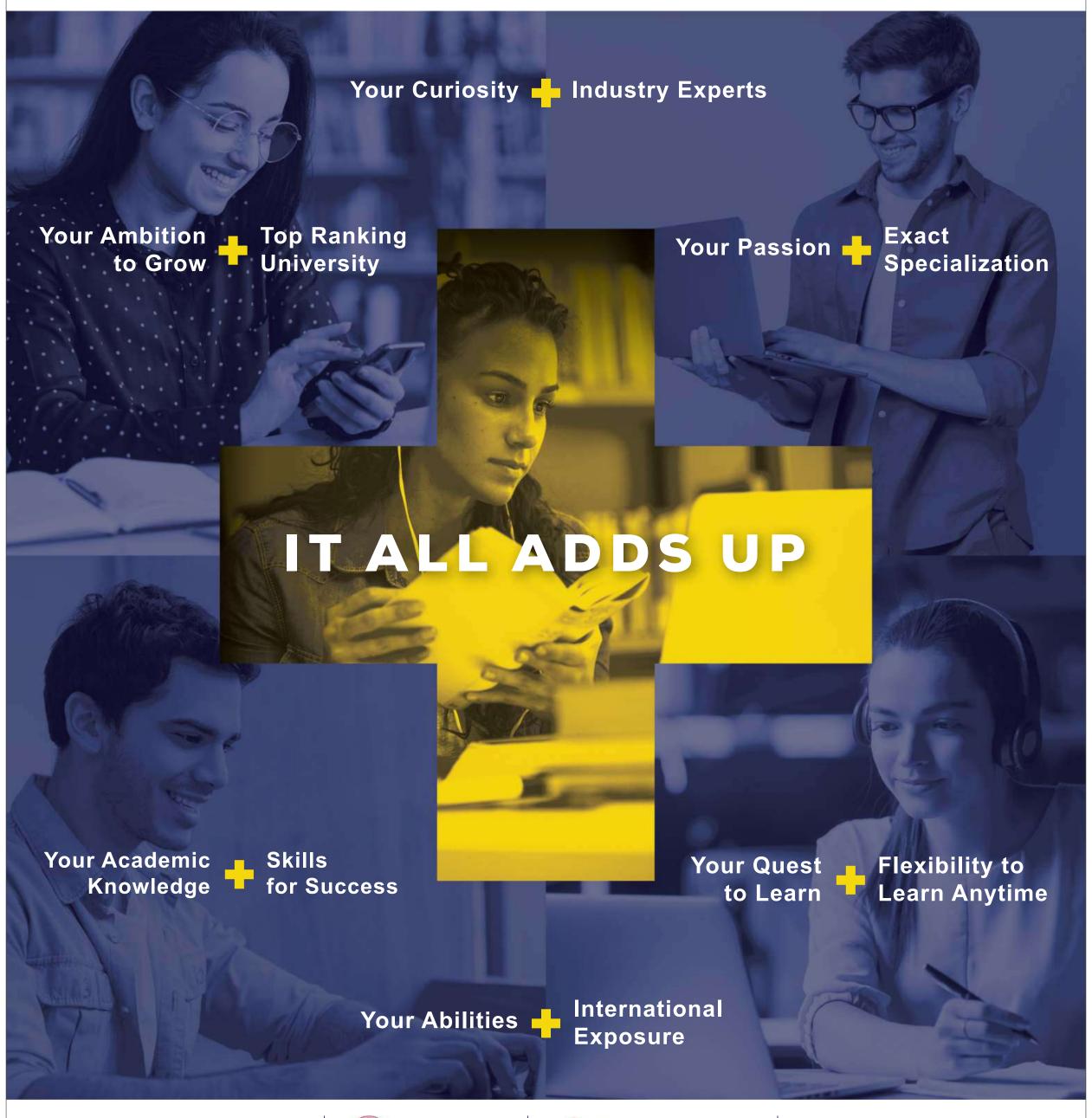
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CM YK



Delimitation exercise politically motivated, say Kashmir parties



'Revenge tourism' at hill stations dangerous trend, says Centre



Postponed JEE-Main sessions to be conducted from July 20 Sabalenka, Pliskova, Kerber and Barty move into semifinals

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NEARBY

for kin of COVID victims

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday launched a scheme and an online portal to provide financial assistance to families who lost their loved ones to COVID-19. Ex gratia of ₹50.000 will be given to every grieving family and an additional ₹2,500 per month will be given if the deceased was the sole breadwinner.

Bengal passes resolution to set up Council

CITY ▶ PAGE 3

KOLKATA The West Bengal Assembly on Tuesday passed a resolution to set up a Legislative Council with a two-thirds majority. While 196 favoured, 69 opposed the resolution moved under Article 169. Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari said the passage of the resolution does not mean that the Council has come into existence

NEWS ▶ PAGE 8



OPPORTUNITIES • BACK PAGE

Amid Cabinet reshuffle buzz, eight States get new Governors

Union Minister Thawarchand Gehlot appointed Karnataka Governor

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Ahead of a much-anticipated Cabinet reshuffle, the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Tuesday announced a slew of gubernatorial appointments, including that of Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thawarchand Gehlot as the Governor of Karnataka, replacing Vajubhai Vala.

This was the surest sign that a Cabinet reshuffle, regularly postponed since the COVID-19 outbreak in 2020, will finally take place as early as Wednesday evening.

Former MP and former BJP president of the erstwhile combined State of Andhra Pradesh K. Hari Babu was appointed the Governor of Mizoram, while senior BJP leader and former Tribal Affairs Minister in Gujarat Mangubhai Patel was named the Governor of Madhya Pradesh. Former Speaker of the Goa Assembly Rajendra Arlekar will be the Governor of Himachal Pradesh.

Several Governors saw a change in States. Former Union Minister Bandaru Dattatreya has been transferred from Himachal Pradesh to Haryana, senior BJP leader from Chhattisgarh Ramesh Bais from Tripura to Jharkhand, Satyadev Arya from Haryana to Tripura, and BJP **New roles** A look at the changes/new appointments announced on Tuesday



Off to Raj Bhavan: Union Minister Pralhad Joshi greeting Thawarchand Gehlot, right, after he was appointed Governor of Karnataka, in New Delhi on Tuesday.

в рті

■ Thawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, will be Governor of Karnataka

■ Hari Babu Kambhampati, BJP veteran from Andhra Pradesh, will be Governor of Mizoram

P.S. Sreedharan Pillai, Governor of Mizoram. transferred and appointed Governor of Goa

Satyadev Narayan Arya, Governor of Haryana, transferred and appointed

Tripura Governoi

Bandaru Dattatreya, Governor of Himachal transferred and appointed Haryana

■ Ramesh Bais, Governor

of Tripura, transferred

and appointed Gover-

nor of Jharkhand

Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel will be Governor of Madhya Pradesh

Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar will be Governor of Himachal

leader from Kerala P.S. Sreedharan Pillai from Mizoram to Goa.

While it was a fairly extensive rejig in terms of Raj Bhavans, informed sources said the Cabinet rejig would be extensive as well. The Council of Ministers has around 28 vacancies, with only 53 of the 81 slots allowed under the Constitution occupied.

Government sources said that as many as 20 new faces would be included, and in total, around 24 Ministers belonging to the Other Backward Classes would find representation in the Council

of Ministers at the end of this exercise. "Among these new faces will be very young MPs, bringing down the average age of the Council of Ministers to probably its low-

Sources said equal focus would be on the professional qualifications of Ministers as well as community representation issues.

est since Independence,"

said a senior government

New Ministry

source.

The government has also decided to create a separate 'Ministry of Cooperation'

with the aim of 'Sahkar se Samriddhi' (prosperity through cooperatives).

The Ministry will provide a separate administrative, legal and policy framework for strengthening the cooperative movement in the coun-

It will, said government sources, "work to streamline the processes for ease of doing business for cooperatives and enable development of multi-State cooperative societies."

INDUCTED ▶ PAGE 8

SCINDIA, PARAS LIKELY TO BE

Will accept any decision taken by Cong. chief: Punjab CM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh on Tuesday said he will accept any decision taken by Congress president Sonia Gandhi with regard to changes in the party in Punjab and the State government.

He was speaking after meeting Ms. Gandhi in an effort to end the factionalism in the State unit.

The meeting, which lasted for nearly 90 minutes, comes after a month-long exercise to put an end to the public war of words between the Chief Minister and cricketer-turned-politician Navjot Singh Sidhu.

Mr. Sidhu had resigned from the Cabinet over several differences, including handling of the 2015 sacrilege issue.

Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, who headed the All India Congress Committee panel to resolve the issue, was present at the meeting that is said to have discussed the political situation as well as the governance issues in the State. Mr. Sidhu had met former party chief Rahul Gandhi and party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra last week.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Ten Opposition parties have

urged President Ram Nath

Kovind to act against those

responsible for foisting "false

cases" on human rights acti-

vist Fr. Stan Swamy for his

Rapid fall GST collections for June 2021 fell to a nine-month low of ₹92,849 crore TOTAL COLLECTIONS

GST mop-up in June falls below ₹1 lakh cr.

It will see an uptick from July: Ministry

VIKAS DHOOT NEW DELHI

Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections in June fell to ₹92,849 crore from ₹1.02 lakh crore in May, marking the first time after eight months that indirect tax collections fell below the ₹1 lakh crore mark.

While lockdowns aimed at curbing the second wave of COVID-19 hit economic activity and moderated GST revenues in June, the Union Finance Ministry said the collections were 2% higher than a year ago and would improve from this month.

"During May 2021, most of the States/UTs were under either complete or partial lockdown due to CO-VID," the Ministry said, citing a 30% fall in e-way bill generation in May from April's numbers.

"However, with reduction in caseload and easing of lockdowns, the e-way

Leaders urge Kovind to act on Fr. Swamy death +

and alleged inhuman treat-

The Opposition parties

ment resulting in his death.

said they were writing to ex-

press their "deep anguish"

and to express "intense

grief" and "outrage" at the

death of Fr. Swamy, who was

bills generated during June 2021 is 5.5 crore (from 3.99 crore in May) which indicates recovery of trade and business... It is expected that while the GST revenues have dipped during the month of June, the revenues will see an increase again from July onwards," it

The June GST figures are related to business transactions made during May and also include taxes on domestic transactions between June 5 and July 5, due to extended compliance deadlines for taxpayers.

Tax experts said the decline in GST revenues was expected. "With significant relaxations in lockdown and business supplies picking up the collections should see a definite uptick in the coming months," said Abhishek Jain, tax partner at EY.

Unlawful Activities (Preven-

tion) Act in connection with

The Opposition also point-

ed out he was denied treat-

ment for his various ailments,

the Bhima Koregaon case.

including Parkinson's.

DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 9

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

⁺ Delhi HC raps Twitter over officer posting

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday gave two days to microblogging platform Twitter to come up with a specific timeline for appointing a grievance officer in compliance with the new IT rules.

"It's been more than two weeks... If the interim grievance officer ran away on June 21, the least Twitter was expected to do was to appoint a fresh officer in these 14 days before the matter came up today," Justice Rekha Palli remarked.

Twitter admitted that it was currently not in compliance with the new IT rules as it was in the process of appointing a grievance officer and a nodal officer.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

RUTH DHANARAJ

BENGALURU

Mathura court rejects bail plea of Kappan

Kerala journalist in jail for nine months

ANUJ KUMAR

A Mathura court on Tuesday rejected the bail plea of Kerala journalist Siddique Kappan, who has been in jail for nine months for various offences under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act or UAPA.

In his bail order, Additional Sessions Judge Anil Kumar Pandey said considering the seriousness of evidence, the court didn't deem it fit to release the accused on bail.

He noted that the charge against Mr. Kappan was that he, along with the co-accused, promoted enmity in society and affected communal harmony. The court also said that during the investigation, incriminating material was recovered from him and that he received foreign funding for damaging the integrity of the country.

ers were arrested on October 4, 2020 at Maant in Mathura district when heading towards Hathras village, where a Dalit girl was allegedly raped and murdered by four dominant-caste men.

On June 15, a local court in Mathura discharged Mr. Kappan and others of charges under sections 151, 107 and 116 of the CrPC as the police failed to complete the investigation in six months.

Describing the prosecution version as "highly improbable", defence lawyer Wills Mathews reminded the court the petitioner was discharged of the offences that formed the basis of his arrest on October 5, 2020. Describing it as a fit case for bail, he said they would approach the Allahabad High Court.



People holding a banner outside a Mumbai church, where a prayer meeting was held for Father Swamy. • EMMANUAL YOGINI

Release Bhima Koregaon case accused: UN body

SUHASINI HAIDAR NEW DELHI

All 15 co-accused in the Bhima Koregaon case should be released pending trial, said the United Nations Human Rights chief Michelle Bachelet on Tuesday, as she expressed concern over the

death of 84-year-old Jesuit priest and tribal rights activist Stan Swamy in custody. The statement from the Office of the High Commis-

sioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) said Ms. Bachelet was "disturbed" and "saddened" by the news of the death of the activist, and called on the Indian government "to ensure that no one is detained for exercising their fundamental rights to freedom of expression, of peaceful assembly and of association".

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

SHUBHRA RANJAN

continued detention in jail jailed last October under the

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Vic Bath and colleague Dan Cummings at Zulu Alpha Kilo, an advertising agency in Canada, have partnered with Pfaff Harley Davidson to create a protective material for turbans that Sikh riders can use instead of helmets.

"My father always dreamed of owning a Harley - it was his ultimate idea of freedom," says Mr. Bath, who is from a Sikh background.

"Years later, when he finally got one I was able to see how much it meant to him. That got me thinking it surely meant as much to other members of the community in Canada and abroad."

While certain provinces



Helmets make way for wrap-around safety

Made of strong yet tensile material, the Tough Turban offers Sikh riders protection

Riders sporting the new safety gear. • THE MOTO FOTO | DAN LIM

of Canada have made helmet exceptions for members of the Sikh community, the bike-riding dreams of many are put on hold as they can't fit helmets over their turbans.

Inspired by Sikh warriors of old who set out for battle wearing chain mail under their turbans, the team sought to replicate similar

headgear. Roping in Spark Innovations, a product design firm, they began to research various impact-resistant materials. They finalised a composite of bullet-proof fabric, non-Newtonian foam and 3D-printed chain mail. Non-Newtonian substances do not follow Newton's Law of Viscosity; the foam used

impact. The result was a material which was tough and tensile, possessing the dexterity of fabric: the Tough Turban. It can be wound in any way to suit the personal style of the wearer. Keeping in mind the

for the turban hardens on

interest of the riding community worldwide, the team from Zulu felt it best to open source the prototype of the Tough Turban and release it online. "We have received a lot of interest in the product from India and Thailand," says Mr. Bath. Currently, the Tough

Turban is a proof of concept/ prototype that is pending approval for use on the road, and the team at Zulu is working with manufacturing partners towards this next step.

Maharashtra tables Bills to amend Centre's farm laws

STAFF REPORTER

The Maharashtra government on Tuesday introduced amendment Bills in the State legislature to the three farm Acts passed by the Centre last August. The Bill to amend the

Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Service Act, 2020, stated that farming agreement shall not be valid unless the price paid to the farmer is equal to or greater than the minimum support price (MSP). It also proposed that the farmer and sponsor can make farming agreement below MSP with mutual consent for maximum period of two years.

DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 5

Maliwal and her team get another term for three years

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday approved another term for Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) Chairperson Swati Maliwal and her team.

This is the second extension granted to the team and it will be for a period of three years, said officials.

Mr. Kejriwal tweeted: "Delhi Commission for Women has been doing excellent work. Their term comes to an end. I approved another one term for the present Commission today. Best wishes to Swatiji and her team. Keep doing good work."

Thanking Mr. Kejriwal for his support, Ms. Maliwal said: "We have revolutionised the functioning of the Commission. Today the Commission is known for its good work across the country. We have successfully rescued thousands of girls from trafficking and prostitution rackets. We have strengthened the 181 helpline to an extent that no call goes unheard."

The first term of the newly constituted DCW was between 2015 and 2018. In July 2018, Ms. Maliwal was given the first extension for three years.

Crimes against women saw over 63% rise in 2021 so far

Rape cases rose to 833 this year from 580 in same period in 2020

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Crime against women in the Capital increased by 63.3% in the first six months of 2021 as compared to 2020, data shared by Delhi Police showed.

The data states that rape cases saw an increase of 43% from 580 till June 15 last year to 833 this year, molestation jumped by 39% from 733 to 1,022, kidnapping of women from 1,026 to 1,580, abduction of women from 46 to 159, and dowry deaths from 47 to

Heinous crimes

Heinous crime figure, till June 15, has come down marginally from 2,436 to 2.315. In the first six months this year, the city recorded seven cases of dacoity, 196 murder, 295 attempt to murder, 942 robbery, 35 riot cases, and kidnapping seven ransom.

In the corresponding period last year, Delhi witnessed four cases of dacoity, 226 murder, 236 attempt to murder, 701 robbery, 681 riot cases and eight kidnapping for ransom, the data stated.

Crime file RAPE (376 IPC) ASSAULT ON WOMEN 6 WITH INTENT TO OUTRAGE THEIR 833 MODESTY (354 IPC) KIDNAPPING 1,022 OF WOMEN ABDUCTION 46 OF WOMEN INSULT TO THE MODESTY 498-A/406 IPC OF WOMEN (509 IPC) (CRUELTY BY 824 HUSBAND AND IN-LAWS) DOWRY DEATH (304B) DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT Data up to June 15

It's pertinent to note that the number of riot cases came down significantly this year as communal riots broke out in northeast Delhi in February last year following anti-Citizenship Amendment Act

According to the data, the number of non-heinous crimes has increased by 8.5%. Till June 15 this year, a total of 1,20,980 cases of non-heinous crime have been reported while the number stood at 1,11,419 last year.

The data showed there

were 1,217 more cases of snatching reported in 2021 as compared to 2021 with 3.829 cases of snatching this time and 2,612 in last year. The total number of cases of hurt, burglary, motor vehicle theft and house theft stood at 493, 1,173, 15,667 and 938 respectively as compared to

The data showed that fatal and non-fatal accidents rose from 392 and 1,260 cases in 2020 to 449 and 1,497 cases this year, respectively.

421, 839, 13130, and 875 last

vear.

Kashmere Gate metro gets India's first FASTag-based parking facility

It can accommodate 55 four-wheelers and 174 two-wheelers

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation on Tuesday said the country's first FASTag/UPIbased cashless parking facility was launched at the Kashmere Gate metro station.

As a part of a Multi-Modal Integration (MMI) initiative, lanes for autos, taxis and erickshaws were also inaugurated at the station by DMRC Managing Director Mangu Singh.

The exclusively cashless parking facility located at the metro station can accommodate 55 four-wheelers and two-wheelers, said 174 officials.

"The entry and exit and payment of four-wheelers can be done through the FASTag. The parking fee will be deducted through FAS-Tag, which will reduce the time for entry and payment. Only vehicles with FASTags will be allowed to park in this facility. The entry for twowheelers can be done by siping the DMRC smart card," officials said

They added that the smart card swipe will only be for registration and payment can be made through UPI apps by scanning the QR code. Mr. Singh said similar



DMRC Managing Director Mangu Singh inaugurates the parking facility along with other officials at Kashmere Gate metro station on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

plans will be explored at other stations after following the response to the pilot project. "This will not only help us in modernising the facilities but will also help the commuters by saving their time and ease the process," Mr. Singh said.

Last-mile connectivity DMRC spokesperson Anuj

Dayal said the Intermediate Public Transport (IPT) lanes for autos, taxis and e-rickshaws will enable smooth movement of vehicles and enhance last-mile connectivity at the station.

"In the second phase of MMI, which is under construction, there will be a food court and also a bus-terminal...after completion of the second phase, Kashmere Gate will be a transportation hub, integrating metro connectivity on the Yellow, Red and Violet Lines with parking facility, ISBT Kashmere Gate, city bus services and taxi, auto and e-rickshaw services," said Mr. Dayal.

Stating that the facilities were set to provide a major relief to commuters, Mr. Dayal added: "The Kashmere Gate station is the only triple-interchange station of DMRC and is among the busiest stations of the

DU gets over 1K applications from foreign students

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi University on Tuesday said it has received 1,324 applications from foreign students for the 2021-22 academic year.

Rajeev Gupta, Chairperson of DU Admissions, said overseas applicants from around 61 countries had applied for the upcoming academic session. The highest number of applications was from Afghanis- $\tan - 320$ – followed by 185 from Nepal and 156 from

The university also saw 10 applications from Vietnam, seven from Thailand, five from Sri Lanka, four from Mauritius and three each from Angola, Gambia and Lesotho apart from other countries. The admission process for foreign students to various courses had begun in April. While the last date for applications to undergraduate programmes was May 31, for postgraduate programmes it was June 29.

In a notification issued earlier, DU had said: "Foreign Students' Registry of DU is inviting applications from foreign national for its various programmes of study for the academic session 2021-22..."

42-year-old held for duping 7 persons of over ₹10 cr. by posing as IAS officer

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A 42-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly cheating people on the pretext of getting them jobs in gulf countries by posing himself as an IAS officer posted in the UAE Embassy, the police said on Tuesday

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yasundaram said the accused has been identified as Shine Jyothi Sathya alias Siddik Abdul Rehman from Uttam Nagar.

He belongs to Kerala's Alleppey district. The accused has cheated at least seven people of more than ₹10 crore and mostly targeted people from Kerala.

The police said one of the victim's cheated by Sathya approached them, alleging that he met the accused in 2014 during a train journey. The accused duped him and his friends of ₹20 lakh on the pretext of arranging visas for nursing jobs in gulf countries. During probe, the accused was held.

IN BRIEF

AAP wins North civic body's Narela post

AAP councillor Ram Narayan won by one vote on Tuesday chairperson of the Narela Zone wards' committee of the North body, said the officials.

Boy dies, 4 hurt after truck rams into wall

Accused driver nabbed from Rajasthan

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A 12-year-old boy died and four others injured when a wall collapsed after a truck rammed into it in southwest Delhi's Rangpuri in Vasant Kunj on Monday evening, the police said. The accused driver - Mukhesh has been arrested, they said.

DCP (South-West) Ingit Pratap Singh said the deceased has been identified as Joginder and the injured children as Rahul (10), Aakash (4), Heena (8) and Khushi (7).

The police said a PCR call was received at 7.51 p.m. stating that a truck rammed into a wall and some chil-

dren have been trapped under the debris. The caller stated that five children have been injured and have been rushed to a hospital.

The police reached the spot and found that the boundary wall of a plot had been broken. "On further inquiry, it

was revealed that the truck had come here to dump debris and on the way towards the road, it hit the wall, leading to its collapse. The children were playing in the area at that time," Mr. Singh said.

The truck driver had fled the spot and was nabbed from Rajasthan's Alwar. A case under relevant sections has been registered.

Wife and son of Air Force officer killed

STAFF REPORTER

Wife and son of an Air Force employee were found murdered at their residence in south-west Delhi's Palam Village on Tuesday evening, the police

DCP (South-West) Ingit Pratap Singh said the victims have been identified as Babita Verma (52) and her son Gaurav (27). The police said a PCR call was received from Krishan Swaroop Sudhir (55), an accountant in Air Force, who said his wife and son had been killed. "Prima facie, injuries seems to be blunt. caused by a heavy dumbbell," Mr. Singh said.

A murder case has been registered and probe is on.

Two arrested for killing friend in Sarita Vihar

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A 23-year-old man was killed allegedly by his friends in south-east Delhi's Sarita Vihar following a quarrel over a girl, the police said on Tuesday.

DCP (South-East) R.P. Meena said the victim has been identified as Owais from Jamia Nagar. The accused have been identified as Altaf (19) and Farhan Abbas (19). On July 4, the police received a call stating that a body is lying in Okhla tank jungle. On reaching the spot, they found that a person, who looked about 23-24 years old, was lying dead near a boundary wall. The body had injury marks and had started to decompose, an officer said.

The victim was then identified, and his call detail records were analysed. During probe, the CCTV footage was obtained and examined. "Altaf and Farhan were with the victim on the day of the incident and they were picked up from Jasola.



The accused in police custody ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

During interrogation, they confessed to the crime," Mr. Meena said.

The accused allegedly told police the three of them were friends and used to drink and do drugs. On July 2. they were all at Farhan's terrace along with a woman. An argument broke out between the three of them over dropping her home as Farhan wanted her to leave his house and the victim did

Subsequently, the argument turned into a quarrel after which the two accused allegedly stabbed Owais, the police added.

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NEW DELHI

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Due to spread of COVID 19, lock down in several states/ UTs, were implemented.

many Govt. offices were not functional. Thus, the Department has decided to extended the last date for submission of the application for the post of Executive

Engineer (Electric) & Asstt. Engineer (Electric) in DUSIB as published in the News Papers in English (The Times of India, The Hindustan Times, The Hindu & The Indian Express) and Hindi (Dainik Jagran, Nav Bharat Times, Hindustan Times & Amar Ujala) on dated 10.04.2021. The intended applicants may apply with detailed bio-data, in prescribed pro-forma along-with requisite documents, by 10.07.2021 to Director (Admn), Room No. 10, Punerwas Bhawan, I. P. Estate, New Delhi-110002.

Note: Applicants who have already applied for the said post in response to the

1. WHEREAS, NS-22621Y Lieutenant (MNS) Shana A Salam was appointed in the Military Nursing Service on 25 October 2010.

2. AND WHEREAS, while NS-22621Y Lieutenant (MNS) Shana A Salem was posted to Military Hospital, Roorkee, she was granted 18 days Casual leave wef 16 August 2012 to 02 September 2012. On expiry of the said leave, she failed to report to Military Hospital, Roorkee and remained illegally absent with effect from 03 September 2012 till date

3. AND WHEREAS, an Apprehension Roll dated 11 September 2012, was issued by Military Hospital, Roorkee, to the Civil Authorities for her apprehension and handing over to Army Authorities. However, the said Nursing Officer has neither reported for duty nor beer

4. AND WHEREAS, a Court of Inquiry was held on 08 October 2012 to inquire into the circumstances under which NS-22621Y Lieutenant (MNS) Shana A Salam remained absent without leave. The Court of Inquiry declared the said Nursing Officer illegally absent with effect from 03 September 2012 5. AND WHEREAS, in accordance with the directions of the Chief of

the Army Staff a Show Cause Notice No C/06300/CC/493/AG/DV-2 dt 09 May 2016 was sent at the last known address of Lieutenant (MNS) Shana A Salam calling upon her to submit her defence, if any, in writing as to why her services should not be terminated by way of dismissal from the service under the provisions of Section 7 of (The Indian) Military Nursing Service Ordinance, 1943.

6. AND WHEREAS, the Show Cause Notice was also published in "Hindustan" (Hindi) Dehradun Edition on 17 August 2016," The Indian Express" (English) Edition on 17 August 2016, "Dainik Jagran" (Hindi) Edition on 17 August 2016 and "Mathrubnumi' (Malvalum) Edition on 17 August 2016 Lieutenant (MNS) Shana A Salam has neither replied to the aforesaid Show Cause Notice nor surrendered herself till date.

