



Election Commission allots new names and symbols to LJP factions page 10



Climate change to top agenda of Denmark PM Mette Frederiksen's visit



President Tsai Ing-wen warns of catastrophe if Taiwan falls

Coulter-Nile, Neesham, Bumrah and Ishan help MI crush RR page 15

IN BRIEF



Bid to bring international designs to Delhi streets

The Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi, in partnership with WRI India, organised an international workshop on 'Transforming Delhi's Streets' here on Tuesday. The purpose of the virtual workshop was to understand international best practices in street design and development, the government stated. **CITY** ▶ PAGE 2

Court pulls up police for 'harassing' riots victim

NEW DELHI A Delhi court on Tuesday pulled up the city police for "harassing" a victim of the north-east Delhi riots by repeatedly serving him notice and asking for documents in relation to the investigation in his case. It noted that his grievance "seems to be real and not illusory". The court also rapped the Delhi police for being "silent about the status of the probe" being carried out in the case. CITY ▶ PAGE 2

FUTURE IAS

OPPORTUNITIES ▶ PAGE 7

Opposition closes ranks in Lakhimpur Kheri aftermath Arrest those

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Kin of farmer demand second autopsy, say bullet injury ignored

Witnesses, FIR speak of Minister's son firing at victim while fleeing accident site

OMAR RASHID LAKHIMPUR KHERI

The family of one of the four farmers killed at Tikonia village here in Uttar Pradesh in the violent incident involving the convoy of Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Mishra on Tuesday demanded that a fresh autopsy be conducted, refusing to accept the findings of the post-mortem report.

The family of Gurvinder Singh of Bahraich said while the autopsy report showed that he had died of internal injuries, they alleged he had been shot dead by Ashish Mishra, the Minister's son, while trying to evade agitated farmers after vehicles in Minister's the convoy through ploughed

In the FIR lodged against Ashish Mishra in Lakhimpur Kheri early on October 4 on the complaint of Hari Singh of Bahraich, it is mentioned that Ashish ran towards the sugarcane fields after his car lost balance, and he was firing shots while trying to hide. Hari Singh, the complainant, accused Ashish of shooting Gurvinder dead.



Damage control: ADG Gorakhpur Zone Akhil Kumar interacting with the family members of one of the victims at Moharnia village in Bahraich district, Uttar Pradesh, on Tuesday. •PTI

IPC 302, 304A and under criminal conspiracy among other charges.

Fresh panel

Following the family's complaints, Bharatiya Kisan Union spokesperson Rakesh Tikait said the Uttar Pradesh government had formed a fresh autopsy panel and sent doctors to Bahraich in a helicopter, adding that the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) was also not satisfied with Gurvinder's autopsy report.

The FIR was lodged under The cremation of three other farmers had been carried out with the consent of their families, Mr. Tikait

Sukhvinder Singh, Gurvinder's father, alleged that his son died after being shot by Ashish. "He was shot. Teni's (Ajay Kumar Mishra) son Monu (Ashish Mishra) shot him. They have presented a wrong autopsy report," said Mr. Sukhvinder in Bahraich.

The family has said it will not conduct the last rites till the demands for a fresh autopsy are met.

Miskeen Singh, Gurvinder's uncle, told The Hindu that they were sure he was shot, and shared a video in which a round injury mark was present near his temple. The family said the autopsy report did not reflect the bul-

Mr. Miskeen alleged it was being done to protect the Minister's son, who has already been booked for murder in the car incident, and to make the case "weak".

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

Priyanka held; parties favour joint action

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Uttar Pradesh government formally arrested Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and Rajya Sabha member Deepender Hooda, along with nine other colleagues, on Tuesday for "breaching" prohibitory orders in attempting to reach Lakhimpur Kheri.

The Congress and its allies, meanwhile, indicated joint Opposition action against the State government's "oppression" after Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut met former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi to discuss the Lakhimpur Kheri incident.

Mr. Gandhi will address a press conference on Wednesday morning and is expected to head for Lakhimpur Kheri soon after.

In a statement, Ms. Vadra questioned the legality of her "continuing confinement" and said she had neither been served any notice nor given a copy of the first information report (FIR) which has been circulated on social media.

Four farmers were killed in Tikonia village of Lakhimpur Kheri on Sunday when vehicles from the convoy of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra ploughed responsible, says Varun

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BJP leader Varun Gandhi became the first ruling party MP to demand that a video, which reportedly shows protesting farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri being mowed down by a vehicle said to belong to a BJP leader, be taken cognisance of by the police and the perpetrators arrested. In a tweet, the Pilibhit MP said the visuals were enough to "shake one's soul".

Mr. Gandhi's demand comes a day after he wrote to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath demanding a CBI inquiry into the violence in Lakhimpur Kheri, which has left nine people dead. He also sought compensation of ₹1 crore for the families of the deceased. The incident left the BJP on the back foot as an FIR was lodged against the son of Minister of State

for Home Ajay Kumar Mishra who, several said, was in the car that farmers.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10 RELATED REPORTS ▶ PAGE 1

Priyanka Gandhi speaking

to the media virtually. •PTI

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister

airport after the authorities

Bhupesh Baghel staged a

refused to allow him into

the city. "I told them [the

airport staff] that I am not

Kheri. But they refused." He

was not allowed to leave the

terminal building. ▶ PAGE 11

through a crowd of protes-

ters. An FIR filed in Bah-

raich on Monday accused

Ashish Mishra, son of Mr.

Ajay Mishra of having driven

his vehicle into the farmers.

headed for Lakhimpur

protest at the Lucknow

Chhattisgarh

CM stopped

at airport

M ND-NDE

+ Moody's gives 'stable' rating to India

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Rating agency Moody's Investors Service has upgraded India's sovereign rating outlook to 'stable' from 'negative', citing an ebbing of risks from COVID-19 and the negative feedback between the real economy and the financial system.

While it retained India's rating at Baa3, reflecting the lowest investment grade rating, Moody's said it expects real GDP to surpass pre-pandemic levels of 2019-20 this year itself, as the ongoing economic recovery is picking up steam with activity upticks broadening across sectors. It expects 2021-22 to record 9.3% growth in GDP, followed by 7.9% next year.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

Two-finger test not done, says IAF chief

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The two-finger test was not done in the case involving a lady officer in Coimbatore, and all disciplinary action recommended by the inquiry would be taken, said Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari on Tuesday.

"Let me assure you that Air Force law is very strict on any such incidents. The two-finger test... that has been misreported. The actual fact is this has not been done. All disciplinary action that comes from this inquiry will be taken," he asserted. In an FIR registered on September 20 in Coimbatore, the officer said she was raped by her colleague, a Flight Lieutenant, under the influence of alcohol on September 10, and that she was subjected to the two-finger test at the Air Force Hospital later.

Climate experts, theorist get Physics Nobel

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE STOCKHOLM

U.S.-Japanese scientist Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann of Germany and Giorgio Parisi of Italy on Tuesday won the Nobel Physics Prize for climate models and the understanding of physical systems, the jury said.

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The Nobel committee said it was sending a message with its prize announcement just weeks before the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow. "What we are saying is that the modelling of climate is solidly based in physics theory. said chair of the Nobel Committee for Physics Thor Hans

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Hasselmann, 89, share one half of the 10 million kronor (\$1.1 million) prize for their research on climate models, while Dr. Parisi, 73, won the other half for his work on the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems.

Dr. Manabe, 90, and Dr.



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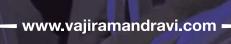
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City reports 37 fresh cases, zero fatality

The city reported 37 new COVID-19 cases and zero death in 24 hours, as per a bulletin released by the Delhi government on Tuesday. The total number of cases stood at 14.39.027 with the death toll touching 25,088. A total of 55,537 tests were done and the test positivity rate was 0.05%.

3 months after death, family awaits answers

NEW DELHI Three months after a 50-year-old man was allegedly found dead on a railway track at Faridabad railway station after being picked up for questioning by Ambedkar Nagar police, the family of the deceased staged a protest outside the office of DCP (South) on Tuesday. The family said that they want an FIR to be registered in the matter and that they have been meeting senior officers for the last three months but their requests have fallen on deaf years.

Man arrested for piracy of NCERT books

STAFF REPORTER

A 38-year-old man has been arrested for his alleged involvement in printing pirated NCERT books, the police said on Tuesday.

Lakhs of students seem to have fallen prey to pirated NCERT books being floated in the market. Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime Branch) Rajesh Deo said that these books are injurious to children's health as the ink used on the paper is cheap and harmful. "We have sought remand of the accused and are trying to ascertain the number of books already floated in the market and whether the content of the books was same as original ones," he said.

The police said that information was received that a publication unit involved in printing pirated NCERT books is operating in trans-Yamuna area. "These poor quality pirated books are being supplied in the market at cheaper rates causing huge revenue loss to NCERT. The offset unit has been publishing pirated books of different subjects for Classes VI to XII," Mr. Deo said.

A team was constituted, including NCERT officials, and a raid was conducted in Mandoli on September 19, he said.

The police said that a large number of finished and semi-finished books were seized.

The owner of the manufacturing unit, Manoj Jain, was absconding at the time of the raid and was arrest ed on October 4. The aca college cused is drop-out.

Experts deliberate on ways to transform Delhi's streets

From sustainable mobility to data-driven processes, global lessons for the Capital

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Dialogue and Development Commission (DDC) of Delhi, in partnership with WRI India, organised an international workshop on 'Transforming Streets' here on Tuesday. The purpose of the virtual workshop was to understand international best practices in street design and development, the government stated.

According to the government, the workshop was organised to learn from the journeys of top global cities in street transformation and apply those lessons to Delhi's streets.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and PWD Minister Satyendar Jain were the chief guests. Jasmine Shah, vice chairperson of DDC, and O.P. Agarwal, CEO of WRI India, along with other top officials of WRI India and senior officials and engineers of the PWD Department, also attended the workshop.

Global participation

According to the government, the workshop saw participation of city makers and transport experts from London, New York, Seoul, Singapore and Bogota among others, sharing insights and experiences of street transformation. The workshop also saw participation from Bengaluru and Mumbai. The session facilitated a direct interaction between all the experts and



Ministers Satyendar Jain and Manish Sisodia, and others at a virtual conference in the city on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

digm shift in Seoul from

roads being a car-oriented

space to becoming human

spaces with focus on human

mobility. He said that Seoul

places public transport and

pedestrian mobility as prior-

ity areas in its transport pol-

icy and law. From building

flyovers and footbridges,

which were inequitable and

inaccessible to many, Seoul

has incorporated more ped-

estrian squares, pedestrian

crosswalks and lanes dedi-

Ong Eu-Gene from Singa-

pore shared the details of the

road repurposing project in

that country. He said that re-

designing streets is not about

just creating infrastructure

or using the technology. It is

about connecting places, pe-

ople and possibilities, he

New York emphasised the

need to integrate data-driven

processes in redesigning

roads, recording progress

and revising yearly priori-

ties. He detailed the observa-

Michael Replogle from

cated to buses.

the Delhi government.

Mr. Jain reaffirmed the Delhi government's commitment to redesign over 540 km-long roads in the city as per best global practices with an aim to make them safe, sustainable, pedestrian-friendly and accessible, especially to senior citizens and children. He emphasised the importance of global participation as a learning exercise and sought continued support from design experts across the world to collaborate with the Delhi government for redesigning roads.

Mr. Sisodia said that the government is committed to focussing on infrastructural reforms and road redesigning with similar vigour. Mr. Shah, meanwhile, said, "It is illuminating to see almost all global cities began their journeys in street transformation only 15-20 years ago and have managed to do so in a short period."

Gyeng Chul KIM from Seoul encapsulated the parations from the speed camera programme adopted in New York where most vehicles that received one traffic violation, did not receive another within a calendar year. Reducing traffic

Alex Williams from London shared London's Vision of Streets for All. London has focused on increasing the use of bicycles and buses. The London City Planning has made the buses more reliable and consistent with 24hour operations, which has reduced traffic congestions due to private motor vehicles and made roads safer for cyclists and pedestrians.

Dario Hidalgo from Bogota illustrated the sustainable mobility "A-S-I" approach adopted in 1998 i.e. Avoid motorised travel, Shift to environment-friendly modes of transport and Improve the energy efficiency of transport modes and vehicle technology. The expert suggested that since Bogota and Delhi have similar population density, their programmes could give an insight to the Delhi government to develop its

Jana Urban Space presented the TENDER SURE project being currently implemented to redesign 50 km of road in Bengaluru in collaboration with BBMP.

Officials from Mumbai shared their experiences in setting up the Mumbai Street Lab to implement design interventions in road redevelopment.

Court pulls up police for 'harassing' Delhi riots victim

Repeatedly served notice despite submitting papers: applicant

STAFF REPORTER

A Delhi court on Tuesday pulled up the city police for "harassing" a victim of the north-east Delhi riots, by repeatedly serving him notice and asking for documents in relation to the investigation in his case, while noting that his grievance "seems to be real and not illusory".

No acknowledgement

The applicant, one Mohd. Salman, represented by advocate M.R. Shamshad, had moved a plea before Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Arun Kumar Garg, seeking directions to the Investigating Officer (IO) in the case. Mr. Salman said that documents had already been submitted by him to the police on two previous occasions but no acknowledgement was being given to him by the IO upon receipt of the documents. In his plea, he also said that he is being forced to disclose the details of his new landlord.

During the course of the hearing, SHO of Khajuri Khas police station and the IO told the court that they just wanted to record the statement of the new landlord of the house where Mr. Salman and his family had taken shelter after his home in West Karawal Nagar was allegedly attacked by a mob which threatened to kill him and his family.

"... the court is unable to comprehend the purpose of recording the said statement, when the aforesaid

Expressing discontent

• A Delhi court had pulled up the police for their ʻlackadaisical approach' in handling the riots cases and of democracy' for not taking action despite In another case, the repeated orders after the prosecutor failed to appear before the court and the

officer came without reading the police file While discharging Tahir Hussain's brother Shah Alam and two others in a

vandalism case, the court

had expressed serious

investigating

reservations on the probe while noting that it 'will surely torment the sentinels

police were rapped for their 'poor standard of investigation' and for filing chargesheets' While dismissing

a revision petition by the police, the court had said that there was a complete lack of supervision of probe by senior officers

the Delhi police for being

"silent about the status of

the investigation" being

carried out by the IO in the

present case.

landlord is not a witness of the alleged incident... apprehension of complainant regarding the alleged harassment by the IO and SHO Khajuri Khas in the name of further investigation, prima facie seems to be real and not illusory," the order read.

Unbiased probe

"Joint Commissioner of Police, Eastern Range, is directed to file a comprehensive status report of further investigation in the present case under his signature within a period of two weeks from today and shall ensure that investigation in the present case is carried out by the IO in an unbiased manner so as to find out the real culprits and not to harass the complainant and the witness unnecessarily," the order further said. The court also rapped

While noting that the report received from the DCP (North-East) does not disclose the exact status of further investigation in the case, "The IO is directed to

produce the case diary, whereupon the IO has produced the case diary alongwith draft chargesheet in the present case". The judge said that it

"shows that the probe carried out in the case is far from satisfactory in as much as steps taken by the IO" for collection of various investigation material. The court also added

that no plausible explanation has been given by the police for not collecting CDRs of all the accused in

Delhi govt.'s ambitious HIMS project gets Cabinet go-ahead

Citizens to get health card, can make appointments from home

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Delhi Cabinet gave financial nod to its ambitious Health Information Management System (HIMS) project. As part of the project, each citizen will have a health card, which will be a repository of their medical information.

The government said doctors will be able to see a patient's medical history using the card and the patients will be able to make appointments from home. The health card will act as a unique health identifier for each individual through which everything from their medical history to appointment dates can be accessed.

All citizens between 1 and 18 years would be issued a health card linked to their parent's health card. All newborns (up to 1 year) would be linked to their mother's health card.

In a related development, the Cabinet approved ₹48.14 crore for procurement, distribution and



Arvind Kejriwal

transportation of foodgrains for citizens without ration cards residing in the Capital.

This decision, the government said, would benefit about 40 lakh non-PDS beneficiaries in Delhi. On May 25, it was decided by the Delhi Cabinet to provide free dry ration (foodgrains) to the people in need.

The non-PDS foodgrains in Delhi will be distributed to the target beneficiaries through the identified location or school.

About 16,000 metric tonnes of wheat and 4,000 metric tonnes of rice would

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Ambedkar University Delhi

(AUD) on Tuesday released

its first cut-off list for admis-

sions into various under-

The university's cut-off is

lower than that set by the Un-

iversity of Delhi, giving hope

to many students from the

NCR to secure a seat. The

highest cut-off was declared

for BA (Hons.) with a major

in psychology for which, the

university has set a cut-off

for NCT candidates at

98.75%, and for candidates

from outside Delhi at 99.5%.

graduate programmes.

be required by the government to provide free ration 40 lakh non-PDS beneficiaries.

₹2.1 crore on transport The government will buy this ration from the Food Corporation of India and ₹42.4 crore will be spent on the purchase. About ₹2.1 crore will be spent on transportation among the major share of expenses.

An MoU between IIT Kanpur and the Delhi Pollution Control Committee was also approved by the Cabinet. According to the government, the agreement is related to the technology that will allow accurate information about the real-time source of air pollution in Delhi to be made available.

Also, sources of air pollution will be tracked in real time. A forecast will be issued for air pollution management in Delhi. CM Arvind Kejriwal said this will go a long way in identifying and resolving various factors of Delhi's pollution.

Court refuses to grant bail to Sushil Kumar

STAFF REPORTER

Noting that Olympic medallist Sushil Kumar was "prima facie visible" in a video and seems to be causing "severe injuries" to felwrestler Sagar Dhankar, a Delhi court dismissed his bail plea on Tuesday

"As per the chargesheet, it was a daring and awful act of the accused persons for causing such brutal injuries to the victim without having any fear, and as per the chargesheet, they are having firearms a well as other weapons like sticks, etc.," Additional Sessions Judge Shivaji Anand said, while dismissing the bail application.

In his bail plea, Mr. Kumar, through his advocate Pradeep Rana, claimed that the police had built a false case and presented his "guilty image"

The wrestler was arrested on May 23 after he and his co-accused allegedly assaulted and killed fellow wrestler Dhankar in the parking lot of the city's Chhatrasal Stadium.

After DU's high first cut-off list, AUD offers a ray of hope

Eligible candidates will have to get their documents verified physically on campus today and tomorrow

Govt. identifies 150 air pollution hotspots

Green Delhi app now available on iOS

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Environment Minister Gopal Rai on Tuesday said the government has identified 150 air pollution hotspots compared to 13 last year. These points will be strictly monitored, he said.

He added that a "Green War Room" - from where authorities will be monitoring air pollution and coordinating with other departments - will function 24x7 during winter. "The results of the Green

Delhi app since its launch last year have been appreciable. We received 27,000 complaints, of which more than 23,000 complaints have been successfully resolved. We have been receiving most of the complaints from three departments municipal corporation, DDA, and PWD. The process of working with the Green Delhi app for about a year has enabled us to mark 150 such hotspots now," Mr. Rai

He said the "Green War Room" is the central point of contact. The government,



however, did not release the list of the hotspots.

government The launched the app in October last year where citizens can file complaints about air pollution causing activities such as garbage burning, dust due to construction activities, industrial activities etc. and even upload photos and videos

"Last year, the app was launched for Android phones, but today onwards, iOS phones can access the app as well," the Minister said.

The war room was also started last year by the Delhi government to monitor polcoordinate and

pus, it offers BVoc in retail management, tourism and

hospitality, accounting and

finance, and early childhood

centre management and en-

trepreneurship. The campus

also offers BA in global stu-

dies, law and politics, social

sciences and humanities and

According to the admis-

sion process by the universi-

ty, those candidates that

sustainable urbanism.

Take concrete steps to tackle pollution: BJP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT —

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri on Tuesday demanded that the Delhi government take concrete steps to tackle pollution during winter.

He demanded that new buses be bought, roads be repaired on a war footing and flyovers and underpasses be built at points identified as congestion hotspots. "The Delhi government cannot shirk its responsibility by rhetoric, lies, and blaming others. The Capital has become the most polluted city in the world in the last seven years. In the World Air Quality Report, Delhi has been declared as the most polluted city in the world for the third consecutive year," he said.

"This is the situation when people were indoors due to the pandemic for the last one-and-a-half years. Despite the city being in such a dire situation, the government is not taking any concrete steps to deal with the problem," he said.

Supertech case: complaint lodged with vigilance dept.

26 officials of NOIDA named as accused

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The New Okhla Industrial Development Authority (NOI-DA) has filed a complaint with the Uttar Pradesh Vigilance Department for lodging an FIR against the people involved in the illegal construction of Supertech's twin towers here, officials said on

Tuesday. Altogether, 26 officials of NOIDA, four directors of real estate developer Supertech Group, and two architects have been named as accused in the complaint, the officials

NOIDA CEO Ritu Maheshwari confirmed the development and said the authority will be going ahead with demolition planning of the twin towers that have come up in Sector 93A of the city in violation of building norms.

Supreme Court, The which had ordered the demolition of the under-construction 40-storey towers on August 31, on Monday quashed a "modification application" filed by Supertech Group. While delivering its August 31 verdict, the apex court had set a three-month timeline for NOIDA to raze down the towers

"Yes, the authority shall try to plan and have [the order] implemented as per the SC directions," Ms. Maheshwari said. Officials said the State Vigilance Department shall now lodge an FIR on the basis of the complaint and take action.

Reserved seats The university reserves 85%

of its seats for candidates from the NCR and therefore, released two cut-off percentages in the general category



than those set by Delhi University. • FILE РНОТО

– one for students from the NCR and the other for students outside the NCR. The university also released a merit list of applicants who had cleared the cut-off in various categories as a "provisional admission" list based on the marks entered by the candidates while filling the application form.

For BA (Hons) Economics, the cut-off for NCT candidates is 97.25% and for candidates from outside Delhi 97.75%. For BA (Hons) English, the university has set the mark for NCT candidates at 97.50% and for candidates from outside Delhi

97.50%. For BA (Hons) History, the cut-off is 96.75% for NCT candidates and 98.50% for candidates from outside Delhi. BA (Hons) Mathematics has cut-off at 94.25% for NCT candidates and 95.25% for candidates from outside Delhi. For BA (Hons) Hindi, the university has set the cutoff for NCT candidates at 81.75% and for candidates from outside Delhi 82.25%

Two campuses

At the Kashmere Gate cam-

pus, AUD offers BA (Hons) with a major in English, economics, history, mathematics, psychology, sociology, social science and humanities, and Hindi. It also offers a degree in Bachelor of Business administration.

At the Karampura cam-

have made it to the first list will have to get their documents verified physically on campus between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on October 6 and 7. The last day for payment is October 7. The second cut-off list is

scheduled to be out on October 8. AUD said that it may release up to six cut-off lists depending on how many seats remain vacant.

E-rickshaw driver held for murder

STAFF REPORTER

An e-rickshaw driver was stabbed to death allegedly by another in south-east Delhi's Sarita Vihar on Monday night, the police said on Tuesday. DCP (South-East) Esha Pandey said the accused, Avdesh alias Pappu, has been arrested. The deceased has been identified as Arvind.

On Monday night, Arvind's e-rickshaw brushed against Avdesh's following which an argument ensued. The argument turned violent when Avdesh stabbed Arvind. A case under Section 302 (punishment for murder) of the Indian Penal Code has been registered and further probe is under way, the police said.

THE HINDU DELHI WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2021

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In celebration of the 110th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan)



President Tsai Ing-wen Republic of China (Taiwan)

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Taiwan celebrates Double Tenth National Day as an internationally recognized beacon of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law. This hard-won accomplishment underscores a deepseated commitment to building a kinder, more resilient society in which all voices are heard. At a time when the world is facing challenges such as COVID-19, climate change and environmental degradation, Taiwan is a living proof that democracy works, and Is the best way of turning back the tide of authoritarianism while promoting peace, stability, sustainable development and inclusive prosperity.

Building Momentum for Economy

As the sun rises over Taiwan for Double



Development Goals in 2021

Paying it Forward for Global

protective equipment donations, came

under intense pressure from a second wave

of coronavirus. Buoyed by this backing and

love, the country will continue paying it

Taiwan-India **Cooperation**

Tenth National Day, it shines on a country Taiwan and India - Staunch with GDP growth estimated at 5.88 percent Partners for Freedom, for 2021. The local economy is performing **Democracy and Development** better than at any point in the last decade.

Success looks set to continue thanks to Under the leadership of President Tsai Ingfarsighted policy like the Six Core Strategic wen, Taiwan initiated the New Southbound Industries plan for transforming Taiwan Policy in 2016 to ramp up its relations with into a significant force in the global 18 countries, targeting India as priority. economy. Building on the government's 5+2 Taiwan and India have benefited from a Industrial Innovation Program, it sets out a balanced and ever-growing relationship vision to develop the industries of the across sectors such as trade and future and achieve the U.N. Sustainable investment, science and technology, education and culture as well as people to people exchanges. Economic cooperation in areas of trade, investment and industry between Taiwan and India has been growing in recent years. Bilateral trade has Taiwan gives thanks on Double Tenth grown nearly five-fold from USD 1.19 National Day to allies and like-minded billion in 2001 to USD 4.80 billion in 2020. A partners for standing with the country in total of 116 Taiwanese major companies its hour of COVID-19 need. The Taiwan have set up business operations in India, Model, widely celebrated for saving lives with a total investment of USD 1.09 and strengthening the global response to billion in the fields of information and the pandemic, by its mask and personal

communication technology, medical devices, automobile components, machineries, steel, electronics, construction, engineering, financial services, etc. In the area of education cooperation, more than 2,239 Indian students are studying in Taiwan in 2020. The Government of Taiwan

awards scholarships to outstanding

Indian students

and Mandarin Chinese language studies in Taiwan. In 2021, twenty Taiwan Education Centers in total have been launched in university campuses in India. Over 8,000 students have taken Mandarin courses at Taiwan Education Centers, 668 bilateral academic agreements have been signed between 68 institutions of higher education in Taiwan and 256 of that in India.

those who wish to pursue higher education

For science and technology cooperation, Taiwan and India have cooperated in implementing 94 joint research projects, holding 20 bilateral workshops on various subjects and publishing over 160 SCI papers since 2007. Both countries are currently working on setting up Technology Innovation Hubs in universities to develop cutting-edge technologies. The eleventh Taiwan-India Joint Committee Meeting on Cooperation in Science & Technology will be held once the pandemic related protocol

The Covid-19 pandemic poses great challenges and unfolds new areas of further cooperation between Taiwan and India in ecommerce, online interaction, and biochemical technology. On the auspicious occasion of the 110th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan), we are confident that, through joint efforts, Taiwan and India will continue to prosper further in the years ahead.

