION
TESTAMENTARY AND
ESTATE JURISDICTION
TESTAMENTARY CASE NO. 60 OF 2021
IN THE MATTER OF
THE GOODS OF
Late Abdul Vahab son of Late Jumman
Resident of 29/15A Mahewa Reva Road
District Prayagraj.....Decceased.
Alkama Begum and Khurshida
Begum.....Petitioner.
WHEREAS an application has been
made by Alkama Begum D/o Late Abdul
Vahab resident of 29/15A Mahewa Reva
Road District Prayagraj and Khurshida
Begum daughter of Late Abdul Vahab wife
of Sakhawati Hussain resident of 117/256
Chikya GTB Nagar District Prayagraj, for
the probate of the will (or Letters of
Administration to the estate) of Late
Abdul Vahab deceased who died at
29/15A Mahewa Reva Road Naini District
Prayagraj, on 06.04.1999 AND
WHEREAS, the 29th day of November,
2022 has been fixed for hearing of the said
application. THIS CITATION is issued
calling upon all persons claiming to have
any interest to Come and see the pro-
ceedings if they think fit before the grant
of probate (or Letters of Administration).
Given under my hand and the seal of
the Court this 30th day of September, 2022.
DEPUTY REGISTRAR
HIGH COURT, ALLAHABAD
Aashish Jaiswal
Advocate
Counsel for the Petitioner.

Minister visits Bhadohi Durga Puja pandal fire victims

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

On the instructions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, UP Cabinet Minister Anil Rajbhar visited Sir Sunderlal Hospital (SSH) and Trauma Centre, both in Banaras Hindu University (BHU) apart from Shri Shiv Prasad Gupta (SSPG) Divisional Hospital and Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay (DDU) Government Hospital here on Monday and saw the conditions of several injured patients of tragic fire incident that took place at a Durga Puja pandal in Aurai (Bhadohi district). Describing the incident as sad, Rajbhar said that the CM was monitoring the treatment of patients regularly.

In a major fire that took place during the night hours in a Durga Puja pandal at Aurai, as many as five persons were killed and dozens sustained injuries.

As some of them are serious, the death toll may increase as two more succumbed to their injuries during the day and with this, the death toll has already been increased to five. They were Jaya Devi (45), Navin alias Ujjawal (10), both died at SSPG, Aarti Choubey (48) at SSH BHU, Ankur Soni (12) at Maharaja Chetsingh Hospital in Bhadohi and Harshvardhan (Bari village).

After the incident, majority of injured patients were immediately brought to Varanasi by making the entire route clear on the instructions of the Divisional Commissioner Deepak Agrawal and Commissioner of Police (CP) A Satish Ganesh and admitted to SSH and



UP Minister Anil Rajbhar seeing health condition of patients of fire tragedy in Varanasi on Monday. Pioneer

Trauma Centre in BHU apart from SPG and DDU hospitals here. Top administrative and police officers were themselves present at these hospitals during the night hours.

Visiting these hospitals as envoy of CM, UP Minister Anil Rajbhar directed the officers of all these hospitals to take full care after the injured patients and no stone should be left unturned in their treatment. While interacting with the injured patients and their relatives, he assured of all possible help while wishing for speedy recovery. Many devotees sustained burns and other injuries due to fire and stampede during the aarti at a Durga Puja pandal in adjoining Bhadohi district. Later, many of them were referred to different big hospitals in Varanasi. In order to ensure proper treatment of the injured

devotees as well as to inquire about their well being, the CM directed the Minister Anil Rajbhar to reach these hospitals and ensure proper medical arrangements there.

During his visit, Rajbhar was informed about the eight injured patients being treated at SSPG Hospital. He talked to many of them as well as their family members. He asked the Health department officers to ensure proper and adequate medical treatment to all the patients. Directing the medical officers present on the spot, he said that the treatment of the injured should be of high standard.

He also said that the patients should be taken care of equally and their treatment should be completely free. He also instructed the District Magistrate (DM) Kaushal Raj Sharma, who was also present

on the spot, to ensure proper medical arrangements for the injured.

After that, the Minister reached the Trauma Centre and SSH in BHU and saw the injured patients being treated there. He also talked to their relatives and gave instructions to BHU officers as were Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr Sandeep Chaudhary, who were also present there. Then Rajbhar visited DDU Hospital at Pandeypur apart from two private hospitals, Surya Trauma Centre and Jeevandeep Hospital at Aurai to see the health conditions of all the injured patients. During this, along with the minister, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for AYUSH Dayashankar Mishra 'Dayalu', Aurai MLA Dinanath Bhaskar and many others were also present.

Miscreants loot ₹3 crore hawala money in Kaushambi, probe on

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

A big loot of Rs 3 crore took place in the neighbouring district of Kaushambi on National Highway. The robbers left the vehicle on road near Kada Dhaam, and made a successful escape with the cash.

Top police officers of the zone and range reached the spot and instructed to collect CCTV footage from toll plaza to identify the robbers.

The cash belonged to a Varanasi based businessman, and was being transported to Delhi in a SUV. Cash was kept in a specially cavity created in the vehicle. The police suspect some big game of Hawala in transporting such a big cash in

SUV from one place to another, that too by the drivers only.

For certain unexplained reasons the police are not disclosing the name of the businessman of Varanasi who had sent the money to Delhi for further transportation to Chennai.

According to reports the two drivers of the SUV kept the money in the especially designed chamber and left for Delhi from Varanasi.

It was around 1.00 am on Sunday when some armed miscreants stopped the above SUV near Kakodha village under Kokhraj in Kaushambi. Pintu was driving the SUV at that time while the other driver Alpesh was taking rest on the rear seat. The robbers asked

Alpesh to get down and asked Pintu to drive at gun point. After covering some distance they asked Pintu also to get down and drove fast.

After being asked to get down Alpesh walked on the road and found a puncture repair shop from where he informed the police. The police reached the spot and took Alpesh with them with an intention to chase the looted SUV. After a few minutes the police found Pintu walking on the road. He told the police that he too was asked to get down, and the robbers drove forward.

The police passed message and teams started searching for that vehicle. Seeing the alertness of the police, the rob-

bers left the highway and turned towards Kada Dhaam and left the SUV there after grabbing the money.

The information divulged by the drivers, the officers contacted the businessman of Varanasi and waited for his arrival.

Why such a huge amount of cash was being sent from one place to another is still a mystery.

The drivers said that they did not know as to where that cash was to be delivered. They had been told that the destination would be divulged when they cross Kanpur.

They, however, told the police that as per their knowledge, the cash was to be further transported to Chennai.

Discussion on health held

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Online health discussion was organised by Vishwa Ayurveda Mission on the occasion of World Heart Day.

Dr GS Tomar, President, Vishwa Ayurveda Mission said that at present heart diseases are emerging at a faster rate due to change in diet and comfortable lifestyle.

Due to change in lifestyle, people are suffering from various diseases. Heart diseases are engulfing people due to stress, lack of attention to food, alcohol, smoking. Due to the disorderly routine, these diseases are taking people of any age in their grip.

Dr Dharmendra Jain, Senior Cardiologist, Institute of Medical Science, BHU, said that every year World Heart Day is celebrated across the world to create awareness about the heart and to avoid heart related problems. We take out time for ourselves regularly. Exercise is essential for a healthy life. Include yoga and walk in your routine. Pay special attention to diet. Reduce the amount of salt and fat in the diet. Include fresh fruits and vegetables in your diet.

Dr Ashish Chauhan, Senior Cardiologist of Gwalior told that live a stress-free life. When stress is high, control it through yoga and meditation. Get enough sleep for a healthy body and heart. He said that due to increased cholesterol, fat clots get deposited on the inner surface of the blood channel and in diabetic patient. All these processes gradually shrink the ducts. Due to the sudden accumulation of blood at any such place, the ducts get completely choked and the patient gets a heart-attack. If drugs to dissolve blood clots are given to the patient within about 3-4 hours after the heart attack, then the blockage can be removed and the heart muscle can be saved.

Dr Abhishek Sachdeva of Prayagraj Medical College said that heart is a pump made of muscles, which conducts blood flow throughout the body. Oxygen, glucose and many other important elements are constantly needed for all the organs of the body to survive and function properly. All these are carried by blood to different organs. The basis of survival is constant blood flow. The pump that does the job of continuing this blood flow is

the heart itself. The heart itself needs oxygen and glucose to function. When the blood supply to the heart muscle stops, such a condition is called a heart attack.

Usually the main symptoms of a heart attack are severe chest pain and sweating. This pain can be felt in the left hand, in the jaw, in both the hands and shoulders.

Dr Shanti Chaudhary, former research officer of Prayagraj Medical College, said that patients of blood pressure, sugar should keep getting themselves checked from time to time.

Health consultation should be kept from time to time from the doctor and self-medication should be avoided.

Dr Awanshik Pandey, Joint Secretary of Vishwa Ayurveda Mission said that heart-related diseases can be avoided only by adopting a healthy lifestyle. Nutritious diet, healthy lifestyle and use of Amla, Giloy, Arjun, Ashwagandha and other important Rasayanas can prevent from Heart diseases.

NCR LAUNCHES APP FOR QUICK DISPOSAL OF COMPLAINTS: "Railway Biji Samadhan mobile app" has now made it easier for quick

disposal of complaints. North Central Railway constantly strives for the convenience of its customers and personnel.

In this sequence, "Railway Biji Samadhan Mobile App" has been released by Prayagraj Division of North Central Railway for speedy redressal of electricity related complaints of railway employees and esteemed railway passengers.

This mobile app can be downloaded and used from Google Play Store or by scanning the QR code.

Through the Railway Biji Samadhan App, one can also track record of the status of your complaint after registering it till its resolution.

After the complaint is resolved, the consumer or passenger can also register their quality feedback.

All the complaints registered on this app are monitored by the higher officials of the Railway Department.

North Central Railway Prayagraj Division urges all the passengers to make maximum use of Railway Biji Samadhan App for themselves and also cooperate in making others aware.

SP, Cong leaders visit hospitals

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

The delegations of Samajwadi Party (SP) and Congress visited different hospitals in the city here on Monday to see the health condition of injured patients of fire tragedy that took place at a Durga Puja pandal in Aurai (Bhadohi district). The SP leaders led by party's MLC Ashutosh Sinha visited Sir Sunderlal Hospital (SSH) and Trauma Centre in Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and inquired about the health conditions of the injured.

Sinha also met Chief Medical Superintendent of SSH Prof KK Gupta and requested to treat the injured in the fire under the supervision of better doctors.

He was also accompanied by city party chief Vishnu Sharma, former corporator Varun Singh, national general secretary Satya Prakash Sonkar, Dilip Kashyap, Jitendra Yadav, Aman Yadav, Ravidas, Satyanarayan Yadav, Mohammad Amir and some others.

Meanwhile, a delegation of Congress leaders led by for-

mer UP Minister Ajay Rai also visited the SSH and Trauma Centre in BHU.

The Congress leaders also visited Shri Shiv Prasad Gupta (SSPG) Hospital, Kabirchaura and enquired about the health condition of injured patients being treated there. Speaking on the occasion, Ajay Rai said that the Bhadohi incident is very sad and heart breaking and prayed Baba Vishwanath for an early recovery of injured patients. He said that some negligence in the treatment is coming to the fore which is condemnable and we demand

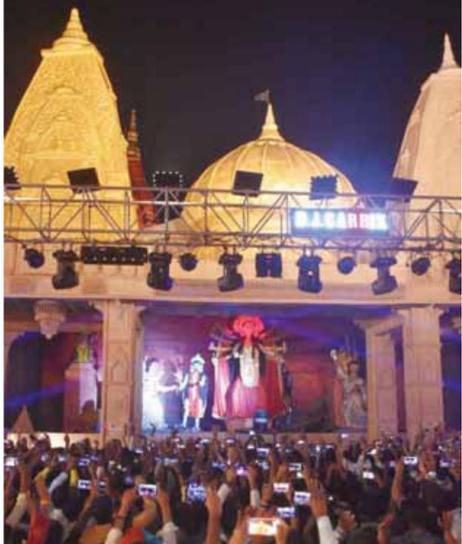
from the administration that the system of treatment should be perfect.

He also demanded that the government should provide government jobs to one member of the victim family apart from compensation of Rs 25 lakh and Rs 10 lakh to each injured person because most of them belong to poor families. The others who were also present were city president Raghavendra Choubey, Prajanath Sharma, Durga Prasad Gupta, Rekha Sharma, Safak Rizvi and many others.

Heavy rush at Durga Puja pandals

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Heavy rush of the people thronged Durga Puja pandals in different parts of the city, glittered with attractive lighting arrangements, on the auspicious occasion of Ashtami here on Monday. Traditional gaiety and religious fervour prevailed as a good number of people thronged different areas of the city to see the idols of Goddess Durga. Rarely any impact of a major fire tragedy happened in a puja pandal in Aurai (Bhadohi) in which several persons were killed and dozens of people were injured. Elaborate security and other arrangements have been made on the occasion as 200-odd pandals have been installed only in the city areas. The pandals were also installed in various rural markets in the district.



Rush of people at a puja pandal in Nai Sadak area in Varanasi on Monday. Pioneer

beat of nagaras, the people were seen dancing to please the Goddess of Shakti (strength). At several places, Kanya Puja programmes were also organised. At Ramkrishna Mission, a girl decorated as goddess was offered prayers as per the tradition and then the people sought her blessings. At several places, bhajans and other programmes were presented apart from offering 'prasad' to the people. On the occasion, at several pandals dandia and other cultural programmes were also organised. In the wake of the Aurai fire tragedy, the police administration was seen doing activities in the pandals, asking the organisers to maintain all the fire safety arrangements. Various religious and cultural programmes were organised at the pandals of Bharat Sevashram Sangh (Sigra), Ramkrishna Advait Ashram (Luxa), Golden Sporting Club (Devnathpura), Kashi Durgotsav Samiti (Shivala), Jim Sporting Club (Bhelupur), Eagle Club (Jangambadi), Har Sundari Dharmshala (Girjagarh), Boys Sporting Club (Hathua Market) and many others.

The rush was mainly seen in Lahurabir, Sigra, Luxa, Godowlia, Sonarpura, Bhelupur, Maidagan and many areas in trans-Varuna area including Shivpur, Pandeypur, Orderly Bazar, Pahadiya and some others. In many pandals, all the traditional rituals were

performed by the puja samiti members. The Bangiya Samaj, which generally gives its major

focus on its idols, performed all their rituals with traditional gaiety. At many pandals, on the



An artist dressed as Lord Rama, and Laxman sit in a tableau passing through a street during the celebrations to mark Dussehra festivities in Prayagraj. Pioneer

Central pathology centre dedicated to public

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

Divisional Commissioner Yogeshwar Ram Mishra said that it was the contribution of the medical college of the district that divisional hospital was equipped with the much awaited facility of pathology centre on the campus. These views were expressed by him while dedicating the central pathology centre to the public on Sunday. He praised the efforts of principal

medical college Dr RB Kamal while presiding over the programme said that it was due to the cooperation of SIC Dr Arvind Singh and his team that he could set up the pathology centre within a short period. The programme was conducted by Dr Sachin Kishor while the vote of thanks was proposed by Dr RB Kamal. Former principal Dr V Das, Dr Satyam, Dr Rajan and Dr Anuj Thakur were present.