7. AND WHEREAS, after considering the above facts and material on record, the undersigned is satisfied that Lieutenant (MNS) Shana A Salam has no cause to show against the proposed termination of services. The prolonged absence of Lieutenant (MNS) Shana A Salam of over four years makes her further retention in the service undesirable

8. NOW, THEREFORE, the undersigned, in exercise of the powers conferred vide Section 7 of (The Indian) Military Nursing Service Ordinance, 1943, hereby dismiss NS-22621Y Lieutenant (MNS) Shana A Salam from the service. (General Bipin Rawat)

Chief of the Army Staff)

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT E-Procurement Notice INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer, Una Division HPPWD Una H.P. on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system, in 2 Cover System fo the under mentioned works from the eligible and approved contractors / Firms registered with HPPWD Department

District RIDF Name of the Work		Name of the Work	Estimated (Rs. Lakh)		Total Cost (Rs Lakh)	Period of Completion	Bid Security (Rs. Lakh) The bid security is two percent
			Construction	Maintenance			of the total cost, rounded to the nearest thousand
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Una	XXVI	Improvement and widening of Badehar, Sasan, Udaipur and Lamlehra Pekhubela Road from km. 0/0 to 6/540) (SH: - Formation Cutting 5/7mtr. wide including Retaining wall, Breast wall and Toe wall, Cross drainage work and Cement Concrete Pavement Providing and Laying GSB, WMM and 20mm thick premix carpet with seal coat, U and V-shape drain, C/O Parapet and kilometre stone and sign board in km. 0/0 to 0/990 including five years maintenance) UNDER NABARD RIDF-XXVI		5,75,918/-	97,30,288/-	12 months	1,94,600/-
Una	XXVI	Improvement and widening of Badehar, Sasan, Udaipur and Lamlehra Pekhubela Road from km. 0/0 to 6/540) (SH: - Formation Cutting 5/7mtr. wide including Retaining wall, Breast wall and Toe wall, Cross drainage work and Cement Concrete Pavement Providing and Laying GSB, WMM and 20mm thick premix carpet with seal coat, U and V-shape drain, C/O Parapet and kilometre stone and sign board in km. 0/990 to 3/735 including five years maintenance) UNDER NABARD RIDF-XXVI		15,96,865/-	2,01,60,994/-	12 months	4,03,200/-
Una	XXVI	Improvement and widening of Badehar, Sasan, Udaipur and Lamlehra Pekhubela Road from km. 0/0 to 6/540) (SH: - Formation Cutting 5/7mtr. wide including Retaining wall, Breast wall and Toe wall, Cross drainage work and Cement Concrete Pavement Providing and Laying GSB, WMM and 20mm thick premix carpet with seal coat, U and V-shape drain, C/O Parapet and kilometre stone and sign board in km. 3/735 to 6/540 including five years maintenance) UNDER NABARD RIDF-XXVI		16,31,769/-	2,19,25,314/-	12 months	4,38,500/-

3. Cost of Bid Form::-As per detail in column No. 6 in form of demand draft in favour of Executive Engineer, Una Division HPPWD, Una payable at Una.

Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website http://hptenders.gov.in. Bidder would be required to register on the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPPWD may obtain the same from the website: http://hptenders.gov.in Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized CAs

Key Dates: 26.07.2021 (10.00 HRS) Date of Online Publication 26.07.2021 (10.30 HRS upto 03.08.2021 (09.00 HRS) Document Download Start and End Date Bid Submission Start and End Date 26.07.2021 (10.30 HRS upto 03.08.2021 (09.00 HRS) Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document 03.08.2021 upto 10.30 HRS Date of Technical Bid opening, Evaluation of Technical Bid 03.08.2021 (11.00 HRS)

followed by Opening of Financial Bid.

e website for the latest information related to the tende

HP / 2167/21-22

TENDER DETAILS: The Tender Documents shall be uploaded online in 2 Cover Cover 1: shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents/Eligibility Information."

Cover2: shall contain `BOQ/Financial Bid', where contractor will Quote his offer for each item.

Submission of Original Documents: The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security/ Earnest Money (EMD) duly pledged in favour of undersigned and other Technical Documents in Executive Engineer, Una Division, HPPWD, Una H.P. as specified in Key dates Sr. 4 on Tender pening Date, failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive.

BID OPENING DETAILS: The bids shall be opened on 03.08.2021 at 11.00 HRS in the office of Executive Engineer, Una Division, HP: PWD, Una by the authorised officer. In their interest the tenderer is advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue. The date for opening of financial bids will be intimated separately after evaluation of The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify

HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

Una Division, HP: PWD, Una. On behalf of Governor of H.P.

Executive Engineer

Appeal for Identification



General public is hereby informed that one person Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: About 60 Yrs., Height: 5'8", Sex: Male, Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, Face: Round, Wearing: Black Shirt and Black Pant, Place of Recovery: Found dead on 28.06.2021 at Ambedkar Collage Bus Stand.

In this regard DD No. 69-A, Dated 28.06.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Jyoti Nagar, Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign.

Phone: 011-24368638 and 24368641, Ext. 2101. Web-site: http://cbi.nic.in

E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-24368639 DP/887/NE/2021

SHO P.S. Jyoti Nagar, Delhi Ph.: 011-22110186, 22110185

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED General public is hereby informed that a



PIYUSH

boy (depicted in the photo), Namely Piyush S/o Shri Sanjay R/o H. No. 4/1652, Gali No 4, Mahavir Block, Bhola Nath Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 24.06.2021 from the area of P.S. Farsh Bazar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 357/21 u/s 363 IPC dated 30.06.2021 has been registered at PS Farsh Bazar, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Age: 16 Years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Shallow, Face Round, Built: Thin, Hair: Black, Wearing: Black Colour shirt and black colour jeans pant.

Any person having any information/clue about this missing/kidnapped boy, may inform SHO, Farsh Bazar, Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in or website: http://cbi.nic.in

Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Farsh Bazar, Delhi Fax No. 011-24368639 Shahdara Distt., Delhi Ph. No. 011-7065036028, 21210833 DP/489/SHD/2021

Timings **DELHI**

WEDNESDAY, JUL. 07											
RISE	05:30	SET 19:23									
RISE	03:05	SET 17:16									

THURSDAY, JUL. 08 RISE 05:31 SET 19:23 RISE 03:47 SET 18:10 FRIDAY, JUL. 09 RISE 05:31 SET 19:23

RISE 04:34 SET 19:04

Delhi Weather max Delhi City Safdarjang 29

Delhi Palam Today 41°C Day remain hot with partly cloudy sky and light winds Thunderclouds development at some places

Delhi Palam Tomorrow 40°C Duststorm & thunderstorm with light rain may occur evening. Day would remain hot with partly cloudy sky. © Copyright Skymet Weather 2019 All rights reserved.

IN BRIEF

Bidhuri criticises govt. for new excise policy

Leader of the Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri on Tuesday lashed out at the Delhi government for the new excise policy. Mr. Bidhuri alleged that the policy was aimed at encouraging the consumption of liquor and could lead to a new law and order problem in the Capital "The announcements made under the new policy are shocking and shameful," Mr. Bidhuri said.

Left for FIR against hate speeches at Pataudi meet

The Harvana unit of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) has condemned the alleged provocative speeches by several speakers at a Hindu mahapanchayat in Pataudi here and demanded registration of case for creating communal disharmony. Condemning the provocative speeches at the mahapanchayat, CPI(M) zonal secretary S.L. Prajapati said communal panchayats should

'Probe actual number of COVID deaths

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Delhi Congress on Tuesday demanded probe by a retired High Court judge to find out the actual COVID death toll in the Capital, alleging that many deaths, including those in home isolation, were not included in the official CO-VID-19 death category. The party alleged that the Delhi government was manipulating the numbers to skirt paying compensation.

Delhi Congress chief Ch. Anil Kumar said that Delhi Congress has been demanding that the families of those who died of CO-VID-19 be paid an ex gratia amount of ₹4 lakh under the Disaster Management Act and said that the sum of ₹50,000 announced by the Delhi government was meagre

He said that in the fourth wave of the pandemic between April and May, municipal bodies issued 34,450 COVID death certificates, while the Delhi government put the death toll at

Relief scheme for COVID victims' kin launched

Families can either register on portal or 'empathetic' Delhi govt. representative will visit their homes

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday urged government officials appointed as surveyors to establish a relationship with families who had lost near and dear ones to COVID-19 in the process of providing financial relief to

₹50,000 to each family

Mr. Kejriwal said this while launching the 'Mukhyamantri COVID-19 Pariwar Aarthik Sahayata Yojna', a social security scheme for COVID-19affected families here on Tuesday.

Under the scheme, Delhi government will disburse an ex gratia payment of



₹50,000 for each death to the family of the deceased and ₹2,500 monthly to those families who have lost breadwinners.

"The entire country may have seen two waves, but as for Delhi, this was the fourth wave. It was very severe, it

was very lethal; we lost a lot of lives, a lot of children became orphans, a lot of families lost their breadwinners. There's no one to look after them now," he said.

"As a responsible and sensitive government, it is our duty to stand with these grieving families and provide them all the assistance we can. After a lot of discussions with our officers and the people of Delhi, we are launching the 'Mukhyamantri CO-VID-19 Pariwar Aarthik Sahayata Yojna'," the CM said, while launching the

No questions would be asked, Mr. Kejriwal assured, if the person died because of COVID-19 and the affected family would receive ₹50,000.

Additionally, he said, ₹2,500 would be disbursed monthly to those families who had lost their breadwinners to the pandemic; children who were orphaned would be provided ₹2,500 monthly till they turn 25, Mr. Kejriwal said.

Two options to register

"There are two options. First, families can register on the portal themselves. Second, a Delhi government representative will visit their homes. As a responsible and sensitive government, we will not wait for people to apply, we will approach them on our own as well," he said.

There would not be any

"The representatives are not going to these homes to scrutinise the documents of these grieving families. If any documents are missing, it is the responsibility of the representatives and the government to make them available without putting pressure on the grieving families," he said.

Referring to government representatives who will be collecting applications, the Chief Minister asked them to be empathetic and understanding towards these families. He also requested them not to put them under stress because of any missing papers as they were already going through a lot.

SABKE MANN KA PREET Police get more time to probe chargesheet leak HC wants the report before August 5

TOKYO HERE WE KOM

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday gave the city police two more weeks' to do a comprehensive inquiry into the leakage of content of chargesheet, filed in case related to Delhi riots case, to the media even before cognisance was taken by the court concerned.

Justice Mukta Gupta ordered the Delhi police to submit its report on the inquiry before the next date of hearing on August 5.

The High Court's direction came on Jamia Millia Islamia University student and riots accused Asif Iqbal Tanha's plea alleging misconduct by police officers in leaking his alleged disclosure statement in the main chargesheet to the media.

The Special Public Prosecutor (SPP) said that although notice was issued to parties concerned for the purposes of the inquiry, the same could not be concluded on account of COVID-19induced lockdown.

Vigilance report

The court also reminded the SPP that the police's earlier vigilance report on the issue "had nothing in it" and that the court was not satisfied with the report.

Mr. Tanha, in his plea, had said he was aggrieved by various news reports appearing in electronic media that alleged he had confessed to organising and inciting communal riots that occurred in north-east

Delhi. He had contended that the action of the media houses in placing such documents in the public violated the programme code.

Mr. Tanha had alleged that he was coerced by police officers to sign certain papers and make statements while in their custo-

He had contended that the alleged disclosure statements, which have become a subject matter of news reports, were not given voluntarily and are inadmissible as evidence in court.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Special Cell) in an affidavit had stated that Delhi Police was also "aggrieved" by the news report in which the alleged confessional statement of Mr. Tanha was

1,500 farmers at Tikri border get the jab

Puniab govt. assists NGO in drive

SHINJINI GHOSH

A vaccination drive for agitating farmers, organised by an NGO, began at the Tikri border on Tuesday. Volunteers said that around 1,500 doses were administered, adding that the Punjab government had assisted in procuring the vaccines.

According to members of the "5 Rivers Hearts Association" NGO, the inoculation process will continue over the next few months.

Stating that several other measures had been taken at the protest site earlier, Swaiman Singh of the NGO said: "What remained was a vaccine drive at the protest site. Letters were sent out to all governments and international organisations and finally the Punjab government helped kickstart the vaccination campaign. They have promised to continue as long as there is a requirement from the farmers."

Dr. Singh added that over 10 lakh surgical masks, 1 lakh N95 masks and 1 lakh small sanitisers had been

Cooling off



The vaccine drive will be expanded to other protest sites as well. • FILE PHOTO

distributed at the protest sites earlier.

"Around 1,500 shots were administered on the first day and they were all free of cost. Doctors across the world have fought bravely against the pandemic. Wherever there has been a need for medicines and oxygen concentrators we have provided free of cost. But there were restrictions on procuring vaccines even from across the borders," said Dr.

In the future, the drive will be expanded to other protest sites as well, he said.

Number of COVID-19 deaths breaches 25K mark in Capital

79 fresh infections reported; 80,841 beneficiaries vaccinated

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Capital recorded 79 new COVID-19 cases on Tuesday along with four deaths, taking the total number of deaths to 25,001, according to a health bulletin released by the Delhi government.

The government said that 69,866 tests have been conducted, of which 46,110 were RT-PCR tests. The positivity rate was 0.11%. Since the pandemic began, Delhi has recorded a total of 14,34,687 COVID-19 cases.

The bulletin added that there are 833 active CO-VID-19 cases in the city, of which 269 are under home isolation. The total number of beds reserved for CO-VID-19 patients stands at 14,548, out of which 14,072 are vacant.

Virus graph

The first 5,000 deaths due to COVID-19 took 161 days since the first death was reported on March 13 and took 83 days to reach 10,000 deaths on September 21 last year. The Health workers prepare to conduct COVID-19 test near Bhadola village in New Delhi on Tuesday. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA next 5,000 deaths took 135 days and was recorded on April 27 this year. On May 11, the deaths crossed the 20,000 mark and took 14 days to go from 15,000-20,000. It has taken 56 days

go from 20,000-25,000. The Capital on Monday had recorded 54 fresh CO-VID-19 cases, the lowest since April 15 last year, and two more deaths. On Sunday, Delhi had recorded 94 cases of COVID-19, the first time active cases in the city dropped below 1,000 since

for the number of deaths to

April last vear.

Meanwhile, the health bulletin said that 80,841 beneficiaries has been vaccinated with 51,728 receiving their first dose. The Capital has vaccinated 84,70,002 beneficiaries out of which 19,40,805 have received both doses.

The bulletin also mentioned that less than a day of vaccine stock was left with the Delhi government. Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia urged the Centre to send more doses for the inoculation exercise

Save us from demolition: Khori Basti residents

Protesters march to PMO to submit memorandum, appeal to repeal SC order

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A large number of residents of Faridabad's Khori Basti marched towards the Prime Minister's office in New Delhi and submitted a memorandum with an appeal to save the colony from the Su-Court-ordered preme demolition.

Led by former Lok Sabha MP and Congress national spokesperson Udit Raj, the residents, including women, carried out a march towards the Prime Minister's Office under the aegis of All India Confederation of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes organisations.

Carrying placards that read, "Save Khori, Save Migrants" and "Please Save Khori", the demonstrators started the march from Atul Grover Road. However, they were stopped by the police at Jantar Mantar. The protesters appealed to the govern-



Minister's office in Delhi on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ment to get the Supreme Court order repealed so that millions of lives can be saved during the ongoing CO-VID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Raj attacked the Harvana government saying that the State government should have made rehabilitation arrangements before displacement, but unfortunately it did not happen. The people have built their homes with blood and sweat, which were being demolished in front of their own eyes, said Dr. Raj, adding that this would not be tolerated at any cost.

The Supreme Court had last month directed Faridabad municipal corporation to demolish the houses in 170-acre Khori Basti on the forest land within six weeks. The residents have been demanding that the government should rehabilitate them or revoke the SC order to provide them relief.

Forcing to vacate Sanjay Raj, national treasur-

er of the confederation, said that power and water supply to the houses in the colony was snapped to force them to vacate their houses. Social activist Meenu Verma, also part of the demonstration, said: "The third wave of CO-VID-19 has arrived and in this situation it was inhumane to make thousands of children homeless. If electricity and water supply is not restored in the colony, thousands of lives will be put to danger during the pandemic".

The State Secretariat of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) in Haryana has strongly condemned the illegal and inhumane actions of the State government for en masse eviction of thousands of Khori Basti residents.

Form joint action panel to check crowd: traders

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI Several traders in the national capital on Tuesday demanded the formation of a joint action committee comprising police personnel, civic body officials and market associations to manage the crowd at markets after a number of them were sealed over COVID norm

The Chamber of Trade and Industry (CTI) convened a 'mahapanchayat' of 200 business organisations from the city on the issue of the closure of markets.

Delhi. Sushil kumar verma

"A joint action committee should be constituted for each market comprising market association, police officers and civic body officers, which will take a decision regarding crowd and COVID-19 rules in the respective market. Make a roadmap and follow it," the Kashmere Gate Market and Chawri Bazar Market said in a joint statement.

E-waste disposal: L-G seeks means to integrate unorganised sector was emphasised that an insti-

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Homeless people rest near the banks of the Yamuna on a hot Tuesday afternoon in New

Lieutenant-Governor Anil Baijal on Tuesday chaired a review meeting related to ewaste management in the Capital.

The strategy for setting up an e-waste processing park was discussed in detail to ensure scientific, efficient and environmentally safe disposal of all types of electronic waste, according to an officiial present in the meeting.

According to the officer, it

tutional mechanism should be devised to suitably integrate the unorganised sector that includes traditional kabaadi walas, ragpickers and NGOs in e-waste collection and processing.

Similar initiatives

The local bodies, the L-G was quoted as having said at the meeting, should be closely involved in the venture and learnings from other States, where similar initiatives have

been taken, should be effectively dovetailed.

According to the officer, those present were further advised to formulate a timebound action plan for setting up e-waste processing units and to work in close coordination with the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Ministry of **Electronics and Information** Technology among others for implementation of the

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The last date of receipt of application is 6th August 2021. For more details of the scheme and application format, please visit www.ongcscholar.org or www.ongcindia.com

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Published by N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 and Printed by S. Ramanujam at HT Media Ltd. Plot No. 8, Udyog Vihar, Greater Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. 201306, on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Group Editorial Officer: Krishna Prasad. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).

Give financial aid to COVID-19 victims' kin: AAP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab Assembly Harpal Singh Cheema of the Aam Aadmi Party on Tuesday urged the State government to provide financial assistance to the families of COVID-19 victims on the lines of the AAP's Delhi government.

Mr. Cheema said AAP national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has implemented a scheme to provide financial assistance to the family of the person who died of COVID-19. He said the family will be given ₹50,000 in cash and ₹2,500 pension per month. "Due to CO-VID-19 second wave, many in Punjab had lost their livelihood. Therefore, the State government should provide cash assistance.".

Rajasthan Cabinet expansion a 'work in progress', says Maken

'Difference of opinion among members is found in every political party'

MOHAMMED IQBAL

The Cabinet expansion and political appointments in Rajasthan were a "work in progress" and a decision on these subjects would be taken soon, AICC general secretary Ajay Maken said here on Tuesday during his twoday visit to the State Capital.

Mr. Maken said talks were being held with all Congress leaders on these issues.

He told reporters at the Pradesh Congress Committee headquarters here that there were vacancies in the State Cabinet, while the political appointments, along with the appointment of district and block presidents, were also to be made. "We will take everyone along in



AICC general secretary Ajay Maken at a meeting with PCC office-bearers in Jaipur on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

this exercise," the Congress leader said.

Infighting between MLAs Mr. Maken's visit assumed significance amid the infighting between the Congress MLAs from the rival camps of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his former deputy Sachin Pilot.

The Pilot loyalists have expressed resentment over being ignored even a year after the political crisis caused by their rebellion.

The AICC general secretary in charge of Rajasthan,

who met the party leaders from the rival factions, was likely to meet Mr. Gehlot as well. While the legislators were staking their claims to key posts, Mr. Maken said the difference of opinion among the members is found in every political party, Congress being no exception.

PCC meeting

He also attended a meeting with the PCC office-bearers to deliberate on the ruling party's outreach programme to provide succour to the covid-affected families and an 11-day-long agitation, beginning on Wednesday, against price rise and the constant increase in the prices of pe-

Rising agri demand forces power curbs on industrial units in Punjab

Manufacturers slam three-day closure amid slowdown

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

As Punjab continues to struggle with severe power shortage, the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) has vet again imposed curbs on industrial consumers, directing the general industry to observe three days off till July 10.

The PSPCL in its latest order said that in view of the prolonged dry spell and increase in demand of power from agriculture sector, it has been decided to impose power regulatory measures on industrial consumers, except essential industries and services of west, north and central zones.

The power regulatory measure includes three weekly-off days for general industry (large scale), rolling mills, arc and induction furnaces consumers from July 7 till July 10.

Responding to the announcement, Badish Jindal, president of the Federation of Punjab Small Industries Association said that the industry - be it the large, medium or the small scale - already had been facing financial stress due to CO-VID-19 pandemic, and now the unscheduled cuts and shutdowns have only aggra-

vated the problem. "The industry is shut but yet we have to pay salaries to the workers. We are paying the interest on loans etc. to banks, exports orders are being cancelled... Due to the shutdown several industry sectors are not in a position to deliver the orders within stipulated time

buyers, hence the buyers are not just cancelling the order but also imposing penalties," he told *The Hindu*.

'Unfortunate situation'

"Every year the demand for power rises during the paddy sowing season, which is not something new. Even credible weather forecast mechanism is available, yet we are facing such situation, which is unfortunate," said Mr. Jindal.

Punjab's average electricity demand during the ongoing paddy season has been more than 14,500 MW, against average supply of 13,500 MW. The PSPCL on July 5 in a statement stated that on an average 10.3 hours of electricity across the State was supplied for paddy operations.

Panel on Naga issue to meet on July 9

Core committee headed by CM seeks to find a way forward

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI

The core committee of a panel set up by the Nagaland government to pursue the Naga political issue has scheduled its meeting in Dimapur, the State's commercial hub, on July 9. The issue pertains to the

peace agreement between the Centre and the Naga extremist groups. These groups are the Isak-Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) and the Naga National Political Groups comprising at least six armed outfits.

"All the members of the core committee of the Parliamentary Committee on Naga

Political Issue have been asked to meet at 11 a.m. at the Chumukedima Police Complex in Dimapur on July 9," a Nagaland government spokesperson said. "We hope to arrive at a solution or find the way forward to resolve the Naga political issue hanging fire for 23 years now," he added.

Committee members

Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio is the convener of the parliamentary committee formed on June 10. Deputy Chief Minister Y. Patton and former Chief Minister T.R. Zeliang are co-conveners while Land Revenue Minister Neiba Kronu is the member-secretary.

All the 60 MLAs of the State are members of the committee.

Mr. Rio and Mr. Kronu represent the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) and Mr. Patton the BIP. The NDPP rules Nagaland in alliance with the BJP. Mr. Zeliang represents the Opposition Naga People's Front (NPF).

The core committee of the parliamentary panel has 15 MLAs as members. Five each are from the BJP and the NPF, four from the NDPP and one is an independent legislator. The peace process had begun in mid-1997 when the NSCN (I-M) declared a ceasefire with New Delhi.

Odisha fears vaccine stock-out

State govt. urges Centre to replenish stock immediately

SATYASUNDAR BARIK BHUBANESWAR

The Odisha government on Tuesday urged the Centre to make COVID-19 doses available immediately to the State as it would have no stock of vaccine left for a week after its current stock runs out. Pradipta Mohapatra, Addi-

tional Chief Secretary (Health) wrote to Union Health Secretary: "Since late June, the State is vaccinating over three lakh citizens daily subject to availability of vaccines. On Monday, we had administered 4.02 lakh doses successfully - highest ever single day vaccination for the State."

"However, as on today



A queue for vaccination in Bhubaneswar. • FILE PHOTO

[Tuesday], we have 6.14 lakh doses of Covishield available, which will be consumed within the two days. The next tranche of Covishield is scheduled for July 15. Hence the State will have stock-out of vaccines from July 9 to 15," Mr. Mohapatra stated.

He urged the Union Health

Secretary to supply the required vaccines within the next two days.

"The Covishield allocation for July is 25.31 lakh doses. which is lower than the 28.31 lakh second dose due requirement for the month of July," Mr. Mohapatra said, requesting additional allocation of 15 lakh doses of Covishield to Odisha to manage COVID-19 vaccination smoothly.

Odisha has been witnessing queues in front of all vaccination centresfrom the early hours. Tension runs high and physical distancing is not maintained. Police had to disperse crowds at vaccination centres in many places.

A Business Initiative

'Spurt in chain-snatching a matter of grave concern'

It has created a fear psychosis, says HC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A spurt in incidents of chainsnatching is a matter of grave concern and has created a fear psychosis, rendering many women reluctant to step out of their homes, the Allahabad High Court has noted. The court made the ob-

servation while rejecting the bail application of a person accused of chain-snatching and later firing at the police team which had gone to apprehend him last October in Kanpur. "Even as the chain-

snatchers continue to prowl

the city with repeated incidents of them targeting women, a sense of fear has been instilled in women who have now stopped wearing gold ornaments or at the most wear a very thin one that is not even visible," the court said.

'Take them seriously' Such incidents needed to be taken seriously and the of-

fenders must be instilled with a sense of fear so that women felt safe and free as such incidents not only caused terror but also restricted their mobility, Justice Sanjay Kumar Singh said.

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following items. Only E-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III

Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the

following sequence: -S.No. - Tender No. (Due Date). Description and Quantity. S.N. 1

05215120, (15.07.2021), Sinumerik Operator Panel, 01 Set, S.N. 2, 05191114D (20.07.2021), Try Square 12", Part No. 15610354, 09 Nos., S.N. 3, 05215111

(20.07.2021), Solid Gear Hob, 04 Nos., S.N. 4, 05215113, (20.07.2021), D/R Spherical Roller Bearing, 08 Nos., S.N. 5, 05215115, (20.07.2021), Dia 27MM

Single Insert Drill Kit, 01 Set, S.N. 6, 05191062G, (22.07.2021), Steel Straight Edge 36", Part No. 15610457, 12 Nos., S.N. 7, 05205134E, (22.07.2021),

Galvanized Steel Flexible Conduit, 01 Set, S.N. 8, 05215029B, (22.07.2021)
Digital Vernier Height Gauge, 02 Nos., S.N. 9, 05215057A, (23.07.2021), Motor

for Hoist Motion 3 Phase, 01 Nos., S.N. 10, 05215114, (26.07.2021), Drill Bit Dia 6 mm x 400 mm, 40 Nos., S.N. 11, 05215117, (26.07.2021), HSS T/S Reamer Long

Dia-2", 05 Nos., S.N. 12, 07211038, (19.07.2021), Short Description: Sealing Adhesive Loctite, PL No. 29725148, 44 Sets, S.N. 13, 07211067, (14.07.2021)

Short Description: Oxygen Gas, PL No. 81040416, 93978 CUM, S.N. 14, 01211035A

(23.07.2021), Seat Spring Forging, PL No. 16241721, 4532 Nos., S.N. 15,

02211448, (27.07.2021), Exhaust Valve Flat Head, PL No. 16240066, 5643 Nos., S.N. 16, 05215024A, (22.07.2021), Lab items equipments (Electricals/

Electronics/Mechatronics), MOD-72010 (Rev. 01), 1 Set, S.N. 17, 05205109, (22.07.2021), Gas Cramtograph, MOD-72017, 1 No. S.N. 18, 05191077A,

(22.07.2021), Lifter for radiator assly., PL. No. 15630043, 3 Nos., S.N. 19, 05191097A

(22.07.2021), Lifter for bearing caps, PL. No. 15610524, 9 Nos.