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Timings **DELHI**

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 06

RISE 06:17 SET 18:02 RISE 05:52 SET 18:13

THURSDAY, OCT. 07 RISE 06:17 SET 18:01 RISE 06:57 SET 18:49 FRIDAY, OCT. 08

RISE 06:18 SET 18:00 RISE 08:04 SET 19:29

Delhi Weather max min Delhi City 26

35 26

35

Delhi Palam Today 35°C A dry weather to

Safdarjang

prevail. The morning will be hazy. Day will be very warm and humid with uneasy

Delhi Palam Tomorrow

36°C The weather will be

mostly dry. Day will be very

warm and humid with uneasy afternoon. Night will be comfortable. © Copyright Skymet Weather 2019 All rights reserved

Manipur govt. relaxes **COVID-19 restrictions**

The COVID-19 restrictions in Manipur have been further relaxed as there is a slight improvement in the situation, according to a State government order. The night curfew would now be in force between 8.30 p.m. and 4 a.m., the order on Tuesday said. Assembly of persons at 50% of the capacity would be permitted at weddings and other religious functions All religious places would be allowed to reopen. The new order would be in force till October 21.

Delhi govt. sends ration scheme file to L-G again

The move follows HC's nod for its implementation last week

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday once again sent the file related to the Delhi government's ambitious Doorstep Delivery of Ration project to Lieutenant-Governor Anil Baijal.

Last week, the Delhi High Court had allowed the government to conditionally implement the scheme. Mr. Kejriwal appealed to the L-G to approve the scheme so that the beneficiaries start getting the ration delivered at their doorstep soon.

Hearing a writ petition on September 27, the High Court modified its order dated March 22, 2021, allowing the Delhi government to implement the scheme and deduct the supply being given to the Fair Price Shops in proportion to the beneficiaries opting for doorstep delivery.

Model optional

The court, in its order, also stated that the doorstep delivery model was optional for the beneficiaries and they can choose to go back



Delhi Lieutenant-Governor Anil Baijal and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. ■ FILE PHOTO

to the ration distribution system through FPS.

The Delhi government was about to start the implementation of the scheme before it was stalled.

According to the government, the matter was heard by the High Court on September 27 with the court taking note of the government counsel's submission that most of the beneficiaries had opted for supply of ration at their doorstep.

The counsel had also submitted that the Delhi government will also give an option to the beneficiaries to opt out of the scheme if they so desire.

After the implementation of the scheme, ration card holders will not have to wait for the opening of ration shops or stand in long queues, the government said.

Ration will be delivered at the beneficiaries' doorsteps in sealed packets and no convenience fee will be charged.

The beneficiaries will just need to provide their thumb impression to receive the ration, the government ad-

Tripura BJP **MLA praises** Mamata

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI

A BJP MLA in Tripura has hailed West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee as the face of the Opposition while slamming Prime Minister Narendra Modi for "selling off" the country's assets to private parties. The BJP, troubled by dissension against Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb, has not reacted to the views of Ashis Das, MLA from Surma constituency, reserved for the Scheduled

Mr. Das, who is in Kolkata for a programme at the Kalighat temple there, said "time will tell" whether his visit was "religious or political". This has set tongues wagging in Tripura about the possibility of some BJP leaders joining the Trinamool Congress.

Praising Ms. Banerjee for winning the Bhabanipur by-election Assembly "overwhelmingly", Mr. Das said he was proud that she West Bengal Chief Minister had become the face of the Opposition in India. He said Mr. Modi had similarly stirred the people of India. "But today, the party has become a 'jumla', selling off all government property."

Over 300 children get COVID-19 aid

STAFF REPORTER MUMBAI

The Maharashtra govern-

ment has disbursed ₹15.30 crore so far to more than 306 children who lost their parents to the coronavirus. The State government had

last month announced that ₹5 lakh each would be extended to help secure their

Children in 24 districts, including Chandrapur, Sangli, Wardha, Solapur and Alibag, have received the aid.

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Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD Notice inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process) Specification No. and Description of work/Materia COAL(Ship) – 87 / dt.05.10.2021 Contract of Affreightment for movement of 1.50 to 2.25 Lakh Tonnes of Domestic Coal from PARADIP to KAMARAJAR PORT. Enormal of .75 to 1.50 Lakh Tonnes of Domestic Coal from PARADIP to KAMARAJAR PORT. Enormal of .75 to 1.50 Lakh Tonnes of Domestic Coal from PARADIP to VOC PORT, TUTICORIN by Panamax Gearless Vessels for a Period of 1 month during OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2021 12.10.2021

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GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA PUBLIC WORK DEPARTMENT

Tender Notice No. 25 Year 2020-21

Sr. no	Name of Work	Estimated Cost
1	Behere Walkas Khadvli Raya Nimbvali Kor dhere Sangode MDR 49 Titwala Road (MDR 96) Km 0/00 to 11/900 in Kalyan Tal. Dist. Thane.	Rs. 1,31,25,000/-
2	NH 222 Kambe Pavshepada Mohili manivali Ghotsai to MDR 49 Titwala Road (MDR 96) km 0/00 to 11/900 in kalyan Tal. Dist. Thane.	Rs. 52,50,000/-
3	Dombivli Rly St. Sagaon Manpada Rd MDR 73 km 0/00 to 2/050 in Kalyan Tal. Dist Thane.	Rs. 50,07,000/-
4	Adivasipada Hal Ushid Palsoli Kakadpada to Gerse Road MDR 93 Km 0/00 to 10/000 in Kalyan Tal. Dist. Thane.	Rs. 43,75,000/-
5	Kulgaon Badlapur walivali Sai Jambhl Kelni Kolam Road MDR 92 Km 0/00 to 19/000 in Kalyan Tal. Dist. Thane	Rs. 32,38,000/-
6	Pendharkar College to Patharli Dombivli Jimkhana Rd MDR 72 Km 0/00 to 1/200 in kalyan Tal, Dist, Thane.	Rs. 30,38,000/-
7	Vasind Gerse Vehene (Shei) Amberje Hal connected to Kashevali Village Road MDR 94 Km 0/00 to 17/000 in Kalyan Tal. Dist. Thane.	Rs. 26,25,000/-

Date of E-Tender Downloading 06/10/2021 to 14/10/2021 Time 10.30 to 17.30 PM

Date of E-Tender Opening 18/10/2021 Time 12.30 PM (If Possible)

1.Tender form Condition of Contract Specification and Contract drawing can be downloaded from e-tendering portal of public work Department of Maharashtra i.e. https://mahatenders.gov.in

Tender Notice can be seen also on website https://mahatenders.gov.in & www.mahapwd.com

P.W. Division No.1 Thane, Station Road Date- 01/10/2021

Sd/-**Executive Engineer,** P.W. Division No.1 Thane

CUB

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED Credit Recovery and Management Department Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar,

Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in, Ph : 0435-2432322, Fax : 0435-2431746

PUBLICATION - DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 – Sent on 27-08-2021 by Registered Post with acknowledgement due and the same was returned by All. Hence this

No.1) Mr. Aman Khandelwal, S/o, Shri Sarvesh Khandelwal, at 23/29, Old Rajinder Naga No.1) Mr. Aman Knandelwal, 370. Shri Sarvesh Knandelwal, at 23/29, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi - 110060. No.2) Mrs. Sunita Khandelwal, W/o. Shri Sarvesh Khandelwal, at H 471, H - Block, New Rajinder Nagar, Central Delhi - 110060. No.3) Mr. Sarvesh Khandelwal, S/o. B.L. Gupta, at 23/29, Old Rajinder Nagar, Central Delhi, Delhi - 110060. No.4) Ms. Rakshika khandelwal, D/o. Sarvesh Khandelwal, at 23/29, Old Rajinder Nagar, Central Path Pethi 40050. Delhi, Delhi - 110060. Dear Sir/ Madam

Sub: Loan account / Overdraft with City Union Bank Limited, New Delhi - Laxmi Nagar Branch in the name of Mr. Aman Khandelwal.

The Bank issued notice under the SARFAESI Act on 27-08-2021 calling upon all of you to repa the bank issued notice under the SARPAESI Act on 27-08-2021 calling upon all of you to repay the outstanding amount of Rs.13,16,122/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Sixteen Thousand One Hundred and Twenty Two Only) as on 24-08-2021 with further interest for 501812080041355 (LOAN AGAINST PROPERTY) at 11.50% plus 2.00% penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from 25-08-2021 till the date of repayment. The notice sent to you by Registered Post have been returned by all.

Therefore, we hereby once again call upon you all to pay Rs.13,16,122/-(Rupees Thirteen Lakh Sixteen Thousand One Hundred and Twenty Two Only) with further interest for 501812080041355 (LOANAGAINST PROPERTY) at 11.50% plus 2.00% penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from 25-08-2021 till date of repayment within 60 days from the date of this notice failing which Bank will be Constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the schedule hereunder. This Notice is

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Office of the Executive Engineer-1 (Lakes), 3rd Floor, New Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002. Date: 04.10.2021 No: EE-1(Lakes)/TEND/18/2021-22 **INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)**

The Executive Engineer-1(Lakes), BBMP Invites tenders for the construction works detailed in the table below.

BRUHAT BANGALORE MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Name of the Work Rejuvenation and Development work to Vengaiahna Kere EMD Declaration: As per G.O. No.: FD 675 Expenditure-12/ 2020 dated: 22.12.2020. (1) Tender documents may be

downloaded from GOK e-Procurement portal https://eproc.

karnataka.gov.in from 05.10.2021 onwards. (2) Pre bid meeting: 27.10.2021 at 3:00 p.m. 3) Tenders must be submitted online on or before 4:00 p.m. on 06.11.2021. (4) Opening of Technical bids: 08.11.2021 at 4.30 p.m. Further details can be obtained from the above office during office hours & also from

website: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer-1 (Lakes). PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.

STATE PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT (SPMU), ODISHA HP Administrative Building, Unit-VIII, Delta Square, Bhubaneswar-751012 email: odishagwhp3@gmail.com **SHOPPING FOR GOODS INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

NATIONAL HYDROLOGY PROJECT

PP No — NHP-2021-2022-OD-561594 PIP Code-A1.09.05 BID Reference No: ODISHA(SW)/NHP/RTDAS/IFB-09/21-22 The Additional Director, Hydrology, Bhubaneswar & Procurement Officer (SW), SPMU, NHP —Odisha invites tenders through e-Procurement platform online from eligible bidders for the work: -**"Repair** & Renovation of 104 RTDAS Stations Under HP-II in the year 2021-22". Bidding documents are

available online on **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** which is free of cost. Bidders are advised to participate in the bidding process as per instructions given in bidding document. Start date of availability of Bid document Online 08/10/2021 10:00 Hrs (for downloading from e-Procurement portal) Last Date of availability of Bid document Online 27/10/2021 14:00 Hrs. (for downloading from e-Procurement portal) 3. Start Date of e-Bid submission 08/10/2021 11:00 Hrs. 27/10/2021 14:00 Hrs. 4. Last date of e-Bid submission

5. Time & Date of Online opening of bids in the portal : 27/10/2021 15:00 Hrs. Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal https://tendersodisha.gov.in Additional Director, Hydrology & Procurement Officer (SW), SPMU, NHP - Odisha A-497

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Date of Pre-bid 12/10/2021 Time 2.10 PM

No./TD/Tender/7790 Office of the Executive Engineer

DGIPR/2021/2022/2212

THE HINDU DELHI WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2021

यमुनोत्री

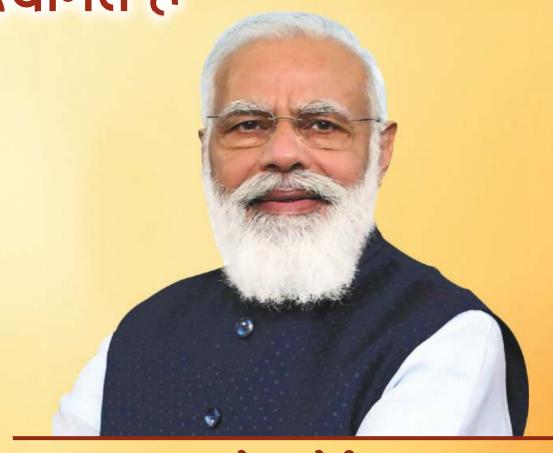
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- देवस्थानों में आवास, खान-पान, चिकित्सा-स्वास्थ्य, स्वच्छ पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता का विशेष ध्यान रखा जाये।
- देवस्थानों/मंदिरों में दर्शन के दौरान मूर्तियों को छूने की नहीं होगी अनुमति।
- चारों धामों में मौसम सर्द है, तीर्थ यात्री अपने साथ गर्म कपड़े जैसे कि स्वेटर,शॉल, जैकेट एवं टोपी आदि साथ लायें।
- तीर्थ यात्री मौसम की जानकारी प्राप्त कर यात्रा करें।
- यात्रा के दौरान किसी भी सहायता के लिए पुलिस, पर्यटन विभाग, देवस्थानम बोर्ड में संपर्क करें।

यात्रा हेतु पोर्टल http://smartcitydehradun.uk.gov.in पर पंजीकरण कराना अनिवार्य है तथा प्रत्येक श्रद्धालु को अधिकतम 72 घण्टे पूर्व की कोविड नेगेटिव रिपोर्ट अथवा वैक्सीन की डबल डोज़ लगी होने का सर्टिफिकेट ले जाना अनिवार्य है।

सूचना एवं लोक सम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड द्वारा जनहित में जारी | www.uttarainformation.gov.in 🕑 DIPR_UK

CM YK







सी॰एम हेल्पलाइन नं॰ 1905 | एम्बुलेंस नं॰ 108 | पुलिस कंट्रोल रूम नं॰ 112 | यात्रा कंट्रोल रूम नंः 0135–3520100, 2552627, 2552628, 2559898

Sidhu's overtures to woo Cong. leadership

He takes to Twitter to praise Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's stand on the Lakhimpur Kheri incident

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

After Congress's general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra was detained in Uttar Pradesh, cricketer-turnedpolitician Navjot Singh Sidhu on Tuesday sought to reach out to the party's central leadership.

Mr. Sidhu, whose status as PCC president is still not clear as he has not formally withdrawn his resignation and nor has the central leadership so far rejected or accepted his resignation, took to Twitter to express his appreciation towards Ms. Vadra's stance on the "Lakhimpur Kheri" incident.

"When in doubt walk the path of truth, never compromise on moral values !! "Moral Authority" thy name is @priyankagandhi," said Mr. Sidhu in a tweet, which in political circles is being seen as an attempt to mend fences with the party's central



Cricketer-turned-politician Navjot Singh Sidhu has said his party would 'march' towards Lakhimpur Kheri, if Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is not released by October 6. • PTI

leadership.

Mr. Sidhu added that Punjab Congress would launch a 'march' towards Lakhimpur Kheri, if by October 6, Ms. Vadra is not released and the accused were not arrested.

"If, by tomorrow, the Union Minister's son behind the brutal murder of Farmers is not arrested, and our leader @PriyankaGandhi being unlawfully arrested,

fighting for farmers is not released, the Punjab Congress will march towards Lakhimpur Kheri!" he tweeted.

Mr. Sidhu had recently resigned from his post saying that the issues, especially surrounding the "sacrilege" and other, for which he had taken a committed stand before the people of Punjab are being compromised.

Party insiders said that

since his resignation, the party's central leadership has been annoyed with Mr. Sidhu's abrupt move but is apparently in a bind as it doesn't want Mr. Sidhu to be seen as a 'martyr' in the electoral battle, who has chosen emotional and sensitive issues surrounding Bargari sacrilege and inclusion of tainted leaders in the government as the basis for

However, the party wants a swift end to the crises, even it means replacing the PCC chief.

Last week also, Mr. Sidhu had tweeted, "Will uphold principles of Gandhi Ji & Shastri Ji ... Post or No Post will stand by @RahulGandhi & @priyankagandhi! Let all negative forces try to defeat me, but with every ounce of positive energy will make Punjab win, Punjabiyat (Universal Brotherhood) win & every punjabi win !!"

AAP, Congress stage protests

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

Referring to the Lakhimpur violence, the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party on Tuesday held protests and said the BJP in the Centre and in Uttar Pradesh was "throttling democracy".

Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi asked the BJP to respect democratic values rather than perpetrate the rule of coercion to stifle voic-

Members of AAP staged protests in several parts of Punjab.

In Himachal Pradesh, Congress members staged protests across all the districts against the arrest of Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.

'Andhra Pradesh's request to divert river water is untenable'

Telangana urges Tungabhadra Board to take action

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Telangana has termed Andhra Pradesh's request to divert an additional 2 tmc ft of water from the Tungabhadra dam to the TBP-Right Bank High Level Canal (HLC) as "untenable and against the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-I award", and that it would be detrimental to the requirements of the Rajolibanda Diversion Scheme (RDS) already getting deficit flows. In a letter addressed to the Secretary of Tungabhadra Board, Engineer-in-Chief (General-Irrigation) of Telangana C. Muralidhar on Tuesday said the utilisation of Krishna water for the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal from the Srisailam reservoir by Andhra Pradesh for the diversion of another 2 tmc ft. wa-

ter to HLC from Tungabhadra

dam, in addition to the 2 tmc ft. water already being diverted, is not agreeable to Telangana till the RDS gets its quota. Against the allocation of 15.9 tmc ft. water to RDS (Telangana), the maximum volume of water reaching the ayacut in Jogulamba-Gadwal district is not going beyond 5-6 tmc ft even in the best case scenario, although Andhra Pradesh has been drawing water indiscriminately from Srisailam without any allocations and approvals.

Restrictions imposed

The ENC pointed out that KWDT-I had imposed restrictions on Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka on the utilisation of water in Tungabhadra Sub-Basin and held that the Tungabhadra river shall contribute substantial flows to the main stream of the Krishna river for utilisation of downstream projects. Contrary to the view of KWDT-I, Andhra Pradesh had been using Tungabhadra river flows and regulated releases from Tungabhadra dam to KC Canal.

Andhra Pradesh was also drawing water to the KC canal from three unauthorised sources - from the escape channel at Banakacherla cross regulator, from the Muchumarri lift scheme and from Malyala pumping station, all drawing water from Srisailam - and diverting regulated releases meant for the KC canal to HLC from the Tungabhadra dam. The ENC requested the Board Secretary to complete modernisation works at the earliest so that Telangana is allowed the required flows for utilisation of allocated water for the RDS

Gauhati High Court takes up eviction case that claimed two lives

Civil society group had petitioned court for cognisance

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Gauhati High Court has taken cognisance of the eviction drive at Dhalpur in Assam's Darrang district that claimed two lives on September 23.

The case was taken up following a petition by civil society group Axom Nagarik Samaj seeking a "court-monitored investigation into the incident as well as eviction

The court clubbed the case with a PIL plea filed in connection with the eviction drive by Congress MLA Debabrata Saikia and fixed October 7 as the date of hear-



A man being kicked by a security man in Dhalpur.

Killed in police firing Two persons, including a mi-

nor, were killed in police firing during the eviction drive. The victims were Benmarked for eviction for allegedly occupying government land illegally. While the police arrested village leaders Chand Mamud, Asmat Ali Ahmed and Sarifuddin for "instigating" the violence during the eviction drive, the Congress suspended its Baghbar MLA Sherman Ali Ahmed for raking up an incident in 1983 involving the area where the eviction was carried out. The MLA was also arrested for a "provocative" statement on the killing of eight Assamese youths in 1983. On Tuesday, he was presented before a local court that sent him in police

Petition alleging non-compliance of IT rules by Twitter infructuous'

Decision taken after Centre satisfied with platform: Delhi HC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI The Delhi High Court on Tuesday closed proceedings in a petition alleging noncompliance of new IT rules by Twitter, saying that "nothing remained" in view of the Central government being satisfied with the micro-blogging platform appointing a Chief Compliance Officer (CCO), Resident Grievance Officer (RGO) and Nodal Contact Person.

Justice Rekha Palli further noted that Twitter has already dealt with the complaint raised by the petitioner – lawyer Amit Acharya – with regards to certain objection-

able tweets and thus the petition has become infructuous. While disposing of the petition, the judge also clarified that the petitioner was free to take appropriate legal recourse against the action taken by Twitter on his complaint against the allegedly objectionable tweets.

"What remains in this? Nothing remains now.. Prayers are satisfied. You challenge the order if you have a grievance," observed the judge. "Respondent No 1 (Centre) has filed an affidavit categorically stating that Respondent No 2 (Twitter) is fully complying with the IT Rules. In view of the aforesaid, which is not denied by the petitioner, nothing further survives," the court

The IT (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 seek to regulate dissemination and publication of content in cyberspace, including social media platforms and were notified in February by the Central government. Last month, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) had told the court that Twitter has appointed CCO, RGO, and Nodal Contact Person in compliance with the new IT

'Ferry service to Sri Lanka awaiting MEA approval'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Lt. Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan on Tuesday said ferry service between Karaikal and Jaffna in Sri Lanka, was awaiting approval from the External Affairs Ministry.

Addressing mediapersons after flagging off 'Samudra Naukayan', an ocean expedition of the National Cadets Corps (NCC) group, headquarters, Puducherry, at the Thengaithittu harbour, Ms. Soundararajan said a ferry service had already existed, but was later stopped.

Steps are being taken to resume the sea connectivity linking Karaikal with Jaffna. The Sri Lankan Minister and

(Deputy) High Commissioner held talks in this regard. Once certain permissions are obtained from the External Affairs Ministry, the decks would be cleared to resume the service," she

The proposal to revive the Karaikal-Jaffna ferry service, as a component of the Sagarmala Programme of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways to promote coastal shipping, is being actively pursued by the Indian and Sri Lankan governments since 2011. The scheme envisages commencement of passenger shipping between Karaikal, Puducherry,

Kankesanthurai (KKS Port) Jaffna, Sri Lanka.



A GREETING TO REMEMBER

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(PSPCL Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala) rate Identification No. U40109PB20108GC033813/Website:pspcl.in (Contact Number 9646107248, Email: se-tl-jal@pspcl.in) Tender Inquiry no. 13.14

Dy. Chief Engineer/TL, Circle, Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, Room No 310, 2nd Floor, Shakti Sadan, Jalandhar, invites two No. E-Tender of : (1) Laying of tower foundations. Frection of towers and stringing & sac earth wire for the Augmentation of 0.2 sq"ACSR with 0.4 sq" ACSR of 66KV Allie Recyling feeder amanating from 220KV S/S Kohara for the extension of load M/s Sharmanji Yarns Pvt Ltd. Lakhowal Road, Kohara, 0.267KM/0.4 sq" SC on M.ck towers. (2) Laying of tower foundations, Erection of towers and stringing & sagging of conductor with earth wire for Augmentation of ACSR Conductor of 66KV Wadaks Granthian to Udhonangal line from 0.15 sq" to 0.2 sq" 16.480 km s/c including re placement of 13 no. rusted towers. For detailed NIT & tender specification plearefer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 06.10.2021 from 5.00 PM onwards. Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eprod

C-364/21

PSPCL 76155/12/484/2021/8559



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male, Age: 55-60 years Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5'5", was wearing Blue T-shirt and Black Pant, was found dead at KM Pole No. 11/22-24 Down Line Transport Nagar, Delhi, at 01:50 PM. In this regard a DD No. 14PP,

dated 03.09.2016, has been lodged at P.S. Old

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the

DP/299/Rly/2021

P.S. ODRS, Delhi



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male, Age: 30-35 years, Complexion: Shallow, Height: 5'5", was wearing Yellow & Blue Shirt and Black Pant, was found dead at KM Pole No. 10/17-23 Upline, Shalimar Bagh Village Delhi, at 11:30 AM. In this regard a

DD No. 11PP, dated 30.09.2016, has been lodged at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about the

deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

> P.S. ODRS, Delhi Ph.: 011-23961522, 8750871302 9868377475

DP/303/Rly/2021

Appeal for Identification



General Public is hereby informed that a male dead person Name: Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: about 40-45 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Built: Medium, Wearing: Black & White check Shirt, White & Black line Track Suit, Crushed forehead, brain is out from forehead and crushed, right hand also crushed, left hand cut and crushed from elbow, right leg cut from claw and left leg cut from BHINDALI and not traced crash spot at the body was found dead at

Line near Badli village. In this regard, a **DD No. 15A, dated 16.06.2013** has been lodged at PS ODRS, Delhi. Dead Body preserved Subzi Mandi Mortuary For identification. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out

information about this person but no clue has come to light so far. Any, person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following. SHO

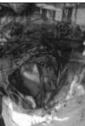
Station, Delhi DP/286/RLY/2021 Ph.: 011-23961522, 8750871302

P.S., Old Delhi Railway,

Delhi Railway Station, Delhi.

following address or telephone nos.

Ph.: 011-23961522, 8750871302 9868377475



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male, Age: 25-30 years, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5'7", ID Mark: Yashodha written in right hand, was wearing White Shirt and White Pant, was found dead at KM Pole No. 26/24-26 Down Line near Bakner Village, Delhi, at 06:10

has been lodged at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station,

AM. In this regard a DD No. 05PP, dated 02.05.2016,

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the

following address or telephone nos.

P.S. ODRS, Delhi Ph.: 011-23961522, 8750871302 9868377475

APPEAL



DP/295/Rly/2021

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male, Age: 25-30 years, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5'6", was wearing White, Blue & Red Lining Shirt and Blue Jeans Pant, was found dead at KM Pole No. 5/6-8 Down Line, Rana Partap Bagh, Delhi, at 10:30 AM. In this

egard a DD No. 12PP, dated 03.11.2015, has been lodged at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about the

deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

> P.S. ODRS, Delhi Ph.: 011-23961522, 8750871302 9868377475

DP/291/Rly/2021



A.P. to launch awareness drive on menstruation

Inaugurating the 'Swechha' programme here, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy said an awareness campaign would be launched on menstruation and hygiene in all government schools and colleges. Under the programme, sanitary napkins would be provided to over 10 lakh students studying in Classes 7 to 12.

