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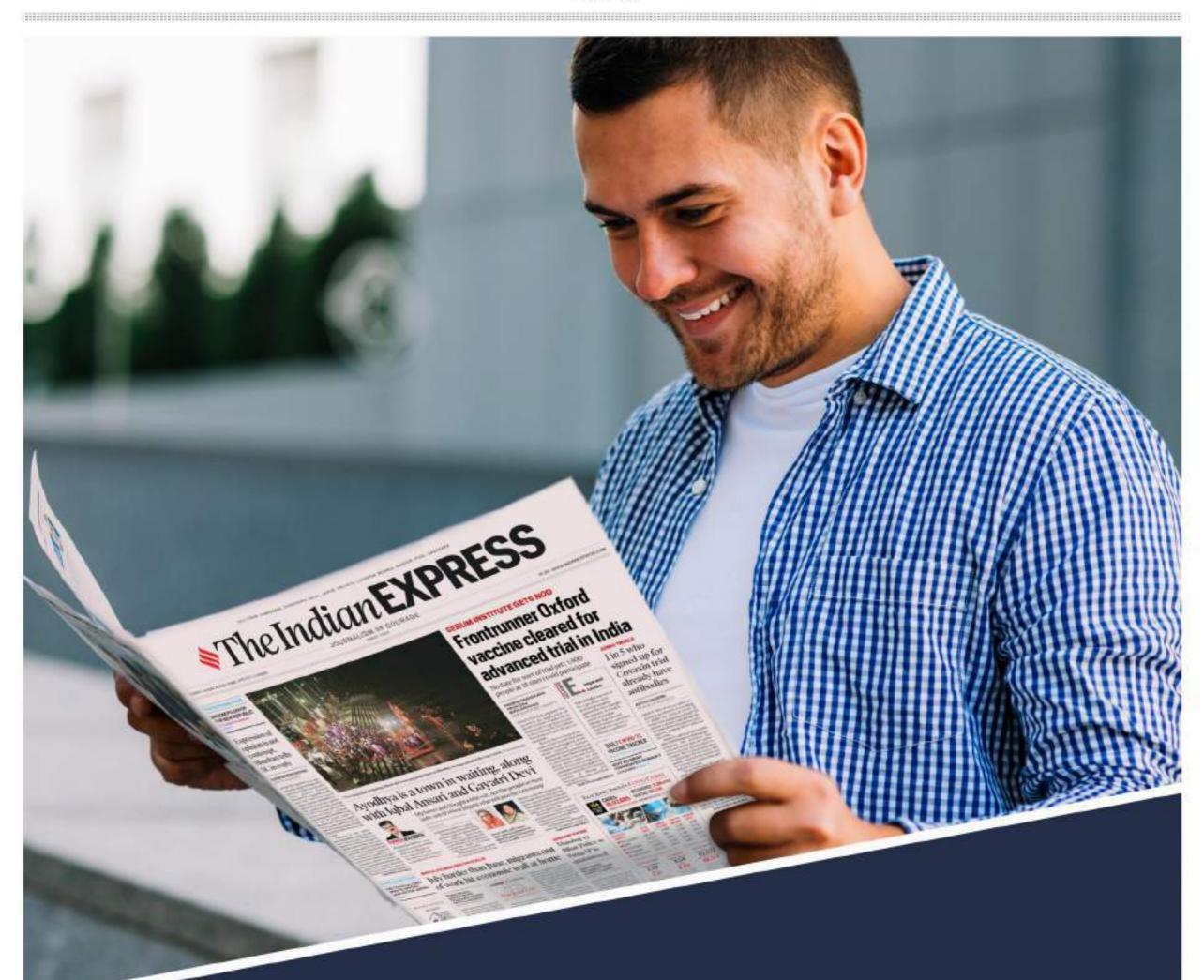
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2020, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 16 PAGES

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THE EDITORIAL PAGE

UGC VERSUS STATES

BY MILIND SOHONI & **OSHIN DHARAP** PAGE 8

Any war with China will also involve Pak; must strengthen military: Capt





Amarinder Singh at the Idea Exchange on Wednesday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 26

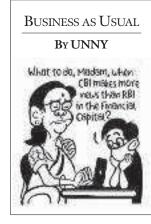
A WAR with China, if it happens, will include Pakistan too, Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh said on Wednesday.

'Mark my words, any wai with China will be a collusive one, with Pakistan as well,' Amarinder said during an online Idea Exchange at The Indian Express on Wednesday.

On the Chinese incursions in Ladakh, the Chief Minister said they were flexing their muscles, but India could give them a "bloody nose".

"This business of coming to time... In 1962 they came to Galwan... But the fact is that we are in a much, much better position. Now we have a whole corps there, which means 10 brigades. The Chinese are going to be very foolish if they think they can come on us. They had a bloody nose in 1967, and I think second time also they will get a bloody nose," he said

> But China, Amarinder said. CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



GST COUNCIL MEETS TODAY

MICHIGAN ♥ MYSURU ♥ SAO PAULO

Squeezed by Covid, salaries on hold: states' SOS to Centre

Maharashtra to Tripura, Punjab to Karnataka, states forced to slash capital spending as revenues take a beating

AANCHAL MAGAZINE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

WITH COVID-19 and subsequent lockdowns putting finances of over a dozen states under severe strain, resulting in delays in salary payments and sharp cuts in capital expenditure outlays, a meeting Thursday of the GST Council — the Centre-state governing body for the Goods and Services Tax (GST) — looks set for a showdown over delayed clearance of outstanding bills and escalating differences over compensation payments. Maharashtra.

Punjab, Karnataka and Tripura are among states reporting delays in salary payments to healthcare workers. In Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh, salaries have been delayed to staff of educational varsities. In this backdrop, most of the states are likely to confront the Centre on clearances of GST compensation payments pending since April this year. An evolving consensus among states, including some BIP-ruled states, on the need to raise the unconditional fiscal deficit limits and clear outstanding bills is also expected to be flagged at the meeting.

The stress in finances has left states with little space for increasing capital expenditure, an area of growing concern given that over the last few years, with states, cumulatively, spending

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



FOR STATES, GST accounts for almost 42% of their own tax revenues. With the Centre yet to make GST compensation payments for the last four months, many states have been forced to put on hold their capital spending, and are even struggling to pay monthly salaries of staff.

80+

Advanced

Technology IP

Sushant death: Narcotics case against Rhea Chakraborty, three others

THE NARCOTICS Control Bureau (NCB) on Wednesday filed a criminal case against actor Rhea Chakraborty and three of her ac-



stances. According

Director General, NCB,

MAHENDER SINGH **MANRAL**

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

quaintances under several sections of the

Drugs and

Psychotropic

(NDPS) Act,



Chakraborty

to officials, the NCB investigation was launched after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) alerted them about purported WhatsApp conversations between Chakraborty and others regarding cannabidiol, LSD, MDMA and marijuana.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

7 Opp CMs say will move SC to seek NEET-JEE deferment

At meeting called by Sonia, say will put up united front against BJP

MANOJCG NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

A HOST of issues agitating the states brought together seven Opposition Chief Ministers who, at a meeting called Wednesday by Congress chief Sonia Gandhi, resolved to unitedly fight the BIP and what they described as the violation of federalism by the Centre. "Darna hai ki ladna hai" (should

we be afraid or should we fight) Maharashtra Chief Minister and Shiv Sena leader Uddhav Thackeray asked the assembled leaders that included West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC leader Mamata Banerjee, Jharkhand Chief Minister and JMM leader Hemant Soren, and Congress Chief Ministers Amarinder Singh of Punjab, Ashok Gehlot of Rajasthan, Bhupesh Baghel of Chhattisgarh and V Narayanasamy of Must hold JEE, NEET or will lose a year: Education Secy **RITIKA CHOPRA**

The 7 chief ministers at the meeting called by Sonia Gandhi. ANI

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

WITH THE Centre under fire for pushing to conduct JEE (Main) and NEET next month, Higher Education Secretary Amit Khare told The Indian Express Wednesday that postponing these entrance tests till after Diwali would wash out an entire semester and affect fresh admisHigher Education **Amit Khare**

sions over the next few years. The exams were first to be held in April, but were postponed to July. When a large

Ready to wait for issues to be addressed, willing to be on panel to chart way: Azad

MANOJCG

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

GHULAM NABI Azad, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha and most senior among the 23 signatories on the letter sent to Congress president Sonia Gandhi early this month, said Wednesday that he is ready to wait for six



time party president... whosoever that will be'

'Need a full-

months until the appointment of a full-time party chief to address all issues raised by them.

Speaking to The Indian Express, Azad also said that if Sonia asks him to become a member of the committee that the party is likely to set up to look into the issues raised in the letter, he would be happy to do so. Azad said that as a

Congressman, he is not "bothered" whether Rahul Gandhi **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

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BJP tops political ad spend on Facebook India

KRISHN KAUSHIK NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

ANURADHA

MASCARENHAS

PUNE, AUGUST 26

TWO MALE volunteers at Pune's

Bharati Hospital became the first

to be injected as phase 2/3 clinical

trials of the Oxford-AstraZeneca

Covid-19 vaccine candidate be-

One of the volunteers was a

gan in India on Wednesday.

THE RULING BJP was the largest advertiser on Facebook in India on "social issues, elections and politics" over the last 18 months,

spending over Rs 4.61 crore since

February 2019, followed by the

main Opposition Congress party with Rs 1.84 crore, according to data available until August 24 on the social media giant's spend-

Covishield, the vaccine candidate, being administered to a volunteer in Pune. Arul Horizon

Doctor, PhD candidate get first shots

as Oxford vaccine trials start in Pune

48-year-old gynaecologist at a

private hospital in Pune who had

also volunteered 10 years ago for

clinical trials for a vaccine against

teer to be injected with the can-

didate that has been named

Covishield in India — is a 32-

year-old doctoral candidate in

statistics who works for a private

company in the city.

The other — the first volun-

the H1N1 (swine flu) virus.

Among the top 10 spenders in this category are four other advertisers who are linked to the BJP, including three that share the same address in Delhi as the ruling party's national headquarters, according to the tracker.

A total 1,600 volunteers will

be part of the study at multiple

trial sites. The Drug Controller

General of India (DCGI), the na-

tional drug regulator, had on

August 3 allowed Pune-based

Serum Institute of India, the

world's largest manufacturer of

vaccines, to conduct phase 2/3

human clinical trials of the vac-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

cine candidate in India.