S.N. 20, 05191100A, (22.07.2021), Lifting arrangement for head frame, PL. No. 15610433, 11 Nos., S.N. 21, 05215121, (26.07.2021), High speed Oxy-Acetylene

Cutting tips, 180 Nos., S.N. 22, 05215122, (26.07.2021), Extended straight die

grinder, 6 Nos., Note: The details of above tenders are available in www.blw

Indianrailways.gov.in and tender www.ireps.gov.in. Corrigendum, Date: 01.07.2021, S.No. 1, Bid No.: E-07, TenderNo.: 10201003 Water Pump Repair Kit Part

No. 16070124, Revision: 1, Details of Corrigendum: The date of opening of tender has

seen revised and now the same will be opened on 15.07.2021 instead of 05.07.2021

S.No. 2, Bid No.: E-06, Tender No.: 10211197 Bearing Con Rod Upper, Part No

16150193, Revision: 3, Details of Corrigendum: The date of opening of tender has

been revised and now the same will be opened on 15.07.2021 instead of 05.07.2021

f ♥ /banaraslocowork "Website: https://blw.indianrailways.gov.in"

Note: All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged for above tenders

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Ram Saran Singh, R/o Flat No. 128,
Police Colony Shalimar Bagh, Delhi, do
hereby disown/ Debar to his son Arun
Kumar and his daughter namely Garima
W/O Sh. Ravinder Kumar from all my
property— moveable and immoveable
and other Assets, Cash, Jewellery and
Bank balance and all my belongings and
severe all relations with both of them. Any
person dealing with them will do so at his/ person dealing with them will do so at his/ ner own risk, cost and consequences

owards my client. Babu Lai Narnaulia, Advocate, Delhi

Bid No.:E-11/2021-22

ENTERPRISE CONNECT

BHEL Supplies Medical Oxygen Plant



In response to the critical situation arising

out of shortage of medical oxygen in the second half of April '21, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has once again risen to the occasion by venturing into the manufacture of medical oxygen plants. BHEL's first Medical Oxygen plant developed and manufactured using CSIR-IIP technology was formally handed over to SLG Hospitals - Hyderabad, in a flagging off ceremony in the presence of CMD and senior officials of BHEL as well as SLG Hospitals at BHEL's Hyderabad unit, in a record time of less than 35 days from receipt of order.BHEL has signed an agreement with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP) on 03.05.21 for transfer of technology for Medical Oxygen Plants of 500 LPM and higher using Pressure Vacuum Swing Adsorption (PVSA) technology. The agreement entails development and deployment of 500 LPM medical oxygen plants and design upscaling to 1000 LPM and more. Work for development of a prototype was initiated on war footing in three of BHEL's biggest manufacturing units (Hyderabad, Bhopal and Haridwar). In parallel, work on design upscaling of 1000 LPM was also taken up. BHEL has already received commercial orders for supply of both 500 LPM and 1000 LPM PVSA plants to state hospitals. The other two units of BHEL are also manufacturing this equipment on a fast track basis, and a total of 10 units are to be supplied in the month of July. Deployment of these plants will further supplement the efforts initiated by the company during the second wave of Covid 19 towards supply of medical oxygen, wherein BHEL's units located at Bhopal and Haridwar supplied over 5,75,000 cubic meters (~80,000 cylinders) of medical oxygen to hospitals in their vicinity. BHEL being the responsible corporate citizen it is, stands firm in its resolve to contribute wholeheartedly in meeting the nation's requirement to combat COVID-19.

UHBVN celebrates 22nd Foundation

Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam celebrated its 22nd Foundation Day on 01 July, 2021. On this occasion ACS Power P.K. Das graced the occasion as the chief guest. In 1999, UHBVN separated from HVPN and started its growth journey independently. For the first time, the foundation day was celebrated as a mass festival by the corporation. Giving this information, a spokesperson of the Electricity Corporation said that on the occasion of Foundation Day, UHBVN has included 22 more new villages in the Mhara Gaon Jagmag Yojana. On this occasion 5 best employees of the Corporation were felicitated for their outstanding performance Crore for the corresponding financial year

and highest bill paying consumers of 4 different categories were also felicitated. Along with this, artificial limbs were provided to the employees who were injured while working on the lines and appointment letters were given under exgratia amount and exgratia to the families of the employees who lost their lives due to covid epidemic and dents. The Mai of Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam, Mr. Shashank Anand encouraged the officers and employees present in the program and motivated them to perform excellently in future. On this occasion the Chief Guest Shri P.K. Das, UHBVN Managing Director Shri Shashank Anand, ADGP Vigilance Shri Kuldeep Sihag, Director Operations Shri SK. Apart from Bansal, Director Finance Shri Amit Divan, Director Project Shri Rajesh Gupta. Chief Engineer, Superintendent Engineer, Company Secretary and other officers were

NE Railway, Gorakhpur to complete electrification of rail network by 2023.

North Eastern Railway is ushering in a new era of modernization that has opened many channels to provide better services to the customers with an ecological balance. A landmark decision to complete electrification of the entire rail network by December'2023 has been taken by the Railway Board. As a result more than 70 percent of the rail network of NER covering all the main lines have already been electrified which facilitates the running of electric trains on these routes. While executing electrification works it is kept in mind that it should be done in a contiguous manner to avoid any non-electrified patch between two electrified territories so that electric trains could be operated as soon as electrification works commission. There are many direct benefits of electrification such as reduced consumption of imported diesel thereby saving precious foreign currency, reduced operating cost, increased sectional capacity by eliminating detention on account of traction change, reduced operating and maintenance cost of the electric locomotives and the indirect benefit is being the more environment friendly mode of transportation. Furthermore, as a new initiative Railways have started to run electric trains with Head on Generation (HOG) which enables electricity n the coaches from Over Head Equipments (OHE) through HOG compliant locomotives and LHB coaches thereby curtailed the use of power cars resulted in saving of diesel in a tune of Rs. 21 crores approximately in the FY 2020-21. In non-HOG trains, electricity in the coaches for lights, fans, air-conditioners and adaptor/charger are supplied through power cars. To facilitate uninterrupted electricity supply in the coaches two power cars are

Indian Railway Finance Corporation Ltd. posts all-time high revenue and profit numbers for FY21

utilized in non-HOG trains.

Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited ("IRFC" or the "Company") the dedicated market borrowing arm of the Indian Railways posted profit growth of 126% on YoY basis for Q4 FY 2020-21 to stand at Rs. 1,482.55 crore vs. Rs. 654.63 crore reported in Q4FY2020. The net profit for FY2020-21 grew by 38.34% to Rs. 4,416.13 Crore as against Rs. 3,192.06

ended 31st March, 2020. The total revenue from operation grew by 17.50% on YoY basis for the same period to stand at Rs. 15,770.47 Crore. The annual disbursement for IRFC grew by 46.19% on YoY basis from Rs 71,392 crore in FY 2019-20 to Rs. 1,04,369 crore for the FY 2020-21. The Assets Under

Management (AUM) for FY2020-21 stands at

Rs. 3,60,079 crore as aga crore registering a growth of 35.29% on YoY basis. The capital adequacy ratio of IRFC continues to remain strong at 415.85% for FY 2020-21 as against 395.39% for FY 2019-20 The Company continues to raise funds at the most competitive rates and terms both from the domestic and overseas financial markets which has helped to keep its cost of borrowing low. Corporate Social Responsibility remains to be a focal area for IRFC as the company spent Rs. 93.44 crore for FY 2020-21 as compared to Rs. 49.45 crore for FY 2019-20. Commenting on the financial results, Shr Amitabh Banerjee, Chairman and Managing Director, IRFC, said, "IRFC continued to show strong growth momentum both in terms of revenue and profit during the financial year

be met through IRFC." NHPC CMD Sh A.K.Singh inaugurates various projects implemented by CVPPPL and RHPCL in Chenab

driven by the massive investment outlay of

Indian Railways which is on an expansion

and modernization drive. There will be

sustained growth in revenue and profitability

going forward as a major portion of the

funding requirement of Indian Railways is to

Sh Abhay Kumar Singh, CMD, NHPC visited UT of J&K from 25.06.2021 to 27.06.2021 and reviewed the progress of works of 1000 MW Pakal Dul HE Project, 624 MW Kiru HEP, 540 MW Kwar HEP and 930 MW Kirthai-II HE Project being implemented by CVPPPL During the visit, he was accompanied by Sh. A.K.Choudhary, MD,CVPPPL,Sh Rajan Kumar, CGM, NHPC RO, Jammu along with Sr officers of NHPC Ltd and CVPPPL Enroute on 25.06.2021, he visited sites of major components of 850 MW Rattle HE Project being implemented by Ratle Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (a JV of NHPC & JKSPDC) in Chenab Valley J&K. CMD. NHPC visited Pakal Dul HE Project on 26.06.2021 and inaugurated 90 Mtr Single Span 70 R Steel Truss Bridge on river Chenab and started MIV Cavern concreting. He interacted with the representatives of M/s Afcon-JAL JV, M/s L&T Ltd and M/s Voith Hydro Pvt Ltd. Contractors of Pakal Dul HE Project & reviewed the progress of works. During his visit, Sh Singh reviewed the progress of Power House Cavern, Transformer Hall Cavern, Bus Ducts approach road to Surge Shaft Top, Surge Shaft Road Tunnel, Valve House, HRT-TBM Platform area and advised the concerned to put in more efforts to complete the activities within the stipulated time frame. During visit of Projects Mrs & Mr Singh also planted trees. On way to Kiru HE Project, Sh. Singh took a view of locations of major components

of Kwar H.E Project .CMD, NHPC laid the

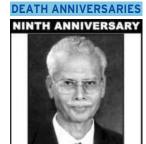
foundation stone of Residential Complex of

Kiru and Kwar HE Projects and 102 mtr span

70 R Steel Truss Bridge across river Chenab

at Pathernaki.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE



Dr.E.EBENEZER RAJA M.V.Sc., Ph.D Madras Veterinary College 10.06.1931 - 07.07.2012 Greatly missed and fondly remembered. Vijaya, Kishore, Ruth, Ashwin nushka, Stephen, Anna & Ryan



REMEMBRANCE

Mrs. RAMANI தகன நினைவ 07-07-2010 நினைவின் நீட்சி உணர்வின் மாட்சி K. Kumaran

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APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male Namely Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown Age: 50/55 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Thin, Face: Long, Hair: Black & White, ID: white long beard and mustache, Injury Mark: Head injury, left leg & left Arms broken and scratch marks on body, Wearing: Orange coloured Kurta,

Lunggi, white coloured Vest, was found



Mob.: 9968318499

Mission Director

dead by train accident on 29.06.2021 at 8:43 AM from KM Pole No.3/9-10 Railway Track, Near Shamshan Ghat, Mandoli, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved in GTB Hospital Mortuary for Identification. In this regard a DD No.7A dated 29.06.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station,

If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi Ph.: 011-23961522, 23941522

DP/173/RLY/2021



Punjab Ghar Ghar Rojgar and Karobar Mission (PGRKAM) under the aegis of Department of Employment Generation, Skill Development and Training, Govt. of Punjab, invites online bids from reputed and experienced Coaching Institutes for selection of a Training Partner to provide online Coaching / Training to youth of Punjab for Central and State level competitive examinations like SSC, Bank POs/Clerical, PPSC, PSSSB, RRB, CET and other departmental exams for regular jobs in government sector.

The interested eligible coaching institutes can submit their bids online

on https://eproc.punjab.gov.in. The last date for submission of bids is 15.07.2021 upto 6:55 PM. For further details of RFP, please visit https:// eproc.punjab.gov.in. Any Addendum/Corrigendum to the RFP document shall be uploaded on the website https://eproc.punjab.gov.in only and no separate notice will be published in any Newspaper.

> Punjab Ghar Ghar Rozgar & Karobar Mission DPRPB NA/12/3507/2021/5805





IN BRIEF



Swapna's bail to July 16

A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on Tuesday adjourned the hearing on an appeal filed by Swapna Suresh, an accused in the gold smuggling case, seeking bail in a case registered by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) against her, to July 16. The Bench adjourned the hearing as the counsel for the NIA sought time to file an affidavit in response to the bail plea.

Gold smuggling attempt foiled at Calicut airport

The Air Intelligence unit of the Customs foiled yet another attempt to smuggle gold in compound form at the Calicut international airport. Sleuths seized 2.198 kg of gold from a passenger, Rasheed Kadungolath of Kuttikattoor, Kozhikode, who arrived from Bahrain on a Gulf Air flight on Monday night. The market value of the gold would approximately be ₹90 lakh. The gold compounds in plastic packets were concealed by tightly taping them on the legs of the passenger, officials said.

Customs to question Shafi in smuggling case

The Customs Department (Preventive), Kochi, has asked Mohammed Shafi, convict in the murder of Revolutionary Marxist Party leader T.P. Chandrasekharan, to appear before it on Wednesday in connection with the agency's probe in the Karipur gold smuggling case. Shafi is on parole. Meanwhile, the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (Economic Offences) here rejected a request by the Customs to extend the custody of Arjun Ayanki, an accused in the case, by one more week.

Kerala retains curbs in some districts

State classifies 362 local bodies as Zone C and 175 as Zone D due to high positivity; TPR in A.P. rises

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM The steady rise in new CO-VID-19 cases in Kerala's

northern districts has given rise to apprehensions that the graph might rise again. After reporting 10,000-

12,000 new cases a day over the past two or three weeks, the State reported 14,373 on Tuesday from 1,31,820 tests. The test positivity rate (TPR) rose, touching 10.9%.

The rise was yet to reflect on active cases or COVID hospitalisations, compared to the last two weeks. Active cases stood at 1,04,105 on Tuesday. Cumulative case fatality was at 13,960 with 142 recent deaths added to the official list.

Malappuram district reported the highest number of new cases with 2,110, Kollam 1,508, Ernakulam 1,468,

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A farmer who was hit by a

speeding car belonging to Chidanand Savadi, son of

Karnataka Deputy Chief Mi-

nister Laxman Savadi, died

at Hungund in Bagalkot on

tified as Koodappa Chikka-

handagal, 50, from Hun-

gund. Mr. Chidanand has

admitted that his car was in-

volved in the accident, but

claimed that he was not in

that was involved in the ac-

cident. Soon after the acci-

dent, I got a call about it. I

The victim has been iden-

BELAGAVI/MYSURU

Tuesday.

accident.

Car owned by Minister's

son hits and kills farmer

Driver was behind the wheels: Savadi

Kozhikode 1,425, Thrissur 1,363, Palakkad 1,221, Thiruvananthapuram 1,115, Kannur 947, Alappuzha 793, Kottayam 662, Kasaragod 613, Pathanamthitta 511, Wayanad 362 and Idukki 275 cas-

The State government on Tuesday amended the CO-VID-19 pandemic zone classification based on average

COVID-19

test positivity rate. Under the grouping, localities with less than 5% TPR were in Zone A, between 5% and 10% under Zone B and between 10% and 15% under Zone C. Localities with

above 15% TPR were in the

restricted D Zone. The new

zonation would be effective

Wednesday. Government of-

went back and helped admit

the person to a hospital. Un-

fortunately, he passed away," he said in a release.

kot Superintendent of Pol-

ice, told presspersons that

as of now, the police did not

know if Mr. Chidanand was

in the same car. "A case has

been registered against Ha-

numant Singh, driver of the

when Mr. Chidanand and

his friends were returning

too, claimed that the car

was driven by the driver at

The incident occurred

vehicle," he said.

Lokesh Jagalasar, Bagal-

fices in the A and B zones could open with full attendance, and those in Zone C with 50%. In A and B zones, hotels and restaurants were allowed to provide home deliveries or takeaways till 9.30 p.m. Gymnasiums could admit restricted members but

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Karnataka High Court

on Tuesday asked the Uttar

Pradesh Police whether

they had inquired if Twit-

ter Communications India

Pvt. Ltd. was "capable of

controlling" the content of

a video related to the as-

sault of an elderly Muslim

man in Ghaziabad before

issuing notice to the com-

pany's managing director,

The court posed the

question during the hear-

Manish Maheshwari.

BENGALURU

not use air-conditioning.

A shot in the arm: People waiting at a COVID-19 vaccination

centre in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, on Tuesday. • RAJU V.

Tourism centres in the A and B zones were allowed to open for those fully vaccinated. As on Tuesday, 82 local self-government institutions (LSGIs) fell under Zone A, 415 in Zone B, 362 in Zone C and 175 in Zone D.

Kerala would totally lockdown over the weekend. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan chaired a review meet-

Karnataka on Tuesday reported 3,104 new cases and 92 deaths. The TPR for the day touched 2.65%

Andhra Pradesh reported 28 more COVID deaths and 3,042 new infections on Tuesday, with a small rise in TPR to 3.44%.

Telangana recorded 784 cases on Tuesday, taking the total to 6,28,282. Five more patients died.

Fresh COVID-19 cases fell below 3,500 in Tamil Nadu on Tuesday. With 3,479 persons testing positive, the State's overall tally stood at 25,03,481.

(With inputs from Bengaluru, Vijayawada, Hyderahad and Chennai hureaus)

Trafficking bid foiled, 'Have you seen if Twitter can 28 children rescued control posts?

They were being taken to Bengaluru

STAFF REPORTER

In a joint operation, the Railway Protection Force (RPF), the Women Development and Child Welfare (WD&CW) Department and the Government Railway Police (GRP) rescued 28 children, allegedly being trafficked from Bihar to Karnataka.

On information provided by NGO Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA) that minor boys were being shifted on the Sanghamitra Express, cued at the Vijayawada railway station in the early hours of Tuesday.

In another raid on the

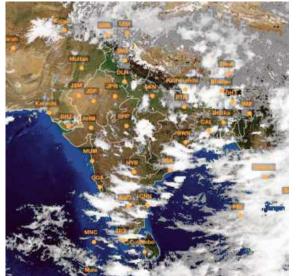
Yeshwanthpur Special, the officials rescued 13 more children bound for Benga-

"We have taken in four persons allegedly trafficking the children to Bengaluru. The victims were all from Bihar," said District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) Ch. Vijay Kumar, of the WD&CW Department.

BBA State coordinator G. Tirupati Rao said the children, aged between 14 and 17 years, were being taken to work as bonded labourers in the construction sec-

A case has been registered under Section 370 (Child Trafficking) and Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Sikkim, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, central Maharashtra, Telangana, Yanam and Karaikal

Agartala 0.835.526.9	Kozhikode32.825.1
Ahmedabad	Kurnool 236.126.4
: Aizawl 1.920.519.0	Lucknow
Allahabad	Madurai 37.5 25.0
Bengaluru 1.330.020.2	Mangaluru 1.430.223.7
Bhopal 37.7 25.5	Mumbai – 32.7 27.0
Bhubaneswar33.826.4	Mysuru 31.0 21.0
Chandigarh 41.0 29.2	New Delhi
Chennai	Patna – 36.8 26.7
Coimbatore 34.8 23.8	Port Blair 131.325.4
Dehradun 6.235.624.5	Puducherry – 34.2 25.2
Gangtok 0.222.418.3	Pune
Goa2331.824.6	Raipur34.423.0
Guwahati	Ranchi 8731.822.0
Hubballi	Shillong 526.918.0
Hyderabad – 35.0 24.4	Shimla
Imphal 30.2 22.6	Srinagar
Jaipur – 39.6 28.2	Thiruvananthapuram 33.8 24.9
Kochi 0.230.625.4	Tiruchi
Kohima 127.0 17.8	Vijayawada – 36.8 26.2
Kolkata	Visakhapatnam 632.225.0
	•
(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in C	elsius)

...92 .27 ..154 .112 .65 ..129 .137 ...3 ..107 ...78 .76 ..114 .154 Visakhapatnam 11 .60 .50

Dated: 06.07.2021

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI) 502: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues

NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and prematur death in people with heart or lung disease

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from Anjanadri hills in Koping of a petition filed by Mr. the car at the time of the pal district, and were going officials and the Railway Maheshwari challenging a "I was travelling in anothto Athani, the native town of notice issued by the police Childline swung into action. er car with my friend. My the Deputy Chief Minister. asking him to join the Fifteen children were resprobe. Advocate P. Prasandriver was driving the car Meanwhile, the Minister,

na Kumar, for the U.P. Pol-

ice, said the role of Twitter

would have to be probed.

Maharashtra tables amendments to Centre's farm laws

Fadnavis calls this an eyewash, says State govt. is taking forward policies of Centre

STAFF REPORTER MUMBAI

The Maharashtra government on Tuesday introduced amendment bills in the State legislature to the three farm Acts passed by the Union government last August.

The bill to amend the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Service Act, 2020, presented by Maharashtra's Agriculture Minister Dadaji Bhuse, stated that farming agreement shall not be valid unless the price paid to farmer is equal to or greater than the minimum support price (MSP).

It also proposed that the farmer and sponsor can make farming agreement below MSP with mutual consent for maximum period of two years. "For crops where MSP is not declared then they may enter into a farming agreement with a mutually agreed



BJP workers staging a protest on the last day of monsoon session, in Mumbai. The Assembly was prorogued on Tuesday. • PTI

price," it said. It has also made the provision for punishment of imprisonment of minimum three years for harassment to the farmer.

Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar said the draft will be open for suggestions and objections for next two months and will be finalised in the winter session of the Assembly.

Maharashtra's recoveries surpass fresh

cases; active tally drops below 1.15 lakh

State adds 8,418 new infections; fatality rate stands at 2.01%

State's Co-operation Minister Balasaheb Patil introduced the amendment to the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020, which stated that 'no trader shall trade in any scheduled farmers' produce unless such trader has a valid licence of competent authori-

ty'. The draft bill has, howev-

er, clarified that 'no licence or permission is required for marketing of agricultural produce such as fruits, vegetables, condiments, spices'.

Chhagan Bhujbal, State's Minister for Food, Civil Supply and Consumer Protection, introduced an amendment to the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020, making provision for the State government to regulate or prohibit the production, supply, distribution, imposing stock limits under circumstances such as famine, price rise, natural calamity etc.

Leader of Opposition Devendra Fadnavis claimed that the amendments are nothing but an eyewash and the State government is taking forward the policies of the Central government. "There was no need to delay the implementation of these Acts in the State," he said.

Probe ordered into alleged phone tapping in 2016-17

STAFF REPORTER

Maharashtra Home Minister Dilip Walse-Patil on Tuesday ordered a high-level inquiry into the alleged phone tapping of the State's MPs and MLAs in 2016-17 under wrong pretexts.

State Congress president and MLA Nana Patole raised the issue in the Assembly, claiming his name was on the list of persons whose phones were tapped, and that he was renamed as one Amjad Khan said to be part of a drug cartel. "Who allowed this? Who was the mastermind? Forget me, even the staff members of some BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party) leaders were under similar surveillance. This government must probe people behind this [alleged phone tapping] and bring

he had called for a meeting of senior officials on Wed-

DATE: 10th & 11th July, 2021 (2 Days) | TIME: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM VENUE: IITTM, A-36, Sector-62, NOIDA-201309, Uttar Pradesl FEES: 5,900/- (Included Course Fees, Govt. Certificate, Soft Study Material, Lunch & Tea CONTENTS: Organic Land Preparation, Organic Manure & Cro Planning, Organic Farming complete Process. Food Forest, Organi Certification, Harvest, Storage, Packaging, Marketing Organic produc Exporting Organic, Govt. Schemes, Hydroponics Farming concept Mob: 8138196423, 7838966020 CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED | Website: www.iedup.in

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No.: HFW/KSMCL/EQPT/Covid-19/VTM Swab Kits/47/2021-22 Date: 06.07.2021 TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref.: 1. HFW/KSMSCL/EQPT/Covid-19/VTM Swab Kits/47/

2021-22, Date: 06.07.2021. 2. HFW/KSMSCL/RE-Tnd/NCD/08/2021-22, (IND-809)

Date: 06.07.2021. Nationwide Tender is invited through GEM Portal & e-tender

under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tenders: 1. Tender for supply of VTM Throat and Nasal Swab Stick for VTM Kits for Covid-19.

2. Tender for supply of NCD Drugs and Injection for the year 2019-20.

The tenderers who have registered under GeM-Portal may

participate through GeM-tendering. Details regarding specification, Terms and Conditions and other information is available in the GeM Bid Document, which can be downloaded from the Gem portal from 06.07.2021. The eliqible

above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office. The tenderers who have registered under e-Procurement department may participate through e-tendering system.

tenderers shall submit their bids under GeM-portal platform for

Details regarding EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information are avilable in the tender Document. Which can be downloaded from the website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 06.07.2021 the eligible tenders shall submit their e-tenders under e-Procurement platform for above mentioned tenders

Further information if any mabe be obtained from this office. Sd/-, Managing Director KSMSCL, Bengaluru



Maharashtra's recoveries outpaced its cases again on Tuesday with the State reporting a robust 10,548 recoveries against a surge of 8,418 new COVID-19 cases as the active case tally dipped further to 1,14,297.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

However, the number of samples tested continued to be on the lower side – with less than 2 lakh tested as opposed to the daily average of 2.40 lakh.

A total of 109 deaths have been added to the progressive death toll, with 44 of those occurring in the last 48 hours and just seven being

from the past week. A further 55 fatalities have been added as per the ongoing 'reconciliation' process.

The State's total death toll has climbed to 1,23,136 with the State's case fatality rate

standing at 2.01%. The State's total cases have reached 61,13,335 while its cumulative recoveries have gone up to 58,72,268 with the recovery rate rising

"Of a total 4,29,08,288 laboratory samples tested thus far, 61,13,335 (with the average case positivity falling incrementally to 14.25%) have returned positive with over 1.96 lakh samples being tested in the last 24 hours," State Surveillance Officer Dr. Pradeep Awate said.

Pune reported more than 900 new cases taking its total case tally to 10,62,134. As many as seven deaths were recorded as the toll rose to 16,968.

Mumbai recorded 455 new cases to take its total tally to 7,25,616 while the active cases declined to 12,240. Ten fatalities took the city's death count to 15,564.

Kolhapur continued to top the case rise across the State, adding more than 1,700 new cases taking its total cases to 1,66,628 of whom 12,988 are active.

them to justice," he said. Several MLAs raised the issue of increasing interference from Central agencies.

Mr. Walse-Patil said that

nesday. "Permission for phone tapping is giving under special conditions. If wrong excuses have been given and permissions have been secured, then that will be out in the probe to be conducted," he said. The BJP boycotted the

proceedings, claiming the government was muzzling their voices. "We will conduct our own mock 'Assembly' outside," said Leadof the Opposition Devendra Fadnavis.

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, राँची परिचम, राँची। ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट अति अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना

(द्वितीय कॉल)

PR No. – 245454 (Drinking Water & Sanitation) 2021-22 है। निविदा सूचना संख्या – DWSD/RW/SVS-20/2020-21 दिनांक 06.

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(हार्ड कॉपी) जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय

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19/04/2021 / 04.00 बजे अपराहन तक।

कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, राँची पश्चिम, राँची ।

20/04/2021 / 04.00 बजे अपराहन में।

M ND-NDE

A death foretold

There is a pattern of institutional oppression behind the demise of Father Stan Swamy

It was a death his well-wishers feared would happen and one he had anticipated. Father Stan Swamy, an ■84-year-old Jesuit priest, known for his service and activism in the cause of Adivasis, died nine months into his unjust imprisonment on tenuous charges. A death that was simply allowed to happen despite being foretold by his deteriorating health in prison will weigh on the country's collective conscience for long. His age and frailty drew no sympathy from either the prosecuting agency or the trial court, which clung to the state narrative of there being grounds to believe that he was part of a Maoist plot to overthrow the government. Despite being a fit case for bail, he was denied bail, mainly due to the statutory bar on bail under the anti-terrorism law invoked against him. The best the diffident judiciary could do for him was a spell of hospitalisation, even as the octogenarian pleaded that he be given interim bail to be with his friends or allowed to die in prison. The Bombay High Court did issue notice on his bail petition, observing that he was entitled to bail, but his end came in a hospital even before the matter could be taken up for final disposal. Much of the blame and accountability for his death should be on the NIA, which perversely opposed his release, and the court which could have granted interim bail weeks earlier.