Assembly case: verdict on discharge plea tomorrow

The verdict in the discharge petition filed by General **Education Minister** V. Sivankutty and others in the Kerala Assembly ruckus case is expected on Thursday. The decision of the chief judicial magistrate court will have repercussions, given the Opposition UDF's attempts to corner the Minister on the floor of the Assembly on a

People paid for treatment despite PM-JAY

Study finds that in Tamil Nadu, private testing laboratories benefited the most under the scheme

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A study on the efficacy of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY scheme) in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu has found that a sizeable population covered under the programme bore hospitalisation expenses for COVID-19 treatment from personal funds or borrowings.

As of August 2021, an estimated 85% of the 26 crore population in the four States (over 20 crore) is covered under the scheme. In Tamil Nadu, as much as 98% of the population and in Kerala, 58% of the eligible population is covered. Also, in the four States, around 95 lakh beneficiaries are authorised for hospital admission under the scheme.

From personal savings While so far 18 lakh people have been hospitalised for COVID-19 treatment, around 85% of them (over 10 lakh) have paid for their hospitalisation from personal savings



ambulance used to transport COVID-19 patients in Chennai.

or borrowed money.

Of the 3.16 lakh PM-JAY beneficiaries treated for CO-VID-19 so far in the States under review, 1.54 lakh were in Andhra Pradesh and 1.62 lakh in Karnataka.

In Tamil Nadu, of the 4 lakh people estimated to have been hospitalised for COVID-19, only 10,377 people, and in Kerala, of the 7 lakh people estimated to have been hospitalised for COVID-19, only 34,755 were

treated under the PM-JAY scheme. An estimated over 6 lakh patients in Kerala and over 3 lakh patients in Tamil Nadu had to fund hospitalisation through personal savings or borrowings.

While 12% of the beneficiaries in Andhra Pradesh had availed themselves of hospitalisation benefits under the scheme, in Tamil Nadu only 0.3% had benefited.

In 450 days, as many as 1,12,638 people died of CO-

VID-19. Karnataka recorded the highest number of deaths at 37,797. Andhra Pradesh recorded the lowest at 14,176, which the study attributed to "excellent clinical management strategy". In Tamil Nadu, 35,578 people died; and in Kerala, 25,087 succumbed to the infection.

Two hospitals in urban Bengaluru, Victoria Hospital, and Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital, saved a large number of uninsured middle-income COVID-19 patients, but public heart hospitals were approximately three times costlier than private for-profit hospitals, the study said.

According to the study, Andhra Pradesh's private hospitals empanelled in the scheme "offered fair value for the services" and thus achieved the least death per million (of 168), as compared to Kerala (751), Karnataka (619), and Tamil Nadu (493).

Poor response

In Tamil Nadu, there was poor response from private

Church cases: Kerala High Court

wants SC verdict implemented

hospitals in treating PM-JAY beneficiaries.

The study concluded that Tamil Nadu's decision to conduct 100% RT-PCR tests for COVID-19 had immensely benefited private labs with 15 of the top 25 empanelled hospitals that received the highest number of authorisations for treatment under the scheme being testing laboratories.

In Karnataka, except for Bengaluru Urban, other districts appeared to be relatively successful in getting the PM-JAY benefits to the In Kerala, the scheme had

been extensively used to treat over 25 lakh beneficiaries, and 16 of the 25 CO-VID-19 designated hospitals treated 7.82 lakh beneficiaries. However, only 34,755 people were reported as CO-VID-19 cases, the study found.

The study project, Jeevan Raksha, was technically supported and guided by the Public Health Foundation of In-

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over central Maharashtra, coastal Karnataka, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Bihar, Odisha, Telangana, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep

CITY	KAIN	IVIAX	IVITIN	CITY	KAIN	WAX	IVITIN
Agartala	–	26.5	25.4	Kozhikode	0.6	32.6	. 25.5
Ahmedabad	–	35.0	26.2	Kurnool		36.6	. 25.5
Aizawl	–	–	–	Lucknow		34.6	.26.4
Allahabad	–	34.5	27.4	Madurai	3	32.6	.24.6
Bengaluru	–	28.0	21.4	Mangaluru	0.4	30.4	.23.4
Bhopal	–	33.9	24.0	Mumbai		34.5	.26.2
Bhubaneswar	–	34.7	25.1	Mysuru	4	28.9	.21.0
Chandigarh	–	34.8	24.7	New Delhi		35.4	.26.4
Chennai	24	33.6	25.2	Patna		33.5	.25.0
Coimbatore	0.8	32.0	23.0	Port Blair	0.2	30.3	.23.6
Dehradun	1	31.4	22.0	Puducherry	4.2	26.4	.24.0
Gangtok	1	21.2	16.6	Pune	37	32.3	.21.3
Goa	–	32.8	25.5	Raipur		32.5	.25.6
Guwahati	4	32.1	25.5	Ranchi		31.2	.23.4
Hubballi	–	31.0	22.0	Shillong	7	24.1	.16.4
Hyderabad	–	32.2	23.3	Shimla		25.5	.17.5
Imphal				Srinagar		25.0	.12.0
Jaipur	–	34.4	26.0	Thiruvananthapuram	1	32.4	.23.9
Kochi	11	30.4	24.0	Tiruchi	0.2	29.8	.25.0
Kohima	2.2	24.5	16.0	Vijayawada	4	34.0	.25.0
Kolkata	–	34.0	27.5	Visakhapatnam	3	–	.25.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in 1	ine a	iir yo	u are	e breat	ning	
CITIES	SO ₂	NO_2	co	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	6	129	.13	85	84	
Bengaluru	9	.36	104	30	46	
Chennai	4	.20	.76	20	31	
Delhi						
Hyderabad						
Kolkata	12	.24	.28	70	87	
Lucknow	7	.38	.66	83	.136	
Mumbai		.15	139	24	23	
Pune	36	.54	.89	66	58	
		~ -				

Yesterday

4.00 p.m., Nandesari, Gujarat recorded an over

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 premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Karnataka Cabinet panel to study Bababudangiri shrine issue

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

In the wake of the High Court quashing the Karnataka Government's earlier order appointing a Mujawar to perform religious practices at Sree Guru Dattatreya Bababudan Swamy Dargah in Chikkamagaluru, the Cabinet on Tuesday decided to form a four-member subcommittee to study the pros and cons of the court ruling and find out ways to proceed further on the issue.

At a Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Ba-

savaraj Bommai, it was decided to form a Cabinet panel headed by Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J.C. Madhuswamy to study the High Court ruling. Kannada and Culture Minister V. Sunil Kumar, Religious Endowment and Wakf Minister Shashikala Jolle, and Revenue Minister R. Ashok

the committee. The committee will study in detail the court ruling and discuss if there is a need for filing an affidavit in the court, Mr. Madhuswamy

are the other members of

net meeting. A few days ago, the High

Court had directed the State budangiri

The court quashed a

GENERAL

प्रगत संगणन विकास केंद्र CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED COMPUTING

न सं.सीडैक (ति)/आरसीटी /06/2021 तारीख 06.10.202⁻

Advt. No: CDAC (T)/RCT/06/2021 dated 06.10.2021

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COMMON RECRUITMENT PROCESS

FOR RECRUITMENT OF CLERKS IN

PARTICIPATING BANKS(CRP CLERKS-XI

for Vacancies of 2022-23)

The online examination (Preliminary and Main) for the next Common

Recruitment Process for selection of personnel for Clerical cadre Posts

in the Participating Banks is tentatively scheduled in December 2021 &

Tentative Dates

December 2021/

January/February 2022

January 2022

07.10.2021 to 27.10.2021

जाएं और 20.10.2021 को या उससे पहले निर्धारित तरीके से आवेदन करें।

इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ बैंकिंग पर्सोनेल सिलेक्शन

told reporters after the Cabi-

government to reconsider its decision on religious practices in the cave shrine of Baba-Chikkamagaluru.

March 19, 2018, order of the government permitting only a Mujawar, appointed by Syed Ghouse Mohiuddin Shah Khadri, to enter the sanctum of the cave and to distribute "teertha" to both Hindus and Muslims.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Kerala High Court on Tuesday reiterated that it wanted to see the Supreme Court verdict implemented in the Malankara Church dis-Justice Devan Ramachan-

dran orally observed that the continuance of a longstanding dispute could only help vested interests and not the real devotees on either

The court called upon both the Jacobite and Orthodox factions to abide by the

and permit the churches to function as "the abode of God rather than a place of war". In fact, the court wanted to ensure that peace was prevailing in the State.

1934 Church constitution,

The court noted that the dispute had now gone too far. The Supreme Court had ended the disputes upholding the 1934 constitution. It was time for everyone to understand that the fight could not continue.

The court made the observations when a petition by the Orthodox faction, the administration of several churches in the State, came up for hearing. The court observed that it was the last to send police into churches to implement the Supreme Court verdict. However, when the court is pushed, certainly that option would have to be explored. Both the factions should understand that the history of litigations had virtually ended with the verdict of the top court. The heads of the factions should decide how the rift could be resolved.

seeking police protection for

OPPORTUNITIES

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political connections' rock Kerala Assembly

+ Monson's 'police and

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The financial "shenanigans" of "fake" antiquities dealer Monson Mavunkal and his "high political and police connections" rocked the Kerala Assembly on Tuesday.

The Opposition United Democratic Front walked out of the House, accusing the government of ignoring cautionary intelligence reports against Monson and providing "police cover" for his "illegal activities". Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan said the government should suspend from active duty the police officers who had aided Monson.

He said the public had lost confidence in the State police after photographs of top officers accepting Monson's "hospitality" surfaced in the media. The police had provided "beat patrol protection" to Monson's collection of fake antiquities, thereby endorsing his false claims.

Mr. Satheesan said the then State police chief Loknath Behera and Additional Director General of Police Manoj Abraham had visited Monson's "museum". Yet, no law enforcer asked Monson the provenance of the "relics" or whether he had a collector's licence.



jayan said Mr. Behera had ordered an Intelligence investigation immediately after his visit to Monson's museum and residence in December

Branch reported that Monson's activities were highly suspect and the artefacts he touted as historical relics were handcrafted cheap knock-offs.

Mr. Vijavan said Mr. Behera had duly forwarded the Intelligence report to the En-

Mr. Vijayan said Mr. Behera had gone to Monson's house as a visitor and not for "treatment" as an "important personage" did. The comment was interpreted as an oblique reference to Congress State president K. Sudhakaran, who said he had consulted Monson as a

Only 500 people can attend Jamboo Savari

Guidelines issued for Dasara festivities

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

For combating COVID-19 during Dasara festivities, the Karnataka Government has came out with a set of guidelines, by limiting the number of people to 500 for culincluding Jamboo Savari, in Mysuru, to be held between October 7 and 15.

Only 100 people, including the Chief Minister, dignitaries, officials, and media personnel, will be allowed at the inauguration of the Dasara at Chamundi Hills on October 7. One dose of CO-VID-19 vaccination and RT-PCR test has been made mandatory for all officials and artistes participating in cultural shows.



programmes,

Monson Mavunkal Chief Minister Pinaravi Vi-

In 2020, the Special

forcement Directorate.

Payment of Application Fees/Intimation 07.10.2021 to 27.10.2021 Charges (Online) Download of call letters for Pre-Exam Training* Conduct of Pre-Exam Training* November 2021 Download of call letters for Online November/December examination - Preliminary 2021 Online Examination - Preliminary December 2021 Result of Online exam - Preliminary December 2021, January 2022

* In case it is possible and safe to hold PET Candidates are advised to regularly keep in touch with the authorised

Download of Call letter for Online exam - Main

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

On-line registration including Edit/Modification

Activity

of Application by candidates

Online Examination - Main

Provisional Allotment

IBPS website www.ibps.in for details and updates. The candidates who have already registered successfully for this process during July 12-14, 2021, need not apply again. Their earlier application will be considered for further process.

Before registering online candidates are advised to read the detailed notification carefully and follow the instructions mentioned therein. Date: 06.10.2021

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3	Electronics	2	-	-	-	1	1
4	Mechanical	37	5	2	9	5	16
5	Naval Architecture	6	1	-	2	1	2
6	Information Technology	2	-	1	-	-	1
				(Backlog)			
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Type of SI. Name of the Consolidated Min. Post Exp. Age Limit (Per Month) (Yrs.) GM (Elevated Rs. 2,25,000/-20 Min 45 02 Rs. 2,25,000/-20 Min 45 Contract (Underground Max 55 Construction' AGM (Legal) Deputation Refer the Employment Notification No. CMRL/HR/DEP/11/2021 dated 4 DGM (Track) 01 Rs. 90.000/-40 13 Contract Manager (Track) Contract 02 Rs. 80,000/-07

Note:- Age, qualification & experience stipulated for above posts except for SI. No. 3 should be as on 06.10.2021. Age will be relaxed for deserving

Please refer to the detailed employment notification published in CMRL website vide URL: https://chennaimetrorail.org for further details regarding qualification, experience and application format etc., for

சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்தீரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்தீரம் படைப்போம்

Last date for receipt of application is 29.10.2021. DIPR/880/Display/2021 Joint General Manager (HR).

WALK - IN INTERVIEW QIS GROUP OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS analem ONGOLE AP F-mail: humanresources@ Cell: 92464 19574, 92464 19542, 98662 68129. QIS Colle

Assistant Professor: CSE, ECE, English,

*Hostel Manager

*Hostel Manager

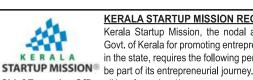
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Detail in relief

The SC order on payment to kin of COVID-19 victims is a recognition of their plight

The most welcome feature of the Supreme Court of India's order detailing the modalities for payment of ex gratia financial assistance to the families of those who died of COVID-19 is the stern caveat that no State shall deny the benefit solely on the ground that a person's death certificate did not specify the cause of death as due to the novel coronavirus disease. Thanks to the Court's assertiveness, the Union government shed its initial wariness about incurring the financial burden of compensating the next of kin of the over 4.49 lakh people officially recorded as having died due to the virus infection. The National Disaster Management Authority issued guidelines last month, specifying that ₹50,000 be paid for each death. While the primary requirement to avail of this assistance is that the death should be certified as having been caused by COVID-19, the Court has rightly ruled that the cause mentioned in the death certificate would not be conclusive by itself, and that if other documents are provided, the family shall be entitled to the ex gratia payment. Experience over the last year-and-a-half has shown that hospitals tend to attribute some deaths to co-morbidities rather than the infection; and many died after testing negative during a spell of hospitalisation or after discharge. It has now been made clear that deaths occurring within 30 days from the date of testing or from the date of being clinically determined a COVID-19 case shall be treated as eligible for the aid, "even if the death takes place outside the hospital/in-patient

Given the fact that independent data analysis has revealed a possibly huge undercount in the official CO-VID-19 toll maintained by the State governments and the Centre, the view that only a certified COVID-19 death should be eligible for compensation has been rightly discarded. Of course, some documentary evidence will still be required to establish the cause, but once it is submitted, the payment should be disbursed within 30 days. It is a matter of consolation to those likely to have their claims rejected or disputed that the Court has created an appeal mechanism in the form of Grievance Redressal Committees at the district level. These panels can issue amended official documents to certify COVID-19 deaths, as well as the power to call for records or information from the hospitals where the deceased were admitted. To buttress the need for a humane approach, the Court has included those who took their own lives under the shadow of the pandemic in the ambit of the scheme. It has also advised the authorities to avoid technicalities in processing claims. The assistance will be welcomed by those affected, not because it will be enough to address the adverse impact that numberless families have suffered due to the pandemic, but as a sign that there is some recognition of their plight and immediate succour available.

With a bang

The IMD can further improve its models to forecast shortfall as well as excess rains

The southwest monsoon has officially ended in India with 87.4 cm of rainfall between June and September, or just 0.7% short of the historical average of 88 cm. In many ways this was an exceptional year. By August end, India was staring at an all India monsoon rainfall deficit of nearly 9%. This was primarily due to monsoon rain in August, usually the second rainiest month, being short by 24%. Early in the monsoon, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) had forecast "normal" rains with "a tendency towards the positive side" and the August failure had it backtrack a little. It forecast – correctly in hindsight – strong rains in September but maintained that the overall monsoon rainfall while still "normal" would be towards the lower end. However, September rainfall – 35% more than the monthly normal – was so munificent that it completely closed the deficit and was well beyond the IMD's expectations. Normally, India gets about 17 cm of rain in September, but at 22.9 cm this year, it was more than the 19

Monsoon 2021 capped a rare three years of healthy rain. In 2020, India received 109% of the long period average (LPA) and in 2019, 110% of the LPA and not since 1996, 1997 and 1998 has India got three consecutive years of normal or above normal rain. Much of the rain was focused on southern India, with large parts of northeast and eastern India receiving below normal rainfall, but this is not concerning for two reasons: the base level of monsoon rains is higher in the northeastern regions than the rest of India and the region also gets the retreating monsoon which normally commences by October end. Three years of good rains have boosted storage in India's key reservoirs. The monsoon, however, proved erratic for agriculture. The two key months for kharif crop sowing, July and August, were the ones when the monsoon failed and the excess September rains meant there are real fears of crop damage due to excessive moisture. The Government is expecting record crop output with kharif crops expected to yield 150.5 million tonnes until June 2022, which is slightly higher than the 149.56 million tonnes harvested last year. There are record surpluses expected for rice, pulses and oilseeds. While this could advantage exports it might also mean demands by farmers for more remunerative prices. These excess rains may be a rare event but the Government should capitalise on it and ensure adequate stocks for next year. The IMD should not be content that it got its overall prediction right but must analyse how its models could be improved to forecast shortfall as well as excess rains.

RBI microfinance proposals that are anti-poor

The proposed guidelines will favour private credit institutions at the cost of public sector banks



MADHURA SWAMINATHAN

n June 2021, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) published a "Consultative Document on Regulation of Microfinance" (https:// bit.lv/3ixTIH3). While the declared objective of this review is to promote the financial inclusion of the poor and competition among lenders, the likely impact of the recommendations is unfavourable to the poor. If implemented, they will result in an expansion of microfinance lending by private financial institutions, in the provision of credit at high rates of interest to the poor, and in huge profits for private lenders.

The recommendations

The consultative document recommends that the current ceiling on rate of interest charged by nonbanking finance company-microfinance institutions (NBFC-MFIs) or regulated private microfinance companies needs to be done away with, as it is biased against one lender (NBFC-MFIs) among the many (commercial banks, small finance banks, and NBFCs). It proposes that the rate of interest be determined by the governing board of each agency, and assumes that "competitive forces" will bring down interest rates. Not only has the RBI abandoned any initiative to expand low-cost credit through public sector commercial banks to the rural poor, the bulk of whom are rural women (as most loans are given to members of women's groups), but, in addition, it also proposes to de-regulate the rate of interest charged by private microfinance agencies.

According to current guidelines, the 'maximum rate of interest rate charged by an NBFC-MFI shall be the lower of the following: the cost of funds plus a margin of

10% for larger MFIs (a loan portfolio of over ₹100 crore) and 12% for others; or the average base rate of the five largest commercial banks multiplied by 2.75'. In June 2021, the average base rate announced by the RBI was 7.98%. A quick look at the website of some Small Finance Banks (SFBs) and NBFC-MFIs showed that the "official" rate of interest on microfinance was between 22% and 26% roughly three times the base rate.

Crucial for rural households

Microfinance is becoming increasingly important in the loan portfolio of poorer rural households. In a study of two villages from southern Tamil Nadu, done by the Foundation for Agrarian Studies, we found that a little more than half of the total borrowing by households resident in these two villages was of unsecured or collateral-free loans from private financial agencies (SFBs, NBFCs, NBFC-MFIs and some private banks).

There was a clear differentiation by caste and socio-economic class in terms of source and purpose of borrowing. First, unsecured microfinance loans from private financial agencies were of disproportionate significance to the poorest households – to poor peasants and wage workers, to persons from the Scheduled Castes and Most Backward Classes. Second, these microfinance loans were rarely for productive activity and almost never for any group-based enterprise, but mainly for house improvement and meeting basic consumption

Our data showed that poor borrowers took microfinance loans, at reported rates of interest of 22% to 26% a year, to meet day-to-day expenses and costs of house repair. How does this compare with credit from public sector banks and cooperatives? Crop loans from Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) in Tamil Nadu had a nil or zero interest charge if repaid in eight months. Kisan credit card loans from banks were charged 4%

per annum (9% with an interest subvention of 5%) if paid in 12 months (or a penalty rate of 11%). Other types of loans from scheduled commercial banks carried an interest rate of 9%-12% a year. As even the RBI now recognises, the rate of interest charged by private agencies on microfinance is the maximum permissible, a rate of interest that is a far cry from any notion of cheap credit.

A loan breakup, violations

The actual cost of microfinance loans is even higher for several reasons. First, on account of the method of repayment: a loan of, say, ₹30,000 from an NBFC-MFI has to be repaid in 24 equal monthly instalments of ₹1,640. Every month, a principal of ₹1,250 and an interest of ₹390 is repaid. In the first month, the simple interest on this loan is 15.6% per annum but by the end of the first year, the interest rate is 31%. This is because every month the principal is reduced (by ₹1,250) but the interest charge is the same. In short, an "official" flat rate of interest used to calculate equal monthly instalments actually implies a rising effective rate of interest over

In addition, a processing fee of 1% is added and the insurance premium is deducted from the principal. As the principal is insured in case of death or default of the borrower or spouse, there can be no argument that a high interest rate is in response to a high risk of default.

Does the borrower understand this mechanism? In line with RBI regulations, we found that all borrowers had a repayment card with the monthly repayment schedules. On their regular visit, the loan collector would tick off the instalment paid. This does not mean that borrowers understood the charges.

Further, contrary to the RBI guideline of "no recovery at the borrower's residence", collection was at the doorstep. Note that a shift to digital transactions refers only to the sanction of a loan, as repayment is entirely in cash. Many borrowers said the debt collector used bad language in a loud voice, shaming them in front of their neighbours.

If the borrower is unable to pay the instalment, other members of the group have to contribute, with the group leader taking responsibility. In our survey, there was no organic connection of microfinance to any group activity or enterprise. As an agent of a NBFC-MFI told us, "we have used the groups formed earlier for other activities solely to show that we lend to a group".

The shift now

While microfinance lending has been in place since the 1990s, what is different about the recent phase of growth of financial services is that the privately-owned forprofit financial agencies are "regulated entities". In fact, they have been promoted by the RBI. Lending by small finance banks (SFBs) to NBFC-MFIs has been recently included in priority sector advances. And, post-COVID-19, the cost of funds supplied to NBFC-MFIs was lowered, but with no additional restrictions on the interest rate or other parameters affecting the final borrower.

In the 1990s, microcredit was given by scheduled commercial banks either directly or via nongovernmental organisations to women's self-help groups, but given the lack of regulation and scope for high returns, several for-profit financial agencies such as NBFCs and MFIs emerged. By the Indian Statistical Institute, Bengaluru

bir Singh, since he assumed

charge of the force in May 2019,

had stated his reluctance in using

the term 'Net Security Provider'

and instead propagated the

tnis was put forward in May 2018

by his predecessor and then Chief

of the Naval Staff, Admiral Sunil

Lanba, while delivering a talk at

the Vivekananda International

Foundation. Responding to ques-

tions, he stated that there were

"dependencies" for group mem-

bers on China and also the "uncer-

tainty" of America when push

comes to shove. He said, "So I

don't think there is [a] need for a

military dimension to Quad... We

are not going down that route.

And I don't think there is [a] need

Security

mid-2000s, there were widespread accounts of the malpractices of MFIs (such as SKS and Bandhan), and a crisis in some States such as Andhra Pradesh, arising out of a rapid and unregulated expansion of private for-profit micro-lending.

The microfinance crisis of Andhra Pradesh led the RBI to review the matter, and based on the recommendations of the Malegam Committee, a new regulatory framework for NBFC-MFIs was introduced in December 2011. A few vears later, the RBI permitted a new type of private lender, SFBs, with the objective of taking banking activities to the "unserved and underserved" sections of the population.

Today, as the RBI's consultative document notes, 31% of microfinance is provided by NBFC-MFIs, and another 19% by SFBs and 9% by NBFCs. These private financial institutions have grown exponentially over the last few years, garnering high profits, and at this pace, the current share of public sector banks in microfinance (the SHG-bank linked microcredit), of 41%, is likely to fall sharply.

The proposals in the RBI's consultative document will lead to a further privatisation of rural credit, reducing the share of direct and cheap credit from banks and leaving poor borrowers at the mercy of private financial agencies. This is beyond comprehension at a time of widespread post-pandemic distress among the working poor. The All India Democratic Women's Association, in its response to this document, has raised concerns about the implications for women borrowers and demanded that the rate of interest on microfinance not exceed 12% per annum. To meet the credit needs of poorer households, we need a policy reversal: strengthening of public sector commercial banks and firm regulation of private entities.

Madhura Swaminathan is Professor,

With AUKUS, India must keep its head above water

The security grouping spells opportunities but also possible unique challenges which New Delhi can ill-afford to ignore



The announcement by the United States of a trilateral 'enhanced security partnership' involving Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States (AUKUS) has taken everyone by surprise, competitors and allies alike. With close partners on both sides, India has maintained an ambiguous stand on the issue. A lot of commentary since has talked of how this is a welcome step for India to access technologies, build complementarities and so on. While it does present opportunities, the flip side is that AU KUS represents a threshold breach and could pose unique challenges for India, depending on how China responds to it, and the issue

A different game now The decision by the U.S. to make a very rare exemption, even for its allies, to supply nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSN) takes the whole issue of arms transfers and containing China's expansion to a new level. Submarines are the most potent and secretive military platform to asymmetrically counter an adversary and an SSN represents the pinnacle. The entry barrier for acquiring these is very steep, proven by how few countries possess them; and once that is breached, there is no technological leap to counter it but only incremental measures to negate it, which would nonetheless another expensive endeavour.

The U.S. has now set a precedence to this and how it unfolds and how long it remains an exception has to be seen. The next question is how will China, which has sharply reacted to the announce ment of AUKUS, respond to this? Will it resort to further proliferation, in any manner, as it has done in the past, and likely involving its closest partner, Pakistan?

If so, the only country in the region which will face the real implications of this is India; for the others, it is more of stated positions and rules-based order which are a matter of convenience and not of survival. The whole Pakistani missile and nuclear weapons programme and its proliferation trail are proof of it.