NAVRATRI MELA: Several new arrangements have been done for devotees in Navratri mela. However the facility being provided to devotees standing in the queue have earned great appreciation. On the initiative of City Magistrate Vinay Kumar Singh a group of magnanimous people agreed to make available potable water, electrical, ORS mixture, glucose, some pain killers etc free of cost to those

devotees who were suffering from fatigue due to long queues. For the purpose the administration has permitted few vehicles to roam even at nearest points of temples of the area including Vindhavasini temple, Kalikoth temple, Ashtabhuj temple and others.

Meanwhile 'Dandiya Night' was jointly organised by Rotary Club and Innerwheel Club on Sunday. The programme started with the prayer of Goddess Durga and after formal inauguration youths performed the Dandiya dance. Proposing the vote of thanks chairperson of Innerwheel Club Shamaah Nawaz expressed gratitude to participants and Rotary members who worked hard for the success of the event. Sarita Dubey, Ragini, Saroj, Prachi, Jasvinder, Preeti, Manjula and Nidhi were present.

VINDHYA CORRIDOR PROJECT: All India general

secretary of BJP Arun Singh while interacting with the media at district BJP office on Sunday said that the Vindhya Corridor project was proving a boon for the area and the sanction of Vindhya University was in progress.

Prior to the press conference the BJP leader paid obeisance to Goddess Vindhavasini and took part in several programmes organised at local level.

During his visit the BJP leader was accompanied by district president Brijbhushan Singh, MLAs Ratnakar Mishra and Rama Shankar Singh Patel, MLC Shyam Narain Singh 'Vineet Singh', Chairman Zila Panchayat Raju Kanaujia, Chairman Nagar Palika Parishad Manoj Jaiswal, chairman Cooperative Bank Lok Narain Singh, veteran BJP leader Dhanendra Pandey and others.

Devotees throng Annapurna temple

VARANASI (PNS): Amidst tight security arrangements, thousands of devotees thronged Mahagauri (Annapurna Mandir) near Kashi Vishwanath temple on the auspicious occasion of Ashtami during the ongoing Sharadiya Navratra here on Monday. As the temple is located in super-sensitive Gyanvapi premises, every devotee entered the temple after thorough proper checking. It was the second



continuous day when the temple of one of the incarnations of Goddess Durga is located in this sensitive red zone area.

Besides, heavy rush was also seen throughout the day at Durga Mandir and all other temples of goddesses. Several people also preferred to go to the old Durga Mandir in trans-Ganga Ramnagar and Maa Sheetla Mata Mandir at Adalpur near Varanasi-Mirzapur borders.



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Discordant note

RSS leader Dattatreya Hosabale talks about poverty, joblessness, and the growing inequality

Whenever there are reports highlighting some unlovely aspect of India—low human development indices, hunger, press restrictions, *et al*—the Government and the Bharatiya Janata Party go hammer and tongs after the authors and publishers concerned. Often their motives and methodologies are questioned; there are also *ad hominem* attacks on such reports. The BJP's IT Cell greatly relishes in rubbishing such accounts. But what would they do with RSS general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale? On Sunday, he talked about the issues the Government and the BJP dislike to discuss: poverty, joblessness, and the growing inequality in the country. Poverty in the country is standing like a demon in front of us, he said, adding that it is important that we slay this demon. He also talked about 20 crore people who are below the poverty line and 4 crore who are unemployed. The unemployment rate is 7.6 per cent, he said. It is obvious that Hosabale's views cannot be dismissed as the rants of the Khan Market gang or the fulminations of *tukde-tukde* folks; he is one of their own, and that too from the RSS, the nucleus of the saffron family. If he says something, he has to be heard—not just what he is saying but also what he is not. And what is between the lines.



While the Narendra Modi Government has done well on many fronts—infrastructure development, managing the fiscal deficit, privatisation being some of them—its record in other spheres has been less than satisfactory. On individual freedom and civil liberties, for instance, its performance has been, to put it mildly, suboptimal; that, however, doesn't bother the RSS. But poverty and unemployment are visible and palpable; only ardent BJP supporters can say that joblessness or poverty is not a very big issue; apparently, Hosabale is not one of them. Therefore, it is time the Government addressed these grave issues with the seriousness that they call for. To begin with, it should discard the denial mode and accept that there are problems. It should try to get out of the echo chamber that it has built with itself, with its propaganda machinery working round the clock and a large section of the media becoming its cheerleaders. Once out of the echo chamber, the Government should take right steps, which are essentially on the supply side, to take the economy out of the morass it is in. And, by the way, grand announcements and tokenist measures make sound economic policy. As for Hosabale, his candour and straightforwardness regarding the problems of the economy are admirable, but we don't know what kind of solutions he or his organisation, RSS, has in mind. The RSS-affiliate Swadeshi Jagran Manch, at whose webinar he made his remarks, offers something as nebulous as 'Bharatiya Economic Model,' which is nothing but a hodgepodge of homilies. Economic policy needs more than homilies; both the Government and the RSS must realise this.

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In pursuit of truth and self discovery

Gandhi ji's experiments with truth continued throughout his life as did his perseverance to purge him of all defilements



JS RAJPUT

The life of MK Gandhi is the unique saga of a person; pure in heart, word, and deed, one who was consistently, consciously growing up. This author of 'My Experiments with Truth' grew from 'truth to truth' and, as was inevitable in such a case, had no hesitation in changing his views and comprehension based upon new experiences and insights.



In the current national political scenario, with elected representatives and 'leaders' changing sides and dumping their so-called ideological commitments without any hitch or hesitation, it may be relevant to point out how 'growing up' has been stunted in the absence of a principled, value-based approach to public service. When one is committed to truth, the contrast becomes evident, so succinctly articulated by Gandhi Ji in the 'Harijan' of April 29, 1933: "I am not at all concerned to be consistent in my search after truth. I have discarded many ideas and learned many new things. Old as I am in age, I have no feeling that I may cease to grow inwardly or that my growth will stop at the dissolution of the flesh. What I am concerned with is my readiness to obey the call of truth, my God, from moment to moment". This statement indicates the purity in thought and words, as also the transparency in approach and action. Only such a person could proclaim unequivocally that 'my life is my message!'

being thrown out of the first class train compartment despite having a valid ticket simply because of his color, and subsequent human thrashing in a horse-drawn carriage again because of the policy of apartheid, hurt him immensely. Anyone who reads his description of these two in the autobiography would be rattled beyond words. When he was being slapped by a white man in the horse carriage, there were some Englishmen who protested and mentioned that as he had the ticket, he should be allowed to retain his seat, but that was of no avail.



FOR A PERSON WHO TRUSTED IN GROWING UP, THERE WAS A REALIZATION: NOT ALL WHITE MEN ARE INHUMAN, AND NOT ALL OF THEM SUPPORT COLOR PREJUDICE. EXPAND IT: IN EVERY CASTE, COLOR CREED, AND RELIGION, NOT ALL PERSONS ARE THE SAME!

It may be worthwhile to recall two of the initial impacts young Barrister MK Gandhi encountered on his arrival in South Africa, one highly painful and humiliating, and the other so inspiring that it overhauled his approach to life. Both of these are well known, the first being so traumatic and devastating that it could unsettle any mature person. The other is uniquely transformative, inspiring enough to change the very course of Gandhi's life and living. His

He could discover positivity even during that episode! For a person who trusted in growing up, there was a realization: not all white men are inhuman, and not all of them support color prejudice. Expand it: in every caste, color creed, and religion, not all persons are the same!

Even before alighting from the ship for the first time on the shores of South Africa, he had witnessed how Dada Abdullah was being humiliated when had gone to receive him. The young Barrister, not yet familiar with all that sprung out of color prejudice, was upset, 'why Dada Abdullah' was

suffering all that! It was only after the subsequent personal agonies he suffered, a fresh realization dawned upon him, and that expanded his horizons beyond self or individual sufferings.

What if I get one or two persons punished for the pain and insult inflicted upon me? Generations have suffered for no fault of theirs; they were forced to lead a sub-human life, for no fault of theirs! Why should I not fight against the widespread inhuman malice? And his entire struggle - and stay in South Africa - was a consequence of the thought process that emanated from these tragic experiences. An American Dr. Mote once asked Gandhi Ji: "What was the most creative incident in your life?" To this Gandhi Ji replied that there were several that he could recall as the most significant creative incidents in his life.

However, the most creative one was the throwing out of the railway compartment at Pietermaritzburg! It was at Pietermaritzburg Mohandas Gandhi realized "any individual who lies or is unjust is most scared of his lie or injustice being found out"! And from the womb of fear,

cruelty is born! The seeds of the first principle of Satyagrah were born here: The malice; he realized; is deep and such a person is indeed 'diseased'!

So, this person must be treated with care, treated on a human level, and cured! Why have any prejudices towards him? Maybe the seeds of his great conviction 'hate the sin, and not the sinner' were sown during the churning of ideas at that stage. Generations ahead shall continue to study and analyze Gandhi.

The two instances cited above are often casually recalled, but these probably deserve a far deeper comprehension and conviction given their strength and potential. One could conclude with the words of Narayan Desai: "It is possible that if we want to bring about social change by the methods that Gandhi gave us, it is a mental challenge. Let us accept it." And this is not a small challenge; it is the only alternative in times of the global realization that for the survival of humanity and the planet earth, we have to 'learn to live together!'

(Professor Rajput works in education, social cohesion, and religious amity. The views expressed are personal)

PICTALK

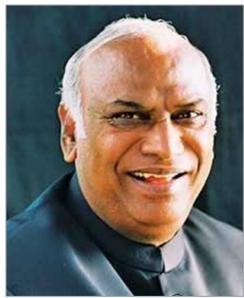


Devotees takes photograph of idol of goddess Durga during Durga Puja festival in Hyderabad

Kharge, the right choice

The congress election is turning out to be a match fixed as the Gandhis' back Mallikarjun Kharge

The congress election is drawing attention for all the wrong reasons. Though a benign exercise in making the party more democratic and showing that the Gandhis are not inflicting, is not carrying much weight. It all started well as Shashi Tharoor and Ashok Gehlot were in the fray but after the Gehlot debacle the high command sort of backed Mallikarjun Kharge as their man Friday. This is as bad as having Gandhi at the helm of affairs. And this is precisely the reason the congress election is being watched so eagerly by one and all. Sonia Gandhi initially said that she did not support any candidate but it all changed after Gehlot revolt. Her covert support to Kharge at the last hour made it clear that Gandhis wanted to have a loyalist as the party chief. This could have been triggered by the open revolt by Ashok Gehlot who played his cards well. In any case, Kharge was cut out for the job and wondered why he was not thought of in the first place. He comes from Karnataka and his scheduled caste status is a bonus in the run-up to the general elections. Besides, the one consideration that weighs in his favor is his unflinching loyalty to the first family. He is perhaps the only dependable guy the congress leadership has.



At the age of 80, unlike Shashi Tharoor, he is bereft of ambition and is widely accepted in the party for his nonpartisan stance. Besides, he is non-controversial and no motor mouth like Digvijaya Singh who has a habit of landing in trouble every

time he opens his mouth much to the consternation of the party's high command. Juxtaposed to the congress the BJP got its party chief nominated JP Nadda once again without any fuss. Since it was a decision of the top bosses, it was undemocratic to the core; especially for the party which calls itself 'party with a difference.' In this regard, congress gets some brownie points. Congress often draws flak for being Gandhi-Nehru family's private firm but the fact remains that there has been a number of non-Gandhi presidents in the party and they were no dummies. Even during Jawaharlal Nehru's years a lot of Congress presidents did not endorse his views. The congress has at least shown some semblance of democracy in the party by conducting president elections though if Mallikarjun Kharge is elected with a heavy margin it would look like a match fixed at the behest of the Gandhi family.

FOR 15 SECONDS OF ATTENTION

Sir — Basking in the glory of their wins, some political leaders take in stride the popularity coming their way, thanks to their conceit consequent upon their stories of success, and so they develop an addiction for targeting their political adversaries. That AAP is known for keeping its election promises notwithstanding, its leaders targeting opponents has become a new normal these days. Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal has had such a record when he would take his Congress opponent Delhi CM Sheila Dikshit to task. Now he has outlandishly stirred a controversy claiming an IB report has predicted his party's win in Gujarat Assembly elections.

He, however, has not condescended to disclose the source of the findings, if at all, of the report which is really unnerving and being seen as a bid to score brownie points that should be beneath his dignity. The Intelligence Bureau is neither a Ministry nor a department having any political leaning but an independent intelligence agency, having no website to post its documents on. In these acrimonious times, it is incumbent upon our leaders to steer clear of any uncalled for controversy.

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

MAJOR BOOST TO IAF'S PROWESS

Sir — In a big boost to the IAF's combat prowess, light combat helicopter (LCH) 'Prachand' has been inducted into service at the Jodhpur airbase. For a long time, there was a need for attack helicopters and during the 1999 Kargil war, its need was felt seriously. The LCH is a result of two-decade research and development. And its induction into the IAF is an important milestone in defence production. LCH is capable of dodging the enemy, carrying a variety of ammunition and delivering it to the site quickly, perfect in meeting the needs of our

A gesture worth lauding



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi embarked on the Bharat Jodo Yatra earlier this month. A strong display of strength was portrayed by him during one of his speeches. Rahul, who has been under scrutiny for his oratory skills, proved the naysayers wrong when he continued to address the crowd during the pouring rain, with the crowd loudly cheering him on.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

armed forces in various terrains and it is an ideal platform for both our Army and Air Force.

Add to this, the LCH is a dedicated combat helicopter designed and developed indigenously in India. It is touted to be the only attack helicopter in the world that can land and take off at an altitude of 5,000 metres (16400 ft) with a considerable load of weapons and fuel, meeting the specific requirements of the IAF. Also, the helicopter is equipped with the requisite agility, manoeuvrability, extended range, high-altitude performance and around-the-clock, all-weather combat capability.

N Sadhasiva Reddy | Bengaluru

TRAGEDY WAITING TO HAPPEN

Sir — The stampede at the Kanjuruhann football stadium at Malang, East Java in Indonesia, which killed at least 125 people and injured more than 320, was 'an accident waiting to happen'. They say that creaky facilities at the stadium, archaic policing and fan violence have all combined to produce one of the

worst-ever tragedies inside a stadium in the history of Indonesian football, and the third-most deadly such events in a soccer game anywhere in the world. ('125 die as tear gas sets off rush at soccer match', Oct. 3).

Supporting football clubs is a way of life in Indonesia. But over the years, the country has also become one of the most violent places to watch the game, with around 80 deaths taking place in football stadiums. Indonesian football has also been afflicted with trouble on the international stage. Proudly enough, Indonesia was the first team ever to represent the Asian continent in a soccer world cup in 1938. But despite having an unflinching passion for the sport, the country has never returned to the global stage due to years of corruption, violence and mismanagement eating into the game.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

It was a new case in Rajasthan where the MLAs got agitated just at the name of the new Chief Minister.



Rajasthan Chief Minister — Ashok Gehlot

Moving forward, we have a clear plan both to deal with the energy crisis and to deal with inflation.



UK Prime Minister — Liz Truss

There were quite a lot of heroes who'd get frightened of me. I don't know why!



Actor — Asha Parekh

We always try to help him (Haaland) in our environment. The numbers speak for him.



Manchester City manager — Pep Guardiola

It might be convenient for those in power to appropriate Gandhi's legacy...but difficult to walk in his footsteps.