It was fairly obvious that his prison stay, especially during the pandemic, was detrimental to his well-being. A good two months elapsed between the High Court seeking the NIA's response to his bail plea on medical grounds and his death. The same court had intervened to grant interim bail to Varavara Rao, another elderly co-accused, holding that bail can be granted "purely on the grounds of sickness, advanced age, infirmity and health conditions", especially if incarceration amounted to endangering life. It is systemic and institutional failure that another undertrial placed in similar circumstances did not get the benefit of this humane approach. A pattern of institutional oppression can be seen in the events, from the denial of a sipper in jail to his death while in custody. Two larger issues here are the questionable legality of the bail-denying feature of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the validity of the Bhima-Koregaon case itself. It is time the higher judiciary examined these; especially the attempt to link a simple case arising out of violence a day after the Elgar Parishad, a commemorative event held in Pune, and an alleged Maoist plot involving lawyers, activists and human rights defenders. To make matters worse, credible reports that some of the electronic evidence gathered in this case could have been planted remotely by malware were never investigated. The call for accountability for Fr. Swamy's death rings painfully true.

Cultural genocide

Canada should ensure justice for indigenous community who suffered systemic violence

he recent discovery of hundreds of graves in Caada has put the spotlight back on its dark past, ■ when indigenous people faced systemic discrimination and violence. In June, the Cowessess First Nation, an indigenous organisation, found 751 unmarked graves at the site of a former residential school in Saskatchewan. This came a month after another indigenous organisation discovered the remains of 215 children at a closed residential school in British Columbia. Canada's residential school system was a telling example of how indigenous people were treated. Between 1882 and 1996, an estimated 150,000 children were sent to residential schools, that were funded by the federal government and run mostly by the Catholic Church. Most of these students were forcefully taken away from their families. And thousands never returned. In 1883, Canada's first Prime Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, defended in Parliament the system of residential schools, saying indigenous students should be kept away from their parents, "who are savages". The children were not allowed to speak their languages or practise their culture. Many were abused. An estimated 4,000 children died, mainly due to TB, malnutrition and other illnesses resulting from the squalid conditions in the schools. Despite these horrors, the residential school system continued for over a century.

In 2008, Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a formal apology. The Government also set up a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to document the history and the lasting impact of the school system on the indigenous communities. In 2015, the commission called the violence against the indigenous students a "cultural genocide". It has made 94 "calls to action" to different levels of the government and communities that included independent investigations and steps to protect Aboriginal rights and culture. It also asked the Catholic Church to apologise and take steps toward reconciliation. The Vatican is yet to formally apologise for the schools. Justin Trudeau, who came to power in 2015, had promised that addressing the grievances of the indigenous communities was a core agenda. But six years later, indigenous organisations say the authorities are half-hearted. The back-to-back discoveries of unmarked graves strengthen indigenous organisations' claims that the actual number of the dead is way above the estimates of the commission. Mr. Trudeau has expressed "guilt" over the abuses. But that is not enough. His government should assist indigenous organisations to find unmarked graves. He should order investigations into the residential schools with graves to get to the bottom of the matter. Mr. Trudeau should also accelerate steps to implement all the recommendations of the Reconciliation Commission to ensure reparations are done to the country's indigenous community.

Fresh stirrings on federalism as a new politics

There are factors, which if harnessed well, that can create a political moment for a principled politics of federalism



etween vaccine wars, heated debates over the Goods and Services Tax (GST), personnel battles like the fracas over West Bengal's Chief Secretary, and the pushback against controversial regulations in Lakshadweep, is India ready for a new federal

Emboldened by victories in the recent State Assembly elections, the idea of a third 'federal' front is once again gaining political cache as was evident in the Sharad Pawar organised Opposition meet. The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, since taking office, has begun to craft an ideological narrative on State rights, by re-introducing the term Union into the public discourse and pushing back against increased fiscal centralisation. Is this renewed emphasis on federalism, a genuine opportunity for forging a new politics?

Federalism in India has always had political relevance, but except for the States Reorganisation Act, federalism has rarely been an axis of political mobilisation. This was true even in the days of coalition politics when State politics mattered to national electoral outcomes. Fiscal and administrative centralisation persisted despite nearly two decades of coalition governments. Ironically, rather than deepen federalism, the contingencies of electoral politics have created significant impediments to creating a political consensus for genuine federalism. When confronted with entrenched centralisation of the present regime, the challenge is, ironically, even grea-

Nationalism on strong wicket First, the rhetoric of nationalism has greater political purchase. Ideologically, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has had relatively little patience with federalism as a device to accommodate India's multiple linguistic, religious, and ethnic identities. Post-2014, the BJP has couched its discomfiture with federalism in the grammar of development and nationalism, which has mass electoral appeal. To accelerate progress, India must become 'one nation, one market', 'one nation, one ration card', 'one nation, one grid'. In this framing, federalism as a principle necessary for negotiating diverse political contexts and identity claims risks being equated with regionalism and a narrow parochialism that is anti-development and anti-

national. Thus, a politics for deepening federalism will need to overcome a nationalist rhetoric that pits federalism against nationalism and development. This is a hard ask, especially because most regional parties have failed to uphold principles of decentralisation in their own backvard.

Second, and relatedly, despite a rhetorical commitment to federalism, the politics of federalism has remained contingent rather than principled. As Pratap Bhanu Mehta has pointed out over the decades, federal principles have been bent in all kinds of ways to co-produce a political culture of flexible federalism – "federalism for me, but not for thee".

Federalism in this rendition is reduced to a game of political upmanship and remains restricted to a partisan tussle rather than a re-

modation. Especially, when claimants of greater federalism often maintain silence on unilateral de-

cisions that affect other States. Take for instance, the downgrading of a full-fledged State in Jammu and Kashmir into a Union Territory in 2019, or more recently, the notification of the NCT of Delhi (Amendment) Act, 2021. This blatant undermining of State's rights hardly witnessed protest by parties that were not directly affected by these. Upholding federalism requires political maturity and a commitment to the federal principle. This is lacking in our politics.

Divide among States

Third, the increased economic and governance divergence between States. Economic growth trajectories since liberalisation have been characterised by growing spatial divergence. Across all key indicators, southern (and western) States have outperformed much of northern and eastern India resulting in a greater divergence rather than expected convergence with growth. This has created a context where collective action amongst States becomes difficult as poorer regions of India contribute far less to the economy but require greater fiscal resources to overcome their economic fragilities. Glimpsvisible in the debates around the 15th Finance Commission (FC) when the Government of India mandated the commission to use the 2011 Census rather than the established practice of using the 1971 Census to determine revenue share across States.

This, Southern states feared, risked penalising States that had successfully controlled population growth by reducing their share in the overall resource pool. The 15th Finance Commission, through its recommendations, deftly avoided a political crisis but the growing divergence between richer and poorer States, remains an important source of tension in inter-State relations that can become a real impediment to collective action amongst States. With the impending delimitation exercise due in 2026, these tensions will only increase.

These challenges notwithstanding, the BIP's impatience with federalism affords an opportunity for regional parties to craft a new federal bargain. At one level, the BJP's homogenising ideological project risks creating new forms of cultural alienation and associated regional tensions as occurred during the Citizenship (Amendment) Act protests in Assam. There is a very real possibility of the emergence of new forms of regional sub-nationalism, glimpses of which were visible during the recent Assembly elections particularly in West Bengal.

Fiscal management

Moreover, the realities of India's macro-fiscal position risk increasing the fragility of State finances. Weak fiscal management has brought the Union government on the brink of what economist Rathin Roy has called a silent fiscal crito squeeze revenue from States by increasing cesses. Its insistence on giving GST compensation to States as loans (after long delays) and increasing State shares in central schemes. The pandemic-induced economic crisis has only exaggerated this.

Against this backdrop, if harnessed well, both sub-nationalist sentiments and the need to reclaim fiscal federalism create a political moment for a principled politics of federalism. However, there are risks along the way. As Suhas Palshikar has argued, the politics of regional identity is isolationist by its very nature. An effort at collective political action for federalism based on identity concerns will have to overcome this risk. On the fiscal side, richer States must find a way of sharing the burden with the poorer States. States will have to show political maturity to make necessary compromises if they are to negotiate existing tensions and win the collective battle with the Union. An inter-State platform that brings States together in a routine dialogue on matters of fiscal federalism could be the starting point for building trust and a common agenda. The seeds of this were planted in the debates over the 15th Finance Commission and the

Finally, beyond principles, a renewed politics of federalism is also an electoral necessity. No coalition has succeeded, in the long term, without a glue that binds it. Forging a political consensus on federalism can be that glue. But this would require immense patience and maturity from regional parties. Are they up to the task?

Yamini Aiyar and Rahul Verma are with the Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi. The views expressed are personal

Venezuela's reflections on the Carabobo

Two hundred years after a 'geopolitical campaign', South American States still struggle to be independent



VIJAY PRASHAD

n June 24, 1821, Simón Bolívar, the great Liberator, led his forces against the Spanish Army at the Battle of Carabobo. Five days later, Bolívar entered Caracas in triumph. The Spanish had not yet been defeated across South America, but the Spanish monarchy no longer had the will to fight back. The rest of the battles - including the Battle of Pinchincha on May 24, 1822 - merely finished up what Carabobo had established, namely that South America's many republics wanted to be sovereign. Bolívar's comrades assembled in Cúcuta to write a new constitution and to elect him as the president. But Bolívar would not rest. He mounted his horse, went southwards to ensure that the sovereignty of South America would be permanent.

The story of Bolívar and Carabobo is deeply felt among Venezuelans of all classes. When I asked Venezuela's Foreign Minister Jorge Arreaza about the meaning of this battle, he dug deep into the history books to explain that

the Carabobo "was more than a battle. It was a geopolitical campaign". After Bolívar's armies defeated the Spanish on those battlefields west of Caracas, the new States that emerged from Gran Colombia (Colombia and Venezuela) down to Bolivia (1825) produced a dynamic sense of their own sovereignty. Carabobo was "an important step towards the whole independence of South America".

A decade ago, I remember hearing Hugo Chávez on Carabobo, his voice emotional, his sense of the possibilities opened up by Bolivar total. No wonder that Chávez named the process opened up by his election in 1998 as the Bolivarian Revolution and that he named the regional process, the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA). Venezuela has also celebrated the battle with a Bicentennial Congress of the Peoples of the World. The theme is not the independence of South America alone. It is sovereignty for the

The woes of States

Two hundred years after Carabobo, the South American States struggle to be independent. Venezuela itself remains locked in a dangerous conflict with the United States, whose government continues to tighten the sanctions regime that inflicts harm against the



Venezuelan people, Recently, the U.S. government's secondary sanctions pushed UBS to refuse to complete transactions by the Venezuelan government to the CO-VAX alliance so as to ensure delivery of vaccines for COVID-19. Increasingly, U.S. sanctions block the ability of Venezuela to conduct normal commercial relations with other countries. The U.S. has been able to exercise this overwhelming power over Venezuela – and several other countries under unilateral U.S. sanctions – because of U.S. dominance over trade and investment, international financial systems, and global information

Monroe Doctrine

Just when Bolívar's armies defeated the Spanish, the U.S. President James Monroe on December 2, 1823, crafted the Monroe Doctrine. This policy suggested that now that European powers had lost their grip on the Americas, the United States of America will be the

guarantor of continental stability. At that time, the U.S. did not have the technological or military means to subordinate all of the hemisphere. In 1898, when the U.S. intervened to remove the last vestiges of Spanish colonialism in Cuba and Puerto Rico, it took over both islands. Subsequently, U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt in his corollary to Monroe's doctrine in 1904 said that the U.S. would exercise its influence over the Americas. Military invasions from Nicaragua to Panama (1989) and coups from Guatemaia (1954) to Bolivia (2019) brought Monroe's speech into the world.

The U.S. stand

It meant little that U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said in 2013, "The era of the Monroe Doctrine is over." This statement came four years after the U.S.-backed coup in Honduras, and also before the U.S. coup in Bolivia. Mr. Kerry made that remark while he served under President Barack Obama and Vice-President Joe Biden. Mr. Biden, now U.S. President, has no intention of renouncing the Monroe Doctrine. His Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, has interfered in the legal processes in Bolivia, put in place a former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent, Lisa Kenna, as Ambassador to Peru, and deepened U.S. sanctions

against Venezuela. For these men, there is no evidence of a policy

In February 2021, UN Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures, Alena Douhan, wrote that due to the U.S. unilateral sanctions, the Venezuelan government revenue shrank by 99% and the country is living on 1% of its presanctions income. Venezuela, she wrote, "faces a lack of necessary machinery, spare parts, electricity, water, fuel, gas, food, and medicine". Over the past six years, 2.5 million Venezuelans have slipped into food insecurity, while electricity generation levels have fallen to 20%. Venezuelan assets frozen in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Portuguese banks amount to U.S.\$6 billion.

But Venezuelans remain defiant. "We stand firm," says Mr. Arreaza, who has just returned to Caracas from Moscow. Monroe is another name for unipolarity. Despite the residual power of the U.S., Monroe is of the past. Carabobo, for the Venezuelans, signals multipolarity. It is, they believe, the way

Vijay Prashad is the Director of Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research, Chief Correspondent for Globetrotter, and Chief Editor of LeftWord

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Father Stan Swamy There cannot be anything more frustrating than the court hearing the bail application of Father Stan Swamy when he was on a ventilator. The entire system seems to be on a ventilator. Nobody can express their grief beyond that. The narratives show that all this was because of his continued incarceration in jail, and not granting him bail. When it was pointed out to the court that it took 10 days for him to be transferred from the jail to the hospital, the court expressed its shock. In ordinary parlance, this is called passing the buck. However, what was actually shocking was the court's refusal to grant him bail. When Gandhiji was confined to the Aga Khan Palace and was seriously ill, the colonial rulers had the presence of mind to release him lest take the ignominy of him dying in their

custody. They were

prepared to give him the best of treatment. Yet, from jail to a hospital does not make much of a difference. It is still custody. The jurisprudence seems to be not custodial rights but custodian's rights. Where are we heading? N.G.R. PRASAD,

■ A certain rivalry has always existed between the state and activists at all times. But the incarceration of a veteran social worker, on vague charges, and which must be read as an attempt by the Government to capture and monopolise the nationalistic narrative, and his death, has ended up creating a martyr in Father Stan Swamy, and has tarnished the image of PREETHA SALIL,

Democracy is also about the quintessential premise that every individual has certain basic rights which

includes the right to live and die with dignity. But this right has not been served many a time in the largest democracy of the world, and Father Stan Swamy's death has brought out this ghastly truth of our system. It is disturbing that a man who fought for the most marginalised sections of the society, had to appeal in court to get a straw and sipper. His death is not just a death of an individual but it is also the death of a belief in democracy and justice. ADITYA JHINGAN, ■ It is a sad reflection of the

growing insensitivity and dehumanisation of our criminal justice system which is bent at will by the rulers of the day to suit their partisan ends. The sky would not have fallen had he been granted bail and the law allowed to take its own course. His words from jail, "We will still sing in chorus. A caged bird can still sing,"

should inspire those who care for human rights in the country to raise their voice in a chorus to turn the spotlight on disturbing aberrations in the country. MANOHAR ALEMBATH. Kannur, Kerala

■ The antagonism of the Indian state towards human rights activists who speak for the Adivasis stems from its commitment to corporate interests. Whether it is the UPA or the NDA, people who fight against the human-rights violations of tribal people and their continuous displacement are hunted out. It was in colonial India that people struggling for the rights of fellow citizens were imprisoned without trial. To see the

same situation continue in

independent India is really

■ The Government should

not be so insensitive to the

harrowing.

SUKUMARAN C.V.,

Father Stan Swamy on inhuman treatment his plight with political

day. Even the judiciary that failed to grant timely bail to medical grounds cannot escape. He was subject to including denying him a very humane request for a sipper with straw to drink water. One cannot help but contrast figures released on bail on medical grounds and then

extent that it is left to the

prisoners, which results in

collective anger and anguish.

The judiciary should perhaps

rights commissions to decide

the issue of release on bail on

One wonders what the fate of

vulnerable prisoners is like.

■ His passing is a black letter

be given more freedom to coordinate with human

a case-to-case basis for all

prisoners who are elderly.

other old, infirm and

D. NAGARJUNA,

media to highlight the

pathetic plight of such

(elderly and unwell)

making it big in political circles. THARCIUS S. FERNANDO,

Warfare today The CoDS, for whatever

reason, has kindled a debate as old as the Second World War. In later day warfare, air superiority became vital; it is hard to win a battle on the basis of the army alone. This era increasingly uses new technologies to engage in any conflict zone with a minimal military footprint through remote warfare. This also strategically creates a political distance between the nation and the sites of its military interventions that stand enhanced by powerful armed drones and meticulous special operations. It is surprising that we should engage in debates that are far less relevant today. R. NARAYANAN, Navi Mumbai

Seeking a paradigm shift in mental health care

WHO's guidance on community mental health services balances care and support with rights and participation



VANDANA GOPIKUMAR & KESHAV DESIRAJU

Recently, a High Court suggested that homeless persons with health conditions be branded with a permanent tattoo, when vaccinated against CO-VID-19, since tracking a 'floating population' may be cumbersome. Earlier judgments have also suggested 'round ups' of such persons to facilitate pathways into care. These are possibly well-intentioned directives, but what follows is that bewildered persons are huddled in a vehicle and admitted into shelters or mental hospitals that are usually crowded, yet lonely. What does this tell us about the way homelessness and mental illness are regarded in 'polite' society?

A responsive care system

Persons with mental health conditions need a responsive care system that inspires hope and participation without which their lives are empty. In many countries, persons with severe mental health conditions live in shackles in their homes, in overcrowded hospitals, and even in prison. On the other hand, many persons with mental health issues live and even die alone on the streets.

Three losses dominate the mental health systems narrative: dignity, agency and personhood. Far-sighted changes in policy and laws have often not taken root and many laws fail to meet international human rights standards. Many also do not account for cultural, social and political contexts resulting in moral rhetoric that doesn't change the scenario of inadequate care. Society's responses are often based on conditioning and perceptions, often verging on visceral forms of prejudice. This results in an "othering" of persons who seem different from dominant groups. Hence, even well-intentioned judgments could set off unintended negative, even grave, consequences. There is also the social legacy of the asylum, and of psychiatry and mental illness itself, that guides our imagination in how care is organised.

Historian Sarah Ann Pinto, in her account of the lunatic asylums in co-



recovery. Services are non-coercive

and persons can opt to stay or leave

based on discussions with peer sup-

porters. Tupu Ake, a New Zealand-

based recovery house service, wel-

comes 'guests' from various ethnici-

ties. Atmiyata in Gujarat employs a stepped-care approach using com-

munity-based volunteers who identi-

fy persons in distress, offer counsell-

ing support and enable access to

social care benefits. Evaluation of the

service indicates better general

health, better quality of life and so-

Bengal works with local networks

and volunteers who support home-

less persons through their outreach

programme and enable access to

food, clothing, counselling, shelter

and housing. Home Again, a pro-

gramme of The Banyan in Tamil Na-

du, facilitates residence options in

regular neighbourhoods while also

offering graded levels of supportive

services for persons with severe dis-

abilities. It emphasises socio-cultural

participation, 'neurodiversity' and

normalisation of mental health con-

ditions. Peer leaders provide wisdom

from their lived experience to sup-

The practice of open dialogue, a

therapeutic practice that originated

in Finland, runs through many pro-

grammes in the Guidance. This prac-

tice, conducted in homes or in ser-

vice settings, combines individual

and systemic family therapy with a

focus on the centrality of relation-

ships and promotion of connected-

ness through family and support net-

therapist in de-escalation of distress

and breaks power differentials that

Aimed at providing newer per-

spectives to governments and policy-

makers, approaches in the new WHO

allow for free expression.

works. This approach trains the

port others in distress.

cial functioning. Naya Daur in West

lonial Bombay, wrote that "doctors interpreted a patient's refusal to wear clothing as a sign of morbidity, and clothing became a way of civilising the savage – the violent Indian man and the promiscuous Indian woman". Individual preference and indigenous culture were substituted with what the coloniser thought was appropriate. Similarly, medieval London boasted of a hospital for the care of persons with mental illness, St. Mary of Bethlehem, which soon turned into a 'bedlam', a poorhouse and a site of shocking atrocities.

We must understand mental health conditions for what they are and for how they are associated with disadvantage. These situations are linked, but not always so. Therefore, not all distress can be medicalised. It is against this complex background of distress arising out of medical conditions and from inequitable social systems, of good intentions and calamitous consequences, that we welcome the Guidance on Community Mental Health Services recently launched by the World Health Organization. The Guidance, which includes three models from India, addresses the issue from 'the same side' as the mental health service user and focuses on the co-production of knowledge and on good practices built around the key themes of crisis services, peer support, supported living, community outreach, hospital-based services and comprehensive mental health service networks. Drawn from 22 countries, these models balance care and support with rights and participation.

Afiya House in the U.S. is driven by peers and offers respite to persons who have significant emotional or mental distress. People can stay for up to seven nights when they are connected to networks that support Guidance are designed to make community inclusion and dialogic practice a way of life. With emphasis on social care components such as work force participation, pensions and housing, increased investments in health and social care seem impera-

A network of services

Recently, the Supreme Court and the Madras High Court have advised vaccinations for those in mental health care homes and for those homeless and living with a mental illness. While those in institutions should access this support at the earliest, for those homeless and who opt not to enter mental health establishments en masse from where exit pathways may be laborious, there are two paths. In the first, drives will be conducted and persons with mental illness will be housed in overcrowded institutions, with scant regard for agency or for social determinants of ill health. The other would aim to provide a network of services ranging from soup kitchens at vantage points to mobile mental health and social care clinics, non-intimidating guest homes at village panchayats with access to toilets and the comfort of a welcoming team, and well-being kiosks that offer a basic income and/ or facilitate livelihoods. Small emergency care and recovery centres for those who need crisis support instead of larger hospitals, and longterm inclusive living options in an environment that values diversity and celebrates social mixing, will reframe the archaic narrative of how mental

health care is to be provided. With a strong health system, Tamil Nadu is well placed to demonstrate through pilots, and an exclusive policy for homeless persons with mental illness, that political intent, good governance and creative thinking can solve complex problems and cater to the needs of the ultra-vulnerable.

Meanwhile, a mental health service user whom we met interpreted her tattoo as 'we are all one'. If we can learn to 'be on the same side' as the mental health service user, it seems possible that we can learn to respect human diversity.

Vandana Gopikumar is Co-Founder, The Banyan and The Banyan Academy; Keshav Desiraju serves on the board of The Banyan Academy and was Union Health Secretary, Government of India

Unpacking China's game plan

It is upgrading defence infrastructure in the Tibetan plateau to nullify the disadvantages that its airpower has vis-à-vis India



Aviation websites are abuzz with reports of a rapid upgradation of aviation infrastructure in Tibet. While the expansion of the road and railway network there has been subject to much debate, it is the speed of upgradation of airfields, construction of hardened aircraft shelters, new runways, aprons, underground storage and tunnelling into mountainsides, all visible in high-resolution satellite photos, that should have alarm bells ringing in New Delhi. This needs an analysis for two reasons. First, is there any link between these constructions and the procrastination by China in the talks for reducing tensions in Eastern Ladakh? What is the tactical aim of the Chinese with these upgradations? Second, how would these changes affect the balance of air power between the Indian Air Force (IAF) and People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) in the medium to long term?

On a weak wicket in the air

While the larger strategic aim of the Chinese in upping the ante by violating decades-old understandings in 2020 is still a matter of debate, what Beijing discovered to its discomfiture was that India did not yield any ground, and actually occupied vantage points in the south Pangong Tso area to balance out some sectoral disadvantages. This firmness was backed by deterrent IAF firepower and it was clear to the Chinese that they were on a weak wicket in the air due to three reasons. First, the IAF's high strike potential, with its aircraft having the advantage of a string of airfields all along the foothills of the Himalayas; that they are at low altitudes permit a full armament load to be carried. Second, Chinese airfields in Tibet were few, widely spaced out and hence not mutually supportive; there were gaps in the air defence structure too that the IAF would utilise to interdict targets in the rear. Third, most Tibetan airfields are at altitudes above 10,000 ft, severely restricting the payload of PLAAF aircraft. Additional infrastructure was required to make up these deficiencies since the positive asymmetry of IAF would be detrimental to China's plans to gain any territorial advantage; 'time' had to be made an ally in this endeavour.

The balancing out of IAF's asymmetry was only possible through a rapid upgradation of airfield and air defence infrastructure – this would need two years at least. The Chinese plan has been cleverly implemented through what can only be called a tactical pause, ob-

tained via talks that were commenced but have meandered since. A 'breakthrough' in the eyeball-to-eyeball posture came in February when a simultaneous withdrawal in certain areas was agreed on, including a pulling back of Indian troops from their vantage points in areas south of Pangong Tso. With the threat to the PLA Moldo garrison removed, the Chinese re-adopted their procrastination position in subsequent talks regarding restoring status quo ante in Depsang/Daulat Beg Oldi and Hot Springs, which are of vital interest to India. This is the classic buying-time-through-talks technique and is still ongoing. In the tactical pause won surreptitiously, the Chinese have gone on the upgradation drive to nullify the disadvantages that Chinese airpower has vis-à-vis India; gaps in their air defence scheme are being plugged through the new infrastructure and positioning of new air defence radars and missile systems that would afford them a layered air defence setting and affect the balance of power in the medium to long term.

Trying to turn the tables

The IAF is equipped and trained for offensive action. In all the previous conflicts the IAF conducted aggressive strikes, besides providing active close support to ground forces. The odd exception was the 1962 India-China conflict where the IAF's substantial strike potential was nullified by a political decision to not use it. The equipment accretion profile is a pointer to the offensive role as seen by the acquisition of Jaguars, Mirage-2000, Sukhois and now the Rafale. Seen from the prism of air power doctrine, this points to India's strategy of deterrence by punishment: 'don't mess with us as we have the means and power to hurt you'. By strengthening their air defence architecture, the Chinese are trying to turn the tables and deter India through a strategy of denial, i.e., to dissuade the IAF by signalling that it would be costly in terms of aircraft and aircrew losses. For this turnaround to take effect would take China about two years. If China succeeds in its endeavour, India may lose the trump card of positive air power asymmetry that it now holds.

What should India do? The air defence upgradation drive is surely being monitored, but that is not enough. If status quo ante on ground is not obtained soon, it may be too late a year or two from now. The facade of talks should be acknowledged for its devious aim. India's posture and demands at the talks (which one supposes has an IAF representative too) must reflect its understanding of China's game plan. There is no other way

Manmohan Bahadur is a retired Air Vice Marshal

Vacancies send a wrong signal

Leaving top posts in the government unoccupied affects governance and is demoralising for officers

M.P. NATHANAEL

The vacancies in the Central government and the States in recent years have had a deleterious effect on governance. For months on end, top slots in important government agencies remain vacant. Delays in promotions and appointments not only affect the organisations but also tend to demoralise the officials who await promotions after vacancies arise.