These four include two community pages, 'My First Vote for Modi' (Rs 1.39 crore) and 'Bharat Ke Mann Ki Baat' (Rs 2.24 crore); Nation With Namo, which is categorised as a news and media website (Rs 1.28 crore); and, a page (Rs 0.65 crore) affiliated to BJP leader and former MP R K Sinha, who owns Security and

Intelligence Services (SIS). Taken together with the BJP, their ad spend totals Rs 10.17 crore, which is about 64 per cent of the total advertising (Rs 15.81 crore) by the top ten in this cate-The period covered **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Terror chats before, after Pulwama: Money in Pakistan bank accounts, IAF movement

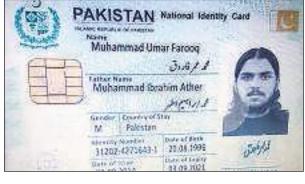
NIA chargesheet lists 350 voice messages between terrorists, their handlers in Pak

PAGE 1 **ANCHOR**

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

IN THE run-up to the February 14, 2019 terror attack in Pulwama and its aftermath, nearly 350 voice packets (voice messages), running into hours, were exchanged between the terrorists and their handlers in Pakistan. They shared instructions and information, ranging from finances for the attack to movement of fighter aircraft after the Balakot air strike to the use of a Pulwama attack video The 13,500-page chargesheet,

for propaganda. filed Tuesday by the National Investigation Agency (NIA), has transcripts and details of these chats to build its case against terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammed



A Pakistan government identity card issued to Mohammed Umer Farooq, key conspirator behind the Pulwama attack

and its bosses in Pakistan. In one of these chats, Mohammed Umer Faroog, nephew of Jaish chief Maulana Masood Azhar, asks Rouf Asgar and Ammar Alvi, brothers of Azhar, for money to be deposited in a bank account in Pakistan to finance the attack.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE EDITORIAL PAGE **TRUTH ABOUT PULWAMA** PAGE 8

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MENSTRUAL LEAVE: 'TO SENSITISE MEN, WORKPLACES HAVE TO PUT THEIR BEST

While period leave awaits implementation, a March 2020 LocalCircle survey revealed the new maternity law that mandates six months of paid leave, too, has affected women's hiring in almost 49% of startups or SMEs

EDUCATION



A TRIBAL GIRL'S **JOURNEY TO A+ GRADE**

Sridevi went to great lengths just to write her last few exams

CITIES



ORGAN TRANSPLANTS HALT IN TELANGANA

Nearly 5 months since transplant surgeries were put on hold

EXPRESS AUDIO

Significance of the joint statement by Kashmir mainstream parties

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

tuted right now, that will be im-

plemented by the next president

only." So would he join if asked to,

he said, "Yes, why not? We are one

party under one president.

Raising issues does not mean that

ship, with Sonia Gandhi keen to

step down and Rahul reluctant to

take over, Azad said, "As a

Congress worker, I am not both-

ered who will be president. I will

Asked about the party leader-

we are not one party.'

Today on the 3 Things podcast, Muzamil Jaleel joins us to talk about the significance of the joint statement and why it is the beginning of politics in the region

FROM PAGE ONE

Capt on military

was increasing its presence in the region, right from the Tibetan plateau to the Indian Ocean, and there was need for India to strengthen its military.

"You (the Chinese) are demanding Himachal areas, then you're demanding Sikkim, Arunachal areas, when is this going to stop? And I think you can put a stop to this only when we can deal with them militarily."

Amarinder rued that the mountain strike corps, which had been planned to deal with China, was yet to come into being. The government must find the resources to strengthen India militarily, he said.

On the letter to Congress chief Sonia Gandhi by 23 senior leaders seeking sweeping changes in the party - first reported by The Indian Express the Chief Minister called for discipline at senior levels.

"We are not angry. We only feel there is a certain decorum [that should be maintained]," Amarinder said.

The news of the letter had come as a surprise to him, the Chief Minister said. "I opened The Indian Express and saw the pictures. And the very next day the CWC was called. We did not even know the contents fully... Now, those issues which have been raised, I am sure will come up in the next meeting," he said.

The central government had not helped Puniab in the fight against the novel coronavirus. the Chief Minister said. "We need resources. GoI has given us Rs 101 crore till now. I have spent Rs 500 crore. I have no money because my own resources have come to a complete halt. We have 44.570 positive cases."

The state could see 1.10 lakh ases by September 18, the CM said. "I learnt today that even the GST is not going to come."

Seven Opp CMs Puducherry.

The Chief Ministers felt a common programme should be drawn up to wage a united fight against the Centre for undermining the rights of the states.

As a first step, there was a consensus among Chief Ministers to approach the Supreme Court to seek postponement of the IEE-NEET examinations in view of the

They also decided to jointly seek an appointment with Prime Minister Narendra Modi to mount pressure for release of GST compensation dues to the states which are "bleeding financially."

The sentiment at the meeting was that the Centre was not consulting the state governments be it on the New Education Policy or the draft Environment Impact Assessment notification. Sonia Gandhi said the interaction was aimed at having a "coordinated approach" in Parliament when the session begins September 14.

Banerjee said state governments are being "bulldozed". All the Chief Ministers said their revenues have been badly hit. "From where will the money come... from the sky?" Banerjee asked.

NIT No.21/2020/CENTRALISED TENDERING/APD/PIU/3774

CONSTRUCTION OF 200 BEDS

TO 300 BEDS. UPGRADATION

"And if we want to say something, there are so many agencie... I have not seen in a democracy these types of atrocities... we are facing an acute crisis and we cannot speak. The media cannot speak. ... spending lots of money against all of us... from Facebook to everywhere."

Thackeray said, "We will have to first decide darna hai ki ladna hai... otherwise we will keep meeting like this... it has no meaning... ladna hai to ladna hai, then whatever happens will happen... For us, it is Satyameva Jayate, and not Sattameva Jayate.'

The meeting was beamed live on social media platforms.

Thackeray said Oppositionruled states should draw up a "programme" listing issues being faced by them and approach the Centre. "We are not begging. It is our right... It is not that the people who have voted for us are from outside, and those who have voted for them are from here."

He said Opposition Chief Ministers should keep meeting. "Whatever we have to do, we will do it together."

Gandhi and Banerjee agreed. "We should have a programme. Kisiko bhi koi state mei problem hota hai, dikkat hota hai... koi bhi political party ko (if any state, party has a problem) ... they try to divert... sab ko alag alag karke rakh dete hain (they split them)," Banerjee said. "I agree that we have to work together and fight together," Gandhi said.

Soren said "we (the Opposition) look weak and are not able to raise issues strongly. The ruling side is using all weapons against the Opposition."

In her opening address, Gandhi said the finances of all states have been hit by the delay in GST dues. "This is nothing short of a betrayal by the Modi government and a betrayal of the trust of the people of India. On the other hand, the central government continues to profiteer from unilateral cesses which are nonshareable with states," she said.

While ordinances have been issued without consulting states on agricultural marketing, the draft EIA notification 2020, she said, is deeply anti-democratic. "Laws meant to protect the environment, livelihoods and public health are being weakened. The auction of coal mines too. I am aware, has been objected to by some Chief Ministers," she said.

"Six airports have been given to private hands. The Railways are the life-line of the country and they are being privatised too... Announcements like the National Education Policy should worry us. This is a setback for progressive, secular and scientific values and reveals insensitivity to what the states have been saving. Problems of students are being dealt with uncaringly," she said.

Oxford vaccine

The vaccine candidate, ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 or AZD1222, is undergoing advanced human clinical trials in Brazil, South Africa, and UK. Oxford University researchers announced last month that the candidate had triggered a dual immune re-

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Squeezed by Covid, salaries on hold: states' SOS

about one-and-half times more than what the Central government. This also comes at a time when states have been forced to hike their spending on health to counter the pandemic, even as, apart from faltering GST revenue proceeds, realisations from liquor excise and stamp duties remain weak.

A move by the Centre to conditionally hike borrowing limits for states is not of much help, given that only eight states qualify for this.

GST accounts for almost 42 per cent of the states' own tax revenues, and tax revenues account for around 60 per cent of the states' total revenues.

"The Covid-19 situation makes the financial position of states even more grim. All our taxation was taken over by the Government of India, then promises made, and now they're saying we don't have the money." a state finance minister

In a letter to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on

number of students tweeted

for further delay, they (exams)

were pushed to September.

Now, a section of students is

demanding that the exams

should be held after Diwali.

After Diwali, the Chhatt festi-

val will be celebrated in the

eastern parts of the country on

November 26. If we take a

week after that to organise the

exams, then we can only hold

them in the first week of

December, and the results

would be announced in 2021.

This means students risk los-

ing the entire academic year."

Wednesday, West Bengal Finance Minister Amit Mitra said asking states to borrow will increase their debt servicing liability and may lead to cuts in expenditure which is "not desirable" when the economy is witnessing "severe recessionary "It is surprising that the con-

stitutional guarantee given to the states is being interpreted in a manner that the Centre is not responsible to compensate the states and it is the states (in the GST Council) which will have to find means... themselves. Nothing can be more damaging, unfair and unjust," Mitra said.

Also, the assertion of no legal obligation by the Centre to not pay states has not found favour with the states, who say GST was rolled out on the premise they will surrender their taxation power and be compensated for a five-year transition period ending 2022.

"So, according to law, the Central government is not bound to pay compensation to

"Secondly, a delay in the se-

mester would not only affect

the current batch but also the

future batches. If 2021 admis-

sions are delayed by a year, then

you cannot have double the

number of seats in 2021-22.

Therefore, we want to start by

November. Then, we can have

shorter semesters with fewer

holidays so that by August 2021

we are ready for the next batch," the top official said.

Over the last week, several

states have joined students in

demanding a further delay in

conducting IEE (Main) and

NEET — including Odisha,

Must hold JEE, NEET or will lose a year: Education Secy

states, but it is the moral responsibility... if the Central government doesn't help states now, then they will slip into a lot of difficulty. If borrowing has to be done, the central government should borrow and the compensation cess fund should be increased for another five years," Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi said.

Kerala Finance Minister Thomas Isaac said the solution to GST imbroglio was for the Central government to empower GST Council to borrow for meeting the compensation requirement, "...if necessary through an ordinance, on the strength of future receipts of an extended levy of compensation cess beyond 5 years by an appropriate notification," he tweeted.

The Centre had in May raised the net borrowing limit for state governments from 3 per cent of the gross state domestic product (GSDP) to 5 per cent but only 0.5 percentage point of the extra borrowing

West Bengal and Tamil Nadu.

that the government is forcing

youngsters to risk their health,

Khare insisted that the deci-

sion was taken in the "overall

have already been made before

the Supreme Court, which dis-

missed the plea. While some

students have argued about

the health risks, there are also

others who are asking why

they should risk their career.