Congress leader — Rahul Gandhi



FIRST COLUMN

BID TO POLITICISE VC APPOINTMENTS IS BAD

Tamil Nadu CM is willfully politicising appointments



S KALYANASUNDARAM

While addressing a meeting of Vice Chancellors of state-run universities, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin spoke of a Bill passed by the state Assembly which empowers the government to appoint them. Stalin said that the Bill empowers the state government to appoint the Vice-Chancellors. He said that it is the right of the state government to appoint Vice-Chancellors. "This is an issue related to the state government's right; it is the right of the government elected by the people; it is related to education rights of state universities," he said.

The said Bill is still pending with the Governor and it is possible that he may give his assent or he can withhold the bill with him for any uncertain period of time. Can any person holding any office be expected to give his assent to a bill which curtails his power?

Article 200 of the Constitution provides that "the Governor shall declare either that he assents to the Bill or that he withholds assent therefrom".

In 1976, by the 42nd Amendment of the Constitution, education was placed in the concurrent list. It is also well settled that if there is a conflict between the Parliament and the State Legislature on any law in the Concurrent List, the Union Law will prevail.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) was formulated in November 1956 as a statutory body of the Indian Government via an Act of Parliament which is for the coordination, determination, and maintenance of standards of university education in India and these Act/Regulations shall apply to all recognized Universities as defined under Section - 2(f) of the UGC Act and all such recognised universities as per UGC Norms.

On 5th September 2019, the UGC issued a handbook for vice chancellors. It contains the recommendations of various committees



namely 'The Radhakrishnan Commission (1948)', 'The Kothari Commission (1964)' and the 'Gnanam Committee (1990)'.

As per the Radhakrishnan Commission, the appointment of VC is done by the Governor. Though subsequent committees have prescribed various methods to be adopted while searching for a fit person for the VC's post, there is no change in this.

Since education is in concurrent list and as UGC has been established under a Central Act and as per UGC guidelines only the Governor can appoint VCs, the validity of the present bill passed by Tamil Nadu Assembly is doubtful.

During March 2022, (Writ Petition (Civil) No.1525 OF 2019 Gambhiran K Gadhv (S) versus The State of Gujarat & Others), the Supreme Court held that appointment of a Vice Chancellor of a University, even under a State legislation, cannot be contrary to the provisions of the UGC Regulations. The apex court noted that in cases where the State legislature is repugnant to the Central legislation, Central legislation is to prevail as per Article 254 as education is in the Concurrent List.

The court said, "It cannot be disputed that the UGC Regulations are enacted by the UGC in exercise of powers under section 26(1)(e) and 26(1)(g) of the UGC Act 1956. Even as per the UGC Act every rule and regulation made under the said Act, shall be laid before each House of the Parliament. Therefore, being a subordinate legislation, UGC Regulations become part of the Act. In case of any conflict between State legislation and Central legislation, Central legislation shall prevail by applying the rule/principle of repugnancy as enunciated in Article 254 of the Constitution as the subject 'education' is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution".

(The author is a retired banker)

Skilling is amplifying capable workforce

Skilling institutions have seized opportunities to make a difference as new opportunity knocks at India



VIRJESH UPADHYAY

Even though the first Industrial Training Institute (ITI) was established in 1950 and around 10,000 ITIs were opened in the country in the following seven decades, it took 72 years for the first-ever convocation of ITI students. This fact is another example which proves that in India, skilling has been a neglected area for policymakers.

It was only in the eleventh five-year plan that skill development got a chapter for it. However, since then there had been a steady increase in its importance and a dramatic change happened when Narendra Modi took charge of the country. Enhancing the employability of Indian workers through world-class skill training has been a major thrust area in the past eight years.

If we closely examine the Prime Minister's approach to skilling, three major dimensions appear. One, bring skill development to the centre of policy making. In 2014, a separate ministry to look at skills came into existence and one of the early flagship programmes of the government was 'Skill India'. The efforts paid off and nearly 5,000 new ITIs have been opened in the country and over four lakh seats have been added in the last eight years.

Annually, more than one crore youth has been joining and benefitting from the 'Skill India' programme, a Mission under the Ministry to equip youth with skills for better livelihood. More than 1.3 crore candidates have been trained under PMKVY, and numbers will surely increase in the future as the Centre is going to open more than 5,000 new 'Skill Hubs' to promote skill development in India.

Increasing the aspirational value of skill development and its integration with formal education has been the second dimension of the Prime Minister's approach. It has been mentioned on many occasions that knowledge must not be limited to academic qualifications only, skill to do something is equally important and this skill must be treated as equivalent to the other qualifications. This idea is best spelt out in the National Education Policy, which encourages experience-based learning.

The Prime Minister considers skill development as the way to develop a future-ready workforce and this brings us to the third dimension of his approach, i.e., research to understand the changing world of work and be proactive and agile in formulating the policies and designing the action. If we look at the recent speeches of the Prime Minister, especially his address to the national labour conference where he not only mentioned Industry 4.0 and robotics but also underlined the change in the employment relations like work from anywhere and flexible working hours. He called these changes opportunities for women's labour force participation and asked the labour



MORE THAN 1.3 CRORE CANDIDATES HAVE BEEN TRAINED UNDER PMKVY, AND NUMBERS WILL SURELY INCREASE IN THE FUTURE AS THE CENTRE IS GOING TO OPEN MORE THAN 5,000 NEW 'SKILL HUBS' TO PROMOTE SKILL DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

(The author is Chairman, Dattopant Thengadi National Board of Workers Education and Development)



ministry which is preparing its vision for 2047 in 'Amrit Kaal' to think in the direction of what can be done for women in the newly emerging sectors in the country.

When we look from this perspective, the Prime Minister's address at 'Kaushal Dikshant Samaroh' of ITI looks like a follow-up. Unlike the National Labour Conference, this time the PM was talking to a heterogeneous group that consisted of students as well as policymakers. So, this time he had tasks for both of them. Highlighting that job opportunities in the country are also rising with the advancement of technology, he asked students to upgrade their skills in line with the future with the mantra of 'Skilling, Reskilling and Upskilling', while keeping an eye on the latest developments in their fields.

At the same time, he also emphasized that as India is taking a lead in the fields of renewable energy, solar power, and electric vehicles, the introduction of courses related to these areas in several ITIs will further facilitate job seekers. If we look at India's journey since independence, it is a sad state of affairs that despite establishing a few institutions that find themselves among the world leaders in research, a culture of research and development with the aim to lead the world failed to develop. It happened in the field of science, social science, business and also in policymaking. The Prime Minister tried to address the issue from the very beginning, and the formation of NITI Aayog was meant for this purpose only.

Besides, there is also PM-

EAC that advises the Prime Minister on economic issues. But, similar arrangements at the level of different ministries and institutions, that not only understand the Prime Minister's vision but decode it in the light of the mandate of that ministry or institution needs further strengthening.

If we limit ourselves to the labour ministry, which is responsible for looking after the largest chunk of our population and directly addressing the issues coming up because of the changing world of work, it has two institutions that have the mandate for labour market research -- VV Giri National Labour Institute and Dattopant Thengadi National Board of Workers Education and Development (DTNBWED). These institutions served the country well during the second and third industrial revolutions.

We were laggards during the first three industrial revolutions but one of the leaders in industry 4.0. We are ahead of many developed countries in digital infrastructure and this lead is going to be there at least for the near future. We need a similar lead in terms of labour market regulations and the employability of our workforce. The labour codes especially the one that deals with social security are very much open-ended and have a futuristic approach like the importance of the gig and platform economy. DTNBWED has taken a few steps in this direction, as it signed one MoU with Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology (MNNIT) for resource sharing and another with Indira Gandhi National Open

University (IGNOU) that paves the way for diploma and certification of the workers. The courses aim to promote digital literacy, promote new age trade unionism, produce certified experts on labour laws and build capacity.

But a lot needs to be done on the employability front to realize the potential of the emerging sector. As the International Labour Organization (ILO) stated that a large part of the success in the era of industry 4.0 depends upon the workers being pre-informed about the new emerging sectors and skilled for new job roles. It enables them to make better educational and training choices, and the country also gets benefited because of better use of skills and human capital development. The proactive identification of the future skill requirement, and their impartation requires a high level of synchronization between different institutions, agility and focus on fundamental research.

We are also looking to certify the skills of the unorganized workers registered on e-Shram with the help of the institutions and schemes meant for this purpose. The era of Industry 4.0 is going to be very different. To successfully meet the new challenges and maintain the position of leadership, not only the Ministry of Labour and Employment, but its institutions also need to immediately re-calibrate themselves for the future, because as the Prime Minister himself said the 'Fourth Industrial Revolution' requires quick decisions and fast implementation.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

WE ARE ALL UNITED. I WILL ALWAYS WORK TO TAKE FORWARD THE PARTY'S PRINCIPLES AND IDEOLOGY.
—CONGRESS PRESIDENT POST CANDIDATE MALLIKARJUN KHARGE



LEADERS LIKE HIM CAN'T BRING CHANGE AND WILL CONTINUE THE EXISTING SYSTEM. I'LL BRING CHANGE.
—CONGRESS PRESIDENT POST CANDIDATE SHASHI THAROOR

Lungs bear the brunt of growing air pollution

Reports suggest alarming rise in air pollution in India and the consequent damage because of ailments related to bad air

Lungs as we know are the primary organs for respiration. They work tirelessly to supply oxygen to the body and expel carbon dioxide. Breathing also assists in the ability to speak and sing. Life begins with the first breath and ends with the last breath. It is important for the functioning of the body and all its organs up to the minutest cellular level. We breathe 10,000 liters of air daily to have 350 liters of oxygen. We can live without food for three weeks, without water for three days, but we can't live without oxygen for more than three minutes. The Covid-19 pandemic revealed the importance of oxygen, lungs and lung specialists. The respiratory system is continuously affected by exposure to various types of harmful agents



SURYA KANT

(The author is Professor & Head, Respiratory Medicine, King George's Medical University, Lucknow)

or pollutants present in the environment. It is estimated that at least two billion people worldwide are exposed to toxic fumes produced by the combustion of biomass fuels. More than seven billion people breathe polluted air.

The respiratory system and lungs are the most affected human organs because of air pollution. Some common effects are cough, wheezing, shortness of breath, asthma, pneumonia and reduced lung capacity in children, airway obstruction, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), lung cancer, and many more.

Air pollution is now considered the world's biggest environmental health threat, causing seven million deaths worldwide each year. Every

year 17 lakh people die in India due to the air pollution. Air pollution exacerbates asthma, lung cancer, other lung diseases, while also aggravating many ailments such as heart diseases.

Almost all Indians breathe air that is in excess of World Health Organization guidelines. Its 2021 Report highlights that 11 of the 15 most polluted cities in Central and South Asia were from India. Around 16.7 lakh deaths in India were attributable to air pollution accounting for 17.8 per cent of the total deaths in the country in 2019. This means, three deaths per minute were attributable to air pollution in India.

Among risk factors for early death globally after high blood pressure, tobacco, and poor diet in 2019, air pollution takes

the fourth spot. Globally, around 40 per cent of deaths from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), 30 per cent of deaths from lower respiratory infections, and 19 per cent of deaths from lung cancer were attributable to air pollution. In India, lung diseases due to air pollution lead to around 45 per cent of deaths and 40 per cent of loss due to ill-health, disability, or early death. Immediate and proper action is needed to combat air pollution and bring about change.

The impact of respiratory diseases includes both chronic conditions like COPD and acute illnesses like pneumonia or lower respiratory tract infections. More than 2.5 million people died from pneumonia in 2019, making it one of the most prevalent acute

illnesses and causes of death in the world. It is also the greatest cause of death for people over 65 and for children under the age of five, who are not newborns.

Additionally, SARS-CoV-2 mortality increased dramatically as a result of Covid-19 in adults who had underlying comorbidities, notably in those who developed respiratory disease or pneumonia, killing more than 6.3 million individuals, mostly from respiratory causes. In 2020, 1.5 million people died from TB, making it the most prevalent lethal infectious disease after the COVID-19 pandemic. Worldwide, more than 10 million individuals contracted TB, while 2.6 million people were affected in India. The onset of chronic respiratory disease may

also be linked to such acute respiratory infections and other genetic-environmental interactions, with childhood illness establishing a developmental trajectory for poor health. Globally, an estimated 544.9 million people suffered from a chronic respiratory condition in 2017. In the world, COPD affects almost 200 million people, or four per cent of the population, and kills 3.2 million people annually, making it the third greatest cause of mortality. Asthma affects 350 million people worldwide (35 million in India) and is the most frequent chronic disease in children.

Children are particularly vulnerable because they are still growing and their lungs, brains, and immune systems are developing. Exposure to air pollu-

tion at a young age can hinder lung growth, inhibit brain development and increase the risk of conditions such as asthma. Asthmatic children's lungs and airways become easily inflamed, resulting in bothersome daily symptoms that interfere with play, sports, school, and sleep.

LiFE (Life For Environment) movement was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 5, 2022. He said that LiFE's vision is to live a lifestyle that is in tune with our planet and does not harm it. Those who lead such a life are known as "Pro-Planet People." Mission LiFE borrows from the past, operates in the present, and looks forward. Our lives are woven with the concepts of reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Curb stubble fire: Govt to Punjab

'Take crop residue management steps holistically'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday asked the Punjab Government to chalk out a comprehensive action plan at the micro level for effective control of paddy stubble burning during the ensuing season. Abhilaksh Likhi, Additional Secretary in the Union Agriculture Ministry, told state officials to chalk out a detailed plan while attending a farm demonstration on Crop Residue Management (CRM) at Rangian village in Kharar tehsil of SAS Nagar district in Punjab.

"The states were also told to establish a mechanism to ensure effective utilisation of machines, promote the use of bio-decomposer in a complementary mode with the CRM machines, and promote ex-situ utilisation of straw by way of mapping demand from adjoining industries like biomass-based power plants, etc. ...If all the actions are taken at the State level in a holistic manner, stubble burning can be effectively controlled during



the coming season," Likhi said. Dr Likhi further stated that the objectives of the Crop Residue Management Scheme to check air pollution caused by residue burning. The residues burning also impact the soil fertility. He urged farmers to use crop residue management scheme for better future.

To promote the use of bio-decomposer technology, the Centre has revised the operational guidelines of the CRM scheme in August 2022 and provisions have been made for conducting large-scale demonstrations of bio-decomposer on farmers' fields by way of utilising flexi-funds under the

scheme.

To support the efforts of the Governments of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi to address air pollution caused due to stubble burning and to subsidize machinery required for management of crop residue, a Central Sector Scheme on Crop Residue Management has been introduced in 2018-19.

Under this scheme, financial assistance @ 50 per cent is provided to the farmers for purchase of crop residue management machinery and @ 80 per cent is provided to Coop. Societies, FPOs and Panchayats for establishment of

Custom Hiring Centres. The Scheme promote the usage of machines such as Super Straw Management Systems, Happy Seeder, Super Seeder, Smart Seeder, zero till seed cum fertilizer drill, Mulcher, Paddy Straw Chopper, hydraulically reversible mould board plough, Crop reapers and Reaper binders for in-situ management of crop residue and Balers & Rakes which are used for straw collection in the form of bales for other ex-situ uses of straw.

During the period from 2018-19 to 2021-22, ₹2440.07 crores (Punjab - ₹1147.62 crores, Haryana - ₹693.25 crores, Uttar Pradesh - ₹533.67 crores, NCT of Delhi - ₹4.52 Crores and ICAR - ₹61.01 crores) have been released.

During the current year, so far, an amount of ₹240.00 crores, ₹191.53 crores, ₹154.29 crores and ₹14.18 crores have already been released to the State of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and ICAR, respectively.