The China threat notwithstanding, this development is as much, if not more, about the tussle between arms industries of the two sides which collectively dominate the global arms industry. A case in point is the leak, in 2016, of 22,000 pages of secret data on the capabilities of six Scorpene submarines being built for the Indian Navy by the French Naval Group (then DCNS) barely months after DCNS was declared the winner in the Australian tender, only to be thwarted by the U.S. five years la-

While the real intention (of the leak) and those responsible may never be known, the fallout, though likely coincidental, was on India. The Naval Group had then said that it may have been the vic-



tim of "economic warfare."

India's stand, China factor

observed as the initiative takes shape is whether AUKUS is an attempt by the U.S. to position Australia as a 'Net Security Provider' in the Indo-Pacific. This is especially so given India's reluctance to add a military dimension to the Quadrilateral grouping comprising India, Australia, Japan and the

The Quad – as a grouping of major democracies in the Indo-Pacific – has seen momentum in terms of engagement in the last two years especially in the backdrop of a violent stand-off between India and China along the disputed boundary in Eastern Ladakh last vear which is vet to be resolved. However, India has reiterated on several occasions that it sees the Quad as a platform for consultations at the political and diplomatic level but does not see a military dimension to it. So, with Australia and Japan being U.S. allies, the limiting factor for deepening military engagement for the Quad as a grouping, beyond a point, is India. Incidentally, the current Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Karam-

Another tangent that needs to be

to go down that route." Admiral Lanba further said, "What do you think a military dimension will achieve? India is the only country in the Quad with a land border with China. In case of conflict... nobody will come and hold your hand." The validation for this observation manifested itself in 2020 in the Himalayan ranges with a new normal now on the

More recently, on several occasions External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, while terming the Quad as a platform that looks at the future, has also echoed similar

ground along the Line of Actual

Control (LAC) and the trust bet-

ween India and China along with

the agreements that held it in

Speaking at the Raisina Dialogue in April, he categorically

ple need to get over this...." He had also highlighted 10 broad subjects of cooperation including vaccine collaboration, climate action, emerging technologies, resilient supply chains, semiconductors, Probably the best articulation of disinformation, counterterrorism

'Asian NATO' and added that "peo-

The Quad versus AUKUS

The outcome of the first ever inperson meeting of Quad leaders in the U.S. on September 24 only reinforces this trend. The Quad countries have outlined cooperation in several important areas including high technology; military cooperation and a mention of China were conspicuous in their absence. Essentially, the Ouad is taking shape as an organisation of broader cooperation among the four countries, while AUKUS, for now, remains an organisation for high-end military trade. This only gives further credence that the U.S. may be preparing Australia for a greater military role in the Indo-Pacific.

Afghanistan has shown that New Delhi cannot depend on or tag along with anyone to protect its national interests. Given the surprise and setback India received with the sudden exit of the U.S., the country can ill-afford to lower its guard by taking AUKUS at face value. While working with AUKUS through other platforms and advancing its own strategic cooperation with each of the countries, India also needs to offset any fallout of the development which will only unfold in the long term.

stated that Quad will not be an dinakar.peri@thehindu.co.in

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.

Farmers' protest

It is baffling why the Uttar Pradesh government has been trying to prevent Opposition party leaders from visiting Lakhimpur Kheri, where four farmers were mowed to death (Inside pages, October 5). The facts are already in the public domain and it is only natural that the leaders of these parties would like to meet the affected families. In the Hathras gang-rape case too there were similar restrictions. The

question/observation raised and made by Chhattisgarh Chief Minister – as to whether Indian residents require a passport or visa to visit Uttar Pradesh – is pertinent. D. SETHURAMAN.

■ There is no gainsaying the fact that this country has never been very considerate when it comes to the interests of the farmers and other unorganised sections. The present government's

reluctance to extend statutory protection to MSP is of a piece with that approach. Should not we, as a society, be equally concerned about the welfare of the 'annadata' who ensures that there is food on our table? Should we be grudging them for even the protection of a decent MSP? G.G. MENON, Tripunithura, Kerala

China's intrusions As with India, China will continue to practise this

form of "Grey zone" warfare with other nations ('World' page, "China sends 52 jets towards Taiwan", October 5. It will be misplaced optimism for India to expect a shift in China's foreign policy approach. China is adept at protracting negotiations only to buy time and consolidate its territorial gains. The long-term implication for India in this form of "Grev War' is that the entire India-China border will continue to be sensitive; to expect a resolution would

Fading green cover

H.N. RAMAKRISHNA,

mean being unrealistic.

India's forests are in danger not because of its "nearly 270 million people including local tribals" who "depend on the forest for subsistence" alone. The Central and State governments are responsible too for giving unlimited freedom to the corporate mining industry and so-called developmental projects to destroy precious

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forests. As Prerna Singh Bindra says in her book, The Vanishing: India's Wildlife Crisis, "we continue to clear no less than 135 hectares of forests a day, diverting it for various projects such as highways, mines, and cement factories... And we pitch their protection, and that of a healthy environment, against development.... SUKUMARAN C.V., Kongad, Palakkad, Kerala



The challenge of going back to school

Guidelines on re-opening schools focus more on health measures than on addressing learning difficulties



SAJITHA BASHIR

After one and a half years of being shut, schools are re-opening in most States. A majority of the children enrolled in school before the pandemic have most likely had limited or no structured learning opportunities during this period. That reality is all the more jarring because the more privileged sections, representing a minority, were able to ensure continuity of education through online classes provided by schools, support from family, and increased spending on tuition and tutoring apps.

Leaving no child behind

Despite the scale of the shock to the education system, a review of the State governments' Standard Operating Procedures/guidelines on school re-opening shows that the emphasis is on health and sanitation measures. There is very little discussion on the practical approaches required to ensure that every child returns to school and to address the learning difficulties that children will face.

Across the world, guidance on school re-opening centres around certain principles. The first is a strong focus on equity. Special efforts must be made for children from disadvantaged backgrounds, who were disconnected during the pandemic, so that they can return to school in an environment that fosters belonging. The second is effective and regular communication with parents. The third is to support student's socio-emotional development. The fourth is to re-organise the curriculum to reinforce core academic skills, focusing on language learning and mathematics, especially in the elementary years. The fifth is to extend learning time and hire additional teachers where needed. The sixth is to enhance training and regular support for teachers. And finally, to secure additional funding to address the crisis.

Let us start with the issue of additional funding for education. A recent study by the World Bank and UNESCO shows that, for a sample of 29 high-income, lower-middle-in-



come and low-income countries across the world, the average annual education budgets not only increased post-COVID-19 but increased at a higher rate than before COVID-19 (4% post-COVID-19 compared to 1.1 %before the pandemic). In the group of 14 lower-middle-income countries to which India belongs, five countries (Bangladesh, Morocco, Nigeria, the Philippines, and Ukraine) increased their spending substantially. Three countries (Egypt, Pakistan and Tanzania) held their spending constant or reduced it marginally. Four countries (Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Myanmar and Nepal) reduced their spending by between 1% and 6%. India reduced its spending by over 9 %, along with Uzbekistan. This comes on top of a 2% decline in education spending in India in the previous year. The share of spending on education in the overall budget also declined to 2.6%, while most countries either maintained or increased this share. It is difficult to envisage how an emergency of the scale and depth seen in India can be addressed with fewer resources.

Even the task of bringing every child back to school in India is a herculean one and requires detailed planning. First, millions of migrant children saw their education disrupted. Their numbers are not known how many went back to their home States, how many rejoined schools there, or how many returned. Many of these children may now be working to support families who have lost their livelihoods. Second, close to 40% of school students in India are in private schools. Most of them are in 'low-cost' schools for the poor, which have been buffeted by the crisis. Over 60% of government and private school principals in India stated that

their schools suffered from dropouts and face financial challenges, according to a recent survey (Global School Leaders and Alokit, report forthcoming). The School Children's Online and Offline Learning (SCHOOL) survey covering 15 States and Union Territories, conducted in August 2021, revealed that over 25% of children who had previously been enrolled in private schools had switched to government schools. If this ratio is approximately correct for the country, we might expect a transfer of about

20 million children from private to

government schools.

On the academic front, many States have announced short 'bridge courses', sometimes as short as 45 days. The goal is to resume the textbook-based syllabus of the current grade of the child as soon as possible. Examination timetables are being drawn up, as if nothing happened. These unrealistic expectations are being framed in the face of overwhelming evidence of the devastating learning losses suffered by children, especially disadvantaged groups (see research brief of the National Coalition on Education Emergency, for example). The SCHOOL survey showed that 42% of students in grades 3-5 in villages and urban bastis could only read a few letters. Only 55% of students in grades 6-8 could fluently read a simple conversational sentence. The required knowledge of academic language in the upper primary/lower secondary grades would be all but lacking.

Language learning, especially reading with comprehension, is critical for ensuring progress in all subjects. While children are struggling to read in their native language, in many States, the majority of children are studying in English-medium

schools, both government and private. Learning in a second language is difficult in the best of circumstances. In the majority of the English-medium schools, teachers are not proficient in English and the students have no home exposure to the language. Research from the U.S. during the early stages of the pandemic showed that the proportion of 'English language learners' (i.e., those with limited proficiency in English) obtaining 'failing grades' increased dramatically within just a few months of school closures and despite the provision of structured online learning. Imagine the situation for tens of millions of children in India who had limited or no exposure to English - their language of instruction - for months.

The loss in mathematics skills can be even more precipitous. Studies from other countries show that learning losses over the summer break of about two months are more severe in mathematics compared to reading (in the native language). Over such short periods, the loss may involve forgetting mathematics procedures rather than general concepts. But much deeper losses in conceptual understanding can be expected after a loss of structured instruction over a 18-month period.

Support for teachers

The guidance and support to teachers and schools, especially in elementary education, has to be to focus on language learning, core mathematical competences and socio-emotional learning. Teaching should not be driven by the sequence of chapters in the textbooks or the subjects in the syllabus. It would be necessary to restructure the 'daily timetable' to focus on these areas and provide additional instructional time. Support to teachers must be practical and regular, adopting a 'coaching' model, instead of mass teacher training programmes. This support must include additional learning materials and formative assessment tools and techniques. It may be necessary to mobilise retired teachers and volunteers also. All this requires long-term commitment, resources and organisational effort.

Sajitha Bashir, former Adviser and Manager in the World Bank's Global Education Practice, is part of the National Coalition on Education Emergency info@educationemergency.net

The Met on the mat

A new culture of ethics, not deterrent punishments alone, can transform the conduct of the police



R.K. RAGHAVAN

The Metropolitan Police of London are in the news for the wrong reasons. The gruesome murder of a teacher, Sabina Nessa (28), when she was walking through a park in south-east London to meet her friend at a pub, has caused outrage. The police have been accused of negligence yet again. An Albanian garage worker has been held as a suspect.

Diminishing trust in the police

According to the media, since the death of Sarah Everard, a 33-year-old marketing executive, in March this year, at least 81 women have been killed in the U.K. where the suspects are men. Many critics bemoan the fact that women are not being protected despite the Met being led by a woman Commissioner, Dame Cressida Dick.

What has added fuel to the fire is that a Met police officer, Wayne Couzens, was arrested for raping and murdering Everard. Couzens falsely arrested Everard on the charge of violating COVID-19 restrictions, forced her into a hired car, drove far away, raped her, strangled her and then burnt the body. Couzens had planned his barbaric crime for several weeks. Everard was a random target – a lone young woman negotiating a poorly lit area. It is appalling that despite being linked to two previous allegations of indecent exposure, Couzens had gone unpunished. This was culpable indifference on the part of senior officers. It is difficult to believe that this despicable behaviour had not been escalated to more senior officers.

One is reminded of the senseless deaths of a father and son in Sattankulam in Tamil Nadu. They were arrested allegedly for keeping their shop open and thus violating lockdown restrictions. They later died in hospital, after being tortured by the police in custody. The police in the U.S. have a similar inglorious record. One cannot forget how in May 2020, a black man, George Floyd, was pinned to the ground by three police officers in Minneapolis until he died of suffocation. His crime was that he had bought cigarettes with a counterfeit bill at a convenience store.

Two points emerge from these and other episodes, some of which are reported and many of which are buried stealthily. Police organisations in several parts of the world are not trusted for civilised and lawful behaviour. This is despite the many mechanisms that are in place that do not permit clandes-

tine police actions against crime suspects. The numerous controls that have been established have not had the desired effect.

A few unscrupulous and overzealous policemen are responsible for this sorry situation. Blame sometimes also lies at the door of a few in the political executive who misuse their authority to settle personal scores with their adversaries. The judiciary has tried to set right this distortion in the criminal justice system, but success has been marginal. The Chief Justice of India recently gave expression to his misgivings on police conduct. But deterrent punishments are not the answer; only a new culture of ethics can bring about visible transformation. Bringing about such a change will take decades and requires enlightened police as well as political leadership. Merely upgrading police technology, such as compulsory body cameras on patrol policemen and video recording of police station proceedings, without a corresponding change in mindset will not be enough.

Perhaps most painful is the popular impression that women are easy prey to marauding policemen. It is unfortunate that the whole force gets a bad name because of a few deviants such as the senior officer in Tamil Nadu who is facing trial for sexual harassment of a female colleague. This is no justification, however, for showing any latitude to the police leadership or police officers.

A possible example for all chiefs

Met Commissioner Dick is a doughty warrior. She is the first woman to occupy this position. It is a travesty that a force headed by a distinguished woman officer is being accused of gender insensitivity. She has been facing calls to resign ever since the murder of Everard. But she has never shown inclination to step down. She apologised for the Met's failure in recognising the danger posed by Couzens and said she would do everything in her power to ensure that the force has learned from "one of the most dreadful events" in its history. Her resolve to make London safer is impressive and could set an example for police chiefs everywhere.

Many good choices have been made in several Indian cities. Commissioners are being credited with striking innovations in the area of response to distress calls from the public, especially women and the elderly. The pursuit of speed and professionalism in this regard is a never-ending challenge. Enormous government funding for additional infrastructure – both manpower and technology – can help shape a sleek and humane police force. But only marginally.

R.K. Raghavan, former CBI Director, is Professor of Criminal Justice and Policing at the Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana

Crackdown there, hope here

China's sweeping overhaul of its tech sector could benefit India in the near future

ANIL K. ANTONY

Last year, China stopped Ant Group's blockbuster initial public offering. This came as a shock to the world as Ant Group, Alibaba's fintech arm, was on track to raise \$37 billion and its valuation was reportedly nearing more than \$300 billion. This episode was perceived as an attempt to rein in the successful entrepreneur, Jack Ma. Prior to this incident, he had committed one of the cardinal sins in modern China, which was to publicly criticise the government's tech policy for stifling innovation.

Clampdowns galore

A year since, hardly a week goes by without the world hearing of yet another high-profile crackdown on a Chinese tech company. China has foisted sweeping regulations, antitrust and anti-monopoly lawsuits, cyber security probes, and algorithm controls on the entire tech segment, ranging from e-commerce websites, search engines, ride sharing and food delivery apps to e-learning portals. These clampdowns are estimated to have wiped off over \$1.5 trillion of value from Chinese tech stocks.

China's obsessive efforts to ensure that no private entity gains enough data to ever be in a position to even remotely challenge Chinese Communist Party-led state dominance, and that no competing country gains access to the citizen database through any unforeseen means, drive much of this overhaul.

We should not overlook the fact that these efforts are limited only to the consumer tech sector. State support to manufacturing and 'hard' tech industries, which are perceived to be of higher value, including 5G/6G, semiconductor chips, artificial intelligence, biotechnologies, batteries, aviation and space tech, has only increased.

We are witnessing a conscious redirection of efforts to areas that would maximise China's geopolitical and geo-economic gains. It would not be surprising to see more stateowned enterprises like ZTE and state-supported heavyweights like Huawei focus on strategic high technology and attempt to be pioneers in

the global market.

These developments could be beneficial for India. The rate of digitisation accelerated during the pandemic in India. Start-ups here raised a record \$10.46 billion in the first half of this year alone. India's tally of unicorns has crossed 60. This trajectory and India's projected growth will make the country the first destination of the funds fleeing Chinese stocks during these crackdowns. However, mirroring the U.S. start-up ecosystem, India's emphasis too is on consumer tech, from which China is tactically distancing itself. Not to be forgotten, the U.S. also has a farreaching system for research and development of strategic technology.

The recently concluded Modi-Biden talks as well as the Quad summit emphasised technological cooperation. The U.S. undoubtedly remains China's lone rival in the high tech space, and the extent of this partnership will be important for India. U.S. interests will more likely be inclined towards the possibilities of market entry and penetration of its firms. India should strive to move beyond this to complementary collaborations.

Open to partnerships

India should also remain open to partnerships with friendly nations, keeping the enhancement of its internal capacity as the objective. An example would be the ongoing talks with Taiwan to bring in a semiconductor chip manufacturing plant to India. If successful, this could drive next-generation industries, including 5G devices and electric vehicles.

The strides India has made in sectors including biotech and space tech have shown that with the right political will and private participation, India could be self-sufficient and also reach global competitiveness. Similar concerted efforts to develop indigenous manufacturing and hard technology are vital if India is to retain its strategic autonomy and securely reach its stated goal of being among the largest three economies by the later stages of this decade.

Anil K. Antony is a tech entrepreneur, public policy commentator and works on Congress's digital initiatives. He tweets @anilkanton

Employmen

(million) at the end of every month across four years. Due to the

second COVID-19 wave, the total employment in April and May

Employment rises in September

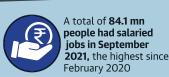
a, 8.5 million (mn) new jobs were gained in September 2021, increasing the total employment to 406

from 397.8 mn in August, according to CMIE. The total employment in September 2021, increasing the total employment to 406.2 mn from 397.8 mn in August, according to CMIE. The total employment in September was the highest since March 2020, when national lockdown came into force. Most of the jobs added were in rural India. The construction and manufacturing sectors accounted for the bulk of such jobs. However, jobs in these sectors decreased in urban areas. The quality of employment also improved as salaried jobs increased in both rural and urban regions



FY21





8.5 million added in September 2021 came from the rural regions. Around two million jobs were added in urban regions

TOTAL 406.2

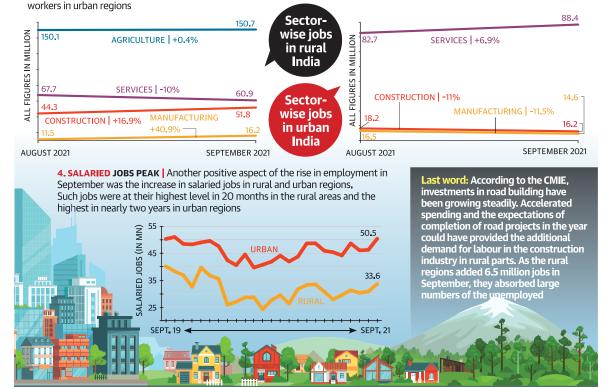
397.8 +2.13%

RURAL

274.2 +2.37% 280.7

2. HIGH RURAL SHARE | As many as 6.5 million jobs of the

3. RURAL INDUSTRY LEADS THE WAY | Job gains in the rural regions in September were driven by the construction and manufacturing sectors. **As many as 7.5 million and 4.7 million jobs were added in both sectors, respectively.** Interestingly, employment in these sectors fell in the urban regions. On the other hand, the service sector shed workers in the rural areas but added



The MAR Kindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO OCTOBER 6, 1971

Baboon used to save patient's life

Chicago, Oct. 5: Three doctors today explained how they used a baboon in a 51/3 hour emergency operation which may have helped to save the life of a 49-year-old alcoholic suffering from hepatitis. The patient came out of a three-day coma after his blood was circulated through the baboon's liver, the doctors reported in the journal of the American Medical Association. Drs. Daniel Hollander, Gerald Klebanoff and Robert Osteen said the patient, who had been a heavy drinker for 15 years, was admitted to Wilford Hall Medical Centre at Lackland Air Force Base, Sap Antonio, Texas in July, 1970. The baboon was placed beside the patient's bed and an artery and veins were linked to those of the baboon. Ten hours after the cross-circulation of blood, the patient showed dramatic improvement in his mental status, but then suffered a relapse. A total transfusion of human blood was then completed and a day later the patient began to recover, the researchers said. Thirty-six hours after the cross-circulation, the patient was able to follow simple command and answer simple questions, the doctor said.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTOBER 6, 1921

Swadeshi programme

Chatrapur, October 3: Mahatma Gandhi's message of Swadeshi and boycott of foreign cloth is being repeated every day all over the country, but no business attempt appears to have been made to meet the country's demand for Swadeshi cloth. In their craze for home-made cloth people are purchasing any cloth offered for sale as Swadeshi and instances are not rare of merchants whose love of money get better of their patriotism. Thus rougher varieties of foreign cloth and cloth made of foreign yarn of low counts passed muster to an extent not suspected. No amount of speech-making will avail so long as the spinning and weaving industry is not organised. It is time that the Congress workers get into business so as to ensure an adequate supply of genuine Swadeshi cloth. Some time back Mahatma Gandhi estimated that there are in the country more than 20 lakhs of spinning wheels though many of them have been working more or less indifferently. The number of Charkas has since increased and even with slow work we ought not to despair provided we arrange to get all the available home-spun yarn woven and placed on the market without delay.

FROM PAGE ONE

Kin of Kheri farmer want second autopsy

"Hundreds of farmers present there saw what happened. At least they should show the bullet injury in the post mortem," said Mr. Miskeen. "They didn't mention the bullet injury in the report. They said he had injuries in his leg and abdomen. Abdomen injury we can understand, but how can anyone die of leg injury," asked Mr. Miskeen.

Persons claiming to be eyewitnesses in Tikonia said they saw Ashish Mishra sitting in the SUV that moved down the farmers on Sun-

They alleged that after his car lost balance, he abandoned the vehicle and fled on foot. While doing so, he fired at Gurvinder who tried to catch him.

Ashish Mishra has, however, claimed that all allegations against him were false and that he was not at the site of the incident but in his ancestral village Banveerpur, a couple of kms away at a wrestling event organized by his father Ajay Mishra in memory of his

Priyanka held: Oppn. favours joint action

In subsequent violence, four others, including a journalist covering the protests, were killed.

"I have myself seen a portion of a paper on social media in which they have named 11 people - 8 of whom were not even present at the time I was arrested... I have not been produced in front of a Magistrate or any other judicial officer either. I have also not been allowed to meet my legal counsel who has been standing at the gate since morning," the Congress leader said in a statement.

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar compared the Lakhimpur Kheri incident with the Jallianwala Bagh tragedy while Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut said there was a discussion on sending an Opposition delegation to Lakhimpur.

After his meeting with Mr. Gandhi, the Sena MP also told reporters that the former Congress chief stressed on "the need for Opposition parties come together to save democracy".

Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi too shared Mr. Pawar's sentiments and compared the in-

In June 2020, Moody's

downgraded India's rating

to Baa3 from Baa2 with a ne-

On Tuesday, it said that

downside risks to growth

from subsequent coronavi-

rus infection waves were mi-

tigated by rising vaccination

rates and more selective use

of restrictions on economic

cushions and greater liquid-

ity suggests banks and non-

bank financial institutions

pose much less risk to the

sovereign than Moody's pre-

viously anticipated. "While

risks stemming from a high

debt burden and weak debt

affordability remain, Moo-

dy's expects that the eco-

nomic environment will al-

low for a gradual reduction

of the general government

fiscal deficit over the next

few years, preventing furth-

er deterioration of the sove-

reign credit profile," it said.

Moody's expects real GDP

growth to average around

6%, reflecting a rebound in

activity to levels at potential

take into account structural

challenges, including weak

infrastructure, rigidities in

labour, land and product

markets that continue to

constrain private invest-

ment and contribute to

post-pandemic economic

growth levels will enable a

'gradual fiscal consolidation

and stabilisation of the go-

vernment's debt burden, al-

beit at high and above pre-

pandemic levels', the rating

However, Moody's said the

higher debt burden and

The normalisation of

scarring," it explained.

"The growth projections

as conditions normalize.

Over the medium term,

Moreover, higher capital

gative outlook.

activity.

Moody's upgrades

India rating to 'stable'

cident to the Jallianwala

Bagh massacre.

Earlier in the day, Ms. Vadra shared a 25-second video of Sunday's incident at Lakhimpuri Kheri and asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi why he had not sacked Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Mishra 'Teni' nor arrested his son, who has been named as an accused.

"You have arrested Opposition leaders like me without any order or warrant. I want to know why this man is still free," she asked.

Cases registered

Soon after this, the U.P. government registered cases against her, Mr. Hooda and nine others under Section 151 and other relevant sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) dealpreventive detention due to apprehension of breach of peace.

Former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, in a statement, said the facts and circumstances of Ms. Vadra's arrest "conclusively establish that there is no rule of law in U.P." "Law and Order in U.P. seem to mean Mr. Adityanath's law and Mr. Adi-

times is expected to persist,

which is a key factor in its ra-

tionale for retaining the

Baa3 rating as it would con-

tribute to 'lower fiscal

This would offset India's

recent strong points such as

narrower current account

deficits and historically high

strength'.

nal shocks.

15 High Court judges transferred

Names were recommended to Law Ministry by the SC Collegium a fortnight ago

NEW DELH

In a major shuffle, the Law Ministry on Tuesday notified the transfers of 15 judges across 11 High Courts.

The transfer orders, recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium around a fortnight ago, were out on the website of the Department of Justice (DoJ).

According to the DoJ list, Justice Jaswant Singh of the Punjab and Haryana High Court has been transferred to the Orissa High Court, while Justice Sabina of the Rajasthan HC has been sent to the Himachal Pradesh High Court.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The rift in the mahagath-

bandhan ('grand alliance')

in Bihar widened on Wed-

nesday after the Congress of-

names of candidates for the

Tarapur and Kusheshwar-

sthan Assembly byelection

Earlier, the Rashtriya Ja-

nata Dal (RJD) had an-

nounced the names of its

candidates for both the

staked claim to the Kushesh-

warsthan (reserved) seat, ex-

pressed reservation over the

RJD's "unilateral announce-

ment". However, RJD lead-

ers said the decision was ta-

ken after consulting the top

The Congress on Wednes-

day announced the names of

Rajesh Kumar Mishra from

Congress leadership.