One has to balance between

those who want the exams and

those who don't, and more im-

"First, these arguments

interest" of students.

Asked about the charge

window was unconditional. One percentage point after that was to be made available in four equal tranches and balance 0.5 percentage point can be accessed if milestones are 'completely achieved' in at least three out of four reform areas-universalisation of 'One Nation One Ration card', ease of doing business, power distribution and augmentation of urban local body revenues. Only eight states -

Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Haryana — will fulfil the conditions set for additional borrowing of 2 per cent of the GSDP, State Bank of India said in its recent research report, adding that this would lead to only Rs 3.13 lakh crore being borrowed by states out of total available space of Rs 4.28 lakh crore. Till August 18, all states have borrowed Rs 2.5 lakh crore, which is around 30 per cent of the authorised limit leaving 70 per cent unutilised, it said.

portantly consider the aca-

demic schedule. The overall in-

terest has to be seen," he said.

states on board. Khare said.

"We need their cooperation... I

am hopeful that the exams, by

and large, will be held. The av-

erage attendance for any exam

is 90 per cent-odd. It will be the

tainment zones, the Secretary

said the NTA will make alter-

native arrangements. Students

living in containment zones

can use their admit cards as a

nally got a fulltime chief.

Asked how he and the co-sig-

natories are planning to take the

letter forward, he said: "There is

no question of taking it forward,

at the moment." The crux, he said,

was "there should be a full-time

president, whosoever that may

be... we are not talking A. B. C. D.

anybody" - and that there should

be an elected Congress Working

Committee, state presidents, dis-

trict presidents and block presi-

dents, and a Parliamentary Board.

goals) in the CWC because it has

been decided that within six

months...the AICC session will

take place and a full-time presi-

dent will be elected. At least, we

are happy that Mrs Gandhi is

there. Otherwise, there would

have been some third person for

another one or two years as in-

terim president and who knows

after that, there would have been

a fourth as interim president,'

"So, at least, it has been agreed

upon that the need of the hour is

a full-time president...whosoever

that will be, we have no objection.

We are not candidates for presi-

organisational elections, he said,

"It will not be fair on our part to

ask Mrs Gandhi to do it, because

we have decided to hold an elec-

tion within six months and have

a permanent president. How can

she, in this period, conduct block

and district and PCC elections? It

Azad said he was ready to wait

Asked about the formation of

As for other suggestions like

Azad said.

dent." he said.

"We have achieved one (of the

travel permit, he said.

For centres falling in con-

same this year.'

On getting the protesting

They also wanted to make an be happy whosoever is elected by majority because the president's election takes place by vote... That will be acceptable to us, at least it will be acceptable to me." On the isolation within the party of those who signed the letter, he said, "The Working Committee was of 22 members, but 60 people were called. This

should have been discussed in the Working Committee of 22 people, not with special invitees, permanent invitees and no invitees. We don't hold any grudge... We are happy that the Congress president and Rahul Gandhi have said they hold no grudge.' Rahul and Sonia spoke to Azad

after the CWC meeting Monday, a day after The Indian Express first reported on the letter's contents.

Asked whether he was surprised that the letter was not circulated or its contents discussed at the CWC, Azad said, "If only 22 people were there, there would have been a discussion. In the crowd of 60 people... you cannot discuss these things.'

On whether the signatories had reached out to colleagues, he said. "Why should we? It was to draw the attention of the Congress president. It is not some campaign within the party or about making some extra group or parallel group. We are a united party. We are responsible people. We are not making any ginger group or separate group.

Azad said, "Unfortunately, some people have hardly any connect or are too junior, who don't know how the Congress has been functioning, its Constitution or the sacrifices made by us... a few of them were not even born and a few of them were in school when people like us were in charge of Puniab and were fighting the militancy 35-40 years ago. They are questioning our leadership and what we were doing."

On criticism that he signed the letter because he was retiring from the Rajya Sabha and the party did not field him from Karnataka in June, the only seat it can win before his term ends in February, the former I&K Chief Minister said, "This is stupid and is being said by small-minded people who do not know who Ghulam Nabi Azad is."

"It is the BJP government, which is not conducting elections in my state... I have been an MP from J&K since 1996. For J&K, Sonia Gandhi or Rahul Gandhi are not at fault. Had there been an election (in J&K), had there been MLAs and I didn't get a ticket, I would have held a grudge.'

Pulwama

Rs 10 lakh is deposited in two accounts in the name of Umer Faroog in Allied Bank and Meezan Bank of Pakistan, according to the chargesheet. This money, the NIA says, is later brought to Kashmir through illegal financial networks to fund the Pulwama attack.

Another chat shows that from this fund. Rs 5.7 lakh is spent on preparing two IEDs, later fitted in a Maruti Eeco vehicle. Pulwama resident Adil Ahmed Dar drives this vehicle and explodes it near a CRPF convoy on the Jammu-Srinagar highway on February 14, 2019, killing 40 CRPF personnel.

The chat reveals a discussion on the cost of each component of the IEDs and the money spent in

the attack. The chat, in Urdu, pegs the cost of at IED at Rs "570000". In another voice packet, Rouf Asgar is heard asking Umer

following the Balakot air strikes on February 26, 2019, India targeted a Jaish base in Balakot, deep inside Pakistan. The Jaish, the chargesheet says, also planned to use the Pulwama attack for propaganda. In a voice packet exchange, Rouf Asghar and Umar Farooq discuss a video showing bodies of Indian security men. and how it should be used to influence Kashmiri youth.

audio-video on Adil Dar in Kashmiri, eulogising him as a shaheed to inspire Kashmiri youth. This plan was shelved due to the Balakot strikes because they were told to lie low," an NIA officer said. The NIA has already matched

the voice of Asgar from these chats with that of his voice samples available via open source.

Umer Farooq, son of IC-814 hijacker Ibrahim Athar, was killed in an encounter a month after the Pulwama attack. The J&K police recovered a Samsung S9 mobile phone from the site. Though the phone was damaged in the exchange of fire, forensic experts managed to retrieve data.

According to the NIA chargesheet, Umer, who had infiltrated into India in April 2018, had brought around 12 kg of RDX with him. Along with the RDX brought on previous trips, the terrorists packed 35 kg of RDX with ammonium nitrate, gelatine sticks and aluminium powder into two IEDs, weighing 160 kg and 40 kg, respectively.

NIA sources said the voice packets exchanged between the terrorists and their Jaish handlers in Pakistan are largely from the period preceding the attack.

"It took us 14 hours just to listen and analyse the voice packets. It took massive effort to sift through it, pick relevant data and match instructions with action and replies," an NIA officer said.

Some voice packets of the initial few months when Umer Faroog infiltrated into Kashmir were lost, but all the photographs were retrieved. "After a few months in Kashmir, the attackers bought new phones, discarding the old ones. Faroog had done a back-up of all pictures, but not of the voice packets. So we have voice packets only from the few months preceding the attack. But they conclusively prove Jaish's role in the

attack," the NIA officer said. Sushant case

Rakesh Asthana told The Indian Express, "We have launched a formal investigation under the provisions of the NDPS to unearth the nexus of trafficking. We have formed a special investigation team(SIT) under the supervision of Deputy Director (Operations) KPS Malhotra and will probe all possible angles."

Chakraborty's advocate Satish Maneshinde denied the charges, saying she had "never consumed drugs in her life" and was willing to take a blood test. "I am surprised that one more agency is getting involved in the case after the CBI and ED." Maneshinde said.

Sources in the NCB said the three others booked apart from Chakraborty included Samuel Miranda, who has been guestioned by the ED in connection with its probe into a money laundering angle in actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death.

A source said that they were looking at two WhatsApp conversations. on November 25 last year and April 4 this year. The ED had referred some evidence to NCB as well as shared it with the CBI.

Sections 20, 22, 27 and 29 of NDPS Act have been invoked in the NCB complaint, All non-bailable provisions, they entail punishment between one year and 10 years, and deal with violations of the law regarding cannabis and psychotropic substances, consumption of drugs, as well as abet-

ment and criminal conspiracy. "Before filing a criminal case, the NCB sought legal opinion," an

sponse in phase 1 and phase 2 human clinical trials, and had shown an "accepted safety profile".

Khare said.

daughter participated in a clinical trial during the H1N1 pandemic and, 10 years later, we have enfor Covishield," the gynaecologist told The Indian Express

event, the 32-year-old received his shot at 1.35 pm. The second volunteer was injected 15 min-

screened on Tuesday. Three tested positive for antibodies against Covid-19, and they cannot, therefore, participate in the trial," Dr Sanjay Lalwani, Medical Director of Bharati Vidyapeeth Medical College and Hospital, said.

hospital authorities said. The gynaecologist said, "I am

"My (then) 11-year-old listed our support as volunteers

their driver, were also screened,

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"Participating in the trial is my At a well-attended media

utes later, at 1.50 pm. "Five volunteers were

The 32-year-old, who belongs to a family of farmers, said: contribution to beating the virus."

Most clinical trial sites have seen a rush of volunteers for the study. Each of the four sites in Pune has seen 250-300 volunteers. The CEO of a well known firm and his family, along with

not feeling excited, rather I am feeling good about taking part in this trial as I have seen a few die due to complications related to the disease. Science is the only way to fight this virus," he said.

The gynaecologist said his wife and daughter would get their shots on Thursday if they cleared the tests. Dr Asmita Jagtap, executive director of Bharati Vidyapeeth's health sciences section, said the institution had been involved in over 50 clinical trials over the last 15 years. Dr Jitendra Oswal, deputy medical director of Bharati Hospital, said 100 volunteers will participate at some sites. "We will enlist 25 trial partici-

pants at our site," he said. On Wednesday, KEM Hospital and Research Centre at Vadu, some 20 km from Pune, too began screening volunteers. Five persons are set to be administered shots on Thursday at this site.

Jehangir Hospital and Sassoon General Hospital, the other two trial sites in Pune, were still waiting for their doses of the candidate on Wednesday.

Optimism ran high at the trial sites - at Bharati Hospital, security officer Mallika Sache said: "India phir aazaad ho jayega (The vaccine will liberate India again)."

Facebook India includes the general elections in

April-May 2019, which saw the BJP return to power with an overwhelming majority. The other political entity

among the top ten in this category is Aam Aadmi Party with a spend of Rs 69 lakh. According to the data, Facebook India's total ad spend under this category since February 2019 is Rs 59.65 crore. The ads were not restricted to the website and app, but were spread across other Facebook properties including Instagram, Audience Network and Messenger.