During the last four years, the states have distributed more than 2.07 lakh machines to the individual farmers and to more than 38000 CHCs in these 4 States, which also include more than 3243 Balers & Rakes which are used for ex-situ collection of straw.

Modi to gift ₹3K cr projects to poll-bound Himachal

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As in Gujarat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate a slew of developmental projects in poll-bound Himachal Pradesh including an AIIMS at Bilaspur, and participate in the famous Kullu Dussehra celebrations during his visit to the State on Wednesday.

Ahead of the visit BJP president JP Nadda and Union Minister Anurag Thakur visited the spot to oversee the preparation at Luhnu ground at Bilaspur. Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat would be electing new assemblies by the year-end.

The Prime Minister has also inaugurated a number of developmental projects in Gujarat including a super specialty hospital. On September 29, he laid the foundation stone and dedicated various projects worth more than Rs 3,400 crore in Surat, Gujarat.

Modi will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for development projects worth over Rs 3,650 crore and also address a public meeting in Himachal Pradesh, an official statement said. It said Modi's vision and commitment to strengthening health services across the country is being



showcased again with the inauguration of AIIMS, Bilaspur.

The Prime Minister had laid the hospital's foundation stone in October 2017 and it has been established under the Centre's Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana, the statement said.

AIIMS, Bilaspur, constructed at a cost of more than Rs 1,470 crore, is a state-of-the-art hospital with 18 specialty and 17 super-specialty departments, 18 modular operation theatres and 750 beds, including 64 ICU beds.

Spread over 247 acres, the hospital is equipped with 24-hour emergency and dialysis facilities, modern diagnostic machines such as ultrasonography, CT scan and MRI among others. It also has a Jan Aushadhi Kendra and a 30-bed AYUSH block. The hospital has also set up a Centre for Digital Health to provide health

ED carries out search op, freezes ₹5.59 cr of E-nuggets app owner, associates

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has carried out a search operation and froze the account balance of Rs 5.59 crore of one Aamir Khan and his accomplices under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in connection with an investigation relating to the mobile gaming app E-nuggets.

So far, an amount of Rs 36.96 crore has been frozen in this case.

The instant case was registered on the basis of an FIR dated February 15, 2021 filed under various sections of IPC by Park Street Police Station, Kolkata Police, against Aamir Khan and others, based on a complaint filed by Federal Bank authorities.

Accused Aamir Khan, who is in police custody now, launched a mobile gaming application namely E-Nuggets, which was designed for the purpose of defrauding the public. It was revealed during investigation that multiple accounts (more than 300) were used to launder the money.

On the basis of information available, the amount of Rs 5.59 crore lying in balance in the said related bank accounts has been frozen.

Job on compassionate ground concession, not right: SC



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Appointment on compassionate ground is a concession, not a right and the object of granting such employment is to enable the affected family to tide over a sudden crisis, the Supreme Court has said. The apex court last week set aside the judgement of a division Bench of the Kerala High Court, which confirmed the verdict of a single judge directing the Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd and others to consider the case of a woman for appointment on compassionate ground.

A Bench of Justices MR Shah and Krishna Murari noted that the father of the woman was employed with

Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd and died while on duty in April 1995.

At the time of his death, it noted, his wife was serving and therefore not eligible for appointment on compassionate ground. "After a period of 24 years from the death of the deceased employee, the respondent shall not be entitled to the appointment on compassionate ground," the Bench said.

According to the law laid down by the apex court on appointment on compassionate ground, equal opportunity for all Government vacancies should be provided to all aspirants as mandated under Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution.

Article 14 of the Constitution deals with equality before law and Article 16 with equality of opportunity in matters of public employment. "However, appointment on compassionate ground offered to a dependent of a deceased employee is an exception to the said norms. The compassionate ground is a concession and not a right," the Bench said in its judgment delivered on September 30.

The apex court noted that when the employee had died in 1995, his daughter was a minor. On attaining the age of major-

Delhi court rejects bail plea of ex-DHFL promoters in loan scam of ₹42,871 cr

New Delhi: A Delhi court has dismissed the statutory bail plea of former Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited (DHFL) promoters, Kapil Wadhawan and his brother Dheeraj, arrested by the CBI in connection with a multi-crore bank loan scam case.

The accused had claimed before the court that since the CBI failed to file the charge sheet against them within the mandatory 60-day period from their arrest, they had "indefeasible right" to statutory bail, also known as default bail, in the matter. The two accused were arrested in the present FIR on July 19. Special Judge Vishal Gogne, however, said the filing of the present charge

sheet in the investigation shall not be governed by Section 167(2)(a)(i) CrPC, which provides for a maximum period of 90 days. The judge noted that the accused were also charged with section 409 (criminal breach of trust by public servant, or by banker, merchant or agent) for which the maximum punishment was life imprisonment, "which brings the period of completion of investigation within the purview of Section 167(2)(a)(i) CrPC i.e. 90 days."

"Since the period of 90 days has not yet expired in the present investigation, which also relates to Section 409 IPC, applicants Kapil Wadhawan and Dheeraj Wadhawan are not entitled to statutory bail under Section 167(2) CrPC. Both applications are dismissed," the court said in an order passed on September 30.

According to the FIR based on a complaint made by Union Bank of India, DHFL, Kapil Wadhawan, the then CMD, Dheeraj Wadhawan, the then Director, and other accused persons allegedly entered into a criminal conspiracy to cheat the consortium of 17 banks led by Union Bank of India and in pursuance of the said criminal conspiracy the said accused Kapil Wadhawan and others induced the consortium banks to sanction huge loans aggregating to Rs 42,871.42 crore.

In such cases, out of pure humanitarian consideration, a provision is made in the rules to provide gainful employment to one of the dependents of the deceased who may be eligible for such employment, the court said.

top court, the Bench said as per the law laid down, compassionate appointment is an exception to the general rule of appointment in the public services and is in favour of dependents of a person dying in harness and leaving his family in penury and without any means

Jaishankar to hold talks with Australia, New Zealand Foreign Ministers

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will discuss the entire spectrum of bilateral ties with his New Zealand and Australian counterparts during his weeklong visit to the two countries commencing Wednesday.

Giving details of his schedule, the ministry of external affairs said here on Monday, Jaishankar will hold talks with New Zealand Foreign Affairs Minister Nanaia Mahuta and Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong.

In his first-ever visit to New Zealand as a minister, Jaishankar will join the island country's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern on Thursday to felicitate members of the Indian community for their exceptional achievements and contributions.

Both leaders will release India@75 postage stamps to commemorate and showcase Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav in New Zealand, the ministry statement said.

Jaishankar will also launch the book 'Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery'. A book showcasing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's special bond



with the Sikh community 'Heartfelt - The Legacy of Faith' will also be released on the occasion.

Jaishankar will also interact with several other New Zealand ministers, including Priyanka Radhakrishnan, Minister for Community and Voluntary Sector, Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities, and Youth. Radhakrishnan is the first person of Indian origin to become a minister in New Zealand.

Jaishankar will interact with parliamentarians, members of the business community as well as Indian diaspora, including students. In Wellington, Jaishankar will inaugurate the newly con-

structed building of the High Commission of India.

In Australia, the External Affairs Minister will visit Canberra and Sydney. Jaishankar will hold the 13th Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue with his Australian counterpart Penny Wong.

He will also meet Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Richard Marles and have interactions with the Australian Navy, the media and think tanks, including the Lowy Institute in Sydney.

This will be Jaishankar's second visit to Australia this year. He had visited the country in February to attend the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Melbourne.

CPWD again cancels bid for PM new house for admin reasons

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

For the second time in the last few months, the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) on Monday cancelled pre-qualification bids for the construction of the Rs 360-crore new residence for the Prime Minister citing "administrative reasons".

The new PM residence will be constructed as part of the Central Vista redevelopment project adjacent to the Rashtrapati Bhawan and South

Block. The bid was floated on October 1. An official said that the agency would soon call for pre-qualification bids again. According to the bid documents that were cancelled, the PM's residence would come up adjacent to Rashtrapati Bhawan and South Block and opposite to DRDO building in Blocks A & B, Dara Shikoh Road.

It stated that the CPWD had estimated the project (construction and maintenance for five years) to cost Rs 360 crore and take 21 months to com-

plete. On July 18, the CPWD, which comes under the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry, had first floated the pre-qualification bid, but had withdrawn it on July 22 citing "administrative reasons". The redevelopment project of the Central Vista — the nation's power corridor — envisages new triangular Parliament building, a common central secretariat, new PM's residence and prime minister's office, and new vice-president's enclave, among others.

Rotary International, a non-profit global organization, has expressed concern over the re-emergence of polio in neighbouring countries in recent months with over 27 incidents of wild poliovirus being reported from different parts of the world including Afghanistan (2), Pakistan (19) and Mozambique (6).

"The detection of poliovirus, and even cases of Polio, in places where it hasn't been found for years has demonstrated once again that eradicating a human disease isn't easy, especially in the final stages," said Deepak Kapur, Chairman, Rotary International's National PolioPlus Committee.

"The re-emergence of polio in these places highlights the importance of vaccination as the only form of protection against Polio and many other diseases. It draws attention to the work needed to encourage people to get vaccinated at a time when vaccination rates are dropping in some communities," said Kapur at a cycle

Vaccination only form of protection against polio: Kapur

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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rally held here to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's anniversary.

It's been over a decade since the last case was detected in 2011 and 8 years to India being declared Polio-free by the WHO in 2014.

Satish Upadhaya, Vice Chairman, North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC), said, "With knowledge about the disease, the ostracization of patients will end, allowing them to live a life of dignity and security."

Among those who participated in the event included Himanshu Gupta, Director of Education, Delhi, Dr Ritu Choudhary, State Leprosy Officer, Padma Srinivasan, Principal, Delhi Public School RK Puram, Dr. N Subramanian, District Advisor Leprosy, District Advisor Polio along with representatives from LEpra and ACRE.

associated with anaemia than organics and dust. Among sectoral contributors, industry was the greatest, followed by the unorganized, domestic, power, road dust, agricultural waste burning and transport sectors.

"Our results suggest that the transition to clean energy would accelerate India's progress towards the 'anaemia-free' mission target," said the scientists led by the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi, who used multiple datasets, including NFHS and satellite data to link pollution and health. Thus, ambient air pollution, which is known to cause not only substantial morbidity and mortality globally

Long-term exposure to PM2.5 air pollution may increase anaemia: Study

Nature Sustainability Journal reveals, India has one of the highest, i.e. 53 per cent, global prevalence of anaemia among women of reproductive age

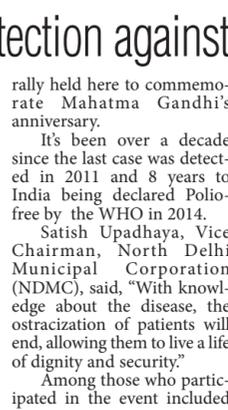
ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

For every 10 microgram/metre cube increase in ambient pollutant PM2.5 exposure, the average anaemia prevalence among women increases by 7.23 per cent. PM 2.5 pollution are tiny air particles that are hazardous to human health.

On the contrary, says a study as it linked specific PM2.5 pollution to the common blood disorder, if India meets its recent clean-air targets, anaemia prevalence among women with reproductive age will fall from 53 per cent to 39.5 per cent, taking 186 districts below the national target of 35 per cent. The study findings "Reducing the burden of anaemia in Indian women of reproductive age with clean-air targets" are published in journal Nature Sustainability. Ironically, India has one of the highest, i.e. 53 per cent, global prevalence of anaemia among women of reproductive age.

The NFHS-5 findings too reveal that the prevalence of anaemia has increased among children, women of all age groups including pregnant women, and men. This increase in prevalence was observed in almost all the states barring a few exceptions.

Even as the Government is finding reasons to cut down anaemia prevalence, the study



by the researchers shows that long-term exposure to ambient fine particulate matter (PM2.5), a type of air pollution, may increase the prevalence of anaemia through systemic inflammation. The researchers used a linear mixed model adjusted for potential confounding factors, showing that for every 10µg/m³ increase in ambient PM2.5 exposure, the average anaemia prevalence among Indian women of reproductive age increases by 7.23 per cent. Among PM2.5 species, sulfate and black carbon are more

but also adverse health outcomes, including cardiovascular and respiratory disease, diabetes and low birth weight, is now known to cause anaemia also. The researchers included Ekta Chaudhary, Sagnik Dey, Santu Ghosh and, Srishti Jain (All from IIT-Delhi) and Anura V Kurpad (both from St. John's Medical College, Bengaluru), Sumit Sharma, Nimish Singh, Shivang Agarwal (All from TERI, Delhi) Kushal Tibrewal and Chandra Venkataraman (IIT-Mumbai), Aaron J. Cohen (Health Effects Institute, USA) and Shuxiao Wang (School of Environment, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China).



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Rotary Int'l raises concerns over increase in cases of leprosy

NEW DELHI: Rotary International has flagged rising incidents of leprosy with at least 1,27,558 new cases in 2020-21 across the world, of which India accounts for approximately 60 per cent. It said the Government must utilize infrastructure and learnings from Polio for control and elimination of the Hensen's Disease. Leprosy is curable and becomes non-communicable with just a few doses of MDT.

PNS

IN SHORTS

AVOID ADVERTISING ONLINE BETTING: I&B
New Delhi: The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting on Monday issued an advisory to publishers of news and current affairs content on digital media advising them to refrain from publishing advertisements of online betting platforms on online and social media.

PANKAJ TRIPATHI WILL BE NATIONAL ICON FOR EC
New Delhi: Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey on Monday launched a voter awareness radio series in collaboration with All India Radio. CEC Kumar announced that actor Pankaj Tripathi would henceforth be the National Icon for Election Commission keeping in view his commitment to the cause and wide appeal across the country.

'Seven Assembly bypolls in six States on Nov 3'



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Bypolls to seven vacant Assembly seats spread across six States will be held on November 3, the Election Commission announced on Monday.

Bypolls will be held on two seats — Mokama and Gopalganj — of Bihar, Andheri (East) of Maharashtra, Adampur of Haryana, Munugode of Telangana, Gola Gorakhnath of Uttar Pradesh, and Dhamnagar of Odisha, it said.

The counting of votes will

take place on November 6, the poll panel said in a statement.

The notification for the bypolls will be issued on October 7.

The Andheri (East), Gola Gorakhnath, Gopalganj and Dhamnagar seats fell vacant following the demise of their respective MLAs.

The Mokama seat fell vacant after the sitting MLA was disqualified upon conviction in a case. The Adampur assembly by-election was necessitated following the resignation of Kuldeep Bishnoi as a Congress MLA.

BHARAT JODO YATRA

Religious harmony foundation of future progress: Rahul

RSS concerns over poverty, unemployment due to Yatra, says Cong

PTI ■ MYSURU

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday visited the Chamundeshwari temple atop Chamundi hills here on the third day of the party's Bharat Jodo Yatra in Karnataka.

Gandhi was accompanied by supporters and party leaders as he visited the shrine.

Goddess Chamundeshwari is the tutelary deity of the Mysuru royalty and the presiding deity of Mysuru for several centuries.

In a tweet in Hindi after visiting the temple, Gandhi said, "Religious harmony is the foundation of India's peaceful and progressive future".

Gandhi started the 26th day of his yatra at the crack of dawn, and walked through the streets of the old town which is decked up for the 10-day Dasara celebrations.