Posts waiting to be filled

The post of the Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission was kept vacant until June this year even though the previous Chairman, H. L. Dattu, retired in December 2020. The post of the Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) too was kept vacant until the recent appointment of Subodh Kumar Jaiswal. The post had been vacant since February after Rishi Kumar Shukla

The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC), Sunil Arora, retired on April 12 amidst an aggressive election campaign and polling in West Bengal and four other States this year leaving just two members in the Commission. One of them became CEC by virtue of his seniority in the Election Commission. In case of a disagreement on any issue between the two of them, a solution would have become difficult. The Centre appointed Anup Chandra Pandey as the new Election Commissioner in June. Meanwhile, the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) has filed a public interest litigation in the Supreme Court demanding the appointment of Election Commissioners by a committee, as is done in the case of appointment of the Director of the CBI, and not by the Centre as is the case now. ADR has referred to the 255th Report of Law Commission that had recommended that Election Commissioners be appointed by a high-powered committee. Though the high-powered committee headed by the Prime Minister has two members the Chief Justice of India and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha - the Opposition leader has little say in the selection process. If the Prime Minister decides on a candidate and the CJI consents, the Opposition leader's dissenting note carries no weight. There is a need, therefore, to expand the high-powered committee to include at least two more members of eminence with proven integrity for the selection process preferably a retired police officer and a Chief Minister of a State governed by a party other than that of the party of the Prime Minister.

After Hrushikesh Senapaty's retirement in November last, the National Council of Educational Research and Training, which is largely responsible for chalking out the education policy of the country, is headless. Of the 40 Central universities across the country, nearly half are without regular Vice-Chancellors.

Rakesh Asthana assumed additional charge of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) from December 2019. After his appointment as Director-General (DG) of the Border Security Force in August last, he continues to hold charge of the NCB as DG. Kuldiep Singh, DG of the Central Reserve Police Force, now also heads the National Investigation Agency after the previous incumbent, Y.C. Modi, retired on May 31 last.

Impact of vacancies Similar vacancies or examples of officers holding additional charge exist in other ministries, commissions and departments, but the government appears to turn a blind eye to the malefic effect it has on governance. Vacancies for such long periods tend to paralyse the backbone of these organisations. Appointments to higher echelons can be announced well in time. Delays in important appointments send a wrong signal to the nation. If the government can announce its chiefs and vice chiefs months in advance, there is no reason why this cannot be done in all other ministries and departments. A time frame needs to be worked out to announce top appointments at least a month in advance. Political considerations need to be pushed to the back seat for a clean and honest administration.

M.P. Nathanael is Inspector General of Police (Retd), CRPF

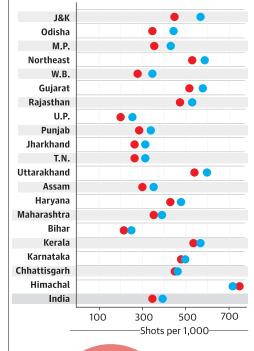
DATA POINT

Jab gap As the vaccination drive picks up pace in India, the gender gap in vaccination rate (people vaccinated per 1,000 individuals) continues to widen. The gap varies among the States. Except in Himachal Pradesh, there was in a gap in all the 19 other States analysed. In India, as of July 4, 349 per every 1,000 women aged above 18 years and 390 per every 1.000 men aged above 18 have received at least one dose. According to the NFHS-5, in many States, more women said that they would let their husbands decide about their health care than those who said they will take decisions themselves.

By Vignesh Radhakrishnan, Sumant Sen

and Jasmin Nihalani

STATE-WISE | The graph shows the State-wise vaccination rate among adult men () and women (). The gap was widest in J&K (men: 579; women: 435). H.P. was the only State where the vaccination rate was higher among adult women (men: 715; women: 727). The analysis is limited to 20 States for which relevant data are available. The population figures are govt. estimates for 2021. A.P. and Telangana's estimates were ignored as they were unreliable



1,000

JULY 4 (DIFFERENCE: 41) ₹ **GAP WIDENS** | The graph shows the rate among adult men and women. The difference increased rapidly after the new vaccination policy kicked in. On May 1, 138 out of every 1,000 adult men had received at least one dose, while the figure was 131 for adult women (the difference of seven is plotted in the graph). On June 1, the difference increased to 19 (men: 191 out of 1,000; women: 172 out of 1,000). By July 4, it further worsened to 41 (men: 390 of 1,000; women: 349 out of 1,000)

Feb. 1 Apr. 1 May 1 DECISION-MAKERS | Interestingly, in J&K, where the gender gap in the vaccination rate was the widest, the lowest share of women said that they themselves make decisions about their healthcare (5.2%). About 26% of women in the UT said their husbands mainly make decisions about their health. In H.P., where the gender gap is the narrowest, the highest share of women said they themselves take decisions related to their health care. The table lists the States for which NFHS-5 has data and those which have reliable population estimates

0/ -5---- 0/ -5----- 0/ -5---- 0/ -5----

State	% of wom- en who said they usu- ally make decisions about their health care	% of women who said mainly their husbands make decisions about their health care	% of men who said they usually make decisions about their health care	% of men who said mainly their wives make decisions about their health care
J&K	5 . 2	26	28.1	3.3
Tripura	5.4	14.4	36.1	4.7
Manipur	6.7	11.1	27.6	3.9
Assam	7.8	13.3	21.9	4.4
Meghalaya	9.1	10.6	14.9	4.6
Bihar	9.4	15.4	28.7	7.9
Karnataka	10.6	24.1	44.5	15.3
MIzoram	10.7	5 . 5	24	6.2
West Bengal	11	17.1	40.7	9.6
Maharashtra	11.8	16.2	33.7	8.4
Sikkim	13.3	15.1	8.3	9.9
Gujarat	14.2	11.7	37.3	4.7
Nagaland	16.3	3.2	6.6	24
Kerala	17.3	16.9	29.8	9.6
Himachal	17.6	11.1	30.8	8.2

In 10 out of the 15 States analysed, a higher share of women said that they let their husbands decide about their health needs. In none of the States was the reverse true (a higher share of men saying that they let their wives take a call about their health needs). The figures do not add up to 100% as



The Man Prindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 7, 1971

The future for English in Mysore

Hubli, July 6: English is not likely to continue as a compulsory subject for degree courses in universities in Mysore State. This change in the present pattern is likely to be brought about consequent on the introduction of the two-year pre-university course throughout the State. According to the P.U.C. syllabus, students are required to take any two languages not necessarily English. The possibility of universities making suitable modifications in the pattern of education for degree courses was indicated here yesterday by Prof. D. Javare Gowda, Vice-Chancellor of Mysore University and Chairman of the specially-constituted Pre-University Board which manages Pre-University classes throughout the State from this year. The one-year P.U.C. hitherto run by the Universities in the State is now being run by the Board. When his attention was drawn to the confusion created by the anomaly in Pre-University syllabus where English was not compulsory, and that of the syllabus for degree courses of the Universities where English was compulsory, Prof. Javare Gowda stated that as all the Vice-Chancellors were members of the Pre-University Board and hence party to the decision regarding the syllabus, they had now got to suitably change the syllabus for the degree course to provide for admissions of students who pass the P.U.C. without offering English.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 7, 1921

Resolutions.

Calcutta, July 6 - At to-day's meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council eight resolutions were discussed, two of which were negatived and six carried. The only important resolution which was discussed at some length urged the local Government to request the Government of India to include the Darjeeling District within the reforms scheme for the Province of Bengal. Sir Henry Wheeler gave reasons why Darjeeling was exluded from the Reform scheme and said that the question would be re-opened after two years. That was six months before the next elections. The resolution was carried. Replying to a question with reference to the conversation between Mr. K.C. De Divisional Commissioner and Babu Akhil Chunder Dutt regarding Assam coolies as published in newspapers the Hon'ble Sir Henry Wheeler said that the conversation as published was inaccurate. Mr. De made no statement to the effect that he proposed to fight the non-co-operation movement with Gurkhas.

FROM PAGE ONE

Release Bhima Koregaon case accused: UN body

This follows similar concerns from the U.N. Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders and the European Union (E.U.) Human Rights Chief on Monday.

"High Commissioner Michelle Bachelet and the U.N.'s independent experts have repeatedly raised the cases of Father Stan and 15 other human rights defenders associated with the same events with the government of India over the past three years and urged their release from pre-trial detention," said the statement issued by the OHCHR spokesperson.

In written responses to queries from The Hindu, OHCHR spokesperson Liz Throssel said Ms. Bachelet had raised the cases both privately and publicly on "numerous occasions" including in a statement on "shrinking of civic space in India" last November.

The U.N. Special Rapporteurs have also raised the issue of human rights defenders in a couple

communications to the Indian government, and are expected to release another update on the issue next month.

"The High Commissioner has also raised concerns over the use of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) in relation to human rights defenders, a law Father Stan was challenging before Indian courts days before he died," the rights agency said, making a particular mention of the UA-PA, that allows authorities to detain suspects without charging them, and allows courts to hold them without

"In light of the continued, severe impact of the CO-VID-19 pandemic, it is even more urgent that States, including India, release every person detained without a sufficient legal basis, including those detained simply for expressing critical or dissenting views. This would be in line with the Indian judiciary's calls to decongest the prisons," the

Will accept any decision by Cong. chief: Amarinder

While Ms. Vadra is said to have visited Ms. Gandhi before her meeting with Capt. Amarinder, Mr. Gandhi is said to have been part of the meeting. There was, however, no official word about it.

"Whatever decision the Congress president takes, we will implement it in Punjab. The decisions taken by Congress chief on anything - the party and the government - will be acceptable," Captain Amarinder told reporters. The Chief Minister said the party was geared up for the 2022 Assembly polls and maintained that he meets the Congress president whenever he is in Delhi and Tuesday's meet was one

such meet. The meeting, however, assumes significance as the party high command is all set to revamp of the Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) fle in the State government to go into the election with a new look government and party organisation.

18 suggestions

After talking to a cross-section of party leaders, the three member AICC panel had given 18 suggestions to the party chief including "suitably accommodating" Mr. Sidhu. The Chief Minister is said to be opposed to Mr. Sidhu becoming the PCC chief and wants the PCC to be headed by Hindu community leader and not by another Jat Sikh since the government is headed by

There is also talk about appointing two Deputy Chief Ministers including one from the Dalit community to send a strong political signal to the community that make up a sizeable part

GST mop-up in June falls below ₹1 lakh crore

The Central government said that the daily average generation of e-way bills for the first two weeks of April was 20 lakh, which came down to 16 lakh by the last week of that month, and further to 12 lakh in two weeks of May.

Since May 23, the average generation of e-way bills has been increasing and has reached again to 20 lakh level since the week beginning June 20, an official statement said.

Of the nearly ₹93,000 crore collected, Central GST accounted for ₹16,424 crore, State GST ₹20,397 crore. and Integrated GST of ₹49.079 crore (which included ₹25,762 crore collected on import of goods). Compensation cess collections were ₹6,949 crore, and included ₹809 crore levied on goods imports.

Delhi HC raps Twitter over officer posting

"How long does the process of appointing a grievance officer take? If Twitter thinks it can take as much time as it wants in our country, I will not permit that," Justice Palli cautioned.

Justice Palli directed Twitter's counsel to come up with a clear picture of the compliance timeline by July 8, the next date of hearing. "Otherwise you [Twitter] are in trouble," the judge warned. Senior advocate Sajan Poovayya, representing Twitter, sought time to seek instructions on the specific timeline to complete the grievance officer appointment.

Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Chetan Sharma, representing the Centre, said there had been a noncompliance of the IT Rules by Twitter for over 42 days. "Facebook has removed 3 crore contents, Instagram has removed 18 lakh, Google has removed 3 lakh, Twitter can certainly do better," the ASG said.

The High Court also took strong objection to Twitter's counsel informing it on the last date of hearing that the micro-blogging site has already appointed a resident grievance officer on May 28, 2021. In view of the statement, the court had granted time to Twitter to submit a counter-affidavit.

"The said reply has been filed. A perusal shows that Twitter had as on May 31, 2021 appointed only an interim resident grievance officer, which was not brought to the notice of the court," the court noted.

Twitter had failed to comply with India's law regulating tech companies rendering their services as 'intermediaries', an affidavit by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology stated.

Bengal passes resolution to set up Council

SHIV SAHAY SINGH

The West Bengal Assembly on Tuesday passed a resolution to set up Legislative Council with a two-thirds majority.

While 196 favoured, 69 opposed the resolution moved by Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Partha Chatteriee under Article 169. Senior Minister Subrata Mukherjee and Deputy Chief Whip Tapas Roy spoke in favour of it. The BJP legislators voted against it.

Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari said the passage of the resolution does not mean that the Council has come into existence.

"Under Article 169, Parliament will have to provide for creation of the Council. This means that it has not been created," Mr. Adhikari said.

Chief Minister Mamata Baneriee had announced the setting up of the Council during the run-up to the Assembly polls.

'Super censorship': MPs' panel grills Ministry

Bill will allow government to order recertification of films

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Standing Committee on Information and Technology headed by Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, at a meeting on Tuesday, grilled the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on the "super censorship" clause introduced in the draft Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill 2021. The committee members

according to sources, asked the Ministry to explain the "reasons" and "motivation' for introducing the provision which allows the government to order recertification for a film already certified by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). This was the first meeting of the Parliamentary Panel on the Bill.

The Ministry officials, sources said, were at pains to explain. "They claimed that the Bill has been misun-



Shashi Tharoor

derstood and that the Ministry itself will have no powers to censor any film. The Bill only allows the Ministry to return the film for recertification," one of the members said on condition of anonymity. Ministry officials also said that the clause would only be invoked if the content of a film impinged on security and integrity of the nation.

Not satisfied with the explanation, the members asked why, when there were existing penal provisions to deal with such a situation, did the Ministry felt it necessary to incorporate this in the Bill. "If any person or group feels that a film or part of it hurts their sentiment or imperils the country, they can go to court. Our basic question was why should this power to adjudicate be vested with a bureaucrat," another member said. The members, sources

preme Court order passed in 2000 that the government could not exercise revisional powers on films already certified by the CBFC. The Bill was placed in the

said, also pointed to the Su-

public domain till July 2 inviting comments.

Filmmakers across the country has slammed the Bill, with veteran filmmaker Adoor Gopalkrishnan calling it an attempt by the government to bring in "super censorship".

IT rules: Centre asks SC to transfer pleas to itself

Various HCs are hearing the petitions

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Centre has asked the Supreme Court to transfer to itself cases pending in various High Courts challenging the validity of the Infor-Technology mation (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules of 2021.

The High Courts, including Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Kerala, are hearing the petitions against the new IT Rules.

The Delhi High Court is hearing the case concerning Twitter.

Recently, the government informed the Delhi High Court that micro-blogging site Twitter had failed to comply with the law regulating tech companies rendertheir services 'intermediaries'.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity), in an affidavit, said despite three months being granted to all Significant Social Media Intermediaries comply with the Rules, Twitter has failed to fully comply with the same.

Last week, Twitter informed the court that the interim Resident Grievance Officer and the interim Nodal Contact Person had resigned from their positions in June.

The tech giant had said it was in the final stages of appointing a replacement. Meanwhile, "the grievances of Indian users are being addressed by the Grievance Officer".

On September 24, 2019, hearing a petition filed by Facebook, the apex court had shown deep concern at the utilisation of social media for committing crime. It said the medium had become a source for pornography. Paedophiles used social media in a "big way". Criminals exploit it to run weapons, drugs and contraband. Hate and violence are shared and spread through these virtual platforms.

systems floated

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Tender for 10

counter-drone

The Indian Air Force has issued a tender for procurement of 10 counter-drone Counter Unmanned Aircraft System (CUAS), through indigenous route. Incidentally, the Request For Information was published a day after the attack on Jammu air base believed to have been carried out using drones.

'The CUAS is intended to detect, track, identify, designate and neutralize hostile UAS. Laser Directed Energy Weapon (Laser-DEW) is essentially required as a kill option," the RFI published on June 28 said on the intended use of the equipment and operational requirements.

All the ten CUAS are required in mobile configuration mounted on indigenous vehicles with cross country capability and powered by indigenous electrical power supply.

Union Cabinet reshuffle likely today

LJP rebel Paras, ex-Assam CM Sonowal, Scindia among those tipped for inclusion

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to effect the first reshuffle in his Council of Ministers on Wednesday evening, sources said.

Former Chief Ministers and MPs who have had administrative experience in other States would be part of the new Cabinet.

Former Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and former Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar Sushil Kumar Modi are expected to be included as is Congress rebel Jyotiraditya Scindia.

Power tussle

NDA ally Lok Janshakti Party's Pashupati Paras is also tipped to be included in the Cabinet, setting off an angry tirade from his estranged nephew, Chirag Paswan, who said he had written to the Prime Minister not to appoint Mr. Paras as a Minister in his government on the LJP



BJP leader Jyotiraditya Scindia offering prayers at the Mahakaleshwar temple in Ujjain on Tuesday. • PTI

The slot became vacant after the passing away of LJP founder Ram Vilas Paswan, which also plunged the party into a split.

"Making him [Pashupati Paras] a Union Minister on LIP quota isn't possible as the party's executive board expelled him. I have informed the Prime Minister through a letter. If he is apbeing held between JD(U) pointed, then I shall go to national president and MP

court," Mr. Chirag Paswan

The Janata Dal(U) is also bargaining for more slots than they had been promised, which was basically one Cabinet post and a Minister of State berth. The party wanted two Cabinet berths.

Late evening talks were

R.C.P. Singh and the BJP national leadership in New Delhi at the time of writing.

Influx of candidates The national capital saw an influx of candidates likely to

take oath as Ministers. Apart from Mr. Scindia, Mr. Paras and Mr. Sonowal, sources told The Hindu that former Chief Minister of Maharashtra and currently BJP-supported Rajya Sabha member Narayan Rane has been asked to come to Delhi. He is expected to meet Un-

ion Home Minister Amit

Shah.

The extensive Cabinet rejig and gubernatorial shuffle will not be the end of political appointments, as Mr. Gehlot's exit from the Council of Ministers also means that the BJP will have to look for another Leader of the House for the Rajya Sabha, and another member for the parliamentary board, its highest decision-

House of Dalit village chief damaged

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Opposition parties in Uttar Pradesh have accused the police of vandalising the house of a Dalit pradhan in Azamgarh district and damaging his property. The police, however, say they are false allegations being levelled against them by the Dalit pradhan's family and his associates in a bid to avoid arrest in an assault case on two police constables earlier in the day.

Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati said on Tuesday that it was "absolutely shameful" that instead of providing justice to the "victim" Dalits, the police resorted to atrocities and caused them financial loss. She demanded that the Uttar Pradesh government take strict action against the culprits and compensate the victims.

The BSP also deputed a senior leader to meet the

On the draw



Cross-border espionage network busted: police

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Punjab police on Tuesday said they have busted a cross-border espionage network with the arrest of two Army personnel on the charge of spying and providing classified documents to the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) of Pakistan. They have been identified as Sepoy Harpreet Singh, 23 and

Sepoy Gurbhej Singh, 23. Director General of Police Dinkar Gupta said confidential and secret documents related to the functioning and deployment of the Ar-

cross-border drug smuggler Ranvir Singh, who was arrested with 70 g of heroin on May 24, 2021. Ranvir disclosed during interrogation that he got these documents from Harpreet, who was his friend, as they both belonged to the same village. "Ranvir motivated and

my were recovered from

lured Harpreet with financial benefits for sharing defence-related classified documents, following which the latter induced his friend Gurbhej into such anti-national spying activities," said Mr. Gupta.

'Tele-law services empowering voiceless'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Offering legal assistance to needy people over telephone and video conference by lawyers and paralegal volunteers has given "voice of justice to the voiceless," Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said on Tuesday.

The Minister was addressing an event to mark the coverage of more than nine lakh beneficiaries of the government's tele-law scheme, using common service centres (CSCs) to provide justice across the coun-

try. Mr. Prasad said the facility had been "a source of gender justice and empowerment". To mark the occasion, the Minister released a special postal cover on tele-law - Reaching the

Unreached. Urging lawyers and paralegal volunteers engaged in tele-law to keep their commitment, Mr. Prasad said tele-law had the potential to foster inclusive justice delivery and strengthening rule

Presently, tele-law programme is operational in 633 districts.

Negative of *PK* finds its way to NFAI vaults

One of the last films shot on celluloid

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

The city-based National Film Archive of India (NFAI) on Tuesday acquired the original camera negative of filmmaker Rajkumar Hirani's popular satire PK.

Besides the negative, Mr. Hirani handed over nearly 300 cans of initial rushes of the film and outtakes of his other hugely popular Aamir Khan starrer 3 Idiots (2009) to NFAI Director Prakash Magdum for preservation in the premier film archive.

'The significance of the acquisition of the negative of PK (2014) is that it is one of the last films to be shot on celluloid," said

Magdum. Mr. Magdum said negatives of the director's earlier films such as Munnabhai MBBS (2003), Lage Raho Munnabhai (2006) and 3 Idiots (2009) - all major commercial successes



Filmmaker Rajkumar Hirani with NFAI Director Prakash Magdum.

were already part of the NFAI vaults.

"It is the duty of a filmmaker to ensure that the original negatives of his or her films are preserved for posterity and for the entertainment and study of future generations of cineastes and scholars. I appeal to all filmmakers to support the NFAI in this important endeavour," said Mr. Hirani.

APPEAL

ame of Patient: Master MD Irfan, 7 years. Hospital Name: Christian Medical College. Diagnosis: B Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia This is a type of Blood Cancer for which he requires Chemotherapy. The estimated cost of Chemotherapy, dospitalization, Investigation, Antibiotics & Blood Product Support is likely to be about Rs. 4,50,000/-

We request Kind Hearted Philanthropists to save him. Kindly send donation by Cheque/D.D/M.O favouring Save Poor Lives and on the back of Cheque write A/C Md. Irfan. Our Account Details: S/B Account No.20000913487, State Bank of India, Raja Annamalaipuram Branch, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855. You can donate Google Pay No.9884607377, UPI Id: sbsmani134@oksbi which is exempted under 80G of I.T. Act.

รบรเทสเท เวษเผูบหรอง wnicn is exempted under 80G of I.T. Act.

Contact: SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, (ADMIN DIVISION) Flat No.A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No.76, Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600028. Ph: 044-42044165, Mobile: 9884607377, E-mail: savepoorlives@gmail.com Our website: www.savepoorlives.com DONATION SENT TO VARIOUS HOSPITAL IN JUNE MONTH FOR Rs.2.07.265/-

act on Fr. Swamy death

They say he was denied treatment for his various ailments

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Ten Opposition parties have urged President Ramnath Kovind to act against those responsible for foisting "false cases" on human rights activist Fr. Stan Swamy for his continued detention in jail and alleged inhuman treatment reulting in his death.

The signatories to a letter to the President include Congress president Sonia Gandhi, former Prime Minister and Janata Dal(S) leader H.D. Deve Gowda, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, his West Bengal and Jharkhand counterparts Mamata Baneriee and Hemant Soren, respectively, NCP leader Sharad Pawar, RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, NC leader Farooq Abdullah, and CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury and his CPI counterpart D. Raja.

The Opposition parties said they were writing to express their "deep anguish" and to express "intense

We are urging your immediate intervention as the President of India to direct 'your government' to act against those responsible for foisting false cases on him, his continued detention in jail and inhuman treatment **LETTER FROM OPPOSITION**

'Institutional murder'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Friends and family members of Father Stan Swamy said on Tuesday that he was a victim of institutional murder. "We are deeply pained and shaken to the core by the loss of Father Stan Swamy.

This is not a natural death, but the institutional murder of a gentle soul, committed by an inhuman state. Having spent his life amongst the Adivasis in Jharkhand, fighting for their right to resources, Father Stan did not deserve to die in this manner," a statement said.

grief" and "outrage" at the death of Fr. Swamy, who was jailed last October under the UAPA [Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act] in connection to the Bhima Koregaon case. The Opposition pointed out that he was denied

treatment for his various ailments, including Parkinson's. It was only after a nationwide campaign was conducted that even a sipper to drink liquids was made available to him in jail,

Leaders urge Kovind to A long struggle for medical bail

6 more accused senior citizens in the Bhima-Koregaon case battle ailments

SONAM SAIGAL

The death of 84-year-old tribal rights activist Father Stan Swamy in a Mumbai hospital on Monday from ailments exacerbated by his incarceration without bail in the Bhima Koregaon case, has turned the spotlight on the other accused in the case who remain in jail with medical conditions.

The Bombay High Court and the special National Investigation Agency (NIA) court have denied several interim medical bail pleas of the six senior citizens with co-morbidities over the past three years. Poet Varavara Rao is 81; Anand Teltumbde, former managing director and CEO of Petronet India Limited, is 70; writer and a columnist Vernon Gonsalves is 68; civil rights scholar and journalist Gautam Navlakha is 67; Shoma Sen, former head of the Department of English at Nagpur University, is 63; and trade unionist and human rights lawyer Sudha Bharadwaj is 61.

Mr. Rao was granted interim medical bail of six months by the High Court on **Fight for bail** I A timeline of the struggle of the accused in the Bhima-Koregaon case to get bail

MARCH 31: Special NIA court

Rao's interim medical bail

Ms. Bharadwaj's

Mr. Rao's interim

AUG. 28: HC rejects Ms.

medical bail

Bharadwaj's appeal

JUNE 12: Ms. Bharadwaj files

Mr. Teltumbde has chron-

polyposis,

ic bronchitis asthma, chron-

ic cervical spondylitis, su-

ult bail before H

colonic

against rejection of

medical bail rejected

1AY 29: Court rejects

interim medical bail

JUNE 26: Ms. Sen and

rejects Ms. Sen and Mr.

JUNE 6: Sudhir Dhawale, Shoma Sen and Mahesh Raut, Rona Wilson and Surendra Gadling arrested

AUG. 28: Sudha **Bharawaj**, Vernon Gonsalves, Varavara Rao and

Arun Ferreira arrested

NOV. 26: Special

NIA court rejects

Ms. Bharadwaj's default bail 2019 OCT. 15: Bombay bail pleas by Ms.

Bharadwaj, Mr. Ferreira and Mr. Gonsalves February 22 after it was rejected twice by the special

NIA court. His wife, P. Hema-

latha, urged the court to conpraspinatus tendinosis and sider his neurological and prostatomegaly; Mr. Goncardiac issues, along with salves has hypertension and other ailments such as piles, bleeding piles; Mr. Navlakha prostate enlargement, cochronic gastritis and hyperronary artery disease, oedetension; Ms. Sen has multima, hypertension, acidity, siple ailments including osteoarthritis, glaucoma and high blood pressure, and Ms. Bharadwaj has hypertension, diabetes mellitus, moderate depression, osteoarthritis, ischaemic disease and tinea corporis (skin fungal infection).

Treatment in jail

On May 3 this year, Ms. Bharadwaj's daughter Maaysha Singh moved the High Court seeking interim medical bail for her mother.

The court, however, disposed of the case after it was informed that she had received medical treatment in

On August 28, 2020, the High Court rejected the second medical bail of Ms. Bharadwaj and said, "She is taken care of in so far as her health condition is concerned." On May 29, 2020, the NIA court rejected Ms. Bharadwaj's interim bail plea on medical grounds due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in jail.

On June 26, 2020, the special NIA court had for the second time rejected the interim medical bail pleas of Mr.