On August 14, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology sought an explanation from Facebook on a report that its top executive cited business imperatives and "opposed applying hate-speech rules" to at least four individuals and groups linked with BIP despite the fact that they were "flagged internally for promoting

or participating in violence." The community pages, 'My First Vote for Modi' and 'Bharat Ke Mann Ki Baat' were created in January 2019, and Nation With Namo in June 2013. All three promote content related to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BIP, but do not mention any direct

links to the party on their pages. Under information about advertisers available on Facebook, all three have listed their address as "6-A, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhvava Marg, Near ITO, Minto Bridge Colony, Barakhamba, New Delhi 110002", which is the na-

tional headquarters of the BJP.

The other advertisers among the top ten in the category include the news platform Dailyhunt with just over Rs 1 crore and ecommerce platform Flipkart with Rs 86.43 lakh, the data show. The list also includes a video-

sharing app Public (Rs 1,24 crore), which focuses on news videos in regional languages and has existed on Facebook since October 2018, but with no information in the advertiser section. As per Facebook, an ad is categorised under "social issues, elections and politics" if it is made by or on behalf of a candidate, political party or advocates an outcome; is about a particular election or referendum; is regulated by political advertising; or is

becomes the next president, or anyone else, and instead would "be happy" that the party has fi-

about a local social issue.

for six months as "the heavens are not going to fall". "We have waited for 23 years, what is the problem in six more months," he said.

takes at least one year."

a committee to assist the Congress president or to look into the issues raised, he said "that was decided". "But that is for the Congress president to consider. Even if the committee is consti-

Farooq about the movement of Indian fighter aircraft in Kashmir New Delhi

official said.

DISTRICT HOSPITAL PANNA DISTRICT PANNA M.P. I/C WATER SUPPLY. SANITARY FITTING & ELECTRIFICATION All details relating to the Bid Document (s) can be viewed and downloaded free of cost from the website. http://mptenders.gov.in
Bid Document (s) can be purchased after making online payment of portal fees through Credit/Debit/Cash Card/internet Banking.
The Bid Document (s) can be purchased only online from 9:00 AM (time) 20-08-2020 (date) to 6:00 PM(time) 03-09-2020 (date). Other key dates may be seen in Bid Data Sheet ent (s) to NIT, if any, shall be published on website only, and not in newspaper

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THE CITY

STRESSES ON NEED TO ISOLATE COVID PATIENTS

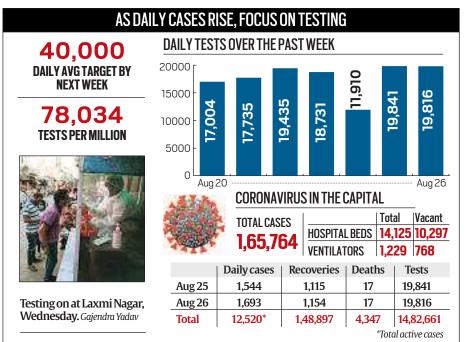
Uptick in cases, Kejriwal says double testing to 40,000 per day by next week

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

 $WITH AN \, up tick \, in \, the \, number \, of \,$ daily cases reported in Delhi, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said that the city will double the number of people it tests a day to around 40,000. Test and isolate, $he \, said, is \, the \, strategy \, to \, follow \, if \,$ the virus is to be controlled.

On Wednesday, 1,693 new cases were recorded, up from 1,544 on Tuesday. Over the past week, the number of new cases per day has risen from an average of around 1,100 to around 1,350 per day. At present, Delhi is testing around 18,000 persons per day on an average. The positivity rate, meanwhile, has increased from 6% to around 8% over the past two weeks. At its peak, Delhi was testing 25,000 people per day, largely through Rapid Antigen Tests.

After a meeting with Health Minister Satyendar Jain and senior officials, the CM said: "Over the past month and a half, we have managed to bring Corona under control to an extent. While daily



cases and the death rate have been low and the recovery rate high, there has been an increase since August 17. We cannot let the

situation deteriorate again. There were 1,544 cases yesterday and 1,693 cases today.

He also said that the other pa-

rameters were good. "It doesn't seem like the intensity of the disease is increasing. The number of deaths has been decreasing, and

case-fatality ratio is 1.4%. We have managed to remain under 20 deaths a day, when once this number was over 100," he said.

Around 3,700 hospital beds out of over 14,000 are occupied at present. Kejriwal said that of these, 2,900 were occupied by those from Delhi, while the remaining were from other states.

Pushing for aggressive testing, Kejriwal said that the government had set a target of 40,000 tests a day. "The best strategy is to test and isolate. We have to go in for aggressive identification as it is the best way to control the spread," he said.

The government is also going to provide oximeters to those who have recovered from Covid and, if required, oxygen concentrators will also be sent to their homes. This, Kejriwal said, was being done because many people who have recovered from Covid are still reeling from symptoms such as breathlessness.

"Some people, a very small number, have also died after recovering from the disease. Even

Jeweller brothers commit suicide in Chandni Chowk

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

TWO BROTHERS who own a jewellery store in Chandni Chowk allegedly committed suicide inside their shop due to financial losses and harassment by a moneylender.

According to police, the deceased, Arpit Gupta (42) and Ankit Gupta (47), owned Krishan Jewellers. 'They were found hanging on the third floor of their store on Wednesday afternoon. Their father was on the first floor at the time. While Arpit was unmarried, Ankit is survived by his wife and two children," a senior officer said.

The brothers had allegedly We can't let Covid spread aggrestaken loan from a moneylender but was unable to repay due to Over the past few days, the CM said, there had been instances losses in the business. Police said of 7-8 people of the same family they are verifying claims by lotesting positive. This, he said, was cals that they had been roughed because people were delaying up by the moneylender near their shop recently. "Due to overconfidence, some

DCP (North district) Monika Bhardwaj said, "The brothers left a suicide note saying they were in a poor financial situation. Their store is in the Maliwada area and they lived in Sitaram Bazaar."

"The men didn't write any-

one's name in the suicide note. We are recording the family's statement," said Bhardwaj. Police have initiated an inquiry under Section 174 of the CrPC.

Their father, Adishwar, alleged, "My sons were being harassed by a man and his associates who also own a jewellery

Their brother, Namit, said the

wedding card shop in the area, said, "I have known the family for years. The brothers had taken a loan of Rs 60 lakh before the lockdown. Usually these loans are paid within six months but due to the lockdown, they had no sales. The lender, who also owns a jewellery store in the area, had also sent bouncers to

Yogesh Singhal, president of a jewellers association in Chandni Chowk, told reporters, "The pandemic has affected businesses and traders are in debt. Lenders are harassing jewellers and try-

BRIEFLY -

Restart Metro: Delhi BJP chief to minister

New Delhi: Delhi BJP chief Adesh Gupta Wednesday requested Union Urban Development Minister Hardeep Puri to allow resumption of Delhi Metro operations at the earliest, with the necessary SOPs and guidelines. Gupta stated, "At this time, the people of Delhi need means of transport as the Delhi government's transport system has been completely stalled." The Ministry of Home Affairs has already allowed Metro services under the next phase of the lockdown.

Woman jumps off NDMC building, dies

New Delhi: A 36-year-old woman died after she allegedly jumped off the 11th floor of New Delhi Municipal Council building on Wednesday morning. Police said the woman worked as an office attendant in the building. No suicide note has been recovered, police said, adding that they however do not suspect any foul play. The woman's family told police she had been undergoing treatment for mental illness at IHBAS.

Four arrested for damaging vehicle

New Delhi: Four men, including the grandson of a local Congress leader, were arrested for allegedly damaging a car belonging to a man who "refused to pay extortion money" in West Delhi's Ramesh Nagar area, police said. In the CCTV footage, police said the main accused, Anmol Magoo, the grandson of the late local Congress leader Ram Magoo, is allegedly seen hitting a Mercedes Benz car with a rod. "A case has been registered," DCP (West) Deepak Purohit

Noida cop suspended

Noida: A Noida Police subinspector, posted at Sector 20 police station, was suspended for allegedly demanding a bribe from a tea vendor operating his shop during the weekend lockdown at Sector 18 Atta Market. **ENS**



COVER UP OR PAY UP

An official issues challan after a staffer was found without a mask, at a shop in Pandav Nagar. Gajendra Yadav

Court dismisses hate speech plea against MPs Anurag and Parvesh

ANAND MOHAN J NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

A DELHI court Wednesday dismissed CPI(M) leader Brinda Karat's application seeking registration of FIR against BJP MPs Anurag Thakur and Parvesh Verma for allegedly making hate speeches. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Vishal Pahuia dismissed the application noting that for prosecution of the respondents, prior sanction of competent authority, that is the central government, was re-

quired under section 196 CrPC. During arguments, when Karat's legal team was asked if they had procured sanction, they replied in the negative. The court noted: "Admittedly, there is no previous sanction obtained by the complainants from the compe-

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE DELHI High Court

Wednesday allowed the Delhi

Police to place before it the case

diary pertaining to a Northeast

Delhi riot related case, in which

Pinira Tod member Natasha

Narwal was arrested, in a sealed

cover. Justice Vibhu Bakhru, who

was conducting the proceedings

on Narwal's bail plea through

video conferencing, allowed the

Delhi Police to submit the case di-

ary on August 29 and posted the

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26





Anurag Thakur (left) and Parvesh Verma

tent authority to prosecute the respondents... Hence, in view of the plaint deserves to be dismissed for being not tenable in the eyes of law. Accordingly, the same stands dismissed.

The counsel for the complainant had argued that "sanction is only required before taking cognizance by the court and not before passing of order of reg-

Natasha Narwal case: Police will

submit case diary in sealed cover

Karat had approached the

court after her written complaints to the Commissioner of Police and the SHO, Parliament Street, failed to elicit a response. Her complaints against Thakur and Verma were made fol-

lowing the Election Commission's decision to remove them from the list of star campaigners during the Delhi Assembly elections. Karat had in her complaint alleged that Verma, in a speech on January 27, had threatened protesters in Shaheen Bagh and made communal and false provocative state-

Similarly, in the case of Thakur, it was argued that he was seen in a speech on the same day while addressing a BJP rally inciting the audience to attack those protesting against CAA-NRC by referring to protesters as traitors.

admissions to start at govt schools

THE LONG-PENDING registration for admission of students whose parents want them transferred from private to government schools opens on Thursday, albeit

This process of 'non-plan' admission - or admission apart from transfer from feeder schools – usually begins in April every year. The process for classes VI to IX, which begins on Thursday, will extend until September 8. An education department official said that sorting out the process con-

"We are doing the application process online this year to prevent crowding at schools and so that the form can be filled even by families which are not in Delhi now... We also had to make sure that the online process was simple enough so that it can be done without any kind of support," said

down has led to several families waiting for admissions at government schools to open, since they can't afford private school education for their children.