The Congress, which had

ficially

on October 30.

announced the



Justice Sanjaya Kumar Mishra of the Orissa High Court has been moved to the Uttarakhand HC, and Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava of the Chhattisgarh High

Trouble brews in Bihar grand

alliance ahead of byelections

Congress and RJD contesting separately in 2 constituencies

Tarapur (Munger) and Atirek

Kumar from Kusheshwar-

sthan (Darbhanga). Party

general secretary Mukul

Wasnik issued a press re-

lease to say the names of the

candidates had been ap-

proved by party president

Sonia Gandhi. Earlier, the

RJD had announced names

of party leaders Arun Kumar

Shah and Ganesh Bharti

from both the seats.

Court has been shifted to the Rajasthan High Court.

Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah of the Patna High Court has been transferred to the Andhra Pradesh High Court, while Justice Ujjal Bhuyan of the Bombay High Court has been sent to the Telangana High Court. Justice A.M. Badar of the

Kerala High Court stands transferred to the Patna High Court while Calcutta High Court's Justice Arindam Sinha has been sent to the Orissa High Court.

The Gujarat High Court's Justice Paresh R. Upadhyay stands transferred to the Madras High Court, while Jus-

tice M.S.S Ramachandra Rao of the Telangana High Court has been sent to the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

Justices Yashwant Varma, Vivek Agarwal, Chandra Dhari Singh and Ravi Nath Tilhari of the Allahabad High Court have been moved to the Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi and Andhra Pradesh High Courts respectively.

Justice Anoop Chitkara of Himachal Pradesh High Court has been sent to the Punjab and Haryana HC.

Considered to be one of the biggest reshuffles in recent times, the Law Ministry put out a list of the transfers and postings on Twitter.

LJP factions get names, symbols

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission of India on Tuesday allotted the names Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) and Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party to the LJP factions led by Lok Sabha member Chirag Paswan and Union Minister Pashupati Kumar Paras, respectively.

In letters to the two leaders, the EC also said it had allotted symbols - helicopter for Mr. Paswan's faction and sewing machine for Mr. Paras'. These would be applicable for the ongoing byelections to two Bihar Assembly seats.

On October 2, the EC passed an interim order on the dispute between the two groups about who represents the LJP. It had said that both factions would not be allowed to use the name Lok Janshakti Party and its symbol "bungalow".

Denmark Prime Minister arriving on Saturday

Climate change on top of agenda

SUHASINI HAIDAR NEW DELHI

Climate change solutions will be at the top of the agenda for Denmark Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen. who will visit India this week - the first head of state or government to arrive in Delhi since February 2020.

Ms. Frederiksen, who last held a summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in September 2020 where they had announced the first "Green Strategic partnership", is expected to discuss investments in Indian renewable technology, supply of green technology and outline their climate positions on reducing carbon emissions ahead of the upcoming COP26 UN summit on Climate Change in Glasgow this November.

Bilateral ties

"The visit will give both sides an opportunity to discuss the entire gamut of bilateral relations and review the progress in the implementation of the 'Green Strategic Partnership'," said the Ministry of External Affairs statement on Tuesday.



Mette Frederiksen

Of particular interest will be the announcement of Danish financing and technological support for various projects including an "Energy island" off the coast of Tamil Nadu in the Gulf of Mannar where a proposal to produce 4-10 GW of wind power energy is being discussed. Last month, Danish Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities Dan Jørgensen met Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin to discuss investments of between \$5-10 billion dollars in the project.

"PM Frederiksen's visit will connect the dots between the way India is developing and how Denmark can help India to do so in a more sustainable way, according to its needs," Danish Ambassador to India Freddy Svane told The Hindu.

No more adjournments on Zakia Jafri's petition

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court said it will not entertain any further adjournments in hearing a petition filed by Zakia Jafri, widow of slain Congress MP Ehsan Jafri, challenging the SIT's clean chit to then Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi in the 2002 Godhra riots.

The Bench led by Justice A.M. Khanwilkar posted the case to October 26 after se

nior advocate Kapil Sibal said the listing was quite unexpected and he was yet to complete the filing of records. Mr. Sibal said he was "personally embarrassed" to seek an adjournment. "There are 23,000 pages of records," the senior lawyer said. Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta said the case has been adjourned for nearly a year and a half for the same reason. The court said it had been pending since 2018.

Kanhaiya's exit +

was expected,

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

At a three-day meeting of

the national council of the

Communist Party of India

(CPI), party members said

former JNU Students' Un-

ion president Kanhaiya Ku-

mar's exit from the organi-

was

Mr. Kumar, who was a

Sources said Mr Kumar's

exit was not one of the sub-

jects of the agenda, though

many members expressed

their views on it. Members

pointed out that he was di-

member of the CPI's na-

tional executive, recently

joined the Congress.

says CPI

sation

expected.

'Must look at weaknesses and strengths of 13A'

The Congress had earlier

"Our natural claim was on

announced that it would

contest one seat, Kushesh-

the Kusheshwarsthan seat as

our party's senior State lead-

er Ashok Kumar had lost

there in the last Assembly

poll by a very thin margin,"

said senior State Congress

leader and party MLC Prem

Chandra Mishra

warsthan.

In meeting with Shringla, Gotabaya expresses desire to revive spirit of relations of the 1960s and 1970s

MEERA SRINIVASAN

There is an "urgent need" to understand the "weaknesses and strengths" of the 13th Amendment to the Sri Lankan Constitution and "act accordingly", President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on Tuesday told Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla, while expressing a desire to revive the spirit of the relations of the 1960s and 1970s.

foreign exchange reserves Mr. Shringla called on the that have reduced the coun-President on Tuesday morntry's vulnerabilities to extering, before wrapping up his official visit. In addition to "India's main credit chalunderscoring the need to exlenges, its low per capita inpedite bilateral projects, the come and its weak fiscal po-Foreign Secretary, in his sition, which has been meeting with President Rajaexacerbated by the coronapaksa on the final day of his visit, reiterated India's posivirus shock. India's general government debt burden intion "on complete implecreased sharply from 74% of mentation of the provisions GDP in 2019 to an estimated under the 13th Amendment 89% of 2020 GDP, signifito the Constitution, includcantly higher than the Baa ing devolution of powers median of around 48%. and the holding of provincial Meanwhile, interest paycouncil elections at the earments are about 26% of genliest", the Indian mission eral government revenue, said in a statement, referring the highest among Baa-rat-

BJP sweeps

"Looking ahead, Moody's expects the debt burden to stabilise at around 91% over civic polls the medium term, as strong nominal GDP growth is balanced by a gradually shrinking, but still sizeable, primary deficit," the agency said in a statement.

The upgrade in outlook to 'stable', Moody's said, was driven by the 'lower susceptibility' to event risk from 'a negative feedback loop between the financial sector and the real econo-

ed peers and more than

three times the Baa median

of 8%," it pointed out.

"Bank provisioning has allowed for the gradual write-off of legacy problem assets over the past few years. In addition, banks have strengthened their capital positions, pointing to a stronger outlook for credit growth to support the economy," it averred.



Losing camaraderie: Rahul Gandhi with RJD leaders Tejashwi

Yadav, Tej Pratap Yadav and Misa Bharti. • FILE РНОТО

Foreign Secretary H.V. Shringla calling on Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

to the nearly 34-year-old legislation that remains contentious in Sri Lanka.

Regional security

Both countries agreed on the need for "short-term and long-term steps" to take relations to "a higher level", the President's office said adding that President Rajapaksa is expecting India's support in advancing the 1971 proposal made by then Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike to declare the Indian Ocean a peace zone.

According to official

sources in Colombo familiar with the Foreign Secretary's discussions over the last few days, the Indian official had raised concern over maritime security in the region, particularly in the wake of Sri Lankan authorities recently apprehending massive hauls of narcotics that India suspects came from a "regional drug mafia". "Any threat to Sri Lanka's peace and security is a threat to the region and Sri Lanka must not become a conduit," the Indian side is said to have conveyed.

tions over Colombo's unilateral move earlier this year, cancelling a trilateral Port terminal project agreement signed with India and Japan in 2019; and New Delhi's persisting concern over the "slow pace" of India-backed development projects amid China's increasing presence in Sri Lanka's economic and developmental spheres.

However, last week, the Adani Group obtained 51% stake in a deal signed with Sri Lanka's John Keells Holdings and the Sri Lanka Port Authority, to jointly develop the West Container Terminal at the Colombo Port, offered as a "compromise" to India.

According to official sources, both sides identified areas of greater collaboration in the energy sector. The development of the Trincomalee Oil Tank Farm at the eastern tip of the island nation was a key point of discussion, sources indi-

The President's remarks cated, with Colombo exon elevating ties come after pressing willingness to iron considerable strain in rela- out differences. The statement from President Raja paksa's office said the Minister of Energy has been "entrusted with the task of resolving the situation" regarding the Trincomalee oil tanks in a manner that is "beneficial to both countries". "The subject Minister is

likely to travel to New Delhi soon," an official source said, requesting anonymity, citing the sensitivity of the ongoing negotiations. India has been linked to the project for over three decades now, but the proposal for India and Sri Lanka to jointly refurbish and commission the World War II-era oil storage facility has only hit roadblocks, with worker unions and nationalist groups periodically opposing involvement.

New Delhi will likely host at least four top Ministers from Colombo soon, officials told The Hindu.

rectly promoted to the party's national executive and fielded as its candidate in the Lok Sabha polls from Begusarai, Bihar. The members blamed Mr. Ku-

for his exit.

groups.

The next party congress will be held from October 14 to 18, 2022 in Vijayawa-

mar's lack of ideological

and political commitment

The party has planned week-long protests across the country condemning the killing of farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri. It demanded the arrest of the Minister and his son concerned. It wanted the government to institute a judicial probe into the violence. It reiterated the demand to withdraw the three Central farm laws that had led to a prolonged agitation by farmers'

A report presented by party general secretary D. Raja at the council meeting said the BJP-RSS combine was aggressively pursuing the Hindutva agenda. The Constitution was systematically subverted by redefining and altering the fundamental tenets of Indian state that constitute the secular and welfare state as defined by the Constitution, it alleged.

Gandhinagar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The BJP on Tuesday won the Gandhinagar Municipal Corporation (GMC) election, gaining 41 out of 44 seats. It also retained the municipalities of Thara and Okha, while the Bhanwad municipality went to the Congress.

In Gandhinagar, the ruling party won spectacularly for the first time ever since the Corporation was created in 2010. New entrant AAP cut into the Opposition votes. The Gandhinagar polls was seen as a litmus test for the BJP over its decision to change the Chief Minister.

Online system for aviation safety

DGCA introduces it for voluntary reporting of threats to flight safety

S. VIJAY KUMAR

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has introduced a Web-based system for voluntary reporting of incidents that pose a potential threat to flight safety.

It said that to encourage voluntary safety reporting, besides e-mail and postal mode, Web-based reporting had been introduced on the eGCA platform, which made the reporting mechanism more accessible to persons engaged in aviation related activities.

However, the Voluntary Safety Reporting System was not a substitute for Mandatory Safety Reporting System



collect information that may not be captured by the mandatory reporting system. ■FILE PHOTO

that would continue to function.

As part of the state safety programme, the DGCA had voluntary safety reporting

of information on actual or potential safety deficiencies that may not be captured by the mandatory safety report-

system to facilitate collection

Non-punitive The DGCA said that the re-

porting system would be non-punitive and would protect the source of the information. Anyone witnessing or in-

volved or having knowledge of an occurrence, hazard or situation which he or she believes possesses potential threat to flight safety could report the same through the system on eGCA or email or postal mode the contact de-

official website of the DGCA, it said in a circular. The information collected

tails made available on the

through voluntary safety reporting system would be handled in a manner so as to prevent its use for purposes other than safety and shall appropriately safeguarded.

The confidentiality about the identity of the person making the report would be maintained.

While anonymous reports would be accepted, the person may disclose his/her identity to enable contact if any part of the report needed clarification, the DGCA said.

weaker debt affordability compared to pre-pandemic

agency said.

Debt levels



Pawar likens U.P. violence to Jallianwala massacre

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar on Tuesday compared the recent Lakhimpur violence to the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 1919. "The Uttar Pradesh Government has created a situation similar to the Jallianwala Bagh massacre and it will have to pay its price one day," Mr. Pawar warned.

Mehbooba flays Priyanka's arrest

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti criticised the Uttar Pradesh government's action against Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. "GOI [Government of India] first gets a docile media to berate Congress and lament lack of a viable opposition but systematically ensures they don't discharge their duties by illegal arrests," Ms. Mufti tweeted.

CPI(M) demands ouster of Ajay Mishra

NEW DELHI Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Kumar Mishra, whose cavalcade allegedly mowed down farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri, must be sacked immediately since there could be no impartial inquiry if he remained in the post, the CPI(M) Polit Bureau said on Tuesday. "There is clear video evidence of the convoy, with sirens blaring, driving into farmers and killing them. The Minister has gone so far as to accuse those injured and killed as being outsiders and claimed the involvement of Khalistani elements to defend himself," the CPI(M) said.

OMAR RASHID

LAKHIMPUR KHERI

On Monday evening, some

20 km from Tikonia where

hundreds of farmers de-

manded justice for the victims of Sunday's incident,

Ram Dulare Kashvap was re-

turning home to Nighasan -

with an axe on his shoulder

and a bunch of kush grass -

after performing the last

rites of his son, Raman Kash-

Raman, a journalist, was

among the eight persons

who was killed after vehicles

in Union Minister Ajay Mis-

hra's convoy ploughed into a

crowd of protesting farmers.

Apart from Raman, the driv-

er of a car in the convoy of

Union Minister Ajay Mishra,

identified as Hari Om Mis-

hra, and two BJP workers -

Shubham Mishra and Shvam

working with a local televi-

sion channel, according to

his family, had left home at

noon on Sunday to cover the

protests planned by the

Mr. Kashyap, a former

teacher, says his son was

killed after being run over by

farmers.

Raman, who had been

Sunder – were also killed.

Trinamool team makes it to strife spot

Party delegation of five MPs eludes police, meets families of farmers who were killed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A five-member delegation of the Trinamool Congress managed to sneak into Lakhimpur Kheri on Tuesday and meet the families of farmers killed when vehicles in Union Minister Ajay Kumar Mishra's convoy allegedly ran amok.

Rajya Sabha member Dola Sen, who was part of the delegation, said it was shameful that in the 75th year of India's Independence, MPs and MLAs, who are meant to uphold the law, were brazenly committing murders and getting away with it.

Ms. Sen, along with her Rajya Sabha colleagues Abir Ranjan Biswas and Sushmita Dev and Lok Sabha members Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar and Protima Mandal, spent 14 hours on the road from Delhi to reach Lakhimpur



Ground study: A delegation from the Trinamool Congress meeting the family members of the victims of the violence in Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh, on Tuesday. •PTI/@SUSHMITADEVAITC

Kheri on Monday night. At various checkposts en route where they were stopped, they escaped police scrutiny by posing as tourists. They stayed the night at Lakhim-

pur Kheri, avoiding detection. Early on Tuesday, they managed to visit the homes of two of the victims, 20year-old Lovpreet Singh and 60-year-old Nachattar Singh.

"Justice is all that the families are demanding. Their mouths can't be shut down by compensation. They want immediate arrest of MiMishra and his son Ashish Mishra, whose culpability in the incident has been proven bevond doubt," Ms. Sen told The Hindu.

It was only when the Trinamool delegation was leaving Nachattar Singh's home that the police discovered them. Ms. Sen said the police tried to obstruct their way as they left the village.

It is shameful, she said, that elected representatives of the country are barred without any valid reasons from visiting parts of Uttar Pradesh.

"BJP MPs and MLAs are getting away with brazen murders under the Narendra Modi regime. What can be more shameful and shocking than this? And let us not forget that this is happening when the country is celebrating 75th year of Independence," Ms. Sen said.

was indeed driving the vehi-

cle, from which he later got

down and ran away, with

cover and support provided

by the police, and while fir-

ing on protesters," said an

queries on the videos, Mr.

Ajay Mishra said he had evi-

dence to prove that neither

he nor his son was present at

the spot. He said based on

the videos, it was visible that

Responding to journalists'

SKM statement.



Making a point: Bhupesh Baghel staging a sit-in at the Lucknow airport on Tuesday. • PTI

Baghel stages protest at Lucknow airport

He was barred from stepping outside

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel staged a protest at the Lucknow airport after the authorities refused to allow him into the

Addressing a press conference, sitting cross-legged on the airport terminal floor, Mr. Baghel said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's anti-farmer sentiment stood exposed as, in a 36-minute address at a function in Lucknow, Mr. Modi had not even uttered a word on the happenings in Lakhimpur

Mr. Bhagel stated that as he and his staff landed in Lucknow in the afternoon by a commercial plane, they were asked to deplane before others. They were put on an airport bus and taken to the terminal, where he was told that he could not leave the terminal building.

"I told them that I am not headed to Lakhimpur Kheri, where things are still tense, and I wanted to go to Sitapur, where my leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra has been detained, and I want to meet Congress leaders in

Lucknow. But they blankly refused," he said.

Following an argument with security officers, Mr. Baghel sat on the floor in protest. He was told that Section 144 was in place in Lucknow too.

"I asked them: if Section 144 is in place, how was the Prime Minister allowed to hold a function here? The police officers had no reply to this question," he noted.

Mr. Modi was inaugurating an urban planning conference.

"The BJP has been a supporter of the British, who always believed in suppressing farmers. They are just carrying on with the British legacy. That is the reason why Mr. Modi did not speak on Lakhimpur Kheri, and that is the reason why 48 hours after the incident, he is not sacking Ajay Mishra Teni," Mr. Bhagel remarked.

It was unfortunate that on the one hand, India was marking the 75th year of Independence with an "extravagant" Amrit Mahotsav, while on the other, BJP leaders were "mowing down farmers and getting away with it", he said.

Date: 04.10.2021

Viral video was shot by eyewitnesses: SKM

'The 29-second clip was slowed down for clarity'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Cellphone video footage has emerged from Lakhimpur Kheri showing SUVs ploughing into a group of farmers from behind and driving on, as well as occupants of the car exiting the vehicle even as a person seems to be caught under the wheels.

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha says the 29-second video purporting to show the actual moment of impact was shot by eyewitnesses, adding that the footage had been

My son was run over, and not

+ lynched, says reporter's father

Ram Dulare Kashyap

the last rites of his son

Raman. • OMAR RASHID

returning after conducting

the SUVs in the Minister's

convoy that ploughed

through the crowd of protes-

ters, and was not lynched by

the farmers. "When the

three-four cars came...he

may have been shooting

some photos...the cars ran

over people. My son died in

He does not blame the

farmers. "I would have fi-

gured out that the farmers

had murdered him had I

seen lathi marks on his body.

The farmers did not run the

car over anyone. Whoever

drove it must be from the

BJP or someone close to the

MP's son," Mr. Kashyap told

that," said Mr. Kashyap.

edited to slow it down for clarity.

"The footage was obtained by one of the social media supporters of the farmers' movement. It was slowed down to show what exactly happened, that too behind unaware, peacefully walking protesters. No other editing was done," said Kavitha Kuruganti, an SKM leader representing the Mahila Kisan Adhikaar Manch, who has been handling the platform's media updates. Bharatiya Kisan Union leader Rakesh Tikait had urged farmers and eyewitnesses to come forward with any evidence or videos showing the truth of what had happened.



A protest against Ajay Mishra organised by Left Wing activists in Ranchi.

The 29-second video which became viral on social media later on Monday night shows a jeep hitting a group of men walking on a rural road, some holding flags. An elderly man in a white kurta and green turban is thrown onto the windshield of the vehicle by the force of the impact while others fall by the road. Soon after, a second SUV drives past as well.

Another shorter clip

Another shorter 10-second video posted on Twitter on Tuesday morning appears to show a man in a blue kurta jump out of the same jeep and run away, even as a man seems to be caught under the wheels of the vehicle.

The SKM claimed that such videos proved the truth of their allegations. "Many eyewitness accounts are now being captured on videos, which also reveal that the Minister's son Ashish Mishra the driver was killed after being pulled out of the car, adding that if it had been his son, he would have been The Uttar Pradesh police

did not respond to queries

on the authenticity or inves-

tigation of these videos.

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION-2021 (OJEE-2021)

No: OJEE / 350

NOTICE REGARDING WEB COUNSELLING FOR MBA, MCA, M.TECH, M.ARCH, M.PLAN, M.PHARM, LE-TECH (DIPLOMA), LE-TECH (B.SC), LE-PHARM **AND INT. MBA PROGRAMMES**

OJEE Web-based Counselling process for MBA, MCA, M.Tech, M.Arch, M.Plan, M. Pharm, LE-Tech (Diploma), LE-Tech (B.Sc), LE-Pharm and Integrated MBA Programmes is going to start from 5th October 2021. For detailed Schedule, Seat Matrix and Counselling Brochure, the candidates are advised to visit OJEE websites (www.ojee.nic.in / www.odishajee.com).

Notice of web-based counselling for other courses will be published soon.

CHAIRMAN, OJEE

OIPR-14020/11/0014/2122



<u>h-19:</u>



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SOUTH)-II JAL SADAN: LAJPAT NAGAR: NEW DELHI-110024 STOP CORONA: "Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

DELHI JAL BOARD: DELHI SARKAR



S. No.	Name of work	Reserve price	tender in e procurement solution	download & RTGS through e procurement solution
1.	Improvement of sewerage system by replacement of old/badly silted up sewer lines at K-Block Kalkaji under EE(S) II (AC-51 Kalkaji)	3/31757/	2021_DJB_209166_7 1.10.2021	18.10.2021 upto 2.00 PM
2.	Replacement of old and damaged water line from Kalkaji UGR to Govind Puri under EE(S) II (AC-51 Kalkaji)		2021_DJB_209166_8 1.10.2021	18.10.2021 upto 2.00 PM

urther details in this regard can be seen at govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)

(Ashok Kumar) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SOUTH) II

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD (A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

#49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road Bengaluru - 560 001. website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-25/8368/2021-22 Date: 04.10.2021

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Through GOK e - Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting Item rate Tender under two cover system are invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from Class-IV Contractors (Civil) registered in KPWD who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following works: (1). Drilling of Borewells and Laying of Water Supply Pipeline at Miyar Industrial Area, Udupi District. (2). Drilling of Borewells and Laying of Water Supply Pipeline at Nandikur Industrial Area, Udupi District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is: 25.10.2021 upto 04:00 pm

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Distancing

Chief Engineer-2, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/DDU/Zen/R.O:1794/2021-22 STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE. Maintain Follow Physical Hand Hygiene

Governor to administer Mamata's oath

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar on Tuesday announced that he would administer the oath to Mamata Banerjee as a member of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly on October 7 in the premises of the State Assembly. "Invoking powers vested in me under Article 188 of

the Constitution, I direct the oath/ affirmation to the elected members to the WBLA viz, Mamata Banerjee (159 - Bhabanipur), Jakir Hossain (58 - Jangipur) and Amirul Islam (56 -Samserganj) shall be administered by the undersigned at the premises of the West Bengal Assembly on 7 October, 2021 at 2 p.m.," read an order from the Governor.

Businessman shot dead

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Militants shot dead Make han Lal Bindroo, the owner of Bindroo Medicate – a popular pharmacy in Srinagar, on Tuesday, police said. In another attack, Virender Paswan, a street vendor from Bihar, was shot dead.

Telangana State Technology Services Limited

Selection of System Integrator for Implementing Aadhaa Enabled Public Distribution System in Telangana State for the Commissioner, Consumer Affairs, Food and Civil Supplies overnment of Telangana -Tender Ref. No: TSTS/HWPI/CSD /EPOS/ 066/2021 Dt 05/10/2021.

Bid Calling Date: 05/10/2021, Pre bid conference 11/10/2021, 12.30 PM, at Civil Supplies Bhavan. Contact details General Manager- <u>Srinivasrao.T@gov.in</u>, Manager (HWPl) bvrao-tsts-ts@telangana.gov.in. For further details please visi www.tsts.telangana.gov.in and www.eprocurement.telangana gov.in. Contact Phone Nos.: 9963029392 & 9963029403

i/c· Managing Director DIPR R.O.No.16598-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2021-22 Dt. 05.10.2021

Taking *suo motu* cognisance

Pradesh Director General of

marks on his son's body indicating that he was run over by the car. His son also had said.

"There were marks of being dragged and of friction. No other marks...Gadi se hi mera beta mara hain. Ab chahe kiski gadi ho (my son was killed by a vehicle, no matter whose vehicle it was)," he said.

Raman's autopsy report is yet to be released. The family has submitted a complaint to the police saying Raman was run over by the cars but did not identify anyone.

asks for report SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Press Council

of the killing of journalist Raman Kashyap in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence, the Press Council of India has directed the Uttar Police to submit a report.

The Hindu. He said he saw an injury on his head, he

Rajasthan Council of School Education . Radha Krishnan ShikshaSankul, 5th Block Ilnd & Illrd Floor, JLN Marg, Jaipur - 17 Ph.: 0141-2700366, 2715590, 2715550 rajssa_acctt@yahoo.co.in, rajssa_plan@yaho

NOTICE INVITING e'BID (NIB: 26/2021-22) e'Bids are invited for Supply Science and Maths Kits (Upper F ndary Level) in Government Schools of Rajasthan up to 03 00 PM, of date 28.10.2021 Other details may be seen in the Bidding Document at State Public Procurement Portal website <u>www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in</u> or website

Estimated cost 9.10 crore Raj Samwad/C/21/6947

State Project Director

VIJAYAWADA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (VMC) 'e' Procurement Notice No.CE-09/VMC/AE/2021-22, Dt.05-10-2021 No. of Call Estimate

		Cun	KS. IN Lakn
1	Providing Dust free Road with End-to-End Paving with Foot Paths and Pavers to K.T. Road from C.V.R. Fly-Over to Chitti Nagar Junction in 46 th & 47 th Divisions in Circle-1 area. With Reverse Tendering Process.		300.00
2	Providing Dust free Shoulders with Pavers for Air		300.00
	Quality improvement on the Road from Dabakotlu Excel Plant Road Junction to Vambay Colony Disney Land Road in Circle-2 area. With Reverse Tendering Process.		
3	Providing CC pavement & Footpath from Chitti		350.00
	Nagar Junction to Ganapathi Rao road Junction (Nehru statue) in Division Nos.32, 34, 35 & 37. With Reverse Tendering Process.	call	
4	Providing Pavers to RTC work shop from NH-9 to		300.00
	By-Pass Road for Dust free roads. With Reverse	call	
	Tendering Process.		
_	D IN DED I WILLOTAN D I I	4 -4	00000

Providing BT Road with HOT Mix Process in Iron 300.00 Yard balance roads for Dust free roads. With Reverse Tendering Process. 1550.00 Total (5 works) Contact: Superintending Engineer (W), VMC, Vijayawada - 98665 14183

Further details can be seen @ 'e' procurement market place @ www.apeprocurement.gov.in

Download of bid documents starts from : 07-10-2021 from 03.30 P.M. Last date / time for receipt of tenders : 21-10-2021 upto 4.00 P.M. Sd/- XXXXX **CHIEF ENGINEER**

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT, UTTAR PRADESH,

BADSHAHBAGH, LUCKNOW-226007 No.236/Seven-3/Poultry/Bundelkhand Package/Broiler Chicks-E.O.I./2021-22,Dated:04-10-2021

INVITATION FOR ONLINE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST EMPENALMENT

Online E-Bid for INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST EMPENALMENT are invited through e-procurement system for supply of Day Old Commercial broiler Poultry Chicks for seven districts (Jhansi, Lalitpur, Jalaun, Hamirpur, Mahoba, Banda and Chitrakut) of bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh during financial year 2021-22 from reputed and experienced Poultry Breeding/ Research/ Parent farms who have minimum 02 year experience having capacity to produce minimum 01 lac chicks per months. Details regarding EXPRESSION OF INTEREST EMPENALMENT and Documents would be available on U.P. Govt. e-tender portal http://etender.up.nic.in and the departmental website http://animalhusb.upsdc.gov.in within the stipulated period.