10 accused at Taloja to go on hunger strike

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

All the 10 Bhima Koregaon case accused, lodged at the Taloja Central Jail, will go on a day-long hunger strike on Wednesday in protest against the "institutional murder" of Father Stan Swamy. The tribal rights activist, who was denied bail despite his deteriorating health, died at a Mumbai hospital on Monday.

The decision was taken by Rona Wilson, Surendra Gadling, Sudhir Dhawale, Mahesh Raut, Arun Ferreira, Vernon Gonsalves, Gautam Navlakha, Anand Teltumbde, Ramesh Gaichor and Sagar Gorkhe, according to family members whom they spoke to from the prison.

A statement released by the accused said that Fr. Swamy's death was a very well-thought-out conspiracy and the accused blame the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and the former Superintendent of Taloja prison, Kaustubh Kurlekar, for his death. They also demanded a judicial inquiry into the death.



Mehbooba says ED has summoned her mother

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti has said her mother was served a notice by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday and asked to appear in person before it. "In its attempts to intimidate political opponents, the Government of India (GOI) doesn't even spare senior citizens. The agencies like the NIA and ED are now its tools to settle scores," she said in a tweet, with a copy of the summons.

SAD want five seats for Sikhs in J&K Assembly

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) has urged the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory **Delimitation Commission to** reserve five seats for Sikh community members in the Assembly. SAD senior leader Prem Singh Chandumajra on Tuesday handed over a letter written by party president Sukhbir Singh Badal in this regard to Delimitation Commission Chairman Justice (retd.) Ranjana Prakash Desai. The SAD has urged the Commission to consider reserving three seats for the Sikh community in Jammu and two in Srinagar.

'Review implementation of Forest Rights Act'

NEW DELHI

The Environment Ministry and Ministry of Tribal Affairs jointly issued a communique on Tuesday to Chief Secretaries of States to review the implementation of the Forest Rights Act that came into force in 2006 and ensure better coordination among forest departments and forest communities. "You are requested to undertake a review of the implementation of the Act and intimate the Government of India about any clarifications that are needed to smoothen the process," says the letter from the Environment Ministry.

IGNCA remembers Syama Prasad Mookerjee

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) on Tuesday organised a webinar to mark the birth anniversary of Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee, who it termed was the "architect of modern India". During the webinar organised by the IGNCA, Jammu and Kashmii Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha said Mookeriee's visit to J&K in 1953 was the "first movement for independence after the country's Independence". He said Mookerjee's vision of uniting J&K with the rest of the country had been realised and development had begun.

Kashmir parties express unease

PDP, Awami National Conference boycott Delimitation Commission

PEERZADA ASHIQ

As the J&K Delimitation Commission arrived in Srinagar on Tuesday on its fourday consultation tour of the Union Territory (UT), Kashmir-based political parties questioned the timing of the exercise and expressed fears of it being "politically motivated". The Peoples Democratic

Party (PDP) and the Awami National Conference boycotted the panel.

A delegation of the National Conference (NC), which is part of the five-party Gupkar alliance, met the Commission headed by Justice Ranjana Prakesh Desai

"The J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019 is palpably unconstitutional We have challenged the Act in the Suoreme Court, which is Bench. The two pillars of the



Expressing concerns: NC leaders arriving to meet the Delimitation Commission in Srinagar on Tuesday. • NISSAR AHMAD

State - Executive and Legislature – must out of respect to the third pillar, judiciary, avoid implementing and exercising powers under an Act that is under scrutiny," the NC said in a memorandum submitted to the

The NC suggested that the delimitation be carried out after 2026 once the relevant before the Constitution figures of the census were

The commission, under the J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019, is mandated to carve out seven more constituencies to the 83-member UT Assembly. It will meet more parties and civil society groups in south Kashmir, Jammu and the Chenab Val-

lev in the next three days. A CPI(M) delegation, led party's I&K secretary commission the exercise

should be carried out along with the rest of the country in 2026.

He said the commission assured the CPI(M) delegation that it will put the report in public domain and only after that the report will be finalised.

Boycotting the exercise, PDP general secretary Ghulam Nabi Hanjura wrote an open letter to the commission. "The commission lacks constitutional and legal mandate. There are apprehensions that the exercise is part of the overall process of political disempowerment of the people of J&K There are apprehensions that the process is aimed at realising the political vision of a particular political party, and the views and wishes of the people of I&K would be considered the least," he said.

Salad Lone's Peoples Con Ghulam Nabi Malik, told the ference also questioned the

Chirag bristles at possible Cabinet entry for Paras

Will go to court, threatens LJP MP amid a power tussle

AMARNATH TEWARY

After embarking on his Aashirwad yatra from Hajipur on July 5, Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) leader and MP Chirag Paswan on Tuesday said he would go to court if his uncle and expelled party leader Pashupati Kumar Paras was inducted into the Union Cabinet.

Mr. Paswan also slammed Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's government in Bihar and said the "countdown of this government has begun".

Amid reports that Mr. Paras, who leads the LJP rebel faction, will be joining Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Cabinet on July 8, Mr. Paswan said, "Making him a Union Minister on LJP quota is not possible as the party's executive board has expelled him. I've informed



in Patna on Tuesday. ■PTI

PM through letter. If he is appointed Minister as MP of my party, I'll move court but I've no problem if he is appointed as minister at the Center as an Independent MP or from JD(U) after join-

The LJP leader was addressing media persons at his residence in Patna.

Earlier on July 5, Mr. Pas-

wan was accorded a rousing welcome by party leaders and workers when he visited Patna and Hajipur to kick off his Aashirwad Yatra, Projecting himself as rightful political heir of his father and founder of the party, Ram Vilas Paswan, Mr. Paswan had said those who rebelled against the party were guilty

Modi greets Dalai Lama on his 86th birthday

Ministers also wish the spiritual leader

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday morning greeted the Dalai Lama in a phone call on the occasion of the Tibetan spiritual leader's 86th birthday.

Mr. Modi said on Twitter, "Spoke on phone to His Holiness the Dalai Lama to convey greetings on his 86th birthday. We wish him a long and healthy life."

This is the first time Mr. Modi has publicly confirmed speaking with the Dalai Lama since he took over as Prime Minister in 2014.

Mr. Modi and the Dalai Lama previously exchanged greetings on Twitter in 2015. Mr. Modi is also known to have spoken with the Dalai Lama on the phone previously, including to wish him on his birthday in 2019, but that call was not publicly acknowledged at the

time. The July 2019 call came amid a period of India and China trying to repair relations following the 2017 border stand-off in Doklam. Mr. Modi travelled to China for an "informal summit" with President Xi Jinping in April 2018, and Mr. Xi travelled to Mamallapuram for another in October 2019.

That process of repairing the ties was derailed with the May 2020 border crisis along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and the June 15, 2020, clashes in Galwan



Dalai Lama

Valley, marking the worst violence on the border since 1967. The LAC crisis remains unresolved, and talks to restore the status quo appear deadlocked. India has made clear to China that relations cannot be returned to normal unless there is full disengagement and de-escalation along the border.

The tweet from Mr. Modi was seen as signalling to China that relations are, under the present circumstances. to some extent in uncharted waters. The Modi government has also made it clear that investments from China will continue to receive additional scrutiny and more than 200 Chinese apps remain banned, although bilateral trade in 2020 remained largely unaffected by the tensions.

On Tuesday, greetings were also conveyed to the Dalai Lama on Twitter by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari and Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri.

Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation Limited Gandhi Block, Swasthya Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur-302005, India Ph. No. 0141-2228066, 2228064 Fax: 0141-2228065

Website: www.rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in
CIN:U24232RJ2011SGC035067, E-mail: edprmsc@nic.in F. 02(103)/RMSCL/Proc./SUTURE(MD)/NIB-14/2021/370

Notice Inviting E-Bids E-bids are invited up to 6.00 PM of 19.07.2021 E bid for Rate Contract cum

Supply and Empanelment of Sutures (Drug items), Details of NIB-14/2021 may be seen in the Bidding Documents at our office or at the website of State public procurement Portal (UBN MSC2122GLRC00051) http://sppp.raj.nic.in, www.dipronline.org, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, www.rmsc.rajasthan.health.gov.in and may be downloaded from there Note: If any amendment is carried out in the tender specifications and terms & conditions following pre-bid meeting, the same will be uploaded on the Department website www.rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in, sppp.raj.nic.in and https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. In case any inconvenience is felt, please contact on telephone number i.e. 0141-2228064. **Executive Director (Procurement)**

Rajasthan Samwad/C/3147/2021-22



Government of India Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR)
NIOT Campus, Velachery-Tambaram Main Road, Pallikaranai, Chennai - 600100

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Advertisement No. MoES/NCCR/13/Kalpasar/Manpower/2021

National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), an attached office of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, is in the process of filling up of project positions through WALK-IN-INTERVIEW mode (with online interview) for the project "Preparation of Detailed Project Report for Construction of Kalpasar Dam". The posts for the project are purely on temporary and on contract basis for a period of 8 months or co-terminus with the project, whichever is earlier. The contract services may likely to be extended based on the project requirements.

ONLINE applications are invited for filling up the following project positions from citizens of India, fulfilling the eligibility criteria. The details of project posts, number of

Post Name	No. of Vacancies	Monthly Emolument
Project Scientist-II	16	Rs.67,000/- + HRA
Project Scientist-I	3	Rs.56,000/- + HRA
	[OBC-1, UR-2]	
Project Associate-II	1	Rs.28000/-+HRA
Technical Assistant	2	Rs.20000/- +HRA

More details on posts, qualifications, experience and nature of work along with link ONLINE Application Form, are available on NCCR website page ww.nccr.gov.in/KRect2021/krect1.htm

Last date for submission of online application

08.07.2021 5:00 PM

22.07.2021 5:00 PM

Transit Campus of NIPER, Raebareli, Bijnor- Sisendi Road, Village- Kamlapur Urf Ahmedpur, Post- Mati, Sarojini Nagar, Lucknow - 226002, Phone: 0522-2497903, Web : www.niperraebareli.edu.

Tender Notice NIPER Raebareli, invites sealed open tender for the following:-

SI. No.	Name of Tender	Open Tender Submission end dat
1.	Outsourcing of Manpower	July 29, 2021 upto 02.30 P.M.
2.	Hiring of Vehicle	July 29, 2021 upto 11:00 A.M.
3.	Security Services	July 29, 2021 upto 02:00 P.M.

The tender documents and other information can be collected from Institute vebsite: www.niperraebareli.edu.in

Requirement of Adhoc Faculty.

position of this Institute.

Position: Adhoc Faculty in Computer Science and Engineering / Information Technology. Tenure of Appointment: On Contract for six months-Extendable. Emoluments: Rs.65.000-/ (Consolidated)- Per month. Selection process: Online Interview on 12th July 2021 from 10.00 AM onwards. Mode of application: Online through www.iiii.tod.ayam.ac.in before 05.00 PM on 11th July 2021. Please refer to the detailed advertisement at www.iiiitod.ayam.ac.in for further details Registrar sition of this Institute.

INDIAN INSTITUTES OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (Autonomous Institutions under MoE, Government of India)

MISER









Sector - 10 A, CH Road, Krishi Bhavan, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India





CORRIGENDUM ADMISSION NOTICE 2021

5-YEAR BS-MS DUAL DEGREE AND 4-YEAR BS DEGREE PROGRAMMES

The newspaper advertisement published in this newspaper on 4th of July 2021 errorneously mentions the date of closing of the application portal for the KVPY and SCB channels as 31st of July 2021

Inconvenience caused due to this error is deeply regretted. For more details, please visit IISER admission website

The actual closing date stands unchanged at 31st August 2021.

www.iiseradmission.in

Directorate of Agriculture, Government of Gujarat **Tender Notice**

Directorate of Agriculture, Government of Gujarat is inviting online tender through <u>GeM Portal</u> from the prospective bidders meeting the basic eligibility criteria as stated in the Bid document for the below mentioned work Tender Start Date and End Date Bid/Tender No. Name of Work Bid NO. GEM/2021/B/1333207 To manufacture and supply of multipurpose Start Date: 05-07-2021

(DAG/T&V/PLASTIC/DRUM/01/ storage plastic drum / barrel (200 Ltr.) at End Date: 26-07-2021 different locations of Gujarat State Pre-bid meeting Date: Bid NO. GEM/2021/B/1334151 To manufacture and supply of multipurpose

Prospective Bidders are requested to visit **GeM portal** for the furthure details -Sd/-Directorate of Agriculture Place: Gandhinagar Date: 04-07-2021 INF/568/21-22 G.S., Gandhinagar

Health officials flag laxity during travel

Many are letting their guard down when they go on 'revenge tourism', they point out

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

India has registered a decline of 13% in average daily new COVID-19 cases last week, Lav Agarwal, Joint Secretary, Health Ministry, said on Tuesday. However, he cautioned against letting the guard down during what is being called "revenge tourism", in which people travel with a vengeance after being confined to their homes during the lockdown.

At a press conference, Mr. Agarwal described the trend of tourists failing to observe COVID-appropriate behaviour in hill stations as dangerous.

Balram Bhargava, Director-General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR),

SC agrees with Odisha's

Tuesday refused to intervene

Jagannath Rath Yatra to Puri

pandemic. A Bench led by Chief Justice of India (CJI)

trajectory of the virus was

unpredictable. "You want to

pray to the God. You can do it

from home. I also wanted to

the last year and an half. This

Uttarakhand challenges

order on Chardham Yatra

The Uttarakhand government

on Tuesday appealed to the

Supreme Court against the

High Court decision to stay

the Chardham Yatra by

reversing a State Cabinet

was low) from July 1. The State said the Uttarakhand High Court erred in not

appreciating that the

livelihood of a significant

portion of the population

living around the Char Dham

was dependent on the vatra.

Assam imposes complete

Seven of Assam's 34 districts

complete lockdown owing to

have been put under

these seven districts.

Biswanath, Goalpara,

the spread of COVID-19,

primarily in the rural areas.

Tea estates dominate five of

Golaghat, Jorhat, Lakhimpur,

Morigaon and Sonitpur have

been brought under curfew

number of cases were rising

districts, said State Health

Minister Keshab Mahanta.

"round the clock" as the

exponentially in these

lockdown in 7 districts

GUWAHATI

move to open it partially for residents of three districts (where test positivity rate

go to Puri, but could not in

is not the time," he said.

NEW DELHI

order on 'Rath Yatra'

The Supreme Court on

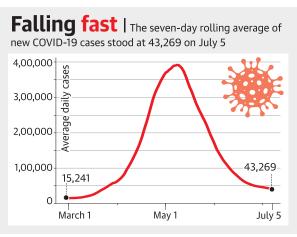
in an Odisha government

order restricting the

due to the COVID-19

N.V. Ramana said the

IN BRIEF



too expressed a similar sentiment. "We have to be careful, responsible and cautious as the second COVID-19 wave is still on in some parts of this large country," he said.

The Health Ministry, in its presentation, added that 80% of new COVID-19 cases were now being reported from 90 districts with Maharashtra (19), Tamil Nadu (15),

Kerala (14), Odisha (11), Andhra Pradesh (10), Assam (9) and Karnataka (8) leading the tally. of the "COVID surge in India berespondents.

gan with a single case reported last year so we have to understand that we can't afford to forget the spread and devastation this virus is capable of causing. We can't let down our guard just vet. We are looking at strict local containment in areas and pockets that are seeing a large number of cases," Mr. Agarwal said. He said the virus had not got exhausted

Quoting a recent online survey indicating gross violations in terms of use of masks and physical distancing, Mr. Agarwal noted that

cured may not be accepted

by their families. Tell the

authorities concerned to be

serious and ensure that

court's order is complied

to the practice of the Maha-

rashtra government in shift-

ing these patients to beggar

homes as it was in violation

those in mental health insti-

tutions be tested for CO-

VID-19 and get the benefit of

vaccination as they make up

the most vulnerable section

The Bench said it is time

the matter was taken up

with alacrity, and directed

the Chief Secretaries to send

their representatives to par-

ticipate in the meeting of Ju-

ly 12. The court posted the

matter for further hearing

of society.

on July 27.

Mr. Bansal pressed that

of the Mental Health Act.

The Bench also objected

with," the court said.

there was no compliance in 24%, limited compliance in 45% and good compliance in

"Vaccination and COVIDappropriate behavior are key to keeping the virus under control," Dr. Bhargava said. Stating that 73 districts in India still have over 10% test positivity, while 65 districts have 5-10% positivity, he said that this trend was a cause of worry. To a question on vaccine boosters, he said that while it was known that CO-VID-19 antibodies persisted for seven to 12 months after infection, "we are still looking at the cover that vaccines offer in terms of the length of the time period. Research is on about booster doses.

About 16,000 ventilators yet to be installed

PRISCILLA JEBARAJ

More than a year after the PM CARES fund announced it would buy and distribute 50,000 ventilators for ₹2,000 crore, only ₹1.532 crore has been released, a response to a Right to Information request filed by Commodore Lokesh Batra (retd) has revealed. The remaining is awaiting clearance, said an

A senior Health Ministry official says 16,000 ventilators have not yet been installed. The Ministry plans a meeting with vendors and the State governments to speed up the installation, said the official, adding that a bill for ₹2,147 crore has been sent to the PMO. There is a mismatch between the cost which is ₹2,147 crore as per the reply to RTI query, and the ₹2,000 crore that PM

CARES has allocated.

Board aims at verifying the work done by institutions Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) officials will conduct surprise inspections of the school committees preparing this year's Class 10 and 12 results, and

CBSE to make surprise visits

to schools preparing results

Only practical exams were conducted in schools for Class 12 students.

ed effectively".

regional offices asking them "In order to have actual information of the result work of the schools, it may In the letter sent on Tuesbe ensured that while visiting the schools, no prior intimation be given to the schools and only sudden ingional offices to visit schools under their jurisdiction as a spection is carried out," said "top priority" in order to the letter. "The official visit-"verify the work done by the ing the school may also sign schools" and ensure that the on documents inspected especially rationale Board's result tabulation documents," it added. policy is being "implement-

lot of discretion to school results committees to assign and even revise marks of individual students in order to ensure they align with the school's historical performance. In order to reduce the possibility of bias, each panel must include two external members and also record the justification for all its decisions in a rationale document, Dr. Bhardwaj had told The Hindu. CBSE officials were being asked to take pictures of all

The CBSE Tabulation Poli-

cy for Class 12 marks gives a

the documents they inspected during their surprise visits and include it in a pointwise report to be submitted to Dr. Bhardwaj by July 12. Schools would be chosen for inspection so that all categories of schools - government, private, Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas – were covered, said the letter.

Postponed JEE-Main sessions to be conducted from July 20

exam earlier are being pro-

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

will inspect the rationale

document that is meant to

ensure that the mark deter-

mination process is being

done in an objective man-

Examinations,

tions by July 12.

The CBSE's Controller of

Bhardwaj, has written to all

to complete such inspec-

day, Dr. Bhardwaj asked se-

nior officers of the CBSE's re-

The third and fourth sessions of the all-India engineering entrance examination JEE-Main will be held from July 20 to 25 and from July 27 to August 2 respectively, the National Testing Agency announced on Tuesday.

The first two sessions of JEE-Main 2021 were already completed in February and March. Students are free to attempt the exam all four times if they wish to do so, with the best score being used for ranking and admissions.

"Candidates who could not apply for the entrance

vided with a golden chance to apply again," said Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', announcing the NTA decision in a video statement. The registration window is being opened for fresh applicants, while those candidates who had already registered for the April and May sessions can also make changes to their applications. Already, 6.8 lakh students had registered for the April exam and 6.09 lakh for the May session that had to be put off during

Applicants for the third session must submit their forms between July 6 and 8,

the second wave of COVID.

while those applying for the fourth session can do so from July 9 to 12, said the NTA.

The third session will be conducted only for BE and B.Tech candidates while the fourth session will be conducted for B.Arch and B.Planning as well as the engineering aspirants.

To ensure COVID-19 safety and distancing protocols are maintained, the NTA has increased the number of testing centres from 660 in 232 cities to 828 centres in 334 cities. Candidates who have already registered will be allowed to change their choice of cities to appear for the exam.

SC comes to the aid of those in mental health institutions

Extend vaccine coverage to them, Bench tells government

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Centre to ensure that patients in mental health institutions are tested for COVID-19 and vaccinated.

A Bench of Justices D.Y. Chandrachud and M.R. Shah directed States and Union Territories to extend cooperation and participate in the meeting of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to be held on July 12. It asked the States and the

the discrepancies in figures submitted about the people treated but are languishing in the institutions and those who still need treatment. The Bench decided to

Union Territories to remove

monitor their welfare, terming it a sensitive issue. The court was hearing a plea filed by advocate Gau-

We continue

SUHASINI HAIDAR

NEW DELHI

to monitor the

security situation

India is watching the situa-

tion in the Afghan cities of

Kandahar and Mazar-e-Sha-

rif closely, with concerns for

its missions and diplomatic

staff there growing as the Ta-

liban gains control over a

number of provincial cities,

said officials. However, the

government denied it had

shut down operations at its

consulates there, calling re-

ports that said India was

pulling out its diplomatic

The Indian Embassy in

personnel "incorrect".



10,000 people, fit to be discharged, were forced to live in mental hospitals due to social stigma.

eral Madhavi Divan, appearing for the Centre, said there were some discrepancies in the data provided by the States and the matter had been pointed out to the governments.

rav Bansal that nearly

"It is a very serious matter. Many people who are

Kabul said in a tweet, "Con-

sulates in Kandahar & Mazar-

e-Sharif are open, function-

ing. We DO HOWEVER conti-

nue to closely monitor the

evolving security situation

particularly around Kanda-

Operations at India's oth-

er Consulates in Herat and

Jalalabad were suspended in

April 2020, when all Indian

personnel were brought

ternal Affairs Minister S.

Jaishankar travels to Russia

on Wednesday for a three-

day visit from July 7-9, and

har & Mazar cities."

full security review.

Additional Solicitor-Gen-

Consulates remain open in Kandahar, Mazar: India

Harsh Shringla, right, with Afghan Ambassador to India Farid Mamundzay.

back to Delhi due to the CO-VID-19 pandemic, ahead of a meets with his counterpart Sergey Lavrov to discuss "re-Afghanistan's security sitgional and international isuation and future course are sues" along with bilateral expected to come up as Ex-

The developments were also discussed in a meeting between Afghanistan Ambassador Farid Mamundzay

SCAN TO PLAY

tor the situation in Afghanistan in the wake of the U.S. and NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) troops pullout.

"Ambassador [Mamundzay] briefed the Foreign Secretary (FS) on the security situation in Afghanistan. FS assured our Afghan friends of India's long-term commitment towards peace and prosperity in Afghanistan," the Ministry of External Affairs said in a tweet.

According to an Associated Press report on Tuesday, the Balkh provincial Governor's spokesperson Munir Farhad said that Uzbekistan,

and Foreign Secretary Harsh Tajikistan, India and Pakis Shringla on Tuesday, as both tan had all reduced their Kabul and New Delhi moni- strength at Consulates in Mazar, and that Turkey and Russia had closed their Consulates down in the wake of the growing violence around

> Officials in Delhi denied the downsizing of the Indian missions at this time, but said they are watching the developing situation closely, and were prepared to ensure the safety of all Indian personnel.

> About 50 diplomatic staff and security personnel remain in the two Consulates at Kandahar and Mazar, while the Embassy in Kabul runs most of the consular operations for the country.

Fresh plea filed in HC on same-sex marriage

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday issued notice to the Union government on a fresh petition seeking legal recognition to all same-sex, queer or non-heterosexual marriages under the Foreign Marriage Act and the Special Marriage Act.

A Bench of Chief Justice D.N. Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh gave the order on the plea filed by a married same-sex couple, where one of them is an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card holder and his partner a U.S. citizen.

The court tagged the

fresh petition filed by Joydeep Sengupta and Russell Blaine Stephens to be heard collectively with four other petitions on the issue.

Mr. Sengupta and Mr. Stephens said they got married in New York on August 6, 2012. They said they were preparing for their new role as parents and expecting their first child in July 2021.

Mr. Stephens said he wished to apply for the OCI status under the Citizenship Act as a spouse of an OCI cardholder to enable him to get a multiple entry, lifelong visa for visiting India, where Mr. Sengupta's family

THERE // Type your answers into our online grids. Type your answers into our online grids. ### INSTANCE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF GRIDS IN A STATE OF TYPE YOUR ANSWERS OF

16 Involves a portion of chicken tail soup (7)

18 Ordered 15 to follow engineers to get drink (3,4)

23 Porches in Denver and Ascot? (8)

25 Travel with wickedly hot gal to place in Jerusalem (8)

27 Hot beer in court-house in the Alps (6) 29 Ignorant old boy takes 54 acknowledgements of debt (9)

30 Animals look back, pregnant with some worry (4)

21 Legendary creature's shown possessing heart in new x-rays, for

Display keystrokes of genius.

@ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

1 Joker somehow accompanied, throwing cap away (8)

2 Look! Chinese lake! (4) **3** Jewellery carelessly taken around Luxembourg (6) 4 Sound sleepers' defective noses having some rheum right in the

5 Spot CEO wandering around often, at first, making medical

equipment (8) 6 Old American editor (4)

9 After kiss, none let loose gas! (5)

13 Female teacher admits one immigrant initially in American city (5)

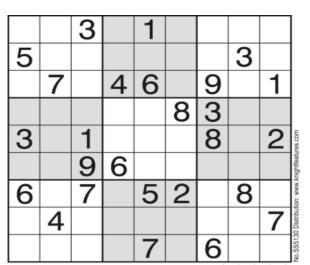
15 Editor with Indian disclosed Buzz's real name (5) 17 Chemical agent facilitating ease of business (8)

19 Oddly, Aden teen tidied (8) 20 Pilot's silly prevarication in absence of prince (7)

22 At first, police officer hides erotic picture (5) **24** Suspension of proceedings about tax (6)

26 Girl having drink produces extraordinary wind! (4) 28 Dropped Australian journalist around 10 (4)

SUDOKU



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FAITH

Prarabdha karma

Sastras advise that an individual desirous of salvation should learn to gradually dissociate himself from the active involvements that he had been preoccupied with and begin to meditate on God with single minded devotion, at least during the last lap of his life. The Lord's word in the Bhagavad Gita, that one can reach Him if only one is able to think of Him at the time of death, provides the motivation to make it a practice to meditate on Him in earnest at all times.

But even for one steeped in bhakti yoga, to resist the pulls of attachment that might casually come in one's way can become a difficult task is what the Jadabharata episode very vividly illustrates, pointed out Sri R. Krishnamurthy Sastrigal in a discourse. Bharata's compassionate nature towards the young orphaned deer had very subtly morphed into strong emotional attachment and this interfered with his usual daily practice of austerities.

Instead of fixing his mind on God which had been his aim when he chose to live in solitude, he remembered the deer all the while so much so that this thought alone prevailed at the time of death. He was then born as a deer in his next birth. Interpreters feel that the prarabdha karma in his account took the form of this new fangled attachment to the deer. The same prarabdha continued in his next birth but now, though a deer, he was granted the knowledge of his past life. He became aware of the long years of penance he had spent in archana, aradhana and meditation and how this had taken a diversion. Brooding thus, the deer moved away from its herd and travelled towards the hermitage to wait for the end of its life. In the next birth, he was born as the realised Jadabharata and attained salvation at the end of his life.