Help desks will be available at schools to assist parents in filling online forms, and a helpline has also been made available. After they are allotted a school, the applicants will have to report there with documents for verification.

Education department officials said the circular for admission of students in older classes

Non-plan

SUKRITA BARUAH NEW DELHI AUGUST 26

only online.

tributed to the delay.

ing the child was murdered. According to police, the child home at the time. The financial strain of the lock-

"She went missing from her

body did not have any external injuries, they suspect she was abducted and murdered. An FIR has been lodged under sections 346 (wrongful confinement in secret), 302 (murder), and 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence, or giving false

hearing impaired girl found in Palwal field

of the wall at identified places for

augmenting security of the Army

area. The work pertains to repair

of an 'existing asset' and does not

Colonel Anand added,

'Neither any trees have been

damaged in the process nor any

intent for such an act exists within

Chief Conservator of Forests in

Delhi on August 19, listing 27 trees

found to have been damaged in

the area during inspection. At

DCF Guite sent a report to the

involve fresh construction."

this organisation."

SAKSHI DAYAL GURGAON. AUGUST 26

THE BODY of a 10-year-old speech and hearing impaired girl, who had gone missing from her home in Palwal on Monday, was found in a field in her village on Tuesday, with police suspect-

had disappeared from her home while her mother and two younger siblings were in the house. Her father, who works at a private company, was not

house around 2 pm, after which her parents began searching for her. They approached us that evening. Her body was found in a field near their home on Tuesday," said Mohammad Illyas, SHO of Hodal police station. Police said that although the

information to screen offender of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) against unknown persons. "The body has been sent for

postmortem, and we are awaiting the report to ascertain whether she was sexually assaulted. We are trying to identify the accused." said the SHO.

The child's uncle said: "Her family has no enemies. She disappeared from the house in the afternoon... Her parents are distraught imagining what she

must have gone through." The SHO denied the uncle's claim that the girl's eyes had been gouged out: "We have checked with the doctors and they have confirmed that there was nothing unusual about her eyes. Her body had been lying in the field for several hours before it was discovered. It was infested by flies when it was found, including around the eyes.'

The Superintendent of Police, Deepak Gahlawat, said: "The postmortem report is yet to come, but there appear to be signs of sexual assault on the body. We have not made any arrests yet but have procured some leads... We hope to crack the case in the next two or three days."

New Delhi

store here."

man had been harassing them for four months. "I live separately so I wasn't too aware of the situation. Police should arrest the men who forced them to take this step." Lokesh Gupta, who owns a

harass them."

Forest dept asks Army to stop work over tree damage

SHIVAM PATEL

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE INDIAN Army has been asked to stop repair work on a wall in Delhi Cantonment area near Dhaula Kuan over prima facie violation of the Forest Conservation Act (FCA) 1980 by damaging trees in a deemed forest land without permission.

cover despite testing negative.

Oximeters and oxygen concen-

trators will be made available to

them as well. The one good thing

is that since July 14, not a single

person has died in home isola-

he was happy that people were

more confident to venture out, it

should not bring complacency.

"Enforcement of rules to wear

masks and ensure social distance

has to be stricter. I am happy there

is confidence among people, but

there should be no complacency.

people think they will recover

even after they have symptoms.

They do not realise that if they do

not get tested in time, they end up

infecting many people around

them eventually," he said.

sively again," he said.

getting tested.

Kejriwal also said that while

tion," he said.

Deputy Conservator of Forest (West) S K Muan Guite told The *Indian Express* that the Army has been served a notice, and that it does not have permission from the Centre to carry out work in the area under FCA 1980.

"There appears to be a prima facie violation of the Act. A report was submitted to the Chief Conservator of Forests last week, who would now inform the MoEF (Ministry of Environment and Forests). The MoEF will take necessary action," Guite said.

As per the Act, non-forest activity in a forest land requires prior permission from the central government. An inspection carried out by the forest department on August 7 found that 27 trees were either felled or damaged and the area around them trenched, along the Ring Road next to the Rajputana Rifles Regimental Centre. Guite said the area is a deemed forest land.

Indian Army spokesperson

Body of speech and

An Army spokesperson said they were repairing the wall and not doing any fresh construction. Shivam Patel

Colonel Aman Anand denied that least six trees were reported to trees had been damaged during have been felled, one was found repair work. "The work underwith "only root stump", one was taken is primarily a matter of re-"cut from the upper part", and pairing the wall on certified A1 others had roots exposed. defence land. The scope involves DCF Guite said in the report, "No such permission is issued by recasting of plinth in the existing wall along with raising of height this office for felling of trees at the

area in question.' He added that the official who went for an inspection on August 7 was not allowed to enter Delhi Cantt premises and was threat-

ened by the contractor at the site. "After considering all the facts, it is prima facie found that offence under FCA 1980 may be commit-

ted by Army (HQ) in the said area." the report said. Colonel Anand said that no

damage to the environment is foreseen or planned by the

Will go to CM house with begging bowl: **SDMC** mayor

ABHINAV RAJPUT NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

SOUTH DELHI Municipal Corporation (SDMC) mayor Anamika Mithilesh Wednesday claimed the Delhi government has slashed funds for the civic body year after year in an organised manner, and the present situation is such that she is left with no option but to go to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's house with a begging bowl.

She said MCD leaders will hold a protest on September 10 over the issue. "They keep saying allow us to rule MCD. I want to tell them that they should not make the staff and the education and health sectors suffer as they want to come to power in MCD.

Presenting data on the funds, Mithilesh said Rs 1,100 crore is due in the current financial year

Durgesh Pathak, MCD-incharge of AAP, alleged BJP leaders of MCDs are engaged in scams. "Whenever we raise corruption issues, they do these things to distract. If we rule MCD. with the same revenue we will

show MCD in profit," he said.

hearing on August 31. Additional Solicitor General S



Natash Narwal

V Raju, representing the Delhi Police, said there is sensitive information in the case diary which cannot be shared with Narwal's advocate at this stage. To this, the judge said a separate web link will

be given to the agency's advocate and the investigating officer, and they can show the relevant portion to the court. The judge said others, includ-

ing Narwal's counsel, will not be privy to the proceedings. Advocate Adit S Pujari, appearing for Narwal, did not object to it. The court had also suggested that the present matter can be

partially open on a rotational basis from September 1. Pujari submitted that this matter may be decided expeditiously as Narwal seeks to apply

taken up for physical hearing as the High Court has decided to

for her PhD programme at JNU.

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2020

Postpone JEE-NEET entrances, Sisodia appeals to Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

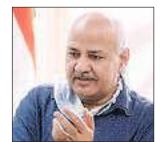
DEPUTY CHIEF Minister Manish Sisodia wrote to Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhrival on Wednesday, appealing to him to either postpone or come up with an alternative to the JEE and NEET examinations, which are scheduled to begin on September 1.

Sisodia said that calling 28 lakh students to write these exams would be "willfully playing with the lives of the children".

In his letter, Sisodia wrote that while students are being told that safety precautions will be followed in the examination centres, it is not enough to assure them or keep Covid-19 at bay.

...we have thousands of examples in front of us where people have got corona despite being in the midst of plenty of precautions. Delhi's health minister was affected by coronavirus despite many precautions. Despite many protocols and provisions, our home minister was also affected by coronavirus," he wrote.

He also wrote that while many MLAs, chief ministers and powerful people in several states have been infected by the virus despite precautions and proto-



Sisodia said calling 28 lakh students to write the exams was akin to 'wilfully playing with the lives of children'

col, "by calling 28 lakh children to exam centres trusting only in protocol, we are creating a huge

Stating that the threat of coronavirus is higher for people affected with different illnesses. he wrote, "For students affected with such illnesses, the exams may prove to be equivalent to deliberately pushing them into the well of death.'

"In a situation like this, we will have to think not as administrators but as guardians," he wrote, urging that if it is not possible to push the dates of the exam further, an alternative should be found for entrance exams.

AFTER PART OF FLYOVER COLLAPSED

Lapses on ground, work on Sohna road project stopped

SAKSHI DAYAL GURGAON, AUGUST 26

WORK ON the 21-km-long Sohna road project has been completely suspended, after officials from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) noticed violations of safety norms during a visit to the project site, where a section of an under-construction elevated road collapsed on Saturday night. Both the NHAI and Gurgaon Police are conducting separate probes into the collapse, which had left two

labourers injured. Officials said that during an inspection of the site on Monday, they noticed an absence of proper barricading as well as traffic marshals — issues the concessionaires had been warned about in July as well.

Officials said directions were issued to suspend work on July 3, but the order was revoked on July 7, subject to three conditions proper barricades be erected before undertaking any construction in the future; penalties be imposed if any pothole or patchwork was not repaired within the stipulated time frame; and the concessionaire submit the cre-

Executive Engineer,

Jhajjar W/S Division, Jhajjar



Both the NHAI and Gurgaon Police are conducting separate probes into the collapse of a section of the elevated road

dentials of traffic marshals who would be deputed at the site within 15 working days.

On Monday, however, it was noticed that certain construction zones were not barricaded properly and safety marshals had not been deployed at all. Additionally, some of the barricading along the stretch had been moved to the site of the collapse, leaving sections where they were earlier vulnerable.

"The NHAI has written to concessionaires of both packages of the project, directing that work be suspended and they make required arrangements to ensure

safety measures laid out in the agreement are followed," said an NHAI official, adding that a penalty of Rs 50,000 per day has also been imposed on the concessionaires until the entire construction area is properly barricaded and traffic marshals are deployed.

"The concessionaires have also been warned that they will be held responsible for any incident at the site in the future and for any third-party claims made relating to loss of property or life." the official said.

The project, on which work began in 2018, relates to "six-laning and strengthening" of a 21-

Rajiv Chowk up to Sohna. While the first package deals with a 9 km-long stretch between Rajiv Chowk and Badshahpur, including the 5-km-long elevated road that will run between Subhash Chowk and Badshahpur, the second package deals with a 12km-long stretch between Badshahpur and Sohna, which includes the construction of several flyovers and underpasses.

While the first package will cost approximately Rs 690 crore, the second will cost Rs 606 crore, bringing the cumulative cost of the project to around Rs 1,300

On the probe into the section of the elevated road that collapsed, the NHAI official said, "A sample of the concrete from the crushed segment has been collected and sent for testing to a laboratory. The results are awaited."