The Scheduled Date and Time for E-Bid:-

Ro No.168198 Ro Date 4/10/21

website- www.upgov.nic.in

1- Date of publication of Expression of Interest

on or before 11-10-2021

Availability of Expression of Interest of Empanelment document on website Expression of Interest of Empanelment document

submissionstart date & time Expression of Interest of Empanelment document submission end date & Time

11-10-2021 4.00 P.M. onward

Lucknow

11-10-2021 from 6.00 P.M. 18-10-2021 upto 6.00 P.M. Online opening date and time of technical & financial E-Bid of Expression of Interest of Empanelment 19-10-2021 3.00 P.M.

Director, (Administration and Development) Animal Husbandry, U.P.,



Decision on Covaxin's WHO approval next week

HYDERABAD The World Health Organization (WHO) said a final decision on grant of **Emergency Use Listing for** Covaxin will be taken at a meeting next week. Covaxin manufacturer Bharat Biotech. which has been submitting data on a rolling basis to WHO, had submitted additional information at the organisation's request on September 27.

Shah to visit J&K first time since Aug. 2019

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is likely to visit Jammu and Kashmir later this month as part of the Centre's ongoing outreach programme in the newly created Union Territory. This will be Mr. Shah's first visit to J&K after Article 370 of the

Constitution was read down, and the former State was bifurcated into two Union Territories in August 2019.

Interpol launches online cybersecurity campaign

NEW DELHI The Interpol has launched an online campaign to apprise people of major cyberthreats to help them protect their computer systems, networks and personal information from cybercriminals. "Whether it's in a business or

in a personal setting, cybercrime is often just a single click, tap or swipe away," it said. The three-week campaign, from October 4 to 22, would be run primarily through social media.

4 remanded in NCB custody till Oct. 11

A court here on Tuesday remanded four persons in the custody of the Narcotics Control Bureau till October 11 in the cruise ship drugs case in which Arvan Khan, son of **Bollywood superstar Shah** Rukh Khan, is also an accused. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate R.M. Nerlikar remanded Abdul Qadir Sheikh, Shreyas Nair, Manish Rajgariya and Avin Sahu in

Health benefit package under Ayushman Bharat revised

Rates for 400 procedures changed; scheme will cover black fungus from now on

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The National Health Authority (NHA), the apex body for implementing Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), has revised the Health Benefit Package (HBP) Master under the scheme.

In the revised version of Health Benefit Package (HBP 2.2), rates of some packages have been increased by 20% to 400% under the PM-JAY. Rates of around 400 procedures have been revised and one new additional medical management package related to black fungus has also been added, according to a release issued by the Health Ministry on Tuesday.

The HBP 2.2 is expected to be rolled out from November this year.

Health Minister Mansukh



Life line: The revised packages for oncology will enhance cancer care for beneficiaries. • FILE РНОТО

Mandaviya said HBP 2.2 would enable the empanelled hospitals to provide better services to the beneficiaries under Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY. "The revised packages for oncology will enhance cancer care for the beneficiaries in the country. Addition of new packages related to black fungus will be a huge relief. The rational-

ised HBP will further improve the uptake of schemes in private hospitals leading to reduced out-of-pocket expenditure," he added.

Dr. R. S. Sharma, CEO, NHA, said new packages had been added to cover more disease conditions and regular rates of the packages were being revised to pro-

Anganwadi workers to get insurance

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The government's insurance scheme announced last year for health workers on the COVID-19 frontline will now also cover anganwadi workers and helpers, a senior official of the Ministry of Women and Child Development said on Tuesday.

The scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package provides a cover of ₹50 lakh in case of death due to COVID-19 or accidental death on account of COVID-19 related

42 fighter squadrons not possible in next 10-15 years'

IAF chief says the force will remain at 35 squadrons

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

It is not possible for the Indian Air Force (IAF) to reach the sanctioned strength of 42 fighter squadrons in the next 10-15 years, and the force will remain at 35 squadrons, given the current phase-outs and inductions. according to Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal (ACM) V.R. Chaudhari.

Addressing the annual press conference on Tuesday ahead of Air Force Day on October 8, he said that deliveries of the S-400 Surface to Air Defence (SAM) systems from Russia were on track, but cautioned that the SAM systems could not be a replacement for fighter jets.

"The four squadrons of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA)-Mk1A, six squadrons of the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) and six Me-



dium Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA), and then factoring in the phase-out, it will remain at 35 squadrons in the next decade," he stated.

S-400 regiment

To questions, he remarked that the first S-400 regiment should be inducted within this year. On force modernisation, he disclosed that the last four MiG-21 squadrons would be phased out in the

"We are fully committed to the AMCA programme, for which an ambitious timeline has been set by DRDO themselves. The AMCA will roll-out well before the end of this decade. We hope to start inducting the AMCA by the early years of next decade," he stressed.

On the military cooperation between China and Pakistan, he remarked that their only concern was "dissemination of information of western tactics and technology which passes hands from Pakistan to China... We are prepared to handle a two-front contingency".

On formation of integrated theatre commands, he reiterated, "Theatreisation needs to be done keeping in mind future warfare. Should be synchronised. Doctrines and strength of each service need to be kept in mind."

845 COVID

orphans to get

PM CARES aid

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A total of 845 COVID-19 or-

phans have so far been

identified and approved

for receiving benefits un-

der the PM CARES Fund, a

senior official said on

"A total of 3,915 applica-

tions have been submitted

on the portal by citizens in

the past four months. Of

these, 845 have been ap-

proved by district Magis-

Tuesday.

Medical education has become a business: SC

It slams sudden changes to NEET-SS

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said the tragedy of medical education in the country was that it had become a business.

The observation from a Bench led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud came while the court pulled up the government and the National Board of Examinations (NBE) for making last-minute changes to the pattern of the National Eligibilitycum- Entrance Test- Super Specialty (NEET-SS) 2021.

The court wondered whether the eleventh hour changes were a move to facilitate the filling of the seats

in private medical colleges. Justice Chandrachud remarked, "The impression we get is medical education has become a business, and medical regulation has also become a business".

The court noted that questions under the revised pattern were wholly from General Medicine, which was a feeder category. The earlier pattern had 60% of the questions coming from the student's chosen field of speciality and the rest from

The court reasoned that this sudden change was meant to favour General Medicine, in which the largest pool of students were found, to fill the seats. The court surmised that

the feeder category.

private institutions benefited from this. It remarked that since seats in government colleges never lay vacant, it must be for their private counterparts that the pattern was altered. "The interest of students is far higher than that of the institutions," it said.

PM slams previous U.P. govt. for showing little interest in housing schemes SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the previous Uttar Pradesh Government (the Samajwadi Party dispensation) did not want to construct houses for the poor, and even obstructed the Centre's plans under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY). He was speaking on day

one of the three-day conference organised by the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry on "New urban India" in Lucknow. He said the beneficiaries

of the three crore PMAY houses built so far had be-



'Urban planning a victim of politics'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi being welcomed by Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath in Lucknow on Tuesday. • PTI

come "lakhpatis". "Urban planning had become a victim of politics" earlier, he

The U.P. Government be-

fore 2017 did not even construct 18 of the 18,000 houses sanctioned under PMAY. After Yogi Adityanath came to power in 2017, nine lakh

houses had been built under PMAY-Urban and 14 lakh more were in various stages of construction, he claimed.

Earlier during the day, Mr. Modi visited the exhibition on various urban missions in the country and interacted with beneficiaries of PMAY-Urban from Uttar Pradesh.

He virtually inaugurated the work of 75 urban development projects in the State under the Smart Cities Mission and AMRUT and a fleet of 75 electric buses.

He also announced the setting up of a Atal Bihari Vajpayee Chair at the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University in Lucknow.

The PM CARES provides a corpus of ₹10 lakh for each child when he or she reaches 18 years of age which will be used to give a monthly financial support

trates," the official said.

for five years thereafter. Govt. offers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Good Samaritans who rescue victims of serious road accidents and rush them to a hospital within the gol-

They will also be eligible which will be given to 10

Transport and Highways wrote to all States and Union Territories on Monday informing them of the new scheme, which comes into effect from October 15, 2021 and continues till March 31, 2026.

Adani got assets at 3 airports for a song, alleges AAI union

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Airports Authority of India's aeronautical and nonaeronautical assets at the Mangaluru, Lucknow and Ahmedabad airports were transferred to the Adani group at a fraction of earlier estimates, the Airports Authority Employees' Union has

In an open letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 2, it alleged that as-

the time the Civil Aviation Ministry had sought approval from the government's Public Private Partnership Committee Appraisal (PPPAC), were transferred to Adani Enterprises Ltd. for a mere ₹500 crore last year.

According to contracts signed between Adani Enterprises and the AAI for airports in Mangaluru, Luck-February 2020, the latter

sets valued at ₹1,300 crore at had to pay ₹74.5 crore, ₹147 crore and ₹277 crore respectively. According to the Record of Discussion of 85th meeting of PPPAC held on December 11, 2018, these properties were pegged at ₹363 crore, ₹583 crore and ₹384 crore, respectively.

Responding to emailed queries, the Adani Group said it met the terms laid down in the bid document Ahmedabad in for privatisation of six

'Scolding not tantamount to abetment of suicide'

SC details role of teachers in schools

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL

Disciplinary measures adopted by a teacher or other authorities of a school, reprimanding a student for his indiscipline, will not tantamount to provoking a student to commit suicide, the Supreme Court held in a judgment on Tuesday.

"It is a solemn duty of a teacher to instill discipline in the students. It is not uncommon that teachers reprimand a student for not being attentive or not being up to the mark in studies or for bunking classes or not attending the school," a Bench of Justices S. Abdul Nazeer and Krishna Murari

SCAN TO PLAY

observed. A mere reprimand or disciplinary action will not translate to the crime of abetment of suicide unless "there are repeated specific allegations of harassment and insult deliberately without any justifiable cause or reason". The court said it was not only the moral obligation of a teacher but also his "legally assigned duty" under Section 24 (e) of the RTE Act, 2009 to hold regular meetings with the parents.

The case concerned the death of a 14-year-old by suicide in Rajasthan in 2018. The appellant, a teacher, was accused of 'insulting'

mental toll: Unicef

Youth hit by COVID's

Health Minister stresses mental health

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Mental health issues in developing countries such as India have been on the rise, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Tuesday while releasing the Unicef's global flagship publication: "The State of the World's Children 2021; On My Mind: promoting, protecting and caring for children's mental health".

Seeking support

The report was launched globally, and in the survey across 21 countries, only 41% of young people in India said it is good to seek support for mental health problems, compared to an average of 83% across all countries surveyed.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Health Minister said COVID-19 was a test of mental stress for the entire society.

Presenting the key findings of the report, Dr. Yasmin Ali Haque, Unicef India Representative, said the survey found that around 14% of those aged 15 to 24 in India, or 1 in 7 reported often feeling depressed or having little interest in doing things. "Children have not only been living an emotional tragedy, many are also at a higher risk of neglect and abuse," she added.

reward for Samaritans

den hour will now be rewarded with ₹5,000.

for a cash prize of ₹1 lakh such Samaritans in a year.

The Ministry of Road

THEROSSWORD+ 13370 Type your answers in our online grids: On the state of genius of the state of the state of genius of the state of

while backing off, going in (10)

19 Nancy pulled out a gun (4)

20 Romantic notion bent journalist, leaving him unprotected by chief

23 Bachelor and soldier, still? (8)

27 Capture nothing — around about nothing — like it over a Century

DOWN

beginning (4)

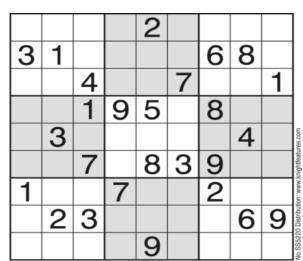
7 Prison Warden locks up convict at last (4) 14 Fake outrage not worth a farthing (5) 15 Books to circulate, cultivating warm practical eye — catching visual

town (10) 19 Diagnostician medic loses order enjoying the Summer in France (8)

24 Fight about watering holes? (4)

26 Carry bag (4)

SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING:

Solution to puzzle 13369 Solution to yesterday's Sudoku 6 5 4 1 2 3 7 8 9 931867452 287594613 |1|6|2|7|5|9|8|3|4| 379481526 5 4 8 6 3 2 9 7 1 7 2 5 3 4 6 1 9 8 8 9 6 2 1 5 3 4 7 4 1 3 9 7 8 2 6 5

FAITH

Story of Rama

Kulasekhara Azhvar in his Thillai Thiruchitrakootam pasurams, says that Lord Rama heard His entire story from sage Agastya. He also listened to the narration by Lava and Kusa, His sons, said Akkarakkani Srinidhi, in a discourse. When Lava and Kusa sang the story of Rama, the people of Ayodhya were so mesmerised by the musical narration, that they did not notice that Rama had left His throne and had moved to sit among them.

Rama's name and Rama's story have a pull that even Rama in the flesh did not have! Hanuman was so taken with Rama and His name, that he was not interested in accompanying Rama to Sri Vaikuntha, where worship of the Lord in the form of Rama was not possible. Hanuman, instead, chose to stay back on earth, declaring that he would be present wherever Rama's name was uttered.

Like Hanuman, Tondaradippodi Azhvar and Thiruppaan Azhvar also did not express a keenness for Sri Vaikuntha. Tondaradippodi Azhvar said he would far rather be in Srirangam, feasting his eyes on Lord Ranganatha, than go to Sri Vaikuntha. Tondaradippodi Azhvar's use of the phrase "Indira lokam" is not a reference to svarga loka, which he would not at all be interested in. He is talking about Paramapada. To Tondaradippodi Azhvar, even Parampada is not as desirable as being in Srirangam. Thiruppaan Azhvar, likewise, said that his eyes which had seen Lord Ranganatha, would see nothing else.

Perhaps, this similarity in thought is the reason why idols of Tondaradippodi Azhvar, Thiruppaan Azhvar and Hanuman are in close proximity in the Srirangam temple. Kulasekhara Azhvar, too, can rightly be placed in this category.

ACROSS 8 Grilled dope for the straight dope? (2-2) 9 Openmindedness is a sign of piety essentially – every ending has it

10 Throw nuts around, no time to dine in (6) 11 In two years, return call with old rare freeholders (8)

12 Better half alright! Wife visiting a couple, one from Christchurch (4) 13 Reach a stage eventually where relief effort loses universal link

17 Corner no lady to strip (4)

18 Take in a hungry pet wandering around party (5)

Display keystrokes of genius.

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

22 Drink backwash furtively from the pot (4)

28 Hey, look around! New apartment finally has lease document (4,6) 29 Losing out in the end — let go! Awkward to look at (4)

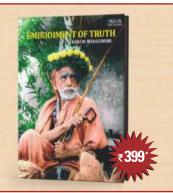
1 Progressive article skirts the point – at least editor rejected (4-6)

2 Narrowly miss by heart-breaking margin – no! Oh, woe! (8) 3 In crowd, door is ajar, youngsters squeezing through one (10) 4 Follow dame before she rejects boy (4)

5 Harry, Ron, and Hermione's larks — second half lacking oomph at the 6 A foraying into recollection of old golden, golden years (3,3)

beauty (7,3) 16 Rerouting race near Pennsylvanian city briefly to reach a commuter

21 A girl makes for a broken heart? (6) 25 Once more being imprisoned in rehab place (4)



A SPECIAL PUBLICATION FROM THE HINDU GROUP

TRANSCENDING TIME





THE HINDU GROU

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MARKET WATCH -0.17 74.44

NIFTY 50		
	PRICE	CHANG
Adani Ports	743.95	-0.2
Asian Paints	3254.75	53.1
Axis Bank	782.60	3.6
Bajaj Auto		
Bajaj Finserv	17847.50.	41.3
Bajaj Finance	7724.20.	29.1
Bharti Airtel	699.25	17.8
BPCL	443.85	8.0
Britannia Ind	3882.20	-10.7
Cipla	934.55	-22.9
Coal India	197.95	8.0
Divis Lab	5217.85	-2.8
Dr Reddys Lab	5034.60	-8.1
Eicher Motors	2760.10	14.2
Grasim Ind	1627.00	14.1
HCL Tech	1305.15	26.5
HDFC	2741.45	16.2
HDFC Bank	1595.45	9.7
HDFC Life		
Hero MotoCorp	2844.55	11.0
Hindalco		
Hind Unilever	2708.65	22.4
ICICI Bank	697.10	-3.1
IndusInd Bank	1168.60	48.8
Infosys	1692.80	14.0
Indian OilCorp		
ITC	234.70	-1.9
JSW Steel	679.35	-1.8
Kotak Bank	1982.35	-8.6
L&T		
M&M	843.05	1.9
Maruti Suzuki	7258.25	87.9
Nestle India Ltd	19395.55	97.4
NTPC	145.40	-0.1
ONGC	163.65	16.0
PowerGrid Corp		
Reliance Ind		
SBI Life	1261.95	31.1
State Bank		

Wipro	646.85	5.80
EXCHANGE RA	TES	
Indicative direct rat except yen at 4 p.m.	es in rupe on Octob	ees a unit er 05
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	74.25	74.57
Euro	86.11	86.48
British Pound	101.21	101.65
Japanese Yen (100)	66.72	67.01
Chinese Yuan	11.52	11.57
Swiss Franc	80.10	80.45
Singapore Dollar	54.69	54.94
Canadian Dollar	58.94	59.23
Malaysian Ringitt	17.76	17.84

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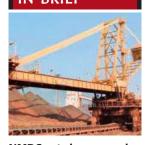
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Shree Cement

Sun Pharma

Tata Motors

IN BRIEF



NMDC cuts iron ore price for fourth time this year HYDERABAD

Iron ore producer NMDC has reduced the prices by ₹200 for a tonne of Lump and by ₹400 for the same quantity of Fines. This is the fourth reduction NMDC has effected in the prices in as many months. Effective October 5, the new prices are ₹5,950 per tonne of Lump Ore and ₹4,760 per tonne of Fines.

India AI market to touch \$7.8 billion by 2025: IDC

BENGALURU

COIMBATORE

India's Artificial Intelligence (AI) market may reach \$7.8 billion by 2025, growing at 20.2% CAGR, as per an International Data Corporation (IDC) report. The Al software segment would dominate the market, rising from \$2.8 billion in 2020 at

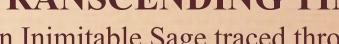
Ekki Pumps invests in agri tech start-up

18.1% CAGR by end 2025.

Ekki Pumps of Coimbatore has invested an undisclosed amount in Kissan Pro, a Bengaluru-based agri tech start-up. UAE-based Manu Midha of Innovacer, White Hill Ventures, and Amit Tripathy of OYO, are some of the other investors, Kissan Pro said in a release

Tekion raises \$250 mn from investors

BENGALURU Bengaluru-based Tekion, developer of cloud-native automotive SaaS platform Automotive Retail Cloud, on Tuesday, announced a Series D financing round of \$250 million, which pushed the firm's valuation to more than \$3.5 billion.



The journey of an Inimitable Sage traced through lens and letters

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Services PMI flags first hiring since Nov.

September index reading of 55.2 shows expansion slowed slightly from August's 18-month high of 56.7

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The services sector last month recorded the secondfastest expansion since February 2020, accompanied by the first hiring in 10 months, IHS Markit's surveybased Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) showed.

The India Services Business Activity Index, which had hit an 18-month high of 56.7 in August, eased to 55.2 in September but was well above its long-run average. A reading above 50 indicates an expansion in activity.

While the loosening of CO-VID-19 curbs amid a receding



Hiring again: Buoyed by signs of improvements in underlying demand, service providers took on additional staff. • R. RAGU

second wave saw stronger demand including increased footfalls at services businesses, business confidence weakened in September on concerns about inflationary

pressures. Higher fuel, material, retail and transportation prices pushed up the average cost burdens faced by Indian service providers further last month.

Forecasts of better demand in the year ahead supported business confidence regarding output, but growth looks set to be constrained by rising inflation expectations, said Pollyanna De Lima, economics associate director at IHS Markit. "We saw a substantial decline in positive sentiment among service providers due to this factor," she noted.

'Travel curbs hurt'

Travel restrictions continued to weigh on international demand for Indian services as new export business contracted for the nineteenth quickest rate since May, IHS Markit said.

September's composite PMI, which includes both manufacturing and services, was little changed at 55.3. Employment at the composite level stabilised after contracting in each of the prior 18 months as a marginal reduction in jobs at goods producers broadly offset the growth at service providers.

The signs from forwardlooking indicators were, however, mixed and there was no guarantee that the recovery in hiring would sustain, Ms. De Lima cautioned.

'Coal to last less than four days at 64 power plants'

No unit has at least 8 days' stock: CEA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahead of the festival season, the coal supply crisis seems to be deepening with 64 non-pithead power plants left with less than four days of the dry fuel stocks.

The latest report on coal stocks for power plants from the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) also showed that 25 such power plants had coal stocks for less than seven days as on October 3. The CEA monitors coal stocks at 135 power plants that have a cumulative generation capacity of



Overall, total coal stocks of 78,09,200 tonnes were available at the 135 plants as on October 3 and that was sufficient for four days. The daily coal requirement of these plants is 18,24,100 tonnes. Among the 135 plants, not even one had 8 or more days of coal stocks.

Govt. 'reviewing' plea on one-time spectrum levy

Charges apply for 4.4 Mhz and above

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Union Government informed the Supreme Court on Tuesday that it was 'reviewing' whether or not to continue with its appeal regarding the levy of one-time spectrum charges (OTSC) approximately

Telecom companies have to pay one-time charges for the spectrum held beyond 4.4 Mhz. In 2019, the Tele-

com Disputes Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) ruled that the charges could be imposed only prospectively. The Department of Telecom (DoT) had appealed in the SC against the decision.

"We are in the process of considering or reviewing the decision to proceed with ₹40,000 crore on the telcos. the present proceedings of appeal. Give us three weeks' time," Mr. Mehta requested a Bench of Justices M.R.

Shah and A.S. Bopanna.

WTO raises 2021 goods trade outlook

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The World Trade Organization (WTO) has said global merchandise trade volume will grow 10.8% this year, higher than 8% estimated

Growth should moderate as merchandise trade approaches its pre-pandemic long-run trend and issues such as chip scarcity and port backlogs may strain supply chains, the WTO said.

MFIs seek additional ₹7,500 cr. under credit guarantee scheme

'Banks unable to approve more funds under NBFC category'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Micro-finance institutions (MFIs) have urged Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to allocate another ₹7,500 crore under the credit guarantee scheme announced for them in June as banks had exhausted the initial for the same amount.

In a letter to the Minister, Sa-Dhan, the self-regulatory body for MFIs, cited data aggregated from its members to flag that they had applied for ₹18,500 crore from 44 banks under the credit guarantee scheme.

"The additional amount will support the funds flow for MFIs with lower grading, which are smaller and cater to poorer sections and remoter areas," the regulatory body said. MFIs also sought

a tweak in the scheme's norms to make a distinction between banks' exposure to them and other non-banking finance companies (NBFCs).

"As the banks are accounting for this portfolio under NBFC category, once they reach the exposure limits under NBFCs, they are unable to approve more funding for MFIs," Sa-Dhan said in the letter.

Centre lets captive mines sell 50% coal

REUTERS

Coal mines that produce coal solely for their own use, known as 'captive mines' will now be allowed to sell 50% of their annual output in the open market, the government said on Tuesday.

"Availability of additional coal will ease pressure on power plants and will also aid in import substitution of coal," the Coal Ministry said in a statement.

Cost of State debt jumps to 2-month high

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahead of the monetary policy review on Friday when the market fears RBI may begin to normalise the easy money policy by sucking out liquidity from the system, the cost of borrowing for States jumped 6 basis points (bps) to a twomonth high of 6.91%.

As many as 17 States raised ₹22,809 crore at the weekly auctions on Tuesday. This was ₹55 crore over the notified amount as Gujarat accepted an additional ₹500 crore, while Punjab accepted only ₹55 crore of the notified Rs 500 crore. The spread between the 10-year State bonds auctioned today and the yield of the 10-year G-Secs widened to 68 bps from 65 bps a week ago, according to Care Ratings.

'BMW India confident of meeting 2021 sales target'

'Surpassed 2019's figures this year'

LALATENDU MISHRA MUMBAI

BMW Group India has said it will outperform the luxury car segment in India this year and close the calendar year with a 'strong' doubledigit growth despite two months of shutdown during the peak of the COVID-19 second wave.

Strong recovery

The company would meet this year's sales target as the demand recovery has been very strong," said Vikram Pawah, president, BMW Group India.

Mr. Pawah said in the past nine months, BMW had reported a 44% growth than the same period last year, while Mini had grown 65.5% and BMW Motorrad, the motorcycle brand, had grown manifold.



Vikram Pawah

Despite the COVID-19 outbreak, he said the company had surpassed the sales number of 2019. In 2019, BMW had sold 8,500 units of all models, while this year it had sold more than 9,500 units so far, he said, indicating the demand recovery.