People lined up on both sides of the road to welcome Gandhi and chanted slogans hailing the Congress leader, who has so far walked 62 km in Karnataka and 532 km in Tamil Nadu and Kerala legs of the yatra.

In Mysuru, the yatra moved in the form of a procession amid beating of drums and performances by artistes dressed in traditional attire to match the town's festive spirit.

Gandhi had on Sunday night



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, with party leaders DK Shivakumar and KC Venugopal, offers prayers during a visit to the Chamundeshwari Temple amid the party's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra', in Mysuru district on Monday

PTI

addressed a public gathering here amid torrential rain, and continued his speech even while he was drenched.

While the former Congress president declared his resolve to unite India through his journey, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh on Monday hailed the Wayanad MP's rain-soaked moment in Mysuru as "the defining moment of the yatra."

After walking 22 km through Mysuru, Gandhi entered Mandya district in which the historic Srirangapatna town where Tipu Sultan once ruled is located.

Tipu Sultan's mausoleum is located in this city.

Congress on Monday took a dig at the RSS voicing concern over inequality, unemployment and pover-

ty and credited it to the impact of the Bharat Jodo Yatra spearheaded by Rahul Gandhi.

"Look at the impact of Bharat Jodo Yatra. Even those who break the country and spread poison in the society are raising the issues of poverty, unemployment and inequality," AICC General Secretary Jairam Ramesh said on Twitter.

He was referring to the remarks of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) General Secretary Dattatreya Hosabale at a seminar on the need to address the challenges posed by poverty, income inequality and unemployment in the country.

However, Hosabale had blamed the "faulty" economic policies of the earlier governments for the "ills" in the economy.

Former Madhya Pradesh chief minister Digvijaya Singh also said that the impact of the yatra was visible on RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat and Hosabale.

"What was the impact of Bharat Jodo Yatra under the leadership of Rahul Gandhi? Ramdev started praising the Nehru-Gandhi family, Mohan Bhagwat started visiting masjid and madrasas.

"RSS General Secretary Dattatreya Hosabale ji started worrying about the increasing poverty in the country, the growing gap between the rich and the poor and unemployment," Singh said on Twitter.

Last month, Bhagwat, along with senior Sangh functionaries, met Umer Ahmed Ilyasi, the chief of All India Imam Organisation, at a mosque

here, taking forward his outreach to the Muslim community.

Singh said not even a month has passed since the launch of the yatra and the BJP and Sangh Parivar have already started worrying about poverty, unemployment and inflation in the country.

"Dattatreya ji, understand this... it is due to the policies of Modi ji the wealth of 100 big families of the country is increasing and the income of the poor and middle-class families of the country is decreasing," Singh said.

Congress functionary Pawan Khara also took a dig at Hosabale's remarks on poverty, unemployment and inflation at a seminar organised by the Swadeshi Jagran Manch.

"I have heard that the clouds of worry have started gathering over Nagpur. Now even Hosabale ji has started seeing the unemployed," said Khara, the Chairman of AICC's Media and Publicity Department.

To join the Bharat Jodo Yatra, Congress president Sonia Gandhi arrived Mysuru on Monday afternoon.

She will participate in the Yatra on Thursday morning when it resumes after a two day break.

Sonia Gandhi had not campaigned for the party during elections in the recent past due to health reasons.

It will be after a long time that Gandhi will participate in the party's public event where a large number of Congress workers are participating.

The Bharat Jodo Yatra entered the 26th day of its almost five month journey from Kanyakumari to Kashmir.

Kerala bids ex-Home Min Kodiyeri befitting and emotional goodbye

PNS ■ KOCHI

Mourning Kerala led by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan bade a tearful farewell to Kodiyeri Balakrishnan, the former CPI(M) State Secretary and former Home Minister of the State who succumbed to cancer in a Chennai hospital last Saturday. Balakrishnan whose name was synonymous with Kodiyeri, his native village by the same name, was cremated at Payyambalam abutting the Arabian Sea with full State honours on Monday. An unprecedented crowd had gathered at Thalassery and Payyambalam to pay homage to the departed leader.

In a hitherto unseen chapter of Kerala's political history, Chief Minister Vijayan,



Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, CPI(M) leader Sitaram Yechuri, Prakash Karat and PK Sreemathi carrying the mortal remains of Kodiyeri Balakrishnan to the funeral pyre at Payyambalam, Kannur on Monday

Pioneer photo

CPI(M)'s all India secretary Sitaram Yechuri and former party boss Prakash Karat acted as pall bearers while the mor-

tal remains were carried from the ambulance to the funeral pyre.

Bineesh and Binoy, the two

sons of Balakrishnan lit the funeral pyre amidst slogan shouting by thousands of party cadres who chanted the Malayalam equivalent of "Comrade Kodiyeri is immortal, Kodiyeri had not died and He will live through us".

Heart rending scenes were in display throughout the last journey of Balakrishnan as P K Sreemathi, former minister of health too joined the pall bearers. Sreemathi was seen sobbing uncontrollably since Sunday when the body was brought from Chennai by air ambulance to Kannur.

The Kodiyeri family including Vinodini Balakrishnan, the sons, their spouses and grandchildren were in attendance throughout the function.

Nothing more insulting: Cong on Minister Misra's continuation on 1st anniv of Kheri killings

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

On the first anniversary of Lakhimpur Kheri violence, the Congress on Monday attacked the Modi government over the continuation of Ajay Misra "Teni" as a Minister as it cited the alleged involvement of his son in mowing down of farmers protesting against the three farm laws that have now been repealed.

"Nothing can be more insulting that the farmers agitating against the black laws were deliberately killed while the culprit remains a member of the Union council of ministers," Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh told reporters.

There was clear evidence that the minister's son was involved in the killing, he



Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh speaks at the launch of 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' app, at the party headquarters in New Delhi on Monday

PTI

alleged. Misra's son Ashish Misra was arrested in the case after four farmers were crushed under the wheels of a convoy of cars and four others, including two BJP workers, were killed in apparently retaliatory

violence. Addressing a press conference, Ramesh also hailed Rahul Gandhi's address to people in Karnataka while heavy rains drenched him as a "defining" moment during the Congress' ongoing Bharat Jodo Yatra.

It was a historic day and shows people's support to the yatra, he said. The more Gandhi and people are praised for this, the less it will be, he claimed. Congress delegates who are part of the foot march may vote in the election for the party president through postal ballots, he said, adding there is also a possibility that they can come down to Bengaluru to vote on October 17. The yatra will be passing through Karnataka around that time.

Ramesh claimed that popular support to the yatra has rattled the BJP and slammed the Enforcement Directorate's summons to Karnataka Congress president D K Shivakumar in the National Herald case as continuation of the government's 'vendetta politics'.

FROM PAGE 1

PRACHAND GIVES IAF UNIQUE ADVANTAGE

The Defence Minister said the recent conflicts in Ukraine and elsewhere showed us that heavy weapon systems and platforms, which do not allow for rapid movement in the battlefield, are sometimes vulnerable and become easy targets for the enemy.

Therefore, the need of the hour is to move towards the development of those equipment and platforms, which are mobile, have ease of movement, are more flexible, and at the same time meet the requirements of the armed forces. In this context, LCH has been developed with an unprecedented balance of all these features and HAL should be congratulated for this, he said. Chaudhari said the capabilities of LCH are on a par with the helicopters of its class globally. The helicopters were given a traditional water-canon salute that followed a multi-religious prayer ceremony.

The need for developing a light combat helicopter for mountain warfare was felt during the Kargil War in 1999. Subsequently, the IAF and HAL began exploring the possibility of developing the platform with a capacity to carry an adequate weapon load, sufficient fuel and still be capable of operating in the higher reaches of the Himalayan ranges. By mid-2010, the prototype of LCH completed a major flight test and it was deemed to have fulfilled the desired parameters. In February 2020, the LCH was declared ready for production.

In March, the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) approved the procurement of 15 indigenously developed Limited Series Production (LSP) LCH at a cost of Rs 3,887 crore. The Defence Ministry had said 10 helicopters would be for the IAF and five will be for the Indian Army.

UAPA SLAPPED ON PFI

Earlier, last week, the Centre banned PFI and several of its associates/fronts for five years under the stringent anti-terror law Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, accusing them of having "links" with global terror groups like ISIS and Jamat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and involvement in radicalization.

The PFI was accused of indulging in "disturbing" the communal and secular fabric of the country and "posing a grave threat" to national security by advancing its radical ideology and calling for the establishment of political Islam in India besides allegedly carrying out targeted killings of Hindu activists.

The PFI, the Home Ministry alleged, is encouraging and trying to enforce a terror-based regressive regime, continue to propagate anti-national sentiments and radicalizing a particular section of society to create disaffection against the country, aggravating activities that are detrimental to the integri-

ty, security and sovereignty of the country.

Besides PFI, the associated outfits banned under the UAPA include the Rehab India Foundation, Campus Front of India, All India Imams Council, National Confederation of Human Rights Organisation, National Women's Front, Junior Front, Empower India Foundation and Rehab Foundation, Kerala.

GANDHI-LOOKALIKE MAHISASUR: HINDU MAHASABHA BOOKED

The organisers of the puja, near Ruby Crossing, had on Sunday said that similarities were "coincidental".

"The ABHM had also said then that it changed the appearance of the idol following instructions from the police. The small pandal, bereft of any decoration, quite unlike what one finds at a Durga Puja pandal in Kolkata, wore an almost-deserted look on Monday afternoon with only around seven to eight organisers present inside.

Saffron- and yellow-coloured cloth wrapped around bamboo poles were used to make the very modest pandal on a service road beside the Eastern Metropolitan bypass, which many people seemed to have given a miss.

The Mahishasura idol now sports a moustache and hair, though it still holds a wooden stick in its left hand.

"We had not made the asura with Mahatma Gandhi in mind, it is that some people found the idol to resemble him," Goswami told PTI, standing outside the pandal at the busy Ruby Crossing.

Parties, cutting across political lines, have denounced the depiction.

The Congress on Monday sought arrest of those responsible for instituting the Gandhi-lookalike idol in place of Mahishasura. Soumya Aich, the Congress West Bengal unit media cell president, said complaints have been lodged with the police regarding the depiction.

"One complaint has been lodged at Titagarh police station in North 24 Parganas, and the other at Shakespeare Sarani police station in Kolkata," he said.

The Congress leader claimed that it was an act of "shame" for the whole world.

"It is an attempt to create divisions by an organisation which has been trying to split the country on religious lines; we condemn the act in the strongest terms," Aich said.

The BJP has also castigated the representation of Mahishasura at the marquee.

"If such a move has been made, it is unfortunate. We condemn it. This is in poor taste," state BJP president Sukanta Majumdar has said. The ruling Trinamool Congress said such depiction amounted to sacrilege.

"It is an insult to the Father of the Nation. It is an insult to every citizen of the country," its spokesperson Kunal Ghosh added.

Expressing anguish, CPI(M) state general secretary Mohd Salim said that Gandhiji's role in the country's Independence is undeniable.

"He was killed by Hindutvavadis and now his ideals are being murdered every day," the party's mouthpiece said quoting Salim.

A journalist had earlier tweeted a photograph of the Durga idol, tagging the Kolkata Police. He deleted the post later claiming that the police asked him to do so as it might create tension during the festival.

SWEDEN'S SVANTE PAABO GETS NOBEL FOR INSIGHT INTO HUMAN EVOLUTION

"Svante Pääbo has discovered the genetic make up of our closest relatives, the Neanderthals and the Denisovan hominins," Nils-Göran Larsson, a Nobel Assembly member, told the Associated Press after the announcement.

"And the small differences between these extinct human forms and us as humans today will provide important insight into our body functions and how our brain has developed and so forth."

Paabo, 67, performed his prizewinning studies in Germany at the University of Munich and at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig.

Paabo is the son of Sune Bergstrom, who won the Nobel prize in medicine in 1982.

According to the Nobel Foundation, it's the eighth time that the son or daughter of a Nobel laureate also won a Nobel Prize.

Only once has a father-son duo shared the same Nobel Prize: in 1915 when Sir William Henry Bragg and his son William Laurence Bragg won the physics award together.

Scientists in the field lauded the Nobel Committee's choice this year.

David Reich, a geneticist at Harvard Medical School, said he was thrilled the group honored the field of ancient DNA, which he worried might "fall between the cracks."

By recognising that DNA can be preserved for tens of thousands of years — and developing ways to extract it — Paabo and his team created a completely new way to answer questions about our past, Reich said. That work was the basis for an "explosive growth" of ancient DNA studies in recent decades.

"It's totally reconfigured our understanding of human variation and human history," Reich said, adding that Paabo "was, more than anyone, the pioneer of this field."

5 KILLED IN PANDAL INFERNO

Rathi said the fire broke out when a halogen light at the pandal overheated, causing an electric wire to catch fire. Soon the fire engulfed the wooden scaffolding and the tent, he said.

The cause of the fire was ascertained by a special probe team constituted by Additional Director General of Police Ram Kumar, the district magistrate said.

A total of 67 people were injured in the fire and three of them identified as Ankush Soni (12), Jaya Devi (45) and Naveen (10) died. Later, two more, Arti Chaubey (48) and Harshvardhan (8), died during treatment, a senior official said. Many others, including Anushka (1), Rishabh Chaurasia (2), Gulabi Devi (16), Sarita Chaurasia (14), Sandhya Chaurasia (14), Sakshi (18), Ranjana Devi (30) received serious burns. They were immediately sent to Surya Trauma Centre, Anand Hospital, community health centre at Gopiganj Aurai. From here, 42 people were referred to Varanasi Trauma Centre when their condition became critical. Eighteen were sent to Aurai and four were referred to Prayagraj.

Superintendent of Police Anil Kumar said an FIR had been lodged at Aurai police station. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expressed grief at the loss of lives in the incident, his office said in a tweet on Sunday. Yogi has directed officials to ensure that the injured get proper treatment. Meanwhile, sources confirmed that a digital show was going on at the pandal when the fire broke out on Sunday night, reducing the pandal in Narthua village to ashes.

More than 300 people were in the pandal when the blaze erupted and a majority of them were women and children.

RUSSIAN ARRESTED FOR JEE (MAINS) HACKING

It was further alleged that the said company and its directors were manipulating the online examination of JEE (Mains) and facilitating aspiring students to get admission in top National Institute of Technology (NITs) in consideration of huge amount by solving the question paper of the applicant through remote access from a chosen examination centre in Sonapat (Haryana).

It was also alleged that the accused used to obtain Xth and XIIth mark sheets, the user IDs, passwords, and post dated cheques of aspiring students in different parts of the country as security, and once admission was done, they used to collect a heavy amount ranging from Rs 12-15 lakh per candidate.

Searches were earlier conducted on September 2 last year at 19 places, including Delhi and NCR, Pune, Jamshepur, Indore, and Bangalore, which led to the recovery of 25 laptops, seven personal computers, around 30 post-dated cheques along

with voluminous incriminating documents/ devices, including PDCs and mark-sheets of different students.

SU-30S ESCORT IRANIAN FLIGHT OUT OF INDIA AFTER BOMB HOAX

The aircraft was offered the option to land at Jaipur and then, at Chandigarh. However, the pilot declared his unwillingness to divert to either of the two airports. After a while, intimation was received from Tehran to disregard the bomb scare, following which, the aircraft continued on its journey towards its final destination.

All actions were taken by IAF as per the laid down procedure, jointly with the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) and the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS). The aircraft was under close radar surveillance by the Air Force throughout the Indian airspace. The incident happened on the Mahan Air flight W581 that was flying from Tehran to Guangzhou, sources said.