The incident took place around 9.30 pm on Saturday night, when a 40-metre-long spine of the pan between pillars 10 and 11 collapsed. As no work was underway on the structure or beneath it at the time, there were no fatalities, although police did confirm that two people had sustained minor injuries and were provided first aid.

Amount

At AIIMS, Covid symptoms are not limited to the lungs

ASTHA SAXENA AND ANANYA TIWARI

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

AT AIIMS, about 53 per cent of Covid-19 cases reported in July and August had no symptoms involving the lungs, indicating that the virus has manifestations that go beyond that organ.

Discussing the extra-pulmonary manifestation of Covid at the National Grand Rounds, experts from departments of medicine, cardiology and neurology at AIIMS said it has turned into a multi-system disease.

Dr Randeep Guleria, AIIMS director and pulmonologist, said, 'What we thought of as a simple viral pneumonia has a lot of other manifestations beyond the lungs. As we have learnt more and more, we realise it causes many extra-pulmonary manifestations. This is basically because of the fact that this virus enters into cells through ACE2 receptors, and these receptors are also present

in many organs..." Of the 122 Covid patients treated at the AIIMS in July-August, 53% exhibited non-pulmonary symptoms. Of these patients, 30% did not have comorbidities. Diabetes and hypertension were the most common comorbidities for 21 per cent and 20 per cent of the patients respectively. Other comorbidities included renal transplants, cancers and HIV/TB.

Guleria also said that following up with patients was important in the long term as they may develop lung fibrosis, cardiac dysfunction or neuro dysfunction.

Dr Ambuj Roy, head of cardiology at AIIMS, said, "Covid can lead to cardiac complication as part of the systemic disease, or it could trigger cardiac ailments, or be coincidental to it. We have seen that other influenza-like diseases can lead to acute coronary events. So we must make sure patients are on secondary prevention for cardiovascular diseases.'

Abnormalities in blood coagulation, blood clots in veins and lungs were also seen in higher frequency in patients and have caused many deaths, experts said. High-grade fevers, hypotension and multi-organ dysfunction was seen especially in patients with comorbidities.

Speaking about cases of alleged re-infection, Guleria said it was not a problem right now. "There were a lot of reports that came from South Korea that there were cases of reinfection and then it was discovered that it was just continuous viral load shedding which is not infectious...," he said.

3301

HARYANA IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT **NOTICE INVITING E-QUOTATION**

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Period of Completion	Earnest Money	Last Date of Receipt of Online Quotation	Cost of Quotation Documents
1.	Watch and ward operation and maintenance of Pump Houses and maintenance of Channels in the jurisdiction of Jhajijar WN Division, Jhajijar and Mech. W/S Division Jhajijar as per their requirement for the Year 2020-21.	Upto 30.09.2021	2,00,000/-	12.09.2020	Rs. 15,000/-

Last Date of Receipt of Quotation Online is 12.09.2020 and Opening Date is 14.09.2020 at 3.00 P.M Corrigendum if any will be published on-line only For further detail visit on website www.etenders.hry.nic.in

JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Indira Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004

NOTICE INVITING BID

NIB No.: EE & TA to Dir. Engg.-I/09/2020-21

Bids are invited for works given below in various zones as per details given :-

ı	S. No.	Zone	Job No.	Name of Work	Cost of Work (Lacs)	Last Date Bid Invited Online		
	1.	Executive Engineer-11	072/ 2020-21	Various Development Work in APJ Abdul Kalam Nagar in Zone-11, JDA, Jaipur. UBN No.: JDA2021WSOB00149	215.00	15.09.2020 Up to 6.00 PM		
	2.	Executive Engineer-14	071/ 2020-21	Construction of Internal Roads upto GSB level, Major Roads in two lane with BC, Demarcation Pillars in Hira Lal Shastri Nagar, JDA Scheme, Zone-14, JDA, Jaipur. UBN No.: JDA2021WSOB00147	288.00	14.09.2020 Up to 6.00 PM		
	Details may be seen in the Procurement Portal website <u>www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in</u> , <u>www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in</u>							

and www.jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in **Executive Engineer &** TA to Dir. Engg.-I

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division,

M.E.I. Layout, Hesaraghatta Main Road, Bagalagunte, Bangalore - 560 073. No: BBMP/EE/DD/TEN/15/2020-21

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

(Two Cover Tender) (Only through E-Procurement) (KW3 & KW4)

The Executive Engineer (Dasarahalli Division), BBMP, Bangalore-73. Invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent Registration with KPWD/CPWD/BWSSB/Railways/MES/Natinal Highway or any State Government Organizations for the Construction of works detailed in the table below.

SL No.	Name of the work	Approximate value of work (Rs in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs)	Category/ Reserved for
1	Providing Fixing and Maintenance of Street Name Boards and Desilting of Drain in ward No. 39 Chokkasandra.	100.00	2,00,000	Others
2	Improvements to roads and drains at Sanjeevini Nagara 1st stage, 2nd stage and 3rd stage and its surrounding area in ward no.71		1,99,920	Others
3	Improvements to roads and drains at Lakshman Nagara, Srigandha Nagara, Hoysalanagara and its surrounding area in ward no. 71	99.96	1,99,800	Others
4	Improvements of CC Roads and CC Drains at Eastern Side Cross roads of 9th Cross Road (Echala Maarada Road) and its surrounding roads in Lakshmana Nagara in ward no. 71		1,78,000	Others
5	Improvements of drains at 1st cross and its surrounding cross roads from New Carmel School Main road in Sanjeevini Nagara 2nd stage in ward no. 71.	81.00	1,62,000	Others
6	Improvements of drains at 8th cross and its surrounding roads in Gajanana Nagara in ward no. 71	80.00	1,60,000	Others
7	Providing and Installation of CC Camera in Sensitive and Important Places of Shivanandanagara, Friends Colony and Mayura Nagara in ward No. 71		2,00,000	Others

(1) Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before 16.00 hours on 11.09.2020 (2) Date of Notification: 26.08.2020 (3) Tender documents can be downloaded from: 30.08.2020 (4) Pre bid meeting on 02.09.2020 at office of the Chief Engineer, Dasarahalli Zone, MEI Layout, Hesaragatta Main Road, Bagalagunte Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore-73, between 03.00 P.M. to 04.30 P.M. (5) Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is 11.09.2020 upto 4.00 P.M. (6) Date of Technical bid opening of Tenders is on 14.09.2020 by 4.00 P.M. (7) Financial bid Opening will be done after Technical bid approval. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division

Pay Development Charges-Help To Develop Bengaluru

Job No./Work name

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida - 201301 (U.P.) Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from firms/ contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/ downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

S.No	Job No./Work name	Amount
1.	88/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2020-21, D/o RSP (SH: S/F Animal Topiary) Sector-14A Entry Udhyog marg, Sector-06 Indra Gandhi Kala Kendra, Sector-21A Stadium Sector-62 D Type Park, DLF Road Sector-18, F.N.G., MP-IIIrd Hindon Pusta Sector-123, MP-Ist and IInd Along Elevated Road, Kamal Marg, Kondli Marg etc. with Two year maintenance.	Cost Rs. 48.27 Lacs
2.	89/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2020-21, M/o Green (Master Green) with Two year maintenance in sector-55 and 57.	Cost Rs. 33.84 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date 09/09/2020 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 10/09/2020 at 11.00 AM,

1,	73/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2020-21, M/o Green Belt (Master Green) with Two year maintenance, Block-C, D, F and G Sector-56, Noida	Cost Rs. 26.07 Lacs
2.	86/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2020-21, D/o Green Belt with two year maintenance in sector-63A	Cost Rs. 34.26 Lacs
3.	74/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2020-21, M/o Park with Two year maintenance (A-66, A-7, C-55A, B-7 and C-38A Sector-58) Noida	Cost Rs. 41.28 Lacs
4.	71/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2020-21, M/o Park with Two year maintenance Clover leaf Sector-14A and Rose garden Y.R.FIst Noida	Cost Rs. 45.37 Lacs
5.	67/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2020-21, M/o Park with Two year maintenance Sector-122, A and C Block (Triangle Park) and Sector-122, A, D, E-01, E-03 Park, Noida	Cost Rs. 46.40 Lacs
6.	128/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, D/o Green Belt Sector-115 Near FNG Road with two year maintenance	Cost Rs. 25.64 Lacs
7.	104/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o Park Sector-44 DMRC Office Block F & G with two year maintenance	Cost Rs. 27.38 Lacs
8.	117/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, D/o Green Belt & Traingle with two year maintenance Sector-51 Near Metro Station Sector-34	Cost Rs. 27.98 Lacs
9.	120/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, D/o Park Sector-117, 118 Samajwadi Yojana with two year maintenance, Noida	Cost Rs. 27.98 Lacs
10.	143/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o Green Belt/Master Green with two year maintenance Sector 42 & 43	Cost Rs. 30.93 Lacs
11.	69/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2020-21, D/o Stadium (Shooting Range) with two year maintenance Sector-21A & Green Belt along with Generator mkt. Harola, Sector-05, Noida	Cost Rs. 31.06 Lacs
12.	121/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o Green Belt with two year maintenance Sector-39 P.G. College, Noida	Cost Rs. 42.21 Lacs
13.	100/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o Green Belt T Point Sector-31 to Amity School & Opp. G-155 & Front of K.K. Colony Near Primary School Sector-44 with two year maintenance	Cost Rs. 45.31 Lacs
14.	142/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o RSP with two year maintenance Nithari Road (MP-II to DSC Road) & Road No-8	Cost Rs. 47.98 Lacs
15.	131/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o Park Sector-34, 50, 51, 61, 52, 53, 74 etc. (Painting of Jhula Bench & Repairing) Noida	Cost Rs. 48.00 Lacs
16.	116/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o RSP All Block Sector-44 with two year maintenance	Cost Rs. 48.75 Lacs
17.	130/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o Parks Sector-50 Block B And C with two year maintenance	Cost Rs. 51.46 Lacs
18.	156/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, D/o Green Belt Sector-77 with two year maintenance	Cost Rs. 61.86 Lacs
19.	132/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o RSP with two year maintenance MP-III Central Verge Sector-37 to Sector-71, Chowk	Cost Rs. 68.22 Lacs
20.	77/D(H)/DD(H)-III/2020-21, Two year M/o R.S.P Sector-167B	Cost Rs. 33.83 Lacs
21.	85/D(H)/DD(H)-III/2020-21, M/o Park (C/o Z-Gate in Tripod (03 Nos) on D.S.C Road Near Phase-II, Noida	Cost Rs. 34.67 Lacs
22.	103/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o Park Sector-77 (SH: Open Gym) with Five Year Maintenance	Cost Rs. 30.83 Lacs
23.	157/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2020-21, M/o RSP) with Two year maintenance, in Shivalik marg road sector-24 to DSC road	Cost Rs. 35.77 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date 02/09/2020 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 03/09/2020 at 11.00 AM.