"This time the bounce back is much stronger. And this gives us confidence that we will deliver on our plan for this year and next year as well," he added.

India's online video consumption 'explodes' aided by pandemic: Bain

'Massive headroom for penetration, usage to grow'

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA

Bolstered by prolonged stayat-home periods, especially during the pandemic, the consumption of videos online has 'exploded' in India, according to a new study by Bain and Company.

As per the report titled 'India Online Videos - The Long and Short of It', the online video user base in the country had surged to more than 350 million people – a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 24% between 2018 and 2020, or about twice as fast as markets such as China and Indonesia.

However, despite this growth, there exists massive headroom in penetration and usage. About 59% of India's Internet users consume

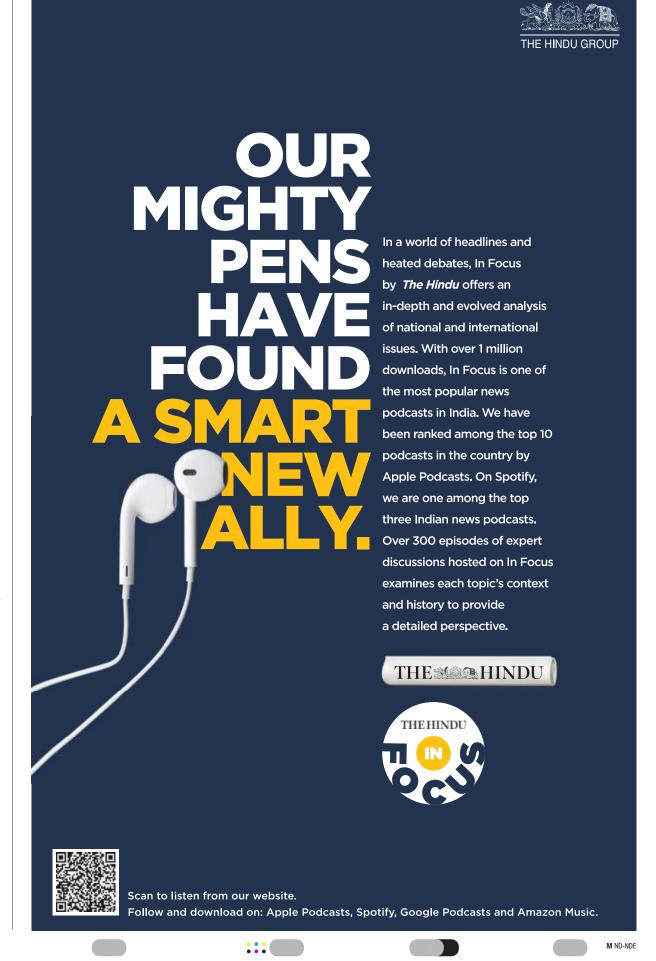


videos online, as against 67% in Japan, 69% in Indonesia, 74% in Brazil, 76% in Mexico, 78% in S. Korea, 79% in the U.K., 83% in the U.S. and 92% in China.

Bain forecasts that by 2025, three in four Internet users, or 600-650 million Indians, would consume short-form videos (SFVs), with active users spending up to 55-60 minutes a day. Meanwhile, long-form videos (LFVs), consumption of which is already almost double of SFVs with about 350-400 million watching them, are estimated to see a similar number of viewers by 2025.

'SFV market zooms' Videos of between 15 seconds and 2 minutes length are considered SFVs, while those longer than 2 minutes are categorised as LFVs.

"In India, the SFV market has taken off over the past two years, growing 3.5 times in user base and 12 times in total time spent by all users on SFV platforms," Bain said, adding that more than 200 million Indians watched SFVs at least once in 2020, with daily active users spending up to 45 minutes a day on these platforms.



FB whistleblower calls for regulation

'The company intentionally hides vital information from the public, governments around the world'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

WASHINGTON

A Facebook whistleblower went before U.S. lawmakers on Tuesday to push them to regulate the social media giant, after an outage hit potentially billions of users and highlighted global dependence on its services.

Former employee Frances Haugen testified on Capitol Hill after she leaked reams of internal research to authorities and The Wall Street Journal, which detailed how Facebook knew its sites were potentially harmful to young people's mental health.

She spoke to Senators less than a day after Facebook, its photo-sharing app Instagram and messaging service WhatsApp went offline for roughly seven hours, with "billions of users" impacted, according to tracker Downdetector. Ms. warned in a pre-prepared statement of the risk of not



Out in the open: Former Facebook employee Frances Haugen testifying during a Senate Committee hearing. • REUTERS

creating new safeguards for a platform that reveals little about how it operates. "I believe that Facebook's products harm children, stoke division and weaken our democracy," her statement said. "Congressional action is needed. They won't solve this crisis without your

In her testimony, she not-

ed the danger of the power in the hands of a service that is woven into the daily lives of so many people.

Concerns on privacy

"The company intentionally hides vital information from the public, from the U.S. government and from governments around the world," Ms. Haugen's statement said.

by an internal mistake in how Internet traffic is routed to its systems.

The incident showed the need for more competition, Ms. Vestager said on Twitter. "We need alternatives and choices in the tech market, and must not rely on a few big players, whoever they are, that's the aim of (the) DMA [Digital Markets Act]."

"The severity of this crisis demands that we break out of our previous regulatory

Facebook employees said

U.S. lawmakers for years have threatened to regulate Facebook and other social media platforms to address criticisms that the tech giants trample on privacy, provide a megaphone for dangerous misinformation

northern province of Af-

ghanistan, Taliban officials

and teachers said on Tues-

day, but they remain barred

from classrooms in much of

The new hard-line go-

vernment also announced

at a stage-managed rally that

some women civil servants

have been called back to

work and a backlog of salar-

ies would be paid, signs the

Islamists may be trying to

soften their public image af-

A video posted by the

group's spokesman Suhail

Shaheen showed dozens of

ter 50 days in power.

the country.

and damage young people's well-being.

Ms. Haugen, a 37-year-old data scientist from Iowa, has worked for companies including Google and Pinterest - but said in an interview on Sunday with CBS news show 60 Minutes that Facebook was "substantially worse" than anything she had seen

'Massive child sex abuse in French Catholic Church'

Pope expresses 'great pain over the appalling findings'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

French Catholic clergy sexabused around 2,16,000 minors spanning seven decades since 1950, a "massive phenomenon" that was covered up by a "veil of silence", an independent commission said Tuesday.

The commission's twoand-a-half-year inquiry and 2,500-page report prompted outrage as the Catholic Church in France and around the world faces a growing number of abuse claims and prosecutions.

Pope Francis expressed "great pain" over the "appalling" findings, a Vatican spokesman said, adding: "His thoughts turn first to the victims, with great sorrow for their wounds and gratitude for their courage in

speaking out." The report found that the "vast majority" of victims were pre-adolescent boys from a variety of social backgrounds. Their abusers were mainly priests, bishops, deacons monks. When claims against lay members of the Church, such as teachers at Catholic schools are included, the number of child abuse victims climbs to 3,30,000 since 1950, the report found.

'Worrying report'

"These figures are more than worrying, they are damning and in no way can remain without a response," commission chief Jean-Marc Sauve told a press conference that unveiled the nearly 2,500-page report.

"Until the early 2000s, the Catholic Church showed a profound and even cruel indifference towards the victims." Archbishop Eric de Moulins-Beaufort, president of the Bishops' Conference of France (CEF), which corequested the report, expressed his "shame and horror" at the findings.

Mr. Sauve denounced the "systemic character" of efforts to shield clergy from sex abuse claims and urged the Church to pay reparations even though most cases are well beyond the statute of limitations for prosecution.

His commission detailed 45 recommendations to avoid further abuse, not least a requirement that priests inform prosecutors of any child abuse during the sacrament of confession - under Catholic doctrine priests are usually bound to absolute secrecy.

Tsai warns of 'catastrophic consequences' if Taiwan falls

'Can't let authoritarianism have upper hand over democracy'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Taiwan's President Tsai Ingwen warned of "catastrophic consequences" if the island were to fall to China and vowed to "do whatever it takes" to guard against threats in an article published on Tuesday.

Taiwan lives under the constant threat of invasion by China, which views the self-ruled democratic island as its territory to be re-taken one day, by force if necessary. President Xi Jinping has described the seizure of Taiwan as "inevitable" and Beijing has ramped up military, diplomatic and eco-



Tsai Ing-wen

nomic pressure since Ms. Tsai's 2016 election, as she views the island as "already independent" and not part of a "one China".

Nearly 150 Chinese warplanes had breached Taiwan's ADIZ since Friday when Beijing marked its National Day with its then-biggest aerial show of force, buzzing the island with 38 planes. Ms. Tsai warned that a failure to defend Taiwan would be "catastrophic" for both the island and the wider region in an article she wrote for Foreign Affairs published on Tuesday.

"They should remember that if Taiwan were to fall, the consequences would be catastrophic for regional peace and the democratic alliance system," she said. "It would signal that in today's global contest of values, authoritarianism has the upper hand over democracy."

The Taliban are trying to soften image AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE schoolgirls in black, some wearing white head scarves Girls have returned to some and others with black face secondary schools in a veils, sat in chairs waving

Taliban flags.

Some Afghan girls return

to secondary school

'No policy change' "Girls are going to high schools in Khan Abad, Kunduz Province," tweeted Doha-based Shaheen, who has been nominated as the new Afghan government's permanent representative to the United Nations.

But in Kabul, Education Ministry official Mohammad Abid said there had been no policy change from the Taliban's interim central government, telling AFP on Tuesday: "High schools still remain closed for girls."

Over 100 musicians flee Afghanistan

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

More than 100 music students and teachers have fled Afghanistan in a nailbiting flight from Kabul following the Taliban's takeover of the country, their institute's founder and principal said.

Fearing a crackdown on music by the country's new leaders, 101 members of Afghanistan's top musical institute landed in Doha on Sunday, Ahmad Sarmast said. The group, about half of them women and girls, plan to fly to Portugal with the support of the government there, said Mr. Sarmast, founder of the Afghanistan National Institute of Music.

Biden promised to defend disputed islands: Kishida

New Japan PM speaks to U.S. President

REUTERS

New Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said on Tuesday that he received a "strong" message from President Joe Biden about the United States' commitment to defending the disputed East China Sea islets, known as the Senkaku Islands in Japan.

In phone talks on Tuesday that lasted roughly 20 minutes, the allies also confirmed their cooperation towards achieving a free and open Indo-Pacific, Mr. Kishida told reporters.

The call came a day after Mr. Kishida called a parliamentary election for October 31, and vowed to bolster

the country's response to the pandemic. He was voted in by lawmakers last week as the nation's Prime Minister. "We confirmed that we would work together toward the strengthening of the Japan-U.S. alliance and free and open Indo-Pacific," Mr. Kishida said. "We also confirmed we would work closely on issues related to China and North Korea." "Especially, the President

made a strong comment on the U.S. commitment to defend Japan, including the Article 5 of the U.S.-Japan security treaty," Mr. Kishida added, referring to U.S. defence obligations to Japan, which cover the uninhabited island.

ELSEWHERE

N. Korea pursues weapons despite blockade: report

North Korea has continued to pursue its weapons development programmes despite facing a worsening economic situation due to its self-imposed coronavirus blockade, a new United Nations report has said Pyongyang is under multiple sets of international sanctions over its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes, which have seen rapid progress under current leader Kim Jong-un. AFP

Sri Lanka to reform terror law to keep EU trade deal

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Sri Lanka's President vowed steps" "immediate amend anti-terror legislation to retain a lucrative trade status with the European Union, his office said on Tuesday.

The EU had warned Sri Lanka that its generalised system of preferences (GSP Plus) – a favourable trade scheme to encourage developing nations to respect human rights-could be withdrawn if Colombo did not improve its rights record.

Gotabaya Rajapaksa told a visiting EU delegation on Monday that he had instructed the Justice Minister and the Attorney General to carry out urgent reforms to the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA). The law allows police to arrest and detain suspects for long periods. Confessions extracted from suspects can be used against them, and many have been held for decades without charge.

"Immediate steps will be taken to amend the necessary provisions of the PTA," Mr. Rajapaksa's office quoted him as saying. "President Rajapaksa also stated that the country would abide by the agreements on human rights in the world today."

Filming first movie in space

Russian actor and director reach ISS for 12-day mission

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

A Russian actor and a director on Tuesday arrived at the International Space Station (ISS) in a bid to best the United States and film the first movie in orbit.

The Russian crew is set to beat a Hollywood project that was announced last year by Mission Impossible star Tom Cruise together with NASA and Elon Musk's SpaceX. Actor Yulia Peresild, 37, and film director Klim Shipenko, 38, took off from the Russia-leased Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan as scheduled. But they belat-



Goodbye to gravity: (From left) Actor Yulia Peresild, cosmonaut Anton Shkaplerov and director Klim Shipenko. • AP

edly docked at the ISS after veteran cosmonaut Anton Shkaplerov switched to manual control.

The crew travelled in a Soyuz MS-19 spaceship for a

12-day mission at the ISS to film scenes for The Challenge. The movie's plot centres around a woman surgeon who is dispatched to the ISS to save a cosmonaut.

to repair AUKUS damage ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blinken meets Macron

French President Emmanuel Macron and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken met on Tuesday to explore potential cooperation in the Indo-Pacific and other areas as the Biden administration moved to repair damage caused to relations by excluding France from a new security initiative with Australia and the U.K., known as AUKUS.

A U.S. State Department official said the two discussed possible joint projects that could be announced by Mr. Macron and President Joe Biden when

they meet later this month in Europe at a date and specific venue that has vet to be decided.

The official didn't elaborate on what those projects might be, but said they would likely involve the Indo-Pacific and Western efforts to blunt China's growing there and elsewhere, NATO and other transatlantic objectives involving the European Union, and counterterrorism cooperation in Africa's Sahel region.

The official said Mr. Macron and Mr. Blinken had agreed to use the spat as an opportunity to "deepen and strengthen coordination".

IN BRIEF

PKL Season 8 from Dec. 22

The eighth season of Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) will begin on December 22 in Bengaluru. The player auctions were conducted between August 29 and 31 in Mumbai. Mashal Sports, the organisers, said keeping the health and safety of players in mind. this year the league will be held without spectators at a single venue, moving away from the traditional caravan format. PTI

Kenkre beats **Kerala United**

BENGALURU Kenkre FC came from a goal down to defeat Kerala United FC 2-1 in a Group-B match of the 2021 I-League Qualifiers here on Tuesday. The results:

Kenkre FC 2 (Lester Fernandez 65, Ranjeet Singh Pandre 72) bt Kerala United FC 1 (Bujair Valiyattu 48). Corbett FC 1 (Himanshu Patil 15) drew with ARA FC (Vladislav Nuriev 75).

match. You can either rejoice in this, or speak dourly about the quality of bats, the smallness of boundaries, the technique of batsmen or the pressure on bowlers. John Arlott called the six "the most companionable of shots," cutting the distance between player and spectator both literally and figuratively.

n the first 50 matches of the IPL so far, 583

sixes have been hit. That's over 11 sixes per

BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

Now with the added pleasure of knowing exactly how far the ball travelled, distance, something incidental, shares the stage with the other aspects of the shot.

Great sight

The well-hit six can be an aural and visual treat at once. The deep and almost polite sound of the bat making contact and the sight of the ball against the blue sky curving its way to its urgent appointment beyond the ropes is surely one of the pleasures of the game.

The first six I can remember was hit at our school grounds by a school hero named Gowrishanker, who had been picked for the Indian Schoolboys tour of Australia. I must have been seven or eight; the ball hit the tiled roof of the pavilion and rolled down gently. It was magical.

When you see some of the bats cricketers in the early part of the last century used, it is a wonder they cleared the boundary. Till 1910 in England, for a hit to be declared a six it had to clear the ground. Thus Albert Trott's famous shot which bounced off the roof of the Lord's pavilion fetched only a four. Many boundaries hit by him and others like Gilbert Jessop would count as six today.

Nayudu's hitting

Do modern batsmen hit higher and farther than their predecessors? C.K. Nayudu once hit a six at Chepauk, the ball landing near a coconut tree fifty yards from the ground. I saw Chris Gayle strike five sixes in an IPL over, but none looked to be travelling the same

Nayudu's six-hitting – he hit 11 of them while making 153 against the MCC in 1926 hastened the acceptance of India into Test cricket, so the six has played an important

role in India's history.

The double delight of the well-hit six — all this and distance too

The most famous sustained hitting in first class cricket was recorded in 1911 by E.B. Alletson, who, batting for Notts against Sussex, scored 189 in 90 minutes, the last 142 of those in 40 minutes. One of his eight sixes carried 146 metres which should put into perspective some of the big hits in the IPL.

Arlott, who has written a book about that one innings, says at one point, "Alletson, after lunch, went out to bat at 2.15... (he) was out at 2.55 – which was probably the next time anyone at the ground looked at the In another place he quotes the cricketer

C.P. Foley who watched the match thus: "Time was wasted in trying to prise one ball out of the new stand into whose soft wood Alletson had driven it, no chisel being available..." I wonder what today's commentators would have made of such hitting.

The IPL is not about hitting sixes, or at least not only about hitting sixes. The fear that what is too common and too easily done might somehow reduce the pleasure the shot brings, both to the player and the spectator, has proved to be largely unfounded.

When Brendon McCullum hit 13 sixes in the course of his 158 off 73 balls in the first-ever IPL match, he made a promise on behalf of

the format itself: Sixes are sexy, and here's where you get them. It was the second time the six was playing a significant role in Indian cricket.

No other act in cricket – bowled or run out or caught - has its own sponsor. But the IPL six stands on its own, affectionately (but wrongly) called a 'maximum' preceded by the name of the sponsor. A batsman can run three off a stroke and then find an overthrow fetching him another four runs, so that's seven runs already. But 'maximum' has remained, helped along by the boundary being

Interestingly, both Jessop (who scored his runs at the rate of 80 an hour - this was before runs-per-ball were recorded) and W.G. Grace advocated that the boundary be brought in for first class games at the turn of

We each have our preferences, but the most pleasing six is the well-driven one, particularly if it flies straight and true. Off-side sixes – in the manner of K.L. Rahul – were the speciality of Walter Hammond.

But rather like the results of the matches themselves, the sixes in white ball cricket tend to drop out of the memory rather quickly. Most fans, I gather, would rather have a surfeit of them than a dearth.

No hockey teams to CWG

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA India on Tuesday pulled out of next year's Birmingham Commonwealth Games' hockey competition, citing COVID-19 concerns.

Hockey India (HI) president Gyanandro Ningombam communicated the decision to Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president Narinder Batra. HI reasoned that there is only a 32-day window available between the CWG (July 28-Aug. 8) and Asian Games (Sept. 10-25) and it can't risk sending players to the United Kingdom which has been badly affected by the pandemic.

'I will come to Chennai and

play my last game there'

Dhoni hints at continuing in the IPL

Mumbai Indians crushes Rajasthan Royals to stay alive

Coulter-Nile, Neesham, Bumrah wreak havoc as RR crashes to 90/9: Ishan's unbeaten 25-ball 50 takes MI home in 8.2 overs

IPL 2021

SPORTS BUREAU

Mumbai Indians came up with a performance as clinical as it could get and must be hoping it didn't come just a little too late in the day.

In a must-win game, MI crushed Rajasthan Royals by eight wickets, with 11.4 overs to spare, at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium on Tuesday.

With the win, fashioned by their seamers who reduced RR to 90 for nine, Rohit Sharma's men have maintained their right to dream of a place in the playoffs, and by extension, a hat-trick of IPL titles; their fate might still not be in their own hands, however.

For now, though, they can reflect on one of their best nights this season. They won the toss and chose to bowl, and brought into the squad Ishan Kishan and James Neesham.

The Kiwi seamer took three for 12, including the prize wicket of RR skipper Sanju Samson. But it was his trans-Tasman neighbour Nathan Coulter-Nile who turned out to be the des-



Lights out! Dube, who had led RR's big chase against CSK, is castled by Neesham. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

troyer-in-chief. The Australian pacer took four for 14, his best IPL figures. There were two wickets for Jasprit Bumrah too. On a slow, low wicket, MI's steady attack gave little away. The RR batters made things easier for the MI bowlers, too. At 26 for no loss after three overs. with openers Evin Lewis and Yashasvi Jaiswal looking in good touch, RR seemed on its way to a good total. It was

to the dugout, though, that the RR batters seemed in a hurry to make their way back to. Jaiswal was the first to go, as he tried to cut Coulter-Nile and edged behind the stumps to Ishan. Lewis, the

SCOREBOARD

RAJASTHAN ROYALS

Evin Lewis lbw b Bumrah 24 (19b, 3x4, 1x6), Yashasvi Jaiswal c Ishan b Coulter-Nile 12 (9b, 3x4), Sanju Samson c Jayant b Neesham 3 (6b), Shivam Dube b Neesham 3 (8b), Glenn Phillips b Coulter-Nile 4 (13b), David Miller lbw b Coulter-Nile 15 (23b). Rahul Tewatia c Ishan b Neesham 12 (20b), Shreyas Gopal c Ishan b Bumrah O (1b), Chetan Sakariya b Coulter-Nile 6 (11b, 1x4), Kuldip Yadav (not out) O (4b), Mustafizur Rahman (not out) 8 (7b, 1x6); Extras (w-2, nb-1): 3; Total (for nine wkts. in 20 overs): 90.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-27 (Jaiswal, 3.4 overs), 2-41 (Lewis, 5.3), 3-41 (Sanju Samson, 6.1), 4-48 (Dube, 8.3), 5-50 (Phillips, 9.4), 6-71 (Tewatia, 14.6), 7-74 (Shreyas, 15.6), 8-76 (Miller, 16.4), 9-82 (Sakariya,

Next assignment

_
RR: Oct. 7 vs KKR,
Sharjah, 7.30 p.m. IST
MI: Oct. 8 vs SRH,
Abu Dhabi, 7.30 p.m. IST

top-scorer with 24, fell lbw to a ball from Bumrah that didn't bounce as high as he wanted it to. It was only the beginning of RR's horror sto-

MUMBAI INDIANS BOWLING

Boult 4-0-24-0, Jayant 2-0-Bumrah Coulter-Nile 4-0-14-4, Nee-4-0-12-3, sham 2-0-9-0.

MUMBAI INDIANS

Rohit Sharma c Jaiswal Sakariya 22 (13b, 1x4, 2x6), Ishan Kishan (not out) 50 (25b, 5x4, 3x6), Suryakumar Yadav c sub (Lomror) b Mustafizur 13 (8b, 3x4), Hardik Pandya (not out) 5 (6b); Extras (lb-1, w-1, nb-2): 4; Total (for two wkts. in

FALL OF WICKETS 1-23 (Rohit, 3.2), 2-56 (Suryakumar. 5.4).

ROYALS BOWLING Mustafizur 2.2-0-32-1, Sakariya 3-1-36-1, Shreyas 1-0-9-0, Kuldip 2-0-16-0.

Toss: MI; MoM: Coulter-Nile. Mumbai Indians won by eight wickets with 11.4 overs to spare.

Innings scan

RR		MI
66	Dots	22
7	Fours	9
2	Sixes	5
41/2	PP	56/2
4.50		11 20

ry. Later, Ishan led MI's comfortable chase with an unbeaten 50 (25b, 5x4, 3x6).

Srinivasan and Dhoni... a strong bond. ■FILE PHOTO: R. RAGU

S. DIPAK RAGAV

 ${
m M}$.S. Dhoni, at a virtual function on Tuesday to celebrate 75 years of India Cements Ltd., dropped his biggest hint that he will continue to play in the IPL.

The former India skipper had announced his retirement from international cricket on August 15 last year. Asked by a fan why he chose that date, Dhoni said, "it can't be a better day than

"When it comes to a farewell, you can come and see me play for CSK, and that can be my farewell game. So you will get the opportunity to bid me farewell. Hopefully, I will come to Chennai, play my last game there and

meet all the fans," said Dhoni.

N. Srinivasan, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director, India Cements, along with CSK players Deepak Chahar, Shardul Thakur and Imran Tahir, spoke about the company's 75-year journey at the virtual function.

"Ever since the advent of Chennai Super Kings, India Cements has gone to another level. It is more likely to say India Cements is now known because of CSK as it is for being 75 years old.

"India Cements is a strong brand but CSK outbeat it in no time. For that, we have to thank only one person - captain M.S. Dhoni," said Srinivasan.

Kohli & Co. will be keen on a top-two finish

SRH, which is already out of the tournament, has little to play for

SPORTS BUREAU

 $R^{\text{oyal Challengers Banga-}}_{\text{lore will have an eye on a}}$ top-two finish when it takes on Sunrisers Hyderabad at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Wednesday.

Wins in the remaining two games - the second against table-topper Delhi Capitals – will take the Virat Kohli-led side to 20 points, and if Chennai Super Kings loses to Punjab Kings in its last game, second place, and with that two chances to qualify for the final, can be

Fancying its chances

On current form, RCB can fancy its chances. It has won three matches on the bounce with contributions from nearly every member of the playing XI. Of these,

Points Table

Team	М	w	L	PTS	NRR
Delhi Capitals (Q)	13	10	3	20	0.526
Chennai Super Kings (Q)	13	9	4	18	0.739
Royal Challengers (Q)	12	8	4	16	-0.157
Kolkata Knight Riders	13	6	7	12	0.294
Mumbai Indians	13	6	7	12	-0.048
Punjab Kings	13	5	8	10	-0.241
Rajasthan Royals	13	5	8	10	-0.737
Sunrisers Hyderabad (E)	12	2	10	4	-0.475
After the RR-MI match on Oct.	5	Q: (QUALIF	ED; E: E	LIMINATED

consecutive half-centuries, Harshal Patel with 26 wickets and Yuzvendra Chahal with 14 wickets have shone the brightest.

However, one facet RCB can look to improve is the scoring rate immediately after PowerPlay. Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal, excellent otherwise, have tended to Glenn Maxwell with three slow down in the middle ov- all that Kane Williamson will

ers. Runs at a brisk pace can bring greater rewards.

Mohammed Siraj has claimed just one wicket from five matches in the UAE leg, but the bowling unit as a whole has held strong.

For SRH, already out of the tournament, there is little to play for. Green shoots ahead of the next season is

TODAY'S MATCH



In 2021 Played 1 | RCB 1 | SRH 0 STAR SPORTS 1 & SS SELECT 1 (SD & HD)

SRH 110

be looking for.