Meanwhile, senior Delhi Police officers said they received a call about the bomb scare in a Tehran-China flight from the Air Traffic Control but soon they were informed by the ATC that the flight was not landing in Delhi.

VEGETABLE PRICES GO THROUGH ROOF AS RAINS HIT SUPPLY

Traders opined that there has been a significant reduction in the stock of local vegetables as well as those sourced from other States. "The State sources cabbage, cauliflower, carrot, beans, beetroot, raw papaya, raw banana, drumstick, capsicum from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and a few other States. The prolonged monsoon has not only damaged vegetable crops but also lowered the yield," said Azadpur mandi traders.

"Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal, Punjab, and Bihar are major producers of cauliflower, which is harvested from August or early September, witnessed either excessive rain or no rain which impacted the production this year. Retail price of cauliflower is Rs 100 per kg," Singh said. Rain in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have upended supply lines and damaged crops in key growing regions.

Similarly, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Karnataka, and Haryana are top growers of capsicum. This year West Bengal, Karnataka and Haryana received excessive rain in August and September which is known for the harvesting period of capsicum while Jharkhand and Himachal Pradesh received less rains that impacted the crop," said an official of the Haryana agriculture department.

'We're with you,' Biden tells Puerto Rico ahead of visit

AP ■ WASHINGTON

President Joe Biden on Monday will survey damage from Hurricane Fiona in Puerto Rico, where tens of thousands of people are still without power two weeks after the storm hit.

The Category 1 hurricane knocked out electrical power to the US territory of 3.2 million people, 44 per cent of whom live below the poverty line.

Power has been restored to about 90 per cent of the island's 1.47 million customers, but more than 137,000 others, mostly in the hardest hit areas of Puerto Rico's southern and western regions, continue to struggle in the dark. Another 66,000 customers are without water. Biden has pledged that the US government will not abandon Puerto Rico as it starts to rebuild again, five years after the more powerful Hurricane Maria devastated the island in 2017.

During his visit, Biden planned to announce the administration will provide USD 60 million through last year's



bipartisan infrastructure law to help Puerto Rico shore up levees, strengthen flood walls and create a new flood warning system so the island will be better prepared for future storms, the White House said.

"We see what you're going through, and we're with you," Biden told Puerto Ricans and Floridians in a message on Sunday on his official Twitter account.

Florida is cleaning up after Hurricane Ian churned across that state last week, killing more

than 60 people, decimating some coastal communities and flooding others. Biden plans to visit Florida on Wednesday to survey damage.

The president, accompanied by first lady Jill Biden and Deanne Criswell, the Federal Emergency Management Agency administrator, was to touch down Monday in Ponce, Puerto Rico, a city on the southern coast. Most of the storm damage is in southern Puerto Rico.

Puerto Rico Gov Pedro

Pierluisi said he would update Biden on recovery efforts.

"We will make sure to keep working together to ensure the continuity of a reconstruction already underway," the governor tweeted on Sunday.

Fiona caused catastrophic flooding, tore apart roads and bridges, and unleashed more than 100 landslides when it hit Puerto Rico on September 18.

At least two people died after being swept away by floods, and several others were killed in accidents related to the use of candles or generator during the island-wide power outage. Government officials have estimated some USD 3 billion in damages, but warn that costs could rise significantly as evaluations continue.

Some people in Puerto Rico wondered whether Biden's visit would change anything as they recalled how President Donald Trump visited after Hurricane Maria hit as a more powerful Category 4 storm in 2017, and tossed rolls of paper towels into a crowd in a display that riled many.

Iran's supreme leader blames US for anti-hijab protests

AP ■ DUBAI

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei responded publicly on Monday to the biggest protests in Iran in years, breaking weeks of silence to condemn what he called "rioting" and accuse the United States and Israel of planning the protests.

The unrest, ignited by the death of a young woman in the custody of Iran's morality police, is flaring up across the country for a third week despite government efforts to crack down. On Monday, Iran shuttered its top technology university following an hours-long standoff between students and the police, that turned the prestigious institution into the latest flashpoint of protests and ended with hundreds of young people arrested.

Speaking to a cadre of police students in Tehran, Khamenei said he was "heartbroken" by the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini in police custody, calling it a "sad incident". However, he sharply condemned the protests as a foreign plot to destabilise Iran, echoing authorities' previous comments.

"This rioting was planned,"



he told a cadre of police students in Tehran. "These riots and insecurities were designed by America and the Zionist regime, and their employees."

Meanwhile Sharif University of Technology in Tehran announced that only doctoral students would be allowed on campus until further notice following hours of turmoil on Sunday evening, when witnesses said antigovernment protesters clashed with hardline pro-establishment students.

The witnesses, who spoke

on the condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals, said the police kept hundreds of students holed up on campus and fired rounds of tear gas to disperse the demonstrations.

The university's student association said that police and plainclothes officers surrounded the school from all sides and detained at least 300 students as protests rocked the campus after nightfall. Plainclothes officers beat a professor and several university employees, the association reported.

King Charles III in first engagement since Queen's death

AP ■ LONDON

King Charles III and his wife Camilla, the queen consort, visited Scotland Monday in their first joint public engagement since the royal mourning period to remember Queen Elizabeth II ended. Large crowds turned out on the streets of Dunfermline in Fife, north of Edinburgh, hoping to get a glimpse of the new monarch.

Charles, who wore a kilt for the visit, spent some time shaking hands with well-wishers after he greeted Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and other leaders.

The royal couple were visiting to formally give city status to Dunfermline, the birthplace of another King Charles: Charles I, who reigned in the 17th century before his execution, was the last British monarch born in Scotland.

Dunfermline was among towns that won city status as part of Platinum Jubilee celebrations to mark Elizabeth's 70 years on the throne.

The Oath Keepers' Capitol riot trial, explained

AP ■ WASHINGTON

WHO ARE THE OATH KEEPERS?

A trial starting this week in Washington, D.C., is the biggest test yet in the Justice Department's efforts to hold accountable those responsible for the attack on the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, a violent assault that challenged the foundations of American democracy.

On trial is extremist leader Stewart Rhodes, founder of the Oath Keepers extremist group, and four associates.

Prosecutors and defence attorneys will make their opening statements on Monday and the trial will last several weeks.

Here is a look at what's to come:

The anti-government group was founded in 2009 by Rhodes who was educated at Yale Law School and served briefly as a U.S. Army paratrooper before a training accident left him with a back injury.

The group was named after its stated goal of getting past and present members of the military, first responders and police officers to honour the promise they made to defend the Constitution against enemies.

They issued a list of orders that its members wouldn't obey, such as disarming citizens, carrying out warrantless



searches and detaining Americans as enemy combatants in violation of their right to jury trials.

That relatively benign framing and leveraging of social media helped the group grow to one of the largest anti-government militia groups in

U.S. History, but the internal dialogue was often darker, experts said.

Oath Keepers participated in the standoff with federal off with officials at Nevada's Bundy Ranch in 2014, and later along rooftops in Ferguson, Missouri after a grand jury declined to charge a police officer in the fatal shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown.

The group would eventually embrace then-candidate Donald Trump's rhetoric and his false claims that the 2020 election was stolen.

WHY ARE THEY ON TRIAL?

On trial with Rhodes are

Kelly Meggs, leader of the Florida chapter of the Oath Keepers; Kenneth Harrelson, another Florida Oath Keeper; Thomas Caldwell, a retired U.S. Navy intelligence officer from Virginia; and Jessica Watkins, who led an Ohio militia group.

They have been charged with seditious conspiracy in one of the most high profile cases to come out of the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol.

Prosecutors say they spent several weeks amassing weapons, organising paramilitary training and readying armed teams outside Washington to stop Joe Biden from becoming president.

Ukraine claims gains in Russia annexed region

AP ■ KYIV

Ukrainian troops continued to push forward Monday with their offensive that has embarrassed Moscow, with Kyiv officials and foreign observers hinting at new gains in the strategic southern region of Kherson that the Kremlin wants to annex.

Kherson has been one of the toughest battlefields for the Ukrainians, with slower progress when compared with Ukraine's breakout offensive around the country's second largest city of Kharkiv, in the northeast, that began last month. Kherson is one of the four regions illegally annexed by Moscow last week after a "referendum" orchestrated by the Kremlin. The lower house of the Kremlin-controlled parliament is set to ratify the treaties Monday, and the upper house will follow the next day.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Monday that two of those regions, Donetsk and Luhansk, are joining Russia with their administrative borders that existed before a conflict erupted there in 2014 between pro-Russian separatists and Ukrainian forces.

He noted that the issue of the borders of the two other regions — Zaporizhzhia and Kherson — remains open.

"We will continue to discuss that with residents of those regions," Peskov said in a conference call with reporters.

He did not provide additional details.

Ukrainian media outlets on Monday highlighted an image of Ukrainian troops displaying flags at a marker for the village of Khreshchenivka, which is in the same area of Kherson where troops apparently have broken through Russian lines.

Ukraine has pressed its counteroffensive in the Kherson region since the summer, relentlessly pummeling Russian supply lines and making inroads into the areas west of the Dnieper River held by the Russians.

The Ukrainian military has successfully used U.S.-supplied HIMARS multiple rocket launchers to repeatedly hit the main bridge across the Dnieper in the city of Kherson and a dam that served as a second main crossing.

It also has struck pontoon bridges that Russia has used to supply its troops on the western bank of the river after the main crossings were made inoperable.

Despite the successful strikes on supply lines, Ukrainian offensive operations in the south so far have been slower and less successful compared with the northeast, as the open terrain easily exposed the attacking force to Russian artillery fire and airstrikes.

Russian military bloggers close to Moscow have increasingly acknowledged that Ukraine has superior manpower, backed by tank units, in the area.

A Russian-installed official in the Kherson region, Kirill Stremousov, admitted in a video statement on Monday morning that the Ukrainian forces "have broken through a little deeper." However, he insisted that "everything is under control" and that Russia's "defense system is working" in the region.

Russia attacked Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelenskyy's hometown and other targets Sunday with suicide drones, and Ukraine took back full control of a strategic eastern city in a counteroffensive that has reshaped the war.

Russia's recent loss of the eastern city of Lyman, which it had been using as a transport and logistics hub, was a new blow to the Kremlin as it seeks to escalate the war by illegally annexing the four regions of Ukraine and heightening threats to use nuclear force.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's land grab has threatened to push the conflict to a dangerous new level.

It also prompted Ukraine to formally apply for fast-track NATO membership.

In his nightly address Sunday, Zelenskyy discussed the recent liberation of Lyman, a key Russian node for logistics on the front line in the northeast. "The story of the liberation of Lyman in the Donetsk region has now become the most popular in the media — but the successes of our soldiers are not limited to Lyman," Zelenskyy said.

Stadium tragedy exposes Indonesia's troubled soccer history



AP ■ SEOUL

Gaining the right to host next year's Under-20 World Cup was a major milestone in Indonesia's soccer development, raising hopes that a successful tournament would turn around long-standing problems that have blighted the sport in this country of 277 million people.

The death of at least 125 people at a league game between host Arema FC of East Java's Malang city and Persebaya Surabaya on Saturday is a tragic reminder, however, that Indonesia is one of the most dangerous countries in which to attend a game.

"Do remember that the FIFA U-20 World Cup will be the worldwide spotlight since the event will be joined by 24 countries from five continents," Indonesia's President Joko Widodo said last month as he pushed for thorough preparations for the tournament.

Since Saturday, the domestic league has been suspended. Widodo has ordered the sports

minister, the national police chief and the soccer federation to conduct a thorough investigation into the deadly stadium crush. Indonesia was the first Asian team ever to play at a World Cup — participating in 1938 as Dutch East Indies — but despite an undoubted national passion for the sport, it has never returned to the global stage because of years of corruption, violence and mismanagement. Data from Indonesia's soccer watchdog, Save Our Soccer, showed 78 people have died in game-related incidents over the past 28 years. Those accused are often associated with supporter groups that attach themselves to clubs, with the biggest boasting hundreds of thousands of members.

Arema's intense rivalry with Surabaya meant that no visiting fans were allowed in the stadium on the weekend. Yet violence broke out when the home team lost 3-2 and some of the 42,000 Arema fans, known as "Aremania" threw bottles and other objects at players and soccer officials.

'Cities globally warming nearly 30% faster than rural areas'

PTI ■ BEIJING

Cities worldwide are warming by 0.5 degrees Celsius on average per decade, 29 per cent faster than in rural areas, according to a study which suggests that climate change and urban expansion are accelerating surface temperatures.

Researchers from Nanjing University in China and colleagues noted that planting trees and vegetation in cities — also known as urban greening — is reported to offset about 0.13 degrees Celsius of surface warming per decade in European cities.

People who live in cities experience greater heat exposure during heat wave events than the



general population due to the urban heat island effect, in which urban land gets hotter than surrounding rural land, they said.

Climate change and population growth in cities are projected to increase the surface urban heat island effect, but many current estimates of future human heat exposure assume equal rates of surface temperature increase between urban

and rural areas, the researchers said.

In China and India, they estimated that urban expansion was responsible for over 0.23 degrees Celsius of the observed surface warming in cities per decade. Urban greening is suggested to reduce surface warming, but whether it can slow the accelerating surface urban heat island effect remains unclear, the researchers said.

The study, published recently in the journal Communications Earth & Environment, analysed satellite land surface temperature data for over 2,000 city centers worldwide between 2002 and 2021 and compared them to background rural surface temperatures.

West African mediators head to Burkina Faso following coup

AP ■ OUAGADOUGOU

Regional mediators were headed to Burkina Faso on Monday in the wake of the West African country's second coup this year amid concern the latest power grab could further postpone elections and deepen the region's Islamic extremist violence.

News that the delegation from the regional bloc known as ECOWAS is travelling to the capital, Ouagadougou, came after diplomats confirmed that Lt. Col. Paul Henri Sandaogo Damiba had left for the neighbouring nation of Togo following talks mediated by reli-



gious leaders. Burkina Faso's new leader, Capt. Ibrahim Traore, 34, is officially head of state pending

future elections, the junta announced Sunday.

While ECOWAS, a 15-nation West African bloc, had reached an agreement to hold a new vote by July 2024, it remained unclear whether that date would still hold.

Burkina Faso's last democratically elected president was overthrown by Damiba in January amid frustration that his government had not been able to stop extremist attacks. But the jihadi violence, which has killed thousands and forced 2 million to flee their homes, continued and has now brought an end to Damiba's tenure, too.

Al-Shabab attack kills 12 in Somalia

AP ■ MOGADISHU (SOMALIA)

Officials and witnesses say at least 12 people are dead after two explosions by extremist fighters targeted local government headquarters in the capital of Somalia's Hirran region, which has been the centre of a recent mobilisation against the rebels.

The Somalia-based extremist group al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack in Beledweyne, about 300 kilometres (186 miles) north of Somalia's capital, Mogadishu.

The Hirran governor, Ali Jayte Osman, who survived the attack, told The Associated Press by phone that the health minister of Hirshabelle state

and the deputy governor of Hirran in charge of finance were among those killed in Monday's attack.

"The first explosion occurred at the entrance gate, and after a few minutes a big truck rushed toward the headquarters building and exploded, killing many civilians who came to the office to receive services," the governor said.

Palestinians: Israel military kills 2 during West Bank raid

AP ■ TEL AVIV

The Israeli military shot and killed two Palestinians during a raid in the occupied West Bank early on Monday, Palestinian officials said.