ACROSS

- **7** Swimming pool game (4)
- down (6-3) **10** Deadly lathe turned by trainee (6)
- 12 Movie actor lifts arm awkwardly (8)

8 Comforting SpO2% reading, remaining same even if read upside

11 Tenant's hire charges include right, for example (8) 14 Canoes drifting in large water bodies (6)

'U.S. left Afghan airbase without notice'

The new commander was not informed before the American troops' departure, say officials

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The U.S. left Afghanistan's Bagram Airfield after nearly 20 years by shutting off the electricity and slipping away in the night without notifying the base's new Afghan commander, who discovered the Americans' departure more than two hours after they left, said Afghan military officials.

Afghanistan's showed off the sprawling airbase on Monday, providing a first glimpse of what had been the epicentre of America's war to unseat the Taliban and hunt down the al-Qaeda perpetrators of the 9/ 11 attacks on America.

The U.S. announced on Friday it had vacated its biggest airfield in the country in advance of a final withdrawal the Pentagon says will be completed by the end of Au-

"We [heard] some rumour that the Americans had left Bagram ... and finally by seven o'clock in the morning, we understood that it was

14 years in jail

Viktor Babariko

The Supreme Court in Be-

larus on Tuesday sen-

tenced a former contender

in the 2020 presidential

race to 14 years in prison

on corruption charges in a

case that has been widely

seen as politically motivat-

and a fine roughly equal to

\$57,000. He will not be

able to appeal the court's

for Belarus's

ASSOCIATED PRESS



A long war: An Afghan National Army helicopter taking off inside the Bagram Air Base on Friday after the U.S. exit. • AFP

confirmed that they had already left Bagram," said Gen. Mir Asadullah Kohistani, Bagram's new commander.

U.S. military spokesman Col. Sonny Leggett did not address the complaints of many Afghan soldiers who inherited the abandoned airfield, instead referring to a statement last week. Col. Leggett said in the statement that they had coordinated their departures with Afghanistan's leaders.

Before the Afghan army could take control of the airfield, it was invaded by a small army of looters, who ransacked barracks and rummaged through storage tents before being evicted, according to Afghan military

"At first, we thought maybe they were the Taliban," said Abdul Raouf, a soldier. He said the U.S. called from the Kabul airport and said "we are here at the airport in Kabul".

The last U.S. soldiers are likely to remain until an agreement to protect the Kabul Hamid Karzai International Airport, which is expected to be done by Turkey,

Pullout of troops over 90% complete: Pentagon

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

The withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan is more than 90% completed, the Pentagon's Central Command announced on

CentCom said it had

handed over seven former U.S. bases to the Afghan forces and had evacuated the equivalent of nearly 1,000 C-17 air freighter loads of equipment from the country, ahead of the September deadline to complete the pullout.

Amid rising Taliban wins, consulates shut down

ASSOCIATED PRESS

A surge of Taliban wins in northern Afghanistan has caused some countries to close their consulates in the region, while in Tajikistan, reservists are being called up to reinforce the

southern border, according to officials. The consulates

of Turkey and Russia have reportedly closed in Mazar-e-Sharif. Iran said it has restricted activities at its consulate.

The consulates of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Pakistan have reduced their services, and Turkey and Russia have closed their

Wreckage of Russian plane found

All 28 on board feared dead; the An-26 aircraft had gone missing on Tuesday

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wreckage from a plane that went missing on Tuesday in Russia's Far East region of Kamchatka was found around 5 km (three miles) away from a runway at an airport on the coast where it was supposed to land, offi-

Viktor Babariko was ar-An Antonov An-26 plane rested two months before with 22 passengers and six the 2020 vote and has recrew members, flying from mained in jail since. the city of Petropavlovsk-On Tuesday, he was Kamchatsky to the town of found guilty of taking a Palana on the Okhotsk Sea bribe and money laundercoast, missed a scheduled ing. The court handed him communication and disapa 14-year prison sentence peared from radar as it was

> on approach for landing. The governor of Kamchatka, Vladimir Solodov, told the *Interfax* news agency



The site where the Russian plane crashed. • REUTERS

that the aircraft's fuselage was found on land near the coast, while other wreckage was found nearby in the Ok-

According to media reports, none of the 28 people on board survived the crash. The plane belonged to a company called Kamchatka Aviation Enterprise and had been in operation since 1982, Russian state news agency Tass reported.

'Technically sound'

The company's director, Alexei Khabarov, told Interfax that the plane was technically sound before taking

Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky. A criminal investigation

into the incident has been launched. Kamchatka Aviation Enterprise's deputy director, Sergei Gorb, said that plane "practically crashed into a sea cliff", which wasn't supposed to be in its landing trajectory.

The plane was on approach for landing when contact was lost about 10 km (six miles) away from Palana's airport. The head of the local go-

vernment in Palana, Olga Mokhireva, was aboard the flight, spokespeople of the Kamchatka government

In 2012, an Antonov An-28 plane belonging to Kamchat-Aviation Enterprise crashed into a mountain while flying from Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsk and coming in for a landing in Palana. A total of 14 people were on board and 10 of them were killed. Both pilots, who were among the dead, were found to have alcohol in their blood, Tass reported.

KARNATAKA POWER

(Raichur Thermal Power Station) CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

No. KPCL/2021-22/PS/Work_Indent 11226

Tender Notification

(Two Cover System - Only through e-procurement portal)

Tender through e-procurement portal mode are invited from con-

tractors/agencies who are reputed individuals/company and having

past experience for the work of "RTPS-Assistance in operation

of DM plant 1 and 2, clarifiers, cooling water treatment, col-

lection of boiler and steam samples of all units, Chlorine diox-

ide generation, and regular monitoring of environmental pa-

rameters of all eight units for a period of 2 years" Bids will be

received through GOK e-procurement portal mode only. Last

date for submission of tenders: on or before 25-07-2021 up to

16:00 hrs. The detailed notification can be viewed on GOK e-proc

portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in Further details can be had

Xi reshuffles PLA border command leadership

Xu Qiling appointed head of Western Theatre command

ANANTH KRISHNAN

China's President Xi Jinping has replaced the head of the military's Western Theatre Command, which borders India, appointing a new General to lead the military's biggest command.

Mr. Xi on Monday promoted four senior military officers, including one who has been at the centre of the border tensions with India as the head of the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) Ground Forces or Army in the border Western Theatre Command, to the highest rank of General.

Mr. Xi, who also heads the Central Military Commission (CMC), presented the certificates of the orders to them at a ceremony held by the CMC on Monday, the official Xinhua reported.

The promoted officers were named as Xu Qiling, Commander of the PLA's Western Theatre Command, Wang Xiubin, Commander of the Southern Theatre Command, Liu Zhenli, Commander of the PLA Army, and Ju Qiansheng, Commander of the PLA Strategic Support Force.

General Xu becomes one of the PLA's youngest Generals, the highest rank for ac-



The Chinese military's Western Theatre Command

tive officers. The announcement suggests General Xu has replaced General Zhang Xudong as the Commander of the Western Theatre. General Zhang was appointed as Commander only in December 2020, and observers said his tenure ending within seven months would be highly unusual as per past practice.

Former commander

As of Tuesday, there was no official statement on why General Zhang has been replaced and where he has been posted, although his biography on Baidu, China's Google equivalent, was on Tuesday updated to describe him as the 'former' Commander of the Western Theatre.

The current thinking among Indian military plan-

ners is that the April mass mobilisation by the PLA and subsequent multiple LAC transgressions, coming after annual summer exercises, was likely planned at the level of the Western Theatre Command, and that the higher levels, such as the Central Military Commission headed by Mr. Xi, were most likely only involved after the June 15 clash in Galwan Valley. In December 2020, seven

months into the tensions, General Zhang took over as Commander of the entire Western Theater Command overseeing all its forces, replacing General Zhao Zongqi, the long-standing Commander, who retired at 65. In March, General Zhao was rewarded with a post-retirement appointment as the Vice-Chairman of the National People's Congress (NPC) or parliamentary committee on foreign affairs, a top advisory body.

General Xu, 59, now becomes the third head of the Command since tensions began. He was appointed under General Zhang, as Commander of the Western Theatre's Ground Forces or Army, on June 1, 2020, around a month into the tensions and before the June 15, 2020 Galwan Valley clash.

Israel PM suffers defeat over Arab family unification ban

Yamina party member votes with Opposition, causing a tie

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE JERUSALEM

Israel's Prime Minister Naftali Bennett accused his opponents on Tuesday of harming national security as his coalition failed to extend a ban on citizenship for Palestinian spouses from the West Bank and Gaza.

Earlier, the coalition had sought a deal for nearly all of its members to back the ban's extension. The PM had also called for Opposition right-wingers to support the measure, urging unity on national security grounds. But that failed when a member of the Yamina party, Amichai Chikli, voted with the Opposition, tweeting later that the debate over the Bill was "proof" that a government without a "clear Zionist majority" would be "problematic". His defection left Parliament tied at 59 to 59 votes, meaning the measure would lapse later Tuesday.

IN BRIEF

verdict.



nuclear facility attack

A sabotage attempt at an Iranian nuclear facility in June caused minor damage to a building but none to equipment, the Iranian government said on Tuesday, blaming the attack on Israel. Satellite images appearing to show that part of a roof was missing were taken while the building was under repair, government spokesman Ali Rabiei told a news conference carried by state media. "We have had no damage to equipment. There was small damage to a roof and the (satellite) pictures were taken when the roof was removed for repairs." Mr. Rabiei said. according to the news agency

U.K. court quashes 1972 convictions of 3 black men

They were accused of trying to rob a policeman

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Appeal court judges in London on Tuesday overturned the convictions of three black men for attempting to rob a corrupt police officer nearly half a century ago.

The Court of Appeal cleared the trio following a referral by a criminal cases review commission, and comes just over a year after the acquittals of four men in a similar

The latest ruling is the third time convictions have been overturned based on the tarnished evidence of British

Egypt and Sudan have opposed the project on the Nile

Ethiopia resumes filling disputed dam

Transport Police officer Detective Sergeant Derek Ridgewell.

The three men – all aged between 17 and 20 at the time - and three friends were accused of trying to rob Ridgewell in 1972 on the London Underground while travelling from Stockwell sta-

tion, south London. All bar one of "The Stockwell Six" were convicted, largely on the word of the corrupt officer, who himself was jailed for seven years and died of a heart attack in prison

At their trial, the accused told jurors that officers, including Rid-

in 1982.

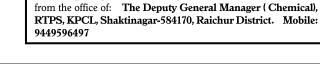
gewell, who had previously served in the Zimbabwean, police lence and threats.

"It is most unfortunot yet been traced.

Lawyers for the men said it was "deeply troubling" that it had taken so long for the convictions to be

South Rhodesian, now force, had lied and subjected them to vio-

nate that it has taken nearly 50 years to rectify the injustice," Julian Flaux, one of the three judges to hear the case, said on Tuesday. The two remaining members of the Stockwell Six who were convicted have



GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT** Buildings (C&M) Circle, Tirunelveli - 627 002.

Notice Inviting Tenders Lumpsum Contract (Rate Tender System) Tender Notice No. 02 /2021-2022/ Dated 05.07.2021

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu sealed Tenders are invited from the contractors registered in Public Works Department in the appropriate class to the office of the Special Chief Engineer, PWD, Buildings (C&M) Circle, Tirunelvel

Rs.369.00 Lakhs

08.07.2021 to 09.08.2021 upto 5.45 PM Tender Schedule Available Date Tender Schedule Receiving Last Date Upto 3.00 PM on 10.08.2021 Tender Opening Date 3.30 PM on 10.08.2021

Total Approximate Value of Work

For further details and tender documents visit the website www.tntenders.gov.in. DIPR/1964/TENDER/2021

Special Chief Engineer, PWD., Buildings (C&M) Circle, Tirunelveli



ICMR - NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

: www.tenders.tn.gov.in and

R-127, Second Main Road, TNHB, Ayapakkam, Chennai – 600077.

ONLINE INTERVIEW

Candidates are invited for Online zoom app Interview and Walk-in-Interview for the posts of: Consultant II, Project Scientist-B (Medical), Project Scientist-B (Non-Medical), Project Technical Officer (MSW), Project Technical Assistant (Lab) and Multi Tasking Staff on contract basis at ICMR - NIE.

For application proforma and other details regarding qualification and experience, etc., please refer to www.nie.gov.in Director



No of Posts



सी.एस.आई.आर – केन्द्रीय चर्म अनुसंधान संस्थान **CSIR-CENTRAL LEATHER RESEARCH INSTITUTE** वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंघान परिषद Council of Scientific & Industrial Research अडयार, चेन्नै, तमिलनाडु, भारत

Adyar, Chennai - 600 020, TamilNadu, India

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BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through e-procurement portal only)
Request for Qualifications (RFQs) from eligible and interested

companies/parties/developers/investors/operators of "Tourism Infrastructure Projects" for the work of "Development of

Luxury Hotel (equivalent to Five-Star Hotel Standards) and Ropeway at Jog Falls under DBFOT model" at Jog Falls in

CSIR-CLRI is one of the Constituent Laboratories of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), which is an Autonomous Body under the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research, Ministry of Science Technology, Government of India.

Applications are invited from the Indian Nationals for the following Scientific 8 Advertisement No.1/2021

Post	& Reservation	Pay Level & Pay	Total Emoluments*	(as on last date of submission of online Application)
Senior Scientist / Gr IV (3)	3 posts Unreserved	Pay Level 12 Rs. 78,800/-	Rs. 1,19,532/-	37 years
Scientist / Gr IV (2)	5 posts [UR - 2 EWS - 1 OBC - 1 OBC - 1*] * - Backlog vacancy	Pay Level 11 Rs. 67,700/-	Rs. 1,03,881/-	32 years for UR & EWS Posts 35 years for OBC Posts

Advertisement No.2/2021

Post	No of Posts & Reservation	Pay Level & Pay	Total Emoluments*	Upper Age Limit** (as on last date of submission of online Application)	
Senior Technical Officer (2) / Gr III(5) (Male Medical Officer)	1 post Unreserved	Pay Level 11	Rs. 1,19,723/- ^{\$}		
Senior Technical Officer (2) / Gr III(5) (Guest House & Public Relations)	1 post Unreserved	Rs. 67,700/-	Rs. 1,03,881/-	40 years	

Approximate emoluments on minimum of scale including HRA applicable to Class city. ** Please see age relaxation under Relaxation Column \$ Includes Non-Practicing Allowance.

Qualifications, applying procedure, application form and date of commencement of application, last date and other terms and conditions and instructions to the candidates etc. have been given in detailed advertisements hosted in CLR Website. Please visit our website https://clri.org Controller of Administration

on the upper Blue Nile, said Egypt and Sudan, raising tensions Tuesday ahead of an upcoming UN Security Council meeting on the issue. Both Cairo and Khartoum said they had been notified by Addis Ababa that the second phase of filling had begun at the

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Ethiopia has started the

second phase of filling a

mega-dam's reservoir

sance Dam. Egypt's Irrigation Ministry late Monday expressed its "firm rejection of this unilateral

Grand Ethiopian Renais-



Ethiopian Renaissance Dam in 2019. • REUTERS

kele did not immediatemeasure" and Sudan's Foreign Ministry on Tuesday followed suit, labelling the move a "risk and imminent droelectric threat". In Addis Ababa, the

offices of Prime Minister

Abiy Ahmed and Irriga-

tion Minister Seleshi Be-

ly respond to AFP's requests for comment. The huge dam, set to be Africa's largest hy-

project when completed, has sparked an almost decade-long diplomatic stand-off between Addis

nations Egypt and Sudan. Ethiopia says the project is essential to its development, but Cairo and Khartoum fear it could restrict their citizens' water access. Both governments

Ababa and downstream

have been pushing Addis Ababa to ink a binding deal over the filling and operation of the dam, and have urged the UN Security Council to take up the matter. Addis Ababa had pre-

viously announced it would proceed to the second stage of filling in July, with or without a deal

	06-07-2021	% CHANGE
Sensex	52,861	-0.036%
US Dollar	74.55	-0.32
Gold	47747	2.80
Brent oil	75.23	-1.15

PRICE CHANGE ..-12.30 Asian Paints 3002.50. -2.00 --6.10 Bajaj Auto 4195.40 Bajaj Finserv Bajaj Finance .6202.40....129.70 ... 2.15 ...-1.65 Bharti Airtel 458.05 -4.55 -5.60 Cipla. 969.10 147.50 4524.20 -35.75 Divis Lab 5539.45 Eicher Motors .2711.15. . 10.10 HCL Tech. 972.05 1534.70 HDFC Bank 39.25 .2919.25 Hero MotoCorp -18.80 385.35 ...-4.20 ..-26.55 Hind Unilever 2.45 ICICI Bank . 650.30 1031.05 IndusInd Bank 1562.20 108.40 -16.75 ...-0.40 Indian OilCorp -1.15 202.50 673.15 JSW Steel Kotak Bank 24.25 1505.50 ...781.90 .7514.95 -9.85 -84.50 M&M Maruti Suzuki Nestle India Ltd. 17470.10 117.65 -171.25-0.95 ONGC PowerGrid Corp 121.50 228.80 0.55

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Tata Motors	316.90	29
Tata Steel	1167.25	10
TCS	3262.30	58
Tech Mahindra	1049.55	25
Titan	1762.80	12
UltraTech Cement	6933.05	213
UPL	803.30	4
Wipro	532.60	3
EXCHANGE R	ATES	

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Reliance Ind SBI Life

State Bank..... Shree Cement

Sun Pharma

except yen at 4 p.m. on July 06		
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	74.34	74.66
Euro	88.04	88.45
British Pound	.102.95	103.40
Japanese Yen (100)	67.09	67.39
Chinese Yuan	11.50	11.55
Swiss Franc	80.52	80.87
Singapore Dollar	55.29	55.54
Canadian Dollar	60 19	60.46

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit

'Warehousing deals for 8 cities to grow at 19%'

Malaysian Ringitt.

BENGALURU Annual warehousing deals for the top 8 Indian cities will log a compounded annual growth rate of 19% to 76.2 mn sq ft

by FY26, said property

consultant Knight Frank

Oil soars to multi-year highs after OPEC+ talks collapse

Brent hits highest level since 2018 after producers fail to agree on raising output

REUTERS

Oil prices climbed to multiyear highs on Tuesday after OPEC+ producers clashed over plans to raise supply to meet rising global demand.

Brent crude hit a session high of \$77.84, a level not seen since October 2018, before losing momentum and easing to trade 25 cents, or 0.3% lower, at \$76.91 a barrel by 1149 GMT.

U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures traded up 75 cents, or 1%, at \$76.91, after reaching \$76.98 earlier in the session, the highest since November

Ministers from OPEC+, which groups producers



No deal: Ministers abandoned talks as negotiations failed to close divisions within the group. • REUTERS

from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) with Russia and others, abandoned talks on Monday as negotiations failed to close divisions within the group.

No date for further talks

this month and agree to pump more from August while others said current curbs might stay in place.

they still believed OPEC+

would resume discussions

Brent seen at \$80/barrel Goldman Sachs said the collapse of the talks has introduced uncertainty into the group's production path, while maintaining its view of an \$80 per barrel Brent price and gradual increase in output early next year.

In a sign of a tightening market, top oil exporter Saudi Arabia raised the August official selling prices of all crude grades it sells to Asia, the state oil producer Aramco said on Tuesday.

Indian bond yields spike as crude surges

REUTERS

Indian bond yields jumped on Tuesday as a rally in global crude oil prices raised worries about higher imported inflation, while a selection of papers for this week's bond buy-back by the central bank also disappointed investors.

The most-traded 6.64%, 2035 bond was up 6 basis points at 6.79%, while the second-highest traded 5.63%, 2026 paper rose 7 bps to 5.83%. Both bonds were trading at levels last seen in mid-March. HDFC Bank said rising oil prices and lack of liquid papers in this week's government securities acquisition programme was weighing on bond prices.

India imports more than two-thirds of its oil needs.

'Unconscionable' Adani conduct draws advisory

Proxy adviser flags risks to investors

REUTERS

Proxy advisory firm Glass Lewis has recommended shareholders vote against the re-election of a member of Adani Enterprises' risk committee after an Australian court criticised "unconscionable conduct" in its Australian port business.

Adani Enterprises' Australian unit has been involved in a controversial project to develop the Carmichael mine in Queensland to sell thermal coal into India.

But it was a decision by the Queensland Supreme Court that found that Adani's coal export terminal engaged in monopolistic busipractices Lewis' prompted Glass recommendation.

"Given the judgement, the practices at Adani Mining reflect poorly upon business and risk management strategies from within Adani Enterprises," Glass Lewis

adani

said in its recommendation. Adani said the judgement related to its port business, a separate entity to Adani Mining.

Glass Lewis advised shareholders to vote against no-

minee Pranav Adani.

'Tyre industry to see 13-15% growth in FY22'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

After two years of contraction, the Indian tyre industry is expected to grow 13-15% in unit terms and 7-9% in tonnes during the current financial year, according to ICRA.

The growth will be aided by a sharp recovery in original equipment manufacturer (OEM) tyre demand, lower base effect of FY21, improving pace of vaccination, continued preference for personal mobility and healthy rural cash flows, ICRA said in a note.

"Tyre demand has been relatively more resilient as the replacement demand insulates it from cyclicality to a large extent," said Srikumar Krishnamurthy, VP

'Domestic air passenger trips grew 42% from May'

Rising ATF prices a challenge: ICRA

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Domestic air passenger traffic in June registered a growth of 41-42% at 29-30 lakh trips compared with about 19.8 lakh trips in May, ratings agency ICRA said. On a sequential basis, the

number of departures in June 2021 was higher by 14-15% at 31,700 departure flights as COVID-19 infections witnessed a downward trajectory, ICRA said. "For June 2021, the aver-

age daily departures were at nearly 1,100, significantly higher than average daily departures of nearly 700 in June 2020, and higher than nearly 900 in May 2021, though it remained significantly lower than nearly 2,000 in April 2021," accord-

to wait another four years

for the Olympics. Then our

coach said, 'I will give you

another chance, you try to

finish at least third in the

trials, I will surely take you to

the Olympics'," said the



has been announced.

The United Arab Emirates

said it would go along with

output increases but reject-

ed a separate proposal to ex-

tend curbs to end-2022 from

Some OPEC+ sources said

an existing April deadline.

ing to Kinjal Shah, V-P & cogroup head, ICRA.

'The average number of passengers per flight during June 2021 was 94, against an average of 77 passengers per flight in May 2021," Ms. Shah ICRA, however, added. warned that the rise in aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices remained a near-term

ALL to step up operations at units in July

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI

Following an improvement in overall market demand, Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL) has decided to operate its plants for more number of days in July.

The commercial vehicle manufacturer said that the overall situation in July was better than in June.

Consequently, plants will be working for more number of days in July compared with May and June, ranging from 6 to 25 days across various plant locations, the company said in a regulatory filing.

In earlier communications, the company had said that its plants were not fully operational during May and June due to the

China tightens oversight of firms listed offshore

To improve regulation of data flows

China will step up supervision of Chinese firms listed offshore, its cabinet said on Tuesday, days after Beijing launched a cybersecurity investigation into ride-hailing giant Didi Global Inc. on the heels of its U.S. stock market

Under the new measures, China will improve regulation of cross-border data flows and security, crack down on illegal activity in the securities market and punish fraudulent securities issuance, market manipulation and insider trading, the cabinet said in a statement.

China will also check sources of funding for securities investment and control leverage ratios, it said.



The move comes amid China's sweeping clampdown on its massive and online "platform economy", which has been the target of antitrust investigations and penalties as well as increased scrutiny of data security and privacy, and as U.S.-China tensions have spread to capital markets.

SAT to hear **PNBHF-Carlyle** deal next week

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) will hear the case related to the PNB Housing Finance-Carlyle deal on Monday next.

The order in the matter was expected on July 5; however, it was adjourned for **July 12.**

PNB Housing had filed an appeal before the SAT against the letter issued by SEBI last month, requesting it not to go ahead with the proposal until due diligence was done.

"As sought by the company, the Securities Appellate Tribunal, in its hearing on July 5, 2021, adjourned the case for Monday, July 12, 2021," PNB Housing Finance said in a regulatory

SPORT

'The 400m could change my life'

Dhanalakshmi says going to Tokyo is something unimaginable

ATHLETICS

STAN RAYAN

When S. Dhanalakshmi made her 400m debut at the Olympics trials in Patiala on Sunday, she felt good in the first 200m and thought the next half would go well too. But in the last 100m, she realised how difficult the quarter-mile was.

"After 300m, everything sort of switched off. I felt like I didn't have any energy left. I've never run more than 300m before," said the 23year-old National 100m champion, who made the Indian 4x400m mixed relay team to the Tokyo Olympics after that run, in a chat with The Hindu from Patiala on Tuesday.

Coach's encouragement When Russian Galina Bukharina, the quarter-milers and relay teams' national coach,



"Since my chances in the

■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

trials, Dhanalakshmi felt that

asked her to do the 400m she should make the most of

100m and (4x100m) relay

were over, I thought I'd have

sprinter from Tiruchi who had shocked National record-holder Dutee Chand and Hima Das for the National 100m gold. "In the last 50m, my mind was just saying, 'Olympics, Olympics'. It was close and I pushed my head forward and finished third. Running the 400m and going to the

> even dream such a thing." Bukharina was thrilled

Olympics...this is something

unimaginable. How can I

"After the trials, she told me I should concentrate on the 400m. That I would surely run in 52s if I train hard," said Dhanalakshmi who had an impressive varsities debut

The quarter-mile now appears sweeter to the youngster who entered the national camp in March.

Better chance

"In 100, you will go places only if you clock 11s. In 400m, you have the Asian Games and Commonwealth Games and a better chance of winning medals in relays so I'm wondering whether to shift to the 400m. It could change my life in a big way."

At school (Abbot Marcel RC HSS), Dhanalakshmi used to do well at the zonal and district-level there. "But I used to finish last or close to that in State meets," she said.

It was only when she reached college (SRC, Tiruchi) that she felt the need for systematic training. "So I joined Manikandan Arumugam's group a few years

That has transformed her

Nobel laureate champions a cause

Prof. Yunus wants 2024 Olympics organisers to help the poor

GENERAL

KAMESH SRINIVASAN

NEW DELHI Nobel laureate Prof. Muhammad Yunus, who works for the betterment of society with his revolutionary idea of Grameen Bank, may not visit the Tokyo Olympics owing to the pandemic, but has been relentlessly working for the social success of the Paris Games scheduled for 2024.

In a lively webinar on 'how sport can change the world', initiated by Olympic champion Abhinav Bindra on Monday, Prof. Yunus shared his experience and views on tapping the power of sports.

Prof. Yunus revealed that he had given the 2024 organisers a simple formula that every single penny of their €7 billion budget should have a "social purpose".

"The beautiful Games Village which they build for the athletes should serve the



Revealing discussion: A screen grab of Abhinay Bindra in a chat with Prof. Yunus. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

poor people in that area, with school, market area etc. I asked them to design it in a way that it serves the homeless people of the local community. I keep asking them tough questions, and they try to find solutions. One Olympics can transform the society," said Prof. Yunus.

When queried by the Madhya Pradesh Sports Minister, Yashodara Raje Scindia, Prof. Yunus said that it was equally important to support those who don't succeed in

"Put the money on the table. The thinking starts, once the money is there," said Prof. Yunus, as he suggested supporting sports persons after their sporting career, by encouraging them to be entrepreneurs rather than 'job seekers'.

Collective good

Explaining the difference between business, charity and social business, Prof. Yunus emphasised that the thought of "collective good" was as much part of human beings, as "self interest". Prof. Yunus stressed that the pandemic, despite serving a huge blow to humanity, had given an opportunity for the world to start in a new direction, and avoid a suicidal

IN BRIEF BRAUNSCHWEIG (GERMANY)

tournament here.