Office Sector-39

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

SALUTE THE SOLDIER



Rai of 3/11 GR had made supreme sacrifice during OP Rakshak (J&K) in Aug 2000.

Colonel 11 GR & Sikkim Scouts



No.CWC/B&C/AGM/2020 NOTICE

58th Annual General Meeting of Central Warehousing Corporation will be held through Video Conferencing (VC) at 12.00 hrs on 28.09.2020. Detailed notice in this regard had already been sent to all the shareholders to their registere address by speed post with detailed instructions for participation. Participant have to send Proxy-1 duly filled through post/courier so as to reach us on or before 1700 hours on 24th September, 2020. Shareholders are also advised to send a scanned Proxy-1 form having hologram to our e-mail a

secvcwc@cewacor.nic.in or on Whatsapp no. +91-99712-36904 before 24.09.2020

For detailed information please log on to www.cewacor.nic.in

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD

N.I.T No: 558/P&D(TS)TS/PNT-488 Name of Office: Chief Engineer, Transmission System, Planning & Design (TS Directorate, SLDC Complex, Industrial Area Phase-I, BBMB, Chandigarh-160002 Tele Fax-0172-2654468

Name of Work: Design, manufacturing, testing, supply and delivery of 06 nos Live/Dead tank design oil filled 132kV Current Transformers of various ratios suitable for outdoor service, hollow porcelain Insulator for Sub-Station of BBMB Kurukshetra. Last date and time for receipt of request for 22.09.2020 upto 17:00 Hours

Last date & time of submission of bids 29.09.2020 upto 11:00 Hours Date and time of Online of Bids 29.09.2020 from 15:00 Hours onwards For cost of specification, earnest money deposit and detailed NIT, please visit BBMB website https://bbmbeproc.abcprocure.com & www.bbmb.gov.in

1212-PR-TS-4 For Your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

SAHARANPUR SMART CITY LIMITED NIT No: SSCL/SRE/2020-21/623

Notice Inviting Tender

SSCL invites two stage online bids for "Construction & Development of Company Garden in Saharanpur with 5 years of Operation and Maintenance Period including one-year Defect Liability Period on EPC (Turn-Key) basis under Smart City Mission® Cosling Approx. Rs 8.04 (Eight Crore and four Lakh) only) by 08.09,2020. For further details & updates, please please visit

https://etender.up.nic.in ACEO Saharanpur Smart City Limited

Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh G.B. PANT NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HIMALAYAN

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT Formerly Known as G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayar Environment & Development) Kosi-Katarmal, Almora - 263643, Uttarakhand

TENDER NOTICE No.- GBPNIHE/NMHS MOEFCC-GOI/Equipment/SM/2020-21/05

Please refer to Institute's Tender notice No. **GBPNIHE** NMHS MOEFCC-GOI/Equipment/SM/2020-21/05 published in "Indian Express" (Delhi edition) dated 28.07.2020 for supply of Ground Penetrating Radar under NMHS MOEFCC-GC Project. The last date of receiving of Tenders for equipment is hereby extended up to 14.09.2020 at 3:00 p.m. The documents shall be submitted online at website https://moefcc.euniwizarde.com. The full details of equipments and documents are available in the Institute website http://gbpihed.gov.in.

Administrative Officer

Email: ao@gbpihed.nic.in SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Room No. 219, Ilnd Floor, Zonal Office Building, Dhansa Stand, Najafqarh, New Delhi-110043 **NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The Executive Engineer (Electrical), Najafgarh Zone on behalf of the Commissioner, South Delhi Municipal Corporation invites online dual bids for the open tender on item rate basis from the contractors. specialized firms for the following work: NIT No. EE/Electrical/ Naiafgarh Zone/2020-21/04. Date: - 26.08.2020.

Name of Work :- DESIGN, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING COMMISSIONING WITH POST COMMISSIONING 05 YEAR OPERATION AND COMPREHENSIVE MAINTENANCE OF COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (C.N.G.) BASED HUMAN BODY CREMATORIUM SYSTEM WITH TWO NUMBERS FURNACES INCLUDING ELECTRICAL WORK AT DWARKA SDMC CREMATORIUM GROUND UNDER NAJAFGARH ZONE, Tender Amount :- Rs. 1,37,91,081/-, Earnest Money :- Rs. 2,89,613/-, Time of Completion: - 03 Months up to commissioning of the project and post commissioning 05 years of operation and Comprehensive Maintenance Start date of sale of tender :- 26.08.2020. Last date of tender purchase: -09.09.2020 upto 1200 Hrs. Any corrigendum with respect to the mentioned tenders shall be uploaded online only. No separate press publicity will be done for this. All details are available on http://www.tenderwizard.com/SOUTHDMCETENDER. R.O. No. 28/DPI/South/2020-21

EEE/NGZ

New Delhi

Director (Hort.)

GOVT & POLITICS





SISTERS-IN-ARMS

IN THE virtual meet hosted by Sonia Gandhi with chief ministers of seven Opposition-governed states, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and the Congress president displayed a brief bonhomie. Although Sonia called for the meet, she requested Banerjee to take over and moderate the rest of the session after she ended her speech. Banerjee politely refused, saying that although she was honoured, the senior leader must moderate it. After another round of requests to each other, the two leaders agreed that Banerjee would invite the next speaker - Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren - after which Sonia would take over.

MORAL COMBAT

AFTER COMING up with novel ideas such as free distribution of lemon juice and pineapple to improve immunity to battle coronavirus, Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb now wants to introduce ways to strengthen them spiritually. Deb is distributing books on Swami Vivekananda to Covid-19 patients. "Strength is life, weakness is death," he told patients quoting Vivekananda. "To keep Covid-19 patients motivated and mentally strong we have decided to distribute books written on Swami Vivekananda...it is very important to stay calm and energetic when we are fighting against Covid-19," he posted on Facebook.

Online, At Last

WHILE MANY courts across the country, including the Supreme Court, moved to virtual hearings in the wake of the pandemic, the Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) did not have this facility until now-its principal bench in Delhi was conducting hearings physically. But the principal bench has now initiated hearings for the 10 regional benches through videoconferencing. In the physical hearings since June 8, the registrar of the principal bench said, the AFT maintained "impeccable hygiene standards" with regular sanitisation, minimum people allowed with proper social distancing, and advocates separated by a transparent sheet from the judges.

At Janta Parliament, parties call for CMP to forge Oppn unity

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

LEADERS FROM various opposition parties voiced the need for a common minimum programme (CMP) to bring the Opposition together. They were speaking on the last day of the week-long Janta Parliament, organised by Ian Sarokar, a collective of civil rights organisations.

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury suggested that a CMP-like draft should be prepared, based on which unity should be forged between parties and people's movements, the collective said in a statement.

He condemned the "intense attack on rights" and asserted that any attempt to impose uniformity in the country will "dilute the idea

K Raju of the Congress agreed with Yechury and said that a CMP "must be made in order to bring the Opposition together". The collective's statement quoted him pointing out that the UPA government had pushed for rights-based legislation such as National Food Security Act, RTI and MGNREGA.

Nikhil Dey, one of the coordinators of the collective, said: "It is a significant development that both the Left and Congress said there is a need for a common minimum programme. With this Janta Parliament, the question also arises: if so many of us could do it, why couldn't actual Parliament be held? We will now work with parties which participated (in the event) to make sure the resolutions passed find space in Parliament discussions."

RJD leader Manoj Jha said that a strategy should be made to create a convergence between Parliament and the people's Parliament, and that "a common agenda would be useful for his party in the upcoming elections in Bihar".

CPI national secretary D Raja said, "Parliament has been bypassed by the present government.... The need of the times is for parties and social movements to work together inside and outside Parliament.'

Sanjay Singh of Aam Aadmi Party said, "The Central government is looking to convert the pandemic into an opportunity to disinvest from national assets.'





Name of post(s) Number of post(s)

UR SC ST OBC EWS Total 01 - **05** 02 01 **04** 04 02 02 03 01 15

Re-opening of Advt. No.04/2020 dated 13.05.2020.

* Re-opening of Advt. No.04/20/20 dated 13.0s.20/20.

**Re-opening of Advt. No.10/2019 dated 17.09.2019.

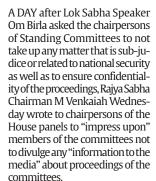
The applicants may refer the Institute website www.nituk.ac.in for the details of educational qualification, experience, age, last date for submission of online application and other terms & conditions for filling up of application(s) for the above post(s). Addendum/Corrigendum, if a post-opening the posted of the last return website. Amplication(s) for the above post (s) and the post of the pos any shall be posted only on the Institute website. Applicants/incumbent are requested to visit the Institute website regularly

The Director, National Institute of Technology, Uttarakhand reserve the right to fill or not fill any vacancy in the absence of deserving ndidate and to cancel application or all applications witho

Don't reveal panel proceedings to media, Venkaiah tells members

House committee proceedings confidential, says RS chairman

MANOJCG NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26



Naidu, in his letter, said Parliamentary committees have been doing a "commendable job" since their inception and "several recommendations of these committees with regard to Bills considered and reported upon by them, have been accepted by the government which would not have been ordinarily possible in the regular course of legislative process in both the Houses of Parliament".

"However, for some time now. it has been observed that the media has been found quoting, in their reportage, the proceedings of the Committees related to the subject matters or the legislative Bills under their consideration and

30 injured as

in Tripura

BJP, CPM clash

Agartala: Clashes between the

ruling BJP and Opposition

CPI(M) in different parts of

Tripura on Wednesday left

Police headquarters said 12 peo-

ple were injured at Rupaichari—

seven of them were CPI(M) sup-

porters and five were from BÎP.

The officer said 4,600 people

were taken into preventive de-

CPI(M) state secretary

tention across the state.

MAULSHREE SETH

LUCKNOW, AUGUST 26

DAYS AFTER 23 senior Congress

leaders wrote to party chief

Sonia Gandhi, seeking sweeping

changes at every level of the

party, the Lakhimpur Kheri dis-

trict Congress committee on

Wednesday called an emer-

gency meeting of its executive

committee and passed five res-

olutions against those who

wrote the letter, seeking their ex-

sought disciplinary action

against former Union minister

Jitin Prasada, pointing out that

he was the only one from UP.