The military alleged that the men tried to ram their car into soldiers, a claim that could not

be independently verified.

Palestinians and rights group often accuse Israeli troops of using excessive force against Palestinians, who live under a 55-year military occupation with no end in sight. Israel says it follows strict rules of engagement and opens fire in life-threatening situations.

UK PM Liz u-turns on tax cut for wealthiest to avert rebellion

PTI ■ LONDON

The new Liz Truss-led UK government on Monday made its first major U-turn on its central plank of tax cuts by withdrawing a policy to abolish the top rate for the wealthiest, following market turmoil and to avert an expected rebellion within the governing Conservative Party.

Chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng declared that the announcement in his mini-budget last month of a proposed abolition of the 45 pence tax rate, which applied to the top tier of income taxpayers from next April, had become a "massive distraction" to an otherwise sound growth plan for the economy.

It came after days of turmoil on the global financial markets spooked by the prospect of huge government borrowing costs and the pound tumbling against the dollar as the Bank of England had to step in to shore up the country's pension funds.

"We get it, and we have listened," Kwarteng tweeted before taking to the airwaves to defend what has been dubbed a screeching U-turn



by the newly appointed government. Truss, who replaced Boris Johnson as prime minister after a hard-fought leadership battle with British Indian former Chancellor Rishi Sunak last month, soon referenced her Chancellor's tweet to add: "The abolition of the 45pc rate had become a huge distraction from our mission to get Britain moving."

"Our focus now is on building a high growth economy that funds world-class

public services, boosts wages, and creates opportunities across the country."

It came just a day after she had insisted that her government remained committed to abolishing the top rate of tax for the highest earners in a BBC interview on Sunday, despite critics within her own party seeing it as sending out the wrong signal at a time when the majority of the country was struggling with a cost-of-living crisis and soaring household bills.

REAL DROP FIRST POINTS

AP ■ MADRID

Karim Benzema missed a penalty for Real Madrid as they finally blinked in the La Liga title race, dropping their first points of the season in a 1-1 draw with Osasuna on Sunday.

Elsewhere Real Sociedad won 5-3 at Girona and high-flying Real Betis fell to a 1-0 defeat at Celta Vigo.

After Barcelona beat Real Mallorca on Saturday, Madrid knew they had to win to stay top but were frustrated by Jagoba Arrasate's well-organised side at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Benzema, on his return to the side after injury, won a spot-kick but then fired it against the crossbar, and also had a goal disallowed for offside as Madrid tried to force a way through.

Vinicius Junior broke the deadlock just before half-time with a cross that snuck all the way into the far corner, but Kike Garcia's well-taken header early in the second period earned Osasuna a point.

"What we were missing was scoring that penalty, normally Karim scores them," Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti told DAZN.

"He had no problem playing the 90 minutes. It's been a month since he's played, he has to get his best form back. He did his part, he had the chance from the penalty. It's an accident, sometimes it happens."

Real Madrid president Florentino Perez told the club's fans at an assembly on Sunday morning that a European Super League project was essential, but Osasuna showed domestic football can still offer a significant challenge.

Benzema made his first



appearance since September 6, while Andriy Lunin and Dani Ceballos started in place of injured duo Thibaut Courtois and Luka Modric.

Madrid probed promisingly down the flanks, while at the other end Abde Ezzalzouli, on loan at Osasuna from Barcelona, crashed a shot into the side netting on a bright display.

Madrid opened the scoring in fortuitous fashion, with Vinicius whipping in a low cross which caught out goalkeeper Sergio Herrera and crept

Benzema, on his return to the side after injury, won a spot-kick but then fired it against the crossbar, and also had a goal disallowed for offside as Madrid tried to force a way through

in at the far post.

Osasuna complained that Benzema and Antonio Rudiger were offside and interfering with play, but their protests were dismissed.

The visitors were level five minutes into the second half, when Kike Garcia brilliantly looped a backwards header over Lunin.

The goal meant Madrid have failed to keep a clean sheet in any of the first seven league games.

"We were quite solid at the back," insisted Ancelotti. "We

conceded a goal from a deep cross, it was quite strange. The team was balanced, the objective is always to be strong to avoid conceding."

NO WAY THROUGH

Turning up the heat, Benzema drew a stunning save from Herrera, although he was offside, then neatly slipped through Rodrygo Goes, who fired over.

The French striker won a penalty when he was shoved over by David Garcia, who was sent off, but hit the crossbar

with his effort. Moments later Benzema had the ball in the net, but it was disallowed for offside.

The draw means Barcelona lead Madrid on goal difference after seven games, with both teams on 19 points and unbeaten. It is the first time the Catalans lead the league at the end of a fixture round since June 2020.

"We have to celebrate, they had won all their games and we came back from a goal down, the team did great work and played a great game," said Arrasate.

"If Madrid's players weren't offside then the goalkeeper's position would have been different (for the opening goal)."

Earlier Real Sociedad, seventh, came out on top after an eight-goal thriller at Montilivi.

Norwegian striker Alexander Sorloth hit a first-half brace for the visitors either side of goals for Girona's Rodrigo Riquelme and Arnau Martinez.

Valentin Castellanos put Girona ahead but Brais Mendez and Martin Zubimendi struck in the space of six minutes to restore the Basque side's lead.

Takefusa Kubo made the game safe for La Real late on.

Real Betis fell to a narrow defeat at Celta Vigo, playing most of the game with 10 men after Luiz Felipe's 20th-minute red card.

Gabriel Veiga slammed home in the opening stages from distance for the hosts at Balaídos and they moved 10th while Betis remained fourth.

Espanyol and Valencia shared a thrilling 2-2 draw which saw both sides reduced to 10 men after red cards for Martin Braithwaite and Marcos Andre respectively.



World TT: Indian men beat Kazakhstan, women get better of Egypt

PTI ■ CHENGDU

The Indian men's team, led by seasoned campaigner G Sathiyan, kept its hopes alive for a knock-out stage berth, beating Kazakhstan 3-2 in a closely fought group league tie of the World Table Tennis Championship here on Monday.

For the women's team, after a heartbreaking close defeat against Germany, Sreeja Akula and company prevailed over Egypt 3-1 to qualify for the pre-quarterfinals.

The men's team now needs to beat France in the final group league match to finish on top of group 2 table.

In case the Indian team loses to France and Germany happens to beat Kazakhstan, then there will be a three-way tie between India, Germany and France.

After the high of beating Germany, Sathiyan started the new tie in earnest, making short work of Denis Zholudev in straight games. Sathiyan won 11-1, 11-9, 11-5.

However, Harmeet Desai had a poor outing against Kirill

Gerassimenko to lose 6-11 8-11 9-11 in quick time.

But, young Manav Thakkar beat Alan Kurmangaliyev 12-10, 11-1, 11-8.

With 2-1 lead, Sathiyan was expected to close the tie in the fourth rubber but Kirill pipped the Indian ace 6-11, 11-5, 12-14, 11-9, 11-6 to restore parity.

However, Harmeet was in his element against Kazakhstan's weakest link Jholudev whom he beat 12-10, 11-9, 11-6.

In the women's event, the Commonwealth Games mixed doubles gold medallist Sreeja Akula won the first and fourth rubbers to clinch a place for India in the knock-out stages.

After a poor outing against Germany, Manika Batra won the second rubber while Diya Chitale ended second best against her opponent.

Sreeja beat Goda Han 11-6 11-4, 11-1 and Dina Mishref 11-8, 11-8, 9-11, 11-6 while Manika struggled past Dina 8-11, 11-6, 11-7, 2-11, 11-8 in five games to help India win the match.

Coman returns to Bayern training



AP ■ MUNICH

Kingsley Coman gave world champions France a much-needed boost after the forward returned to training with his club Bayern Munich on Monday following an absence of almost a month.

The 26-year-old missed France's Nations League matches against Austria and Denmark in September due to a torn thigh muscle.

However, on Monday Coman was able to pass the ball around with team-mates Benjamin Pavard, Dayot Upamecano and Matthijs de Ligt, earning a slap on the back from coach Julian Nagelsmann and applause from his team-mates.

Bayern will be expected to make it three wins from three Champions League group matches when they host point-less Czech side Viktoria Plzen on Tuesday.

Nagelsmann may save Coman for Saturday's high-profile Bundesliga clash between his third-placed side and Borussia Dortmund -- who are fourth level on points with Bayern -- instead of giving him a run out against Plzen.

Coman's return is welcome news for France who are struggling both on the pitch and off it with several stars injured and battling to be fit for the World Cup finals which begin in Qatar in less than two months.

Paul Pogba, who scored in the 4-2 win over Croatia in the 2018 World Cup final, is among the players sidelined and another key midfielder N'Golo Kante also missed the recent Nations League matches through injury.

Presnel Kimpembe, Lucas and Theo Hernandez, Lucas Digne and captain and first-choice goalkeeper Hugo Lloris were other absentees from the Nations League matches which were coach Didier Deschamps final preparation games before the World Cup.

Lyon face Arsenal in tough women's CL draw

AP ■ PARIS

Holders Lyon were given a tough draw in the women's Champions League on Monday in a group which includes Arsenal and Juventus.

Lyon beat 2021 champions Barcelona 3-1 in May, and are in a Group C which includes the Gunners, the 2007 champions, powered by star Dutch striker Vivianne Miedema, Juve and Swiss side Zurich.

Barca benefited from a more lenient draw in a Group D alongside Germans Bayern Munich, Rosengard of Sweden and Portuguese club Benfica.

English giants Chelsea, vice-champion of Europe in 2021, and with a star line-up including Pernille Harder and Sam Kerr, headline a tough Group A which also includes Paris Saint-Germain, semi-finalists in the last three editions, and the ambitious Real Madrid.

Outsiders in the group are Vllaznia Shkoder, the first Albanian women's football club to climb into the European top-16.

In Group B, the Germans of Wolfsburg are favourites ahead of the Czechs Slavia Prague, Austrians St. Poelten and the Italy's Roma, novices in the elite European competition.

Group stage matches take place between October 19 and December 22 with the top two teams from each group qualifying for the quarter-finals.

WOMEN'S CL DRAW

Group A: Chelsea (ENG), Paris Saint-Germain (FRA), Real Madrid (ESP), Vllaznia Shkoder (ALB).
Group B: Wolfsburg (GER), Slavia Prague (CZE), St. Poelten (AUT), Roma (ITA).
Group C: Lyon (FRA), Arsenal (ENG), Juventus (ITA), Zurich (SUI).
Group D: Barcelona (ESP), Bayern Munich (GER), Rosengard (SWE), Benfica (POR)

AP ■ TOKYO

US Open semi-finalist Frances Tiafoe said he was "flying high on confidence" after beating Yasutaka Uchiyama 6-3, 6-4 in the first round of the Japan Open on Monday.

The American made a name for himself when he stunned Rafael Nadal on his way to a shock final-four appearance at Flushing Meadows last month before playing a starring role at the Laver Cup.

The world number 19 is playing his first singles tournament since the US Open this week in Tokyo and he dispatched Japanese wild card Uchiyama with little fuss.

Tiafoe said he was "not really feeling any pressure" despite his recent achievements putting him firmly in the spotlight.

"Every day is different, guys may play well and they may beat you -- you've got to live with it," he said. "I'm flying high on confidence and I'm just staying with my process."

Tiafoe will play Bernabe Zapata Miralles in the second round after the Spaniard beat Japan's Taro Daniel 7-5, 7-5.

Tiafoe did not lose a single service game against Uchiyama and closed the match out in 1hr, 12min.

"I hit the ball well from the ground, I moved well, made first serves when I needed them," he said. "It was straight sets, I did-

TIAFOE 'FLYING HIGH' AFTER TOKYO OPENER



n't get broken -- it could be worse."

Spain's Pedro Martinez also advanced to the second round with a 7-5, 6-4 win over Australia's Alexei Popyrin, while American Brandon Nakashima beat Japan's Shintaro Mochizuki 6-3, 6-2.

Norwegian top seed Casper Ruud will play Spain's Jaume Munar in his opening game on Tuesday, while Australian Nick Kyrgios takes on Taiwan's Tseng Chun-hsin later in the day.

Djokovic wins Tel Aviv final for 89th career title

AP ■ TEL AVIV

Novak Djokovic claimed his third title of 2022 and 89th of his career with an impressive straight-sets victory over Marin Cilic in the Tel Aviv final on Sunday.

The 35-year-old Djokovic triumphed 6-3, 6-4 to add the Israeli trophy to victories in Rome and Wimbledon this season.

It was Djokovic's 19th win over Cilic in 21 meetings in a rivalry stretching back to 2008.

Djokovic was playing his first singles tournament since wrapping up a seventh Wimbledon crown and 21st Grand Slam title in July.

On Sunday, Djokovic broke Cilic in the second game of the final and pocketed the first set with a fourth ace after 47 minutes on court.

Former US Open winner Cilic, chasing a 21st career title but first of 2022, was broken in the first game of the second set and the 34-year-old never recovered.



Sai Praneeth edges out HS Prannoy as Telangana beat Kerala to win team Gold

PTI ■ SURAT

Former world championships Bronze medallist B Sai Praneeth showed nerves of steel to outfit in-form HS Prannoy in a thrilling three-setter as Telangana blanked Kerala 3-0 to win the coveted mixed team badminton Gold at the National Games here on Monday.

Enduring a dip in form for over a year now, Tokyo Olympian Praneeth finally had something to cheer about as he dug deep into his reservoir to see off Kerala's top shuttler Prannoy 18-21, 21-16, 22-20 to give Telangana a 2-0 lead.

His victory came on the heels of another brilliant show by the husband-and-wife duo of B Sumeeth Reddy and N Sikki Reddy, who got the better of the youthful pair of MR Arjun and Treesa Jolly 21-15, 14-21, 21-14 in a thrilling battle.

In the women's singles, Samiya Farooqui beat TR



Gowrikrishna 21-5, 21-12 to seal the win for Telangana.

Telangana's decision to field the experienced Sumeeth and Sikki in the opening mixed

doubles match ahead of Vishnuvardhan Goud and Gayatri Gopichand, who had lost against Maharashtra, paid dividends as they put the team

ahead. "We only gave the coach the option of trying us out," Sumeeth said, even though they had last played together

way back in the 2021 Thailand Open.

The couple fumbled at the start as the speedy Arjun and Treesa jumped into an early 5-2 lead.

"We were playing after a long time. We don't even practice together as we quite often get into arguments. It took some time to get into a rhythm. But once we found our groove, we got into a good rhythm," said a smiling Sikki.

The Kerala pair, however, fought back to win the second game, with Arjun sending powerful smashes from the backline and Treesa being efficient at the net.

The third game went close till 12-all before a change of strategy did the trick for Telangana.

"I think the turning point was when I went for variations in my service, not giving them any length," Sikki explained.

The next match was crucial with Prannoy, who is currently ranked 15th in the world and

is enjoying a dream season, starting as the favourite against Praneeth, whose BWF world ranking has slipped to 40 due to his poor form.

"I knew it would be a tough match, especially as we know each other's game as we often train together. But gradually I found my strokes," said 2017 Singapore Open champion Praneeth.

The first game was played fiercely. A tentative Praneeth made a few unforced errors while Prannoy looked good with his all-round game. They went neck-and-neck till 18-18 before Prannoy clinched it with a couple of well measured shots.

Praneeth was in full flow in the second game, with his repertoire of strokes catching Prannoy on the wrong foot. He surged ahead 13-7 and held on to it to make it 1-1.