Nagal advances

Sumit Nagal beat Mohamed Safwat of Egypt 6-3, 7-6(3) in the first round of the €66,640 Challenger tennis

Other results: \$115,000 WTA, Bastad, Sweden: First round: Anna Bondar (Hun) bt Karman Thandi 7-6(5),6-0. €66,640 Challenger, Braunschweig, Germany: **Qualifying singles (first** round): Benjamin Hassan

(Ger) bt Prainesh Gunneswaran 7-5, 6-4 \$25,000 ITF women, Lisbon: First round: Riya Bhatia bt Carolina Azadinho (Por) 6-2,

Olympics could be TV-only with few fans

The pandemic-delayed Tokyo Olympics is shaping up as a TV-only event with few fans if any — being allowed when it opens in just over two weeks. The Asahi newspaper, citing multiple unidentified government sources, said on Tuesday the opening ceremony on July 23 is likely to be limited only to VIP

An elephant walks into the Oval and attaches itself to history



BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

any years I was asked at a quiz: What is the name of the elephant who came to the Oval as India were winning a Test and series in England for the first time? This was not an animal who wandered into a cricket ground to see how his countrymen were doing, but one that had been borrowed from the nearby Chessington Zoo by Indian fans celebrating the Ganesha festival. "Bella," I said, and earned points for my

Fifty years ago – for that is when this

happened - you could bring an elephant into a ground where an international match was taking place. Bella, who had been originally bought from a pet store in Birmingham, died in 1990, but did not rate a mention in the obituary section of Wisden, unlike Peter the cat at Lord's ("whose ninth life ended in November 1964..."). But she will be remembered as the most unexpected spectator at India's triumph. And somehow will be connected to the event

The late Ajit Wadekar, India's captain then, has spoken about how manager Hemu Adhikari saw the appearance of the elephant as a good omen on an auspicious day. Wadekar was fond of recalling how he went out to bat on his overnight score of 45 and was run out first ball. So much for luck and omens. But he did believe that Lord Ganesha had appeared that morning.

"It is no secret," wrote Wadekar in his autobiography, "that I was fast asleep during India's finest hour... it was Ken Barrington who was the first to congratulate me ('It's all over. The match is vours.'). There could not have been a better bearer of good news than the bluff and hearty former England batsman."

The Observer reports...

The Observer wrote of the moment when Abid Ali cut Brian Luckhurst for the match-winning boundary thus: "Every Indian tourist, businessman, waiter and schoolboy in London seemed to be at the Oval. What follows is like one of Eisenstein's crowd scenes. While the ball is still 50 yards from the boundary, massed Indians leap the barrier and charge. The England team sprint for the pavilion. The umpires gather up the stumps before they are lost to the marauders. Hot on the heels of the shock troops, a little Indian girl of not more than five years old lifts her even smaller brother over the fence, takes his hand and drags him to where the action is. In no time the Indian batsmen are being swept towards the pavilion on the shoulders of the crowd."

Back in Mumbai, "there was dancing in the streets," reported Wisden, "Revellers stopped and boarded buses to convey the news to commuters. In the homes, children garlanded the wireless

Breakthrough series

India had won the previous series in the West Indies for the first time, yet this win in England, against an outfit that could call themselves World champions (now that South Africa were banned for their policy of apartheid), was even more significant. England had been unbeaten for 27 Tests before Oval.

England saw the establishing of the great quartet of spinners, Erapalli Prasanna (who did not play a Test), Bishan Bedi, Srinivas Venkatraghavan and Bhagwath Chandrasekhar, who among them claimed 197 of the 244 wickets to fall on the tour.

Speaking to the hero of that India win, Chandrasekhar, has always been a pleasure and an education. "I can't believe that 50 years have passed," he said, the smile never too far from his tone. His figures are stamped on Indian fans of a certain vintage: 18.1-3-38-6. In fact, he had his hand in another dismissal too. "Yes, John Jameson," he recalled, "I deflected a straight drive from Luckhurst onto the stumps. It was a superb decision, a close one. The um-

pire was in the ideal position to judge." Till that Oval win India had lost just over thrice as many Tests as they had

won (16-49); after that, they won more Tests than they lost. So much has been written so often about that win and everything it meant to Indian cricket that it is in danger of having its excitement sucked out through repetition and becoming a stuffed version of a once thrilling animal in some sporting museum. But, amazingly, it endures. There have been other wins, but the first is always special. "I remember that elephant, a baby elephant I think it was," recalled Chandrasekhar.

Whether the current Indian team in England know of the elephant or not, they will have at least one member of that 1971 team to celebrate with on August 24 on the eve of the third Test in Leeds. Sunil Gavaskar. Possibly Farokh Engineer too. They too might agree it happened just the other day, and you don't need to have the memory of an elephant to recall the details.

Sabalenka and Pliskova power through, set up a semifinal date

Jabeur finds the Belarusian too hot to handle; Golubic wilts under the Czech's onslaught; Barty to take on Kerber in the other last-four clash

WIMBLEDON

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Arvna Sabalenka ended Ons Iabeur's historic run at Wimbledon on Tuesday, the second-seeded Belarus player's power getting the better of the guile of the Tunisian.

Sabalenka won 6-4, 6-3 in 74 minutes as Jabeur lost for the second time in a Grand Slam quarterfinal..

The 23-year-old Sabalenka, who had only won one match in her three previous visits to SW19, will play former World No. 1 Karolina Pliskova who eased into the last four with a straight sets win over Viktorija Golubic.

Sabalenka may sport a tiger tattoo – it prompted her parents not to speak to her for a week in 1998 - but the broadest of smiles spread across her face as she soaked up the reality of her achievement.

She will try and go one better than compatriot Victoria Azarenka who twice reached the last four in 2011

"I mean I am really happy with this win," she said. "It's always tough against Ons, she's an amazing player and person. I'm happy it looks like everything is working for

Tough battle

Sabalenka said she was anticipating a tough battle on Thursday against Pliskova.

"It doesn't matter what happens in the past in tennis (playing Pliskova)," she said. "Pliskova's a great player and she's serving well. Her game fits really well on grass.

Pliskova's success revolves around her big serve, which rewards her with plenty of easy points and gets her out of trouble when needed.

She claimed 24 of 26 points on her serve in one stretch, hit eight aces and saved all three break points on her serve as she coasted to a 6-2, 6-2 victory over

"I feel like I'm improving with every match," said Pliskova, the 2016 US Open run ner-up. "My game has been good the last two weeks,

even during training." Pliskova averaged 106.5 mph on her first serves, 20.5 mph faster than Golubic, with the retractable roof at No. 1 Court shut because of

Capacity crowd

night began.

The crowd on the No. 1 Court - and Centre Court - was at full capacity on Tuesday for the first time during the tournament after COVID-19 restrictions placed a 50% cap on attendance when the fort-

Former champion Angelique Kerber reached the Wimbledon semifinals for the fourth time with a 6-2, 6-3 win over Karolina Muchova of the Czech Republic.

Ashleigh Barty outclassed unseeded compatriot Ajla Tomljanovic 6-1, 6-3 to set up a meeting with Kerber.

Earlier in the day, No. 14

Men's quarterfinals

- Centre Court (6 p.m. start IST)
- 1-Djokovic vs Fucsovics
- followed by ■ 6-Federer vs 14-Hurkacz
- Court 1 (5.30 p.m. start)
- 10-Shapovalov vs 25-Khachanov followed by
- 7-Berrettini vs 16-Auger-Aliassime

seed Hubert Hurkacz came back to beat No. 2 Daniil Medvedev 2-6, 7-6(2), 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 in a fourth-round match that was suspended on Monday while in the fourth set.

Hurkacz's first Grand Slam quarterfinal will come against 20-time Major champion Roger Federer.

"Roger, what he does, the way he plays, the titles he has won - he has inspired so many people," said Hurkacz, a 24-year-old from Poland.

THE RESULTS

Fourth round: Men: 14-Hurkacz (Pol) bt 2-Medvedev (Rus) 2-6, 7-6(2), 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Quarterfinals: Women: 1-Barty (Aus) bt Tomljanovic (Aus) 6-1, 6-3; 25-Kerber (Ger) bt 19-Muchova (Cze) 6-2, 6-3; 8-Pliskova (Cze) bt Golubic (Sui) 6-2, 6-2; 2-Sabalenka (Blr) bt 21-Jabeur (Tun) 6-4, 6-3.

"It's going to be fun. I'll be hoping to get a little bit of support."

On Monday, Federer eased past Italy's Lorenzo Sonego 7-5, 6-4, 6-2 to make the last eight for the 18th time.

"I felt after the first set I was able to control things. I couldn't be more excited to be in the quarters," said Federer.

Match suspended

AT EURO 2020

ENGLAND

8 (Ranked 5th)

53.4% (7th)

2630 (5th)

87.6% (6th)

37 (19th)

5 (1st)

Sterling have

DENMARK

3

11 (2nd)

54.2% (5th)

2513 (8th)

82.4% (14th)

90 (3rd)

1 (8th)

■ Denmark has had seven

different goalscorers (excluding own goals) in

the competition. Kasper Dolberg leads the pack

Sania Mirza and Rohan Bopanna were trailing by a set (3-6) against 14th seeds Andreja Klepac (Slovenia) and Jean-Julien Rojer (Netherlands) when the contest was suspended due to rain.



made the last four or better at all four Majors, one of only six active players to possess the record. Serena, Venus, Clijsters, Halep and Azarenka are the other

semifinal slots at the three Majors of the year have been. occupied by 12 different players

No. of points Hurkacz won at the net against Medvedev from 69 advances (winning % 72)

Kerber's 83rd win on grass (including Olympics), the thirdmost by an active player after Serena (107) and Venus (99)

TV PICKS

Wimbledon: SS Select 1 & 2 (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m. **Tour de France**: Eurosport (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m. **Euro 2020**: Sony Ten 1, 2, 3 & Sony Six (SD & HD), 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)



Mithali back on top in ODI rankings

India skipper Mithali Raj on Tuesday reclaimed the No.1 spot in the women's ODI rankings after more than three years following a stellar show in the three-match series against England. PTI

Rashid Khan named Afghanistan's T20I skipper

All-rounder Rashid Khan on Tuesday has been appointed as captain of the Afghanistan T20I team, with Najibullah Zadran his deputy, according to an Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) release. ANI



Udayan Mane officially qualifies for Tokyo

Udayan Mane on Tuesday officially booked himself a maiden Olympic berth, becoming the second Indian male golfer after Anirban Lahiri to be Tokvo-bound for the mega-event starting July 23. "I'm still pinching myself as it hasn't yet sunk in fully," Mane said. PTI

Australian F1, Moto GP races called off

Australia's Formula One Grand Prix and MotoGP races were called off on Tuesday for a second year in a row due to entry restrictions and logistical problems caused by the pandemic, officials said. Australian Grand Prix Corporation chairman Paul Little said he was "deeply disappointed" in a statement.



Mark Cavendish won his third stage on the 2021 Tour de France on Tuesday to move within one of Eddy Merckx's all-time record of 34 wins. He edged Belgians Wout van Aert and Jasper Philipsen to also keep a firm grip on the sprint points green jersey. The 22-year-old defending champion Tadei Pogacar retained the yellow jersey for the overall lead.



Defensively solid England takes on a resilient Denmark

Former looking to reach a first major final after 1966, latter hoping to emulate 1992 exploits

EURO 2020

REUTERS MANCHESTER

England has the chance to reach a first major final since its 1966 World Cup triumph when it takes on Denmark in Wednesday's Euro 2020 semifinal, but it will need to banish a history of stumbling at this stage.

Coach Gareth Southgate has been keen to keep the burden of history out of his team's thinking, though he does not have to look back far for a warning against complacency. An England side contain-

ing 10 of the current squad faced Denmark in October in a Nations League match and lost 1-0 to a Christian Eriksen penalty. Eriksen, who is recover-

ing from the shocking cardiac episode he suffered as he collapsed in Denmark's opening Euro game, will not feature at Wembley of course.

But Kasper Hjulmand's side will be largely the same as the one which left London with three points eight



game are limited by the fact that England played almost an hour with 10 men after Harry Maguire was sent off in the 31st minute.

glish defence which is yet to

The lessons from that

Yet to concede Maguire looks rock solid at the moment as part of an En-

concede a goal in the tournament. With Harry Kane back to scoring form with three goals in the two knockout stage games, England looks to be peaking at the right

Denmark's performances, where it has responded to the Eriksen trauma in such inspiring fashion, should also keep England focused. Hiulmand's team, mean-

while, has a clear structure and method to its play which has earned them its place in the last four.

In attack, Martin Braithwaite creates the spaces which Mikkel Damsgaard and Kasper Dolberg have exploited well and there is a

COMPILED BY AASHIN PRASAD threat from attacking wing backs Jens Stryger Larsen

and the excellent Joakim

DOLBERG

Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg and Thomas Delaney are a firm presence in the centre of midfield while the back line in front of goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel has been

Brazil in final again

Beats Peru through Paqueta's strike

COPA AMERICA

REUTERS RIO DE JANEIRO

Brazil reached the Copa America final after a firsthalf goal from Lucas Paqueta – his second in two games – gave it a 1-0 win over Peru on Monday.

The hosts will play the winner of the other semifinal between Argentina and Colombia on Saturday in the final.

Within the first 20 minutes Peru goalkeeper Pedro Gallese made two pointblank saves in succession from Nevmar and Richarlison plus another two blocks

when Casemiro tried his

luck from further out. With Paqueta a standout

in midfield, Brazil played some intricate, audacious football, replete with flicks, nutmegs and backheels but it took it 35 minutes to break the deadlock. Neymar beat three men

on the left and clipped the ball across goal for Paqueta to volley home from 10 Neymar was quick to sing

his teammate's praises and said there was more to come.

The result: Semifinal: Brazil 1 (Paqueta 35)



On target: Lucas Paqueta, No. 17, scores Brazil's winner.

Hardik bowling is a very good sign: Suryakumar

'Team management and the all-rounder knew their responsibilities well'

INDIA IN SRI LANKA

AMOL KARHADKAR

Innovative batsman Surva-I kumar Yadav has said that Hardik Pandya resuming bowling is a "very good sign" ahead of India's limited-overs series in Sri Lanka.

"He did bowl in the England series [at home earlier this year]. I was part of it – in all the T20 games, he bowled. In the deciding ODI also he bowled when the team was in a crunch situation, so it was good," Suryakumar told on Tuesday in a virtual interaction from Colombo.

"I think the team management and Hardik knew their responsibilities really well, so they were taking a call. Here, in the intra-squad game, he did bowl in the nets.

"He is bowling. It is his and the team management's call

set to resume



[as to] how they want to go

about it. But yes, he is bowling and it is a very good Ever since Hardik broke

down with a serious back in-

jury during the 2018 Asia

Cup, the all-rounder has

blues While his workload with

hardly contributed consistently with the ball in India's

the ball during the limited-ov-

ers series against England

gave a glimmer of hope, a nig-

gle that he developed as a re-

sult meant he didn't bowl a single ball during the Indian Premier League. With an eye on the T20 World Cup starting on Octob-

er 17, Hardik's bowling fitness

will be under the scanner

during India's three ODIs and as many T20Is in the island nation, to be played from July **Mood upbeat**

Suryakumar stressed that the mood in the camp was quite upbeat and he was looking forward to learning from Rahul Dravid who is in charge of the team. "In the few practice sessions, the intra-squad game and team meetings, the atmosphere is very calm and composed with his presence," Suryakumar said.

"We are relaxed, at the same time very excited about this tournament."

Virus forces England to pick new team

ASSOCIATED PRESS

England was forced to select a completely new squad on Tuesday for the ODI series against Pakistan after an outbreak of the coronavirus infected three players and four members of the support staff. The initially selected team went into isolation following the results of tests taken on Monday, a day after the team's ODI against Sri

The revised England squad: Ben Stokes (Capt.), Jake Ball. Danny Briggs, Brydon Carse, Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Lewis Gregory, Tom Helm, Will Jacks, Dan Lawrence, Sagib Mahmood, Dawid Malan, Craig Overton, Matt Parkinson, David Payne, Phil Salt, John Simpson, James

Gopi not to travel with Indian team to Olympics **BADMINTON**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chief National coach P. Gopi Chand, who guided India to two Olympic medals, has opted out of India's Olympic-bound badminton contingent to create space for Indonesian Agus Dwi Santosa, who trains singles shuttler B. Sai Praneeth.

Gopi Chand, whose guidance Saina Nehwal and P.V. Sindhu claimed a bronze and a silver medal at London and Rio Games respectively, withdrew after the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) cleared only a five-member support staff, that includes three coaches and two physios. In the run-up to the

Olympics, Sindhu has been



P. Gopi Chand. ■ FILE РНОТО

training under Korean coach Tae Sang Park at the Gachibowli Indoor stadium, while Santoso has been working with Praneeth.

Denmark's Mathias Boe was appointed to guide Chirag and Satwik in their maiden Games

These four shuttlers will represent India's challenge at the Games.

Anand-Kasparov duel

CHESS

P.K. AJITH KUMAR

Garry Kasparov and Viswanathan Anand have won 11 World titles between them. While the Russian retired from competitive chess in 2005, and has made just a few appearances before the chessboard since, the genial genius from Chennai continues to be among the world's elite players. The duo will come face to

face once again at the Croatia Grand Chess Tour, which opens at Zagreb on Wednesday. Some of the world's top players, including Ian Nepomniachtchi, Alexander Grischuk, Shakhriyar Mamedyarov, Anish Giri and Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, are also in the fray for the five-day event of rapid and blitz games.



Y.B. SARANGI

Rio Olympics bronze medal winner Sakshi Malik feels that the Indian wrestlers will experience a lot of success in the upcoming Olympic

Sakshi, the first woman wrestler from the country to land an Olympic medal, is optimistic about the Indian sportspersons' overall showing in Tokyo in about a month's time.

country feels, this time we are going to get the maximum number of medals. Last time we had managed only two medals in the Olympics," Sakshi told The Hindu.

Sakshi upbeat about Indian wrestlers' chances at Tokyo

"I feel, and the whole

Two to three medals

According to Sakshi, the wrestlers will contribute handsomely to the country's medal haul. "This time, I think, we will win two to three medals only in wrestling. I am 100% sure of that," said Sakshi. Altogether seven Indian freestyle wrestlers, including four women (Seema Bisla (50kg), Vinesh Phogat (53kg), Anshu Malik (57kg) and Sonam Malik (62kg)) and three men (Ravi Kumar Dahiya (57kg), Bajrang Punia (65kg) and Deepak Punia (86kg)) have qualified for the Tokyo Games.

Sakshi, who could not make it to the 2020 Olympics, said she would try to do

"I lost in the trials (for Olympic qualifiers) due to some of my mistakes. Maybe that was how God wanted it to be, or perhaps I was des-

well in the mega events next

"But I will continue with my career and I want to win

tined for that, or maybe

there was a lack of effort.

medals for the country in the Commonwealth Games and the Asian Games in 2022," said Sakshi, backed by JSW.

OPPORTUNITIES

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT • JOBS • TECHNOLOGY

'Work ecosystem being reshaped by digital transformation'

The latest LinkedIn data underlines that digital roles have registered a huge surge in demand; seven out of 10 companies in India are keen on moving to a completely remote setup; and that burnout cannot be swept under the carpet

The latest LinkedIn da-'ta paints a variegated picture of the work ecosystem in India, with hope and despondency emerging as alternating co-

Looking on the brighter side of things, digital transformation is on the ascendancy, and the demand for highly specialised tech roles is keenly felt. A sub-plot in this digital transformation story is that a large section of India Inc views remote work as an opportunity for growth, inclusion and diversity.

"A little more than 7 in 10 companies in India are keen on moving to a completely remote setup, while the proportion of entry level jobs labelled as 'remote' increased nine times between 2020 and 2021," states a note about the LinkedIn Data, adding that this development augurs well "for new grads, women professionals, and the future workforce".

The report further notes: "Both organisations and professionals have redoubled their efforts to match strides with today's increasingly digital and remote job market. More than 9 in 10 companies in India are merging roles, and looking to fill open roles internally.

The report points to an improvement in hiring rate, terming it moderate - dropping from 50% in March 2021 to 10% in April 2021, India's hiring rate on LinkedIn clambered up to 35% in May 2021.

Now, a part of the dismal picture ironically emerges from the one that looks bright. The digital transformation sweeping through the work ecosystem is making for huge demands on the

As this dynamic hustle for upskilling, tech-proofing,



During a vaccination programme at a company in Chennai PHOTO: JOTHI RAMALINGAM B

and recruiting continues, India's workforce has slowly but surely arrived at the brink of collective burnout. This sentiment reflects strongly across the rising demand for flexibility in India as every second (50%) job seeker prioritises location, hours, and work life balance when looking for a job today."

The LinkedIn data further elaborates that "working women and young professionals still remain vulnerable to economic turbulence. Working women are four times less confident than working men" about future work sce-

Top five jobs

Using this filter – jobs with a minimum of 300 postings on LinkedIn that witnessed the highest month-on-month growth in the period April to May 2021 – here is the five jobs most in demand.

1. Software engineering specialist; 2. automation test analyst; 3. Dotnet developer; 4. Java software engineer; and 5. DevOps engineer.

The report says: "In 2020 in the midst of the pandemic, the demand for specialized engineering, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and data science roles took centre stage. Nearly a year later, this demand for IT talent continues to surge."

Top five hirers

The top five dominant industries on LinkedIn that are actively hiring are:

1. Finance; 2. Corporate services; 3. Manufacturing; 4. Healthcare; 5. Hardware and networking.

The methodology brought

to the assessment was that the industries should have registered a minimum of 500 job postings with the highest month-on-month growth.

These sectors "have witnessed a growth in hiring, as economic activity resumes after a two-month pause since the second COVID-19 wave," the report explains.

Decline in hiring

Industries with a minimum of 500 job postings on Linke-

registered a decline in hiring from April to May 2021 are as follows:

1. Media & communication; 2. Automotive; 3. Marketing & advertising; 4. Staffing and recruiting.

High remote openings

As per LMU India May 2021, following are roles with the most remote vacancies are: team lead; web development 1. DevOps engineer; 2. Jaspecialist.

mand skills is based on the

With Cybersecurity roles,

Recruiting 8. AutoCAD; 9. Team leadership; 10. Core Java.

The IT scenario

Based on the "Jobs on the rise" report 2021 April - October 2020, here are some of the in-demand IT and digital roles. The specialised engineering roles that are much sought are as follows - network expert; software engineering specialist; back-end developer; development

vaScript Developer 3. soft-

The list of 10 highly in-de-

picture that emerged in

1. SQL; 2. JavaScript; 3.

Sales management; 4. Teach-

ing; 5. Business analysis; 6.

Illustrator;

ware engineer.

March 2021.

In-demand skills

Among artificial intelligence roles, demand for machine learning specialist; artificial intelligence specialist and machine learning engineer has shot up remarkably.

it is security researcher; and cyber security specialist. With data science roles, it is data science specialist; analytics consultant; and data

Digital roles that have registered various degrees of growth on account of the CO-VID-19 pandemic are as follows.

Under social Media and digital marketing, it is social media marketing manager; social media strategist; growth hacker; web manager; and digital marketing director. Under ecommerce, it is online specialist; and ecommerce coordinator.

The emphasis on user experience has been instrumental in the surge in demand for some of these roles. Under user expe rience design, it is user experience designer; and user interface designer.

What employees want

he latest LinkedIn data throws light on various aspects of the Indian work ecosystem. Besides providing insights into work trends as seen during the pandemic and the prevailing workforce morale, it also underlines what workforces want the work experience to be in

Workforce sentiment Workforce Confidence Index, as calculated from May 8 to June 4, 2021:

'India's overall workforce confidence has declined after peaking in early March, with a composite score of +54 today (down 4

New graduates witness

time for fresh graduates to

find a new job was 43% lon-

ger in 2020 compared to

2019 (up from 2 to 2.8

2. "The proportion of en-

try-level jobs labelled as 're-

mote' posted between Janu-

ary-March 2020 increased

nine times between January-

March 2020 and January-

India Inc tilts more towards

remote work (Future of Ta-

lent 2021 | Labour Market

said they are willing to give

up their office spaces and

move entirely to remote

"71% of Indian companies

About remote work

Update May 2021)

sented by LinkedIn

months).

March 2021."

points from +58 in March). The aftermath of the second COVID-19 wave has left professionals in India – particularly Gen Z and working women-increasingly vulnerable to the economic uncertainty in today's evolving job market."

Future of Work

1. Job seekers prioritise flexibility (based on the Workforce Confidence Index May 8 - June 4)

2. 50% of India's job seekers value hours or location flexibility post COVID-19 3. 48% of India's job seek-

ers value work-life balance more post COVID-19

Key work trends from the latest LinkedIn data

uring the pandemic, their was an increased inclination towards knowledge accumulation, as was evident from the surge in webinars and a variety of other online engagements, engineering by subject matter experts in various spheres.

Learning data Here are findings from Lin-

kedIn's December 2020 learning data: One, the average number

of monthly learning hours increased three times in comparing April-December 2020 vs. "pre-COVID" (January-February). And two, students, career starters (< 2 years into career), and job seekers saw the largest increases in learning hours.

Internal mobility Here is how internal mo-

bility was being viewed by

organisations and professionals (Future of Talent 2021 - January 2021 via LinkedIn). Internal mobility was markedly on the increase. 1. "More than 9 in 10

(93%) companies in India are looking to fill open roles internally in the post-Covid era while 7 in 10 hire internally to gain an insider's perspective or a sense of progress."

2. "Top 3 functions with the highest internal mobility rate in India, in 2020, included product management, consulting, and programme and management."

3. "Top 3 industries with the highest internal mobility rate in India, in 2020, included energy & mining, hardware & networking, and consumer goods."

For new graduates

more remote openings and longer hiring processes, ac-

dia are willing to hire remote cording to the Labour Marstaff within the country." ket Update May 2021 pre-On gender gap 1. "In India, the average

"50% of companies in In-

According to Workforce Con-

fidence Index May 8 - June 4, 2021, "working women are two times more likely to be worried about job availability compared to working men." The Index added that "1 in 4 (23%) working women are worried about growing expenses or debt when compared to just 1 in 10 (13%) working men."

The key findings of the Opportunity Index March 2021 is that "84% of working women in India have missed out on a raise or promotion; 71% of them said family care comes in their way of career development; 37% of them feel they get fewer opportunities and lesser pay than

GENERAL



Management (IIBM), Guwahati - 2021

The Search Committee for selection of a Director for Indian Institute of Bank Management (IIBM), Guwahati invites applications from seasoned bankers and accomplished academician-administrators for the post of Director, IIBM. The appointment shall be on tenure basis for a period of 3 years, extendable by a block of two years each, depending upon the performance. In any case, the Director shall retire at the age of 68 years. The other terms and conditions of appointment and format for submitting Curriculum Vitae are detailed in the advertisement placed on the websites of RBI (www.rbi.org.in), IIBM (www.iibm.ac.in) and IBA (www.iba.org.in). Applications, together with a detailed Curriculum Vitae (in the prescribed format only), may be sent to IIBM Search Committee 2021, C/o Corporate Strategy & Budget Department, Central Office, Reserve Bank of India, Mair Building, 2nd floor, Shahid Bhagat Singh Road, Mumbai 400001 or by email to <u>iibmsearch2021@rbi.org.in</u>, not later than **5:30 p.m. (IST) on July 23, 2021.** The Search Committee reserves the right to fill the position by invitation.

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