There is hope in Umran Malik, who was brought in as a short-term replacement for T. Natarajan.

The 21-year-old Jammu & Kashmir cricketer's searing pace against Kolkata Knight Riders forced everyone to sit up and take notice. The next few matches will be reveal-

Not a personal battle: Ashwin on Morgan incident

S. DIPAK RAGAV

Delhi Capitals off-spinner R. Ashwin opened up about his verbal exchange with Eoin Morgan and Tim Southee during his team's match against Kolkata Knight Riders last week.

The exchange, which took place after Ashwin's dismissal, followed a sequence during which Ashwin and Rishabh Pant took a run off an overthrow that had deflected off the DC captain.

Speaking about it on Monday after his side's win over CSK, Ashwin said, "I think it is definitely not a personal battle or one-on-one battle.

"The incident that happened the other day was, I got really charged up because that was entirely untoward by both Tim

to give the batter a send-off who just got out.

"The worst situation was that I was not aware that the ball had hit Rishabh, so I just felt like that they already decided to have a go at me. That is one of the reasons I said that the words that were used were not in the right direction and not in the right space,"

"I would not say anyone is wrong here, it is just that the sort of way the game was played in the 1940s cannot be the same way you want somebody else to apply it.

he added.

"My two cents to this is, I am sure you like to play the game the way you want to, but do not expect that [from others], if it is not within the laws of the game, and have a go at them for



send-off he received from Morgan and Southee

Ruturaj — a special player

CSK opener is having a dream season in the IPL

S. DINAKAR CHENNAI

He steps out of the crease as soon as the ball is released. And then times the ball to the far corners.

Watching the chargedown-the-wicket act, the bowler shortens his length. But then, the batsman goes deep into his crease and puts away the ball ruthlessly.

This in a nutshell is Ruturaj Gaikwad. He puts his dancing shoes on every time he enters the crease, dismantling the length of a bowler. And he is cat-like in his footwork, so light, so eth-

The 24-year-old Chennai Super Kings batsman has been making waves this season not just for runs at the top of the order but the quality of his stroke-play.

When someone who has

seen as much cricket as Virender Sehwag tweets, "Remember the name. Special player, made for greater things. Matter of time before he dominates World Cricket," you've got to take the man seriously.

In this IPL season, Ruturaj so far has 521 runs in 13 games at 47.36 (strike rate 138.93). Runs where he stamped his authority.

in Ruturaj. His relaxed stance, the smooth bat swing, the ability to pick length quickly, balance where the head stays still, secure defence, delightful footwork and the ability to find gaps.

grace and flow, and the ability to slice open an attack through it.

It is difficult to set a field for him because of his strength off either foot, and his strokes, with a vertical or a horizontal blade, on both

manoeuvre the ball through the open spaces.

The Maharashtra bat-

for India in Sri Lanka this year marked the beginning.

This cat should waltz on the international stage

If anybody can beat this Aussie women's team, it's India: Raman



W.V. Raman. ■ FILE PHOTO

P.K. AJITH KUMAR

The women in blue adapt I to different formats well. Even when they get to wear whites, once in a blue

This quality of theirs has pleased former coach W.V. Raman the most.

Adapting to formats

"They adapt to different formats within such a short span of time and we shouldn't forget that they are not playing as regularly they used to before the pandemic," he told The Hindu during an online interview on Tuesday. "Besides, they are also living in a bubble. It is not easy.'

Raman, who was in charge of the team until early this year, believes India could do well in the T20I series, which starts at Carrara on Thursday.

It was, in fact, India that stopped Australia's threeyear streak of 26 ODI wins, shortly before the Day-Night Test.



Causing a flutter: India, which ended Australia's 26-match streak in ODIs at Mackay, will look to shine in the T20I series. • TWITTER/BCCIWOMEN

"If anybody could beat this Australian women's team, it is India," he said.

in the shorter formats be-

"Australia is formidable

cause they have a plethora multidimensional He pointed out that India could rattle the Aussies. "The Indians have done

that, beginning with that

onslaught from Harman-

preet Kaur in the 2017 World Cup (semifinal)," said the former Test opener. "The respect Australian cricket has for India is reflected by the large number of our girls playing in the

Women's Big Bash League."

Six of them have been signed up this season. "We could even see that number going to double figures in a year or two," Raman said.

Remarkable progress

He thinks the way India has progressed as a T20 team is remarkable. "Where they are today, from a side which didn't know how to play the T20 format (two or three years ago), is incredible," he "Imagine chasing down a target of (close to) 180 (against Australia) in the Tri-series before the T20 World Cup last year.

"Not many would have thought India would do that, but they did."

He feels Jemimah Rodrigues' fabulous run in The Hundred in England augurs well for the team.

"She brings in that pocket dynamo quality of hers," he said. "She is busy as a batter, gives a lot of encouragement to the bowlers and is a terrific fielder.'

Looking back at the Test, he believes it was a winning draw for India, if ever there was one. "If at all anything could be said (critically), they could have tried to get some quick runs on day three and put pressure on Australia."

(The first India-Australia T20I will be aired on Sony Ten 3 & Sony Six from 2 p.m. on October 7)

Abhishek guides Delhi to compound title

ARCHERY

Y.B. SARANGI

Seasoned archer Abhishek Verma overcame the odds of travelling across several time zones and contrasting weather conditions to help Delhi beat a vouthful Andhra Pradesh side 230-227 in the final and win the compound men's team title in the 40th NTPC National archery championships at the Tata Archery Academy campus here on Tuesday.

Abhishek, who claimed a mixed team silver medal with V. Jyothi Surekha in the World championships in Yankton and competed in the World Cup Final in the same US city before returning on October 1, shot well to enable Delhi, the last edition's silver medallist, to come from behind and claim the crown.

Delhi, also comprising Aman Saini and Ritik Chahal, trailed 56-59 after the opening end as the Andhra

trio of Kunderu Venkatadri, Manoj Kumar and Thirumu Ganesh Mani Ratnam gave a tough fight. Encouraged by fourth

Delhi raised its game with a perfect score of 60 in the next to draw parity (116-116) before winning the third and fourth. "I managed this perfor-

member Kawalpreet Singh,

mance despite jet lag and the hugely different weather conditions, it was cold in the USA and it's hot here. We slipped a bit, but recovered well," said Abhishek. In the women's final, Madhya Pradesh, consisting

of Ragini Marko, Muskan Kirar and Srishti Singh, beat Punjab in a closely-contested final 232-230 to bag the team championship. The results:

Compound: Team: Men: Final: Delhi bt Andhra Pradesh 230-227.

Third place: Maharashtra bt Haryana 232-229. Women: Final: M.P. bt Punjab

232-230; Third place: All India



Bull's-eye: The triumphant Delhi team of Aman, Kawalpreet, Abhishek and Ritik. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Much to admire

There is so much to admire

Here is a batsman with

craftily rather than bulldoze

sides of the pitch. Ruturaj is wristy too, can

His opening partnerships with Faf du Plessis have been rousing, the chemistry between the two symbiotic.

sman's unbeaten 101 against Rajasthan Royals where he swung the last delivery of the innings, from Mustafizur Rahman, for a six revealed his ice-cool nerves.

Ruturaj's Twenty20 debut

Sweeping success: The stylish Ruturaj has made runs aplenty. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

Pandora Paapers?

TV PICKS

IPL 2021: Star Sports 1 & SS Select 1 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m. **UEFA Nations League: Sony** Ten 2 (SD & HD), 12.30 a.m.



Thiem says he doesn't need wrist surgery

World No. 8 Dominic Thiem said he will not require of the season. "I was in Belgium to decide if I need surgery on my wrist or not and luckily I have very, very good news. I won't need the surgery," the Austrian announced on Twitter on Monday. REUTERS

BJK Cup finals

country to the final of the last Cup in 2019. REUTERS



MANCHESTER

midfielder Park Ji-sung appealed to the club's fans to stop singing a song that contains a racial stereotype about his native South Korea "I know that United fans don't mean any offence to him for that song. But still I have to educate the fans to stop that word (dog meat), which is usually these days a racial insult to the Korean people," Park told the UTD podcast on Monday, AP

Sriram Balaji fails

MOUILLERON-LE-CAPTIF (FRANCE) doubles

round): Zizou Bergs (Bel) bt Sriram Balaji 6-2, 7-6(0).

in Junior WC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA KARACHI

dia due to visa issues.

PHF President Brig (retd.) Khalid Sajjad Khokar said that despite being informed late about the processing of visas for its contingent.

repeat of what happened last time when the Junior World Cup was held in India in 2016. We have now submitted all documents so there is enough time for the host country to issue us required visas," he said.

Naamya shoots sports pistol gold

Aishwary in record breaking spree in 50m rifle 3-position; India on top in medal's tally

SHOOTING

SPORTS BUREAU

Fourteen-year-old Naamya Kapoor, competing internationally for the first time, won the women's sports pistol gold ahead of qualification topper Manu Bhaker in the Junior World Championship shooting here.

Naamya shot 36 in the final to beat Camille Jedrzejewski of France and Manu. The French girl had progressed for the fight for gold after winning the shoot-off against Manu, who had topped qualification with 587, one point ahead of Rhythm Sangwan.

Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, meanwhile, shattered the world record in the final and national record in qualification of the 50m rifle 3-position event.

Olympian Aishwary shot 463.4 in the final as he outclassed Lucas Bernard Denis Kryzs of France by 6.9 points for the gold. Aishwary had shot 1185 in qualifi-

FOOTBALL

here on Monday.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The Indian women's foot-

ball team lost to lower-

ranked Tunisia 1-0 in an in-

ternational friendly match

Heuij scored the all-im-

portant goal for Tunisia in

the eighth minute from a

free kick and the Indians

could not find the target in

reply despite making a lot of

effort. Tunisia is ranked

77th in the FIFA chart as

India had beaten UAE 4-1

against India's 57th.

TENNIS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Tejas Ahuja played close to

his best in beating the fourth

seed Arunava Majumder 7-6

(6), 6-3 in the under-16 boys

first round of the National

sub-junior tennis champion-

ship at the DLTA Complex

Tejas, who trains with

coach Vishaal Uppal, sus-

tained a high quality game to

overcome the nice game of

"He played solid on every

point", praised the former

champion Saurav Panja,

who trains Arunava in

tion, Prisha Shinde over-

came a hard start to beat

ninth seed Divya Ungrish

2-6, 7-5, 6-1 in the second

round. Rain curtailed the

In the girls under-14 sec-

here on Tuesday.

Arunava.

Indian women lose to

Tunisia in friendly



High point: Naamya Kapoor and Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar's gold medal-winning performances added lustre to India's showing. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

cation (397 kneeling, 398 prone and 390 standing) to equal the junior world record and beat Sanjeev Rajput's national men's record of 1181 set in the 2019 Rio de Janeiro World Cup.

India is on top of the me-

on Saturday in the team's

first overseas friendly since

Thomas Dennerby took

charge. But the team pro-

duced a disappointing show

The friendly matches are

part of preparations for the

AFC Asian Cup, which will

be hosted by India in

ranked UAE on Saturday

was India's first of the year.

The Blue Tigress have been

The win against 100th

against Tunisia.

January-February

matches this year.

day's

dals table with eight gold, six silver and three bronze The results: medals. US is in second with four gold, five silver and three bronze. Italy and Hun-

least one gold medal each.

Men: 50m rifle 3-position: 1. Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar 463.4 (WRJ) 1185 (NR); 2. Lucas Bernard Denis Kryzs (Fra) 456.5 (1176); 3. Gavin Raymond Leigh Barnick (US) 446.6 (1168); 11.

Sanskar Havelia 1160: 16. Sarta Singh Tiwana 1157; 22. Gurman Singh 1153.

भारतीय खेल प्रा

ORTS AUTHORIT

Women: 25m sports pistol: 1. Naamya Kapoor 36 (580); 2. Camille Jedrzejewski (Fra) 33 (584); 3. Manu Bhaker 31 (587); 4. Rhythm Sangwan 27 (586).

Indian girls find the going tough

WRESTLING

gary follow with two gold

each, while France, Belarus

and Germany have won at

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The young Indian wrestlers, including the talented Han-Kumari, expectedly found the going tough at the World Championship, here on Tuesday.

Competing in the 50kg category, Hanny showed some spark when she began with a 9-2 win over Korea's Miran Cheon but her challenge in the quarterfinal against Russia's Nadezhda Sokolova lasted just 35 seconds.

Soklova took a commandwinless in the five previous ing 6-0 lead in the first 15 seconds of the bout, severely The result: Tunisia 1 (Heuij 8) denting the confidence of

Teja Ahuja knocks out Arunava Majumder

Prisha Shinde overcomes a hard start to beat ninth seed Divya Ungrish

schedule in the

The results: Boys, u-16 (first

round): Daksh Prasad bt Bhicky

Sagolshem 6-4, 6-2; Satav Vik-

ram bt Sachin Malha 6-0, 6-1:

Anoop Keshavamurthy bt Adi-

tya Talwar 6-1, 6-3; Mayank

Sharma bt Keshav Goel 6-7(9).

6-1, 6-1; Jaishnav Shinde bt Ja-

son David 6-2, 6-1; Aryan Sutar

bt Arnav Yadav 6-7(8), 6-3, 7-5;

Smit Patel bt Yagna Patel 7-5,

7-5; Manish Yadav bt Antariksh

Tamuly 7-5, 6-4; Tejas Ahuja bt

Arunava Majumder 7-6(6), 6-3;

Omaansh Choudhary bt Bharat

Jaiswal 6-2, 7-5; Bharat Phul-

waria bt Pranav Mishra 6-2,

6-2; Arya Bhattacharya bt Sagar

Kumar 6-1, 7-5; Navya Verma bt

Dhruv Kumar 6-2, 5-7, 3-2

Venkat Batlanki bt Satvik

Murali 6-3, 7-6(5); Debasis Sa-

hoo bt Ayushmaan Arjeria 7-6

(3), 6-4; Suresh Keerthivassan

bt Vitin Rathee 6-1, 6-3; Arjun

Rathi bt Wyatt O'Brien 4-6, 7-5,

6-1: Manan Kumar bt Naishik

Reddy 7-6(2), 6-4; Shanker

(retired).

■ Hanny Kumari lasts just 35 seconds in quarterfinal against Russia's Nadezhda

the Indian teenager and finished the bout in no time.

In the 53kg, Pooja got a wrestling lesson from Japanese prodigy Akari Fujinami, who is yet to lose a bout in her career. Pooja lost her pre-quarterfinal by technical superiority.

Bhateri failed to get a single point, let alone winning a round, as she lost 8-0 to Rus-Dinara Salikhova.

6-4; Tarun Korwar bt Chandan

Shivaraj 6-3, 6-4; Vaheen Patel

bt Namish Sharma 6-3, 6-4;

Omar Rehan Sumar bt Tanishq

Jadhav 6-4, 6-3; Hitesh Chau-

han bt Paran Jain 6-2, 6-2; Prai

wal Tewari bt Rishi Sadeeshku-

Manikantan bt Kanav Dawer

6-1, 6-2; Rushil Khosla bt Swas-

U-14 boys (second round): Ar-

nav Paparkar bt Aradhya Kshitij

6-2, 6-3; Sehaj Pawar bt Advik

Natekar 6-0, 6-2; Ashwajit Sen-

jam bt Pratyushraj Goel 6-3,

Girls, u-14 (second round): Riya

Sachdeva bt Devanshee Prab-

hudesai 6-1, 6-2; Rishtha Basi-

reddy bt Rithika Sri Prassanna

6-3, 7-6(3); Prisha Shinde bt Di-

vya Ungrish 2-6, 7-5, 6-1; Ikara-

ju Kanumuri bt Harshini N 6-2,

6-2; Maaya Revathi bt Vamika

Sharma 6-1, 6-2; Anushka Bhola

bt Sree Lekha Chiruvolu 6-2,

6-4; Aditi Rawat bt Aishwarya

Jadhav 6-4, 6-2; Sree Tanvi Da-

sari bt Nainika Reddy 6-0, 4-6,

6-0,

tik Sharma 6-0, 6-2.

6-4; Vatsal

Kiran (76kg) was the only

senior player on the mat for India in the morning session.

She began with a 6-0 win against Korea's Kim Cholee but lost her quarterfinal 'by fall' to America's Adeline Maria Gray. The results: 50kg: Quarterfi-

nal: Nadezhda Sokolova (Rus) bt Hanny Kumari 10-0; First round: Kumari bt Miran Cheon (Kor) 9-2.

53kg: Pre-quarterfinal: Akari Fujinami (Jpn) bt Pooja by technical superiority.

65kg: Qualification round: Dinara Kudaeva Salikhova (Rus) bt

Bhateri 8-0. 76kg: Quaterfinal: Adeline Maria Gray bt Kiran by fall; First round: Kiran bt Kim Cholee

Lovlina gets direct entry for Worlds

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Tokyo Olympics bronzemedallist Lovlina Borgo hain (69kg) has been handed a direct qualification for the women's World championships, to be held in December in Istanbul, by the Boxing Federation of India, which has decided that the remaining squad will be made up of the gold medals winners from the Nationals to be held in Hisar from October 21.

Apart from this, the gold and silver-winners from the Nationals will also secure their place in the na-

tional camp. The bronze-winners will fight it out in trials featuring medallists from the previous three editions of the tournament for a place in the camp.

National hockey camp for men resumes PRESS TRUST OF INDIA being followed in the camp.

Amul Rich in tastel

BENGALURU

The Indian men's hockey team's chief coach Graham Reid says the focus of the ongoing National camp will be on setting future priorities after the historic bronze medal-winning show at the Tokyo Olympics.

"The boys are all excited to resume training and we are looking at our future engagements," Reid said.

After a break following the Olympics success, the players resumed training here on Monday. According to a release issued by SAI, all COVID-related protocols are

"They are undergoing

outdoor training in a different slot and are not mixing with other campers at SAI Bangalore. The revised SOPs of the SAI allows for outdoor training."

Assistant coach Piyush Dubey said the players are now re-focusing on the future engagements. "Our entire focus for the time being is on the Asian Champions Trophy in Dhaka in December this year and this month-long camp shall mainly target on improving the physical conditioning of the players," he said.

NEW DELHI ROUND-UP

Sonnet Club wins in Super Over

Sonnet Club defeated Yuzi Chahal Academy in Super Over in the Push Academy (u-13) league. After the teams were tied at

169, Sonnet scored 14 runs in the Super Over before Yuzi Chahal Academy responded with 12. In another match, Garv Dhingra (42 and 2/23) helped Croire Academy beat Aarbin Academy by 59

The scores: Sonnet 165/9 (Mihir Doi Ganesh 48, Sarthak Chechi 4/23) bt Yuzi Chahal Academy 165 (Gangesh Mishra 32); Croire Academy 228/9 in 40 overs (Parth Singh 66, Garv Dhingra 42. Arnav Puri Aarbin 4/43) bt Aarbin Academy 169 ın 39.1 overs (Aditya Thakuı 35, Paarish Dhillon 3/21).

Deadly spell by Mishra Shantanu Mishra (4/5) made the decisive difference as D. C. Raghav Academy beat West Delhi by 53 runs in the 1st A. S. memorial tournament.

The scores: D. C. Raghav Academy 285/8 in 40 overs (Subodh Kumar 82, Wasiq Raja 70, Rahul Sood 3/57) bt West Delhi 232 in 39.5 overs (Divij Digari 68, Kush Nagpal 53 n.o., Shantanu Mishra 4/5).

Ekant Thakur scores century

Ekant Thakur's 100 was the highlight of St. Angel's 70-run triumph over Anand Sports in the Swatik Cup. The scores: St. Angel Rohini 311 in 39.5 overs (Ekant Thakur 100, Pranjal Saini 86, Chetan Anand 4/54) bt Aanand Sports Akshardham 241 in 30 overs (Naman Tiwari 82, Abhishek Singh 3/47, Shivraj Kumar

Abhimanyu Tanwar hits 134 Abhimanyu Tanwar's 134 laid the foundation of Telefunken Club's 233-run win over Ekdant Academy in the second D. Force

tournament. The scores: Telefunken Club 367 in 40 overs (Abhimanyu Tanwar 134, Jatin 49, Bharat Sindwani 48, Vineet 3/49) bt

Ekdant Academy 134 in 31 overs (Abhishek Sakuja 3/26, Kartik Sidhu 3/36). All-round show by Jatin Pasricha

Jatin Pasricha (5/18 and 42)

guided P. B. Sports to a four-wicket victory over D. S. Academy in the second Ratan Lal Saini (u-16) tournament.

The scores: D. S. Cricket 195 in 47.5 overs (Jatin Pasricha 5/18) lost to P. B Sports 197/6 in 43 overs (Jatin Pasricha 42, Pratyush 30).

Arpit Rana excels Delhi u-19 player Arpit Rana

(30 and 3/12) excelled in Airliner Academy's 112-run victory over Rajiv Rathore Academy in the 15th Hari Chand memorial (u-17) tournament.

The scores: Airliner Academy 206/8 in 40 overs (Krish Yadav 50, Arpit Rana 30, Raunak Chand 3/48) bt Rajiv Rathore Academy 94 in 30 overs (Ashveer singh 30, Arjun Singh 4/19, Arpit Rana 3/12).

Stars struggle as four share lead at 67

GOLF

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

S. Chikkarangappa, Manu Gandas, Rashid Khan and Ajay Baisoya shot five-under 67 to share the opening day's honours in the ₹70lakh TATA Steel PGTI MP Cup golf championship here on Tuesday.

Full-field event

On a day that saw the return of PGTI's full-field event after seven years at the Delhi Golf Club course, prominent stars like S.S.P. Chawrasia, Shiv Kapur, Udayan Mane and Jyoti Randhawa struggled.

In contrast, lesser-known names like Gulfam and Sharavan Desai followed the leading quartet to share fifth place at 68.

Chikkarangappa, second

in the PGTI Order of Merit, made seven birdies and two bogeys during the round, highlighted by a 40-foot birdie-putt on the 12th.

Manu, who shot three bir-

dies on the first four holes,

kept his form going and

managed some long putts to share the lead. Rashid more than made up for starting with a bogey and an indifferent front nine

by firing four successive bir-

dies on the back nine. Baisoya delights

Baisoya produced the most eventful round of the day. He sank two eagles, five birdies as against four bogeys.

Among the stars who failed to shine, Randhawa shot a 71 to be tied 25th. Chawrasia (73) was tied 50th, Shiv Kapur (74) was tied 61st and Mane (75) shared the 76th spot.

Australian captain says the team can go all the way in the mega event CRICKET

Tejas Ahuja.

■ KAMESH SRINIVASAN

Heisnam bt Jasmeet Duhan 7-5,

Kriish Tyagi bt Manan Nath

6-4, 6-2; Shafaat Ali Asghar bt

Mandeep Reddy 3-6, 6-4, 6-2;

Rethin Pranav bt Chahatpreet

Singh 6-3, 6-1; Vansh Nandal bt

Deepam Malik 6-2, 6-3; Aditya

Rathi bt Harsh Fogaat 3-6, 6-1,

AYAN ACHARYA

Australia's white-ball captain Aaron Finch has indicated that he will open the batting with an off-colour David Warner at the T20 World Cup, which starts in UAE and Oman from October 17.

Injuries and form have been a worry for Australia in the build-up to the World Cup. Warner has 195 runs at 24 and a strike rate of 108 this IPL season and was dropped by the struggling Sunrisers Hyderabad after a poor run in the UAE-leg of IPL.

Meanwhile, Finch played with an injury in the West Indies and missed the entire Bangladesh series. The Victorian has since undergone knee surgery and is feeling "very good". He is likely to stick to the left-right opening combination.



Finch to open with Warner in the T20 World Cup

Potent pair: Australia's cause would be well served if the explosive duo of Finch and Warner gets going. • AP

"I think you would expect to see Davey [David Warner] and I open the batting in the World Cup. It is something that has worked for us for a long time now," he told

Among other Australians

has reeled off three half-centuries in a row for Royal Challengers Bangalore while Steve Smith has struggled for game time with Delhi Capitals. Smith's record in T20Is is mixed – 794 runs in 45

in the IPL, Glenn Maxwell

matches at an average of 27.37 and a strike rate of 129.52. But Finch has reiterated his confidence in Smith while adding that there will probably be a few floaters in the batting order.

"Smith is the best batsman in the world. I have no doubt he is the best possible option to fulfil the anchor role," he

"Guys like Stoinis and [Matthew] Wade are highquality cricketers who can fill any role in the Australian order. All our players are adaptable enough to bat in the middle order, and I think you will see whoever is called upon in the World T20 will do a terrific job."

Bad run

The Australian men's side hasn't made a T20 World Cup semifinal since 2012. It was No.1 in the ICC T20I rankings in May 2020 for the

then, it has lost five consecutive T20I series. Against Bangladesh in August this year, Australia's batting hit rock bottom when it was bowled out for 62 in the fifth match, its lowest ever in the format. "I don't think people

first time in history. Since

should read too much into the playing against spin in West Indies and Bangladesh," Finch said. "I think we have picked a team that can win the World Cup. We have the utmost faith in every single player picked. No doubt, they will be able to help us

About the side's bowling composition, Finch said: "The bowlers we have picked are world-class, so I am looking forward to seeing what they do on the big stage."

The players departing for the World Cup from Australia will leave for the UAE later this week.

M ND-NDE





has ruled him out for the rest



Barty opts out of

A return to court for Ash Barty this season looked less likely on Tuesday after the World No.1 was omitted from Australia's team for next month's Billie Jean King Cup finals in Prague. The Wimbledon champion, who returned to Australia after a third-round exit at the U.S. Open in September, led her completed edition of the Fed



Park Ji-sung's appeal to fans

Former Manchester United

to qualify Sriram Balaji was beaten 6-2, 7-6(0) by top seed Zizou Bergs of Belgium in the first qualifying round of the €66,604 Challenger tennis tournament in France. Balaji will partner Divij Sharan in

The results: Qualifying singles (first

PHF confident of taking part

Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) is confident of participating in the FIH Junior World Cup to be held in Bhubaneswar from November 24 to December 5, after having missed the last edition of the event in In-

tournament by the world body (FIH), the federation has still managed to send all necessary documents to the Indian High Commission on time for smooth "We don't want to see a

"We are confident this time there will be no glitches and our team will be given the best security for the World Cup," he said.