In the third game, Praneeth built a healthy lead of 13-7 before Prannoy clawed his way back to make it 18-18.

"I was suddenly blank as Prannoy began to play a fast game. With the shuttle also coming off slowly, I was little taken back. But luckily, I held on to my nerves and pulled off this crucial win. It will boost my morale," Praneeth said.

Indian men's hockey team to play 5-match 'Test series' in Aus

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian men's hockey team will tour Australia to play a five-match 'Test series' in November-December.

The Indians, currently ranked fifth, will face the world number one Australians in five matches between November 26 and December 4 at the MATE Stadium in Adelaide.

The second, third and fourth matches will be played on November 27, November 30 and December 3.

It will be the first time the two sides will be meeting since the Kookaburras beat India for the Gold medal at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in August.

The five-match 'Test series' will be invaluable outings for both the sides in preparation for the 2023 Men's World Cup to be held in Odisha in January next year.

The Indian women's team

will also be playing against the Australian women in a series of matches in May next year, for which the dates are yet to be confirmed.

A senior national Indian hockey team has not played in Australia since the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast.

"From the moment we raised the prospect of hosting these matches in Adelaide, the South Australian Government has shown enormous enthusiasm and eagerness to host, so we are delighted to bring these series to South Australia," said Hockey Australia CEO David Pryles in a statement.

"Australia and India have developed a fierce rivalry on the hockey pitch in recent times. Coupled with there being a large and passionate Indian population in Adelaide, there is no doubt this series will be a hot ticket to get hold of and attract terrific crowds," he added.

INDIA AIM TO WHITEWASH PROTEAS

PTI ■ INDORE

It may be an inconsequential game on paper but Indian bowlers await another tough test against South Africa ahead of the T20 World Cup when the two teams meet in the final game of the three-match series here on Tuesday.

Having sealed their first-ever series against South Africa at home, Indian team management has decided to rest its premier batter Virat Kohli and vice-captain KL Rahul for the final game.

"Yes, both Virat and Rahul have been rested from the final T20I," said a BCCI official.

After the final game against the Proteas, Kohli and Rahul will link up with the squad in Mumbai from where the team is scheduled to leave for Australia on October 6 for the T20 World Cup.

It is expected that standby batter Shreyas Iyer will replace Kohli for the final game in the playing XI. With Rahul also rested, either Suryakumar Yadav or Rishabh Pant will open alongside with Rohit Sharma.

With no second reserve batter in the squad, Shahbaz Ahmed or one among Mohammed Siraj or Umesh Yadav could get a look-in.

Since their early exit from the T20 World Cup 12 months ago, the Indian batting has come a long way and looks formidable ahead of the next edition beginning later this month.

Majority of the batters remain the same from the UAE edition but it is the drastic change in approach which has made the difference.

Heading into the ICC event, India's high-profile top-three have hit top form including Rahul who allayed concerns about his strike rate with a sublime effort on Sunday.



India vs S Africa
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Kohli has batted a 140 plus strike rate since the Asia Cup that includes three 50s and a much-awaited hundred. Skipper Rohit has come up with impactful innings over the course of the six games at home against Australia and South Africa.

Number four Suryakumar Yadav is in a league of his own and seems to be batting at a much higher level than his

Having sealed their first-ever series against South Africa at home, India has decided to rest its premier batter Virat Kohli and vice-captain KL Rahul for the final game

teammates, so much so that Rohit is contemplating to play him straight in the team's World Cup opener against Pakistan on October 23.

Pant is yet to bat in the series and though Dinesh Karthik got seven balls in the second T20, he too would be hoping to get a hit in the middle.

Jasprit Bumrah's absence has compounded India's bowling woes, especial-

ly in the death overs, but the team needs to find a way if the star pacer doesn't get fit in time for the ICC event.

Deepak Chahar, who is among World Cup reserves, has been impressive with the new ball but question marks remain over his efficacy towards the back end of the innings.

Arshdeep Singh has made an impact both with new and old ball but was unusually expensive on Sunday. Having bowled as many as three no balls, it was a forgettable night for the left-arm pacer who would be eager to bounce back.

The variations that Harshal Patel relies on to keep the batters in check have not been producing the desired results since his return from injury.

Red ball great R Ashwin is yet to get a wicket in the series and India will be looking to him for wickets in the middle overs.

Drafted into the squad in Bumrah's absence, Siraj could also get to play at Holkar Stadium but India might continue with the out of rhythm Harshal Patel as he would need more game time post injury.

In the extreme humidity of Guwahati, the South Africa pacers struggled to grip the ball and ended up offering far many full tosses to the Indian batters. They would want to rectify that.

Despite the series loss, there has been plenty of positives for the visitors in the batting department. Continuing his menacing form this year, David Miller smashed an unbeaten hundred while Quinton de Kock got much needed runs before the World Cup.

The biggest concern for the Proteas is the form of their skipper Temba Bavuma, who is yet to score a run in the series.

Bumrah out of T20 WC: BCCI

PTI ■ INDORE

India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah has been ruled out of the ICC T20 World Cup due to a back injury, the BCCI announced on Monday.

That Bumrah is ruled out of the big-ticket event due to a stress fracture was first reported by the PTI on September 29.

Bumrah's absence will certainly affect India's chances in the marquee event in Australia as death bowling still remains a grey area.

The BCCI was awaiting medical reports while the pacer did his rehab at the National Cricket Academy but it was a foregone conclusion that he would be out for months.

"The BCCI Medical team has ruled out Team India fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah from the ICC Men's T20 World Cup squad. The decision was taken following a detailed assessment and in consultation with the specialists," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said in a statement.

Bumrah was initially ruled out of the ongoing three-match T20I series against South Africa due to a back injury.

While the BCCI will be naming a replacement for Bumrah in the squad for the marquee tournament soon, one among Mohammed Shami and Deepak Chahar will make it to the main squad. Jammu and Kashmir pacer Umran Malik is expected to be named in the standby list.



Kohli thanks Guwahati for 'terrific atmosphere'

PTI ■ GUWAHATI

Just as Virat Kohli's 'selfless knock' won the hearts of cricket lovers here on Sunday night, the boisterous crowd that cheered the game drew praise from the ace player too.

Kohli missed a half-century by a whisker as he remained unbeaten at 49 with India setting a target of 238 for South Africa.

The capacity crowd of nearly 39,000 at the Assam Cricket Association (ACA) Stadium

here had the loudest cheers reserved for the former Team India captain.

Praising the massive support, Kohli expressed his gratitude to the crowd on Twitter.

"Great game. Terrific atmosphere. Thank you Guwahati," the star player wrote, sharing pictures of the game, in a post-midnight Tweet.

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, who was among the crowd for the match, shared the Tweet and wrote: "Thank you so much @imVkohli."



Kohli's fans, who ignored humid conditions and missed Durga Puja festivities on Sunday to watch their favourite cricketer in action, also responded with the same love on the micro-blogging site.

Cricket follower and journalist Bidisha Singha wrote: "Thank u Champ! What a selfless knock..."

Kohli had also posed for photographs with fans during net practice at the stadium on match eve, drawing praise from the game lovers.

India beat Malaysia by 30 runs via D/L method

PTI ■ SYLHET

Opener Sabbineni Meghana (69) batted with authority to record her maiden T20I half-century as India defeated Malaysia by 30 runs via the Duckworth-Lewis method in the rain-curtailed Asia Cup match here on Monday.

Replacing vice-captain Smriti Mandhana at the top, Meghana hit a career-best 69 off 53 deliveries to help India post 181 for 4.

In reply, Malaysia were tottering at 16/2 in 5.2 overs when rain stopped play, far behind the 46-run mark which was the D/L par score when the match was called off.

With the win, India moved to the second spot on the points table -- with four points -- behind Pakistan.

Meghana took the Malaysian bowling attack to the sword as she brought up her career-best score in the format after India were asked to bat.

The big-hitting Shafali Verma, who is struggling for

form, also pitched in but the teenager looked scratchy for the most part of her 46-run knock.

Meghana made most of the opportunity provided to her as she donned the role of the aggressor from the very first ball.

She milked boundaries every over, hitting the ball all across the ground in the powerplay as India fetched 47/0 in the first six overs.

She was dropped on 14 by skipper Winifred Duraisingam (2/36) in the third over and the right-hander made the Malaysian's pay for the error as she raced to fifty with a boundary.

Poor fielding only added to Malaysia's woes as the Indian women looked on course for a 200-plus score.

However, Duraisingam got the big-wicket of Meghana. The Indian looked to drive only to chip the ball straight into the hands of extra cover, sending the entire Malaysian team into frenzy.

Shafali, who had played the

second second fiddle to perfection, smashed a couple of sixes but failed to carry on the momentum once Meghana was out.

Richa Ghosh was elevated to the number three spot and the young wicketkeeper played a fluent 33-run knock, finding the gaps beautifully.

But Shafali struggled to accelerate as Malaysia tightened their bowling and fielding while also triggering a mini-batting collapse.

In the eventful penultimate over, Shafali was bowled by 17-year-old Nur Dania Syuhada (2/9) off the first delivery before the spinner got rid of Kiran Navgire (0) in the next ball.

It would have been three-wicket haul for the teenager had Richa not been dropped at deep mid-wicket on 31.

Defending 181, spinners Deepti Sharma (1/10) and Rajeshwari Gayakwad (1/6) got rid of openers Winifred Duraisingam (0) and Wan Julia (1) before rain stopped play.

Miller not much worried about South Africa's form

PTI ■ GUWAHATI

Formidable South African batter David Miller has a firm belief that the series-defeat against India won't make them a lesser force at the fast-approaching T20 World Cup as he cited Australia's title triumph in the previous edition despite their wretched run ahead of the big-ticket event.

South African top-order batters struggled badly while their bowlers were also not at their best on Sunday as India took an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series with a 16-run win in the second game here.

The loss will hurt them little, said Miller, saying Australia had also struggled badly in 2021 but eventually they became the world champions.

Australia had entered the World Cup after five back-to-back series defeats in the format.

"There're a lot of stories in the past with one being Australia not doing too well before the World Cup, and then they end up winning the World Cup. So I don't think it's too much to worry about," Miller

told reporters at the post-match interaction here.

"We've built up a really good squad over the last year and a half. We get on really well with each other. We've linked in nicely, great partnerships. We've won a lot of series last year."

"To have lost the series tonight was obviously very disappointing, but in the past

we've really competed well and at least we can walk away with our heads held high, but it is still disappointing losing the series."

The Temba Bavuma-led side was set a stiff target of 238 but the skipper departed without bothering the scorer for the second successive time. Rilee Rossouw also scored a duck.

However Miller produced a counter-attacking knock of 106 not out from 47 balls and was well-supported by Quinton de Kock's 48-ball 69 not out to make a match of it.

"We didn't bat well the previous game. We didn't start this game too well but we managed to get a really good partnership and put on a competitive game at the end of it," he said.

Miller, though, chose not to be very "harsh" on his bowlers. "There were over 400 runs in the game, I don't want to be too harsh on the bowlers, but I think that there was a little bit of lack of execution at times. "But they were really good in the previous game -- extremely good. A few areas that we can work on still leading up to the World Cup, so we still have time."

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Saurashtra delay inevitable with spirited batting show

PTI ■ RAJKOT

Saurashtra's middle and slower-order showed a lot of stomach for fight, adding 281 runs by No. 6 to 8 batters, but Rest of India remained firm favourites to win the Irani Cup match here on Monday.

At stumps on third day, Saurashtra reached to 368/8, riding on half-centuries from the quartet comprising Sheldon Jackson (71), Arpit Vasavada (55), Prerak Mankad (72) and skipper Jaydev Unadkat (78 batting).

The overall lead is 92 runs now and Saurashtra will like to stretch it to at least 175 in order to set the cat among the pigeons.

With 276 runs in arrears, Saurashtra were literally starting at a humiliating innings defeat after being reduced to 87 for 5 before lunch.

However, Jackson and Vasavada, who have bailed Saurashtra out many-a-times in the past, added 117 runs for the sixth wicket to steady the ship. But, it was the 144-run eighth wicket stand between Unadkat and all-rounder Mankad that raised visions - however improbable it may look at the moment -- of pulling off a heist.

The duo not only had a century stand but also scored the runs at a quick clip -- in only 29.3 overs -- to keep the

contest alive.

If it was Jackson who took the attack back to the opposition by repeatedly stepping out to left-arm spinner Saurabh Kumar (3/80 in 25 overs) to disturb his length, the pair of Unadkat and Mankad used the extra pace of Kuldeep Sen (3/85 in 16 overs) and Umran Malik (0/59 in 16 overs) to their advantage.

They hit six sixes from the bowling of Jackson, Vasavada and Unadkat.

Cheteshwar Pujara (1) would like to forget this Irani Cup match in a hurry as a rookie pacer like Kuldeep made life difficult for him with his extra pace and bounce.

On this ground, Pujara has hardly failed but his lack of feet movement and late reaction to deliveries with that extra kick will surely not go unnoticed as far as selectors Chetan Sharma and Sunil Joshi are concerned.

The problems that has been his undoing at the Test level is now resurfacing at the domestic level where he earlier used to rule.

Bowlers with extra pace at the domestic level are also asking Pujara probing questions. Kuldeep got one to rear up from length on the off-stump and Pujara just dangled his bat with KS Bharat taking an easy catch.

Malan, Woakes star in England's T20I series win

AP ■ LAHORE

Dawid Malan hit a brilliant half-century and pace bowler Chris Woakes took three wickets as England thrashed Pakistan by 67 runs in Lahore on Sunday to win the seven-match T20 international series 4-3.

Malan hit a 47-ball 78 not out and was ably supported by Harry Brook (46 not out) and Ben Duckett (30) to lift England to 209-3 in 20 overs.

The visitors then restricted the home team to 142-8 to end their first tour to Pakistan in 17 years with a series victory.

England won the first, third, sixth and seventh games while Pakistan won the second, fourth

and fifth. Pakistan never recovered from losing the in-form Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan, their top run-scorer in the series, in the opening two overs.

Woakes had Azam caught at short cover for four before Reece Topley bowled Rizwan for one with his second delivery.

Shan Masood's 43-ball 56 came in vain as Pakistan were never in the hunt for their highest successful chase.

Pakistan's best chase in a T20I was the 208 they achieved against the West Indies in Karachi last year.

Khushdil Shah made 27 off 25 balls and added 53 for the fourth wicket with Masood but



leg-spinner Adil Rashid removed him to break the stand. Woakes, who took 3-26, dismissed Asif Ali (seven) and had Masood caught brilliantly by

Adil Rashid in the 19th over to end Pakistan's hopes.

Earlier, Malan and Brook led England's recovery from a jittery 39-2 with openers Alex

Hales (18) and Phil Salt (20) gone after a quick 39-run start -- both falling in the fifth over.

Dropped twice by Pakistan skipper Azam on 29 and

Mohammad Wasim on 62, Malan struck eight fours and three sixes in the 13th half-century of his T20I career.

Malan added 62 for the third wicket with Duckett to put the innings back on track.

Brook, dropped on 24 by Azam off Haris Rauf, struck four sixes and a four in his 29-ball innings and added 108 for the fourth wicket with Malan in 10.1 overs.

For Pakistan, fast bowler Mohammad Hasnain took 1-32 while fellow pacer Wasim went for 61 runs in four wicket-less overs.

England took the attack to Pakistan and scored 60 in their last five overs.