Dated: 25.08.2020

One of these resolutions

pulsion.

A duty officer of Tripura

nearly 30 people injured.



Venkaiah Naidu

examination," he wrote.

"As you are aware, the proceedings of the Committee meetings are confidential and it is not permissible for a Member of the Committee or anyone who has access to its proceedings to communicate, directly or indirectly, to the media any information regarding its proceedings, including any part of the report or any conclusions arrived at by the committee, finally or tentatively, before the report has been presented to the House, as such action tantamount to breach of privilege of the House."

In view of that, Naidu wrote, "I urge upon you to impress the Members of Parliament belonging to your Committee and participating in the proceedings to strictly adhere to the existing provisions /direction relating to confidentiality and refrain from premature divulgence of any information to the media, till the Reports are presented to the House." The letter comes against the

backdrop of a heated exhange be-

tween the BJP and the Congress over procedural issues.

After the office of the chairman of the Standing Committee on Information Technology sent a letter to Facebook, seeking an explanation on The Wall Street Journal report which stated that a senior public policy executive of Facebook "opposed applying hate-speech rules" to at least four individuals and groups linked with the BJP even after they were "flagged internally for promoting or participating in violence", a war of words had broken out between Shashi Tharoor, chairman of the panel, and BJP MP in the panel Nishikant Dubey. Both have given a notice of breach of privilege against each other.

Earlier, a meeting of the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament witnessed a disagreement between chairman Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and BJP members.

Chowdhury had proposed that the committee take up for discussion the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on various sectors but the BJP members strongly opposed it, saying the committee can take up only government expenditure audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG).

House panel moots additional 1% cigarette levy

HARIKISHAN SHARMA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

A PARLIAMENTARY standing committee recommended the imposition of an additional 1 per cent levy on the sale of cigarettes in order to mobilise resources for supporting tobacco farmers.

In its report to the Rajya Sabha Chairman Wednesday, the standing committee on commerce asked the Commerce Department to discuss the levy with the Finance Ministry. The Committee appreciates

the suggestion of (the) Tobacco Board and recommends the Department to engage in consultations with (the) Ministry of Finance to impose a levy of 1 per cent on the sale of cigarettes which may be utilized as 'Market Stabilization Fund' for tobacco,' stated the report.

The panel, headed by YSR Congress' Vijayasai Reddy V, advocated export incentives for tobacco and tobacco products on the lines of other agri goods. It asked the Centre to take steps to restart tobacco exports to China.

Dubey asks Tharoor to cancel IT panel meet on 4G in J&K

LIZ MATHEW

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

BJP MP and member of the standing committee on Technology Information Nishikant Dubey Wednesday wrote to Congress MP and panel chairman Shashi Tharoor, arguing that the agenda for the panel's meeting next week is in contravention of rules and seeking its cancellation.

This comes a day after Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla asked chairpersons of Parliamentary standing committees to conduct procedures strictly according to the rulebook. The Speaker asked the chairpersons not to take up matters that are sub-judice or related to national security in committee meetings and to stick to rules of confidentiality.

In an earlier letter to the Speaker, Dubey had accused Tharoor of flouting rules and sought his removal as chairman.

"...I may like to bring to your kind notice that recently, you have convened yet another sitting of the committee on 1 September to discuss the issue of 4G (fourth generation mobile telephony) services in Jammu & Kashmir (J&K)," Dubey wrote in his letter to Tharoor. "Since this issue is presently pending before the Supreme Court (SC)... any further deliberations on this would again be a violation of the relevant rules/directions as well as the recently issued advisory of the Speaker," he said, urging Tharoor to cancel the meeting.

The IT Panel's agenda for in his letter to Tharoor.



committee. File

Dubey had earlier sought Tharoor's removal as chairman of the standing

September 1 says it will take oral

evidence of representatives of Ministry Communications, Home Ministry, representatives of Bihar and Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi on "suspension of telecom services/internet and its impact". On September 2, the committee is to "hear the views of the representatives of Facebook on the subject 'safeguarding citizens' rights and prevention of misuse of social/online news media platforms including special emphasis on women security in the digital space".

The office of the chairman of the standing committee had sent a letter to Facebook, seeking an explanation on The Wall Street Journal report which stated that a senior public policy executive of Facebook "opposed applying hate-speech rules" to at least four individuals and groups linked with the BJP. BJP MPs in the panel had objected saying the chairman had not discussed the matter.

"...Agenda of our meetings are being decided in front of media and camera glare...,"Dubey wrote

TN minister writes to Union Health Minister, seeks NEET cancellation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHENNAI, AUGUST 26

TAMIL NADU Health Minister C Vijayabaskar wrote to Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan on Wednesday, seeking cancellation of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) and stating that conducting the exam amid the pandemic 'would put the lives of the students attending it at great risk of infection".

UP dist Cong wants rebel 23 expelled

The five-point resolution was

sent to Sonia after it was passed,

district Congress president

Prahlad Patel said. "This is what

the district executive committee

felt; we were asked to give it in

Prasada refused to comment.

The first resolution said Sonia

is the topmost Congress leader

and they have full faith in Rahul

Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi

Vadra, but in case there is a lead-

ership change Rahul should be

Plants in Nepal & Bhutan

SHRI AMARNATHJI SHRINE BOARD

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

For and on behalf of Chairman, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board,

sealed "EOI" in Two Bid format, affixed with Rs. 6/- Revenue Stamps

are invited from experienced and financially sound registered

Agencies having valid registration for Build-Own-Operate- Transfer

(for 10 years) of 02 no. Dormitories at Lower Holy Cave of Amarnathj

The EOI, Bidding Document and other details can be obtained

All subsequent information/ Corrigendum/Addendum/ Updates shall

be uploaded on SASB website only, therefore, the bidders are

एसजेवीएन लिमिटेड SJVN Limited

(भारत सरकार एवं विमाचत प्रदेव सरकार का संपुक्त उपक्रम

Last Date of Submission of Bids: 08.09.2020 (1400 hours)

requested to visit the website regularly for latest updates.

Advt. NIT No.: SASB/DNIT/W/1237/2020/31

Electronics & Communication

from the website: www.shriamarnathiishrine.com

writing by AICC," he said.

5-point

Prasada

resolution

personally

targets Jitin

Goutam Das said his party's He demanded that the statewide protests on 12-point demands, including employ-Centre allow admissions to medical courses on the basis of stument, public healthcare services and free PDS benefits for all, dents' marks in Class XII board came under attack from BJP The letter to Harsh Vardhan.

workers in different places. Minister of Health and Family BJP spokesperson Nabendu Bhattacharya, in turn, called it a planned attack by CPI(M). **ENS** difficult for the students to ac- 2020-21 academic year on the



Youth Congress members protest against timing of JEE and NEET at the Education Ministry in New Delhi.

"current scenario."

medical, dental courses for the

the party chief. They said the let-

ter shows these leaders do not

faith in either Sonia or the

Congress. The third resolution

said these leaders had done

what the BJP government is do-

ing, and the fourth sought disci-

The fifth resolution targeted

Jitin Prasada, saying his father

had contested party elections

against Sonia Gandhi but was

still given Lok Sabha ticket and

made a Union minister. Calling

his act a case of "serious indisci-

pline", the committee said it "be-

lieves strict disciplinary action

should be taken against him".

0

plinary action and expulsion.

tively prepare/take up NEET examination this year" citing the

Vijayabaskar suggested that

the Centre allow admissions to

to facilitate this.

Tamil Nadu has been demanding for years to let the state continue with its medical admission system based on Class XII

students in their Class XII board

examinations and cancel the

He requested the Union min-

ister to promulgate an ordinance

After the Centre categorically stated that it would be impossible to exempt one state from NEET, the state came out with two Bills-the Tamil Nadu Admission to MBBS and BDS Courses Bill, 2017, and the Tamil Nadu Admission to Post **Graduate Courses in Medicine** and Dentistry. Both of them have not been cleared by the

Vedanta moves SC to get Sterlite plant in TN reopened

New Delhi: Vedanta Ltd on Wednesday moved the Supreme Court challenging the Madras High Court's order refusing permission to reopen the company's Sterlite copper smelting plant in Thoothukkudi, Tamil

The HC had on August 18 dismissed the company's plea seeking permission to reopen the plant, which was closed following protests over pollution.

In the protests, 13 people were killed in police firing. **ENS**

MANIPUR UNIVERSITY CANCHIPUR: IMPHAL-795003, MANIPUR NOTIFICATION

Dated, the 26th August, 2020

No. MU/5-124/2013/Fey. In continuation of this University's Advertisement No.2/2020 dated the 16th July 2020 and Corrigendum dated the 18th July, 2020, it is hereby notified that the last date of submission of application forms is extended uplo 04:00 PM of 15th September, 2020 Details may be downloaded from the University website

www.manipuruniv.ac.in

Petronet LNG Limited Regd. Off.: World Trade Centre, Babar Road, Barakhamba Lane,

New Delhi-110001 Ph.: 011-23411411, Fax: 011-23472550 CIN: L74899DL1998PLC093073, Email: investors@petronetlng.com, Website: www.petronetlng.com

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the following share certificate has been reported as lost / misplaced and the Company intends to issue duplicate certificate in lieu thereof, in due course

Folio No.	Name of the Shareholder	Certifi- cate No.	Distinctive Nos.	No. of Equity Shares
PLL735826	UMA GUPTA	1030567	520569493 to 520569515	23
			1499848387 to 1499848409	23

Any person who has a valid claim on the said shares should lodge such claim with the Company at its Registered Office within 21 days hereof.

For Petronet LNG Limited

Sd/-Place: New Delhi (Rajan Kapur) Date: 26th August, 2020 CGM & Vice President - Company Secretary

Cong sets up panel to formulate stance on key govt ordinances

ENS&PTI NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE CONGRESS on Wednesday formed a five-member committee to discuss and formulate the party's stand on key ordinances promulgated by the government.

The party also appointed Avinash Pande as chairman of the screening committee for selecting Bihar election candidates.

The ordinance committee comprises former finance minister P Chidambaram, former Madhya Pradesh chief minister Amar Singh and Gaurav Gogoi.

Ramesh will be the convener.

Pande's appointment, meanwhile, came days after he was removed as AICC general secretary in charge of Rajasthan—allegedly at the instance of Sachin Pilot. This was said to be one of the Pilot's demands for calling off his rebellion against Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot. The other members of screening panel are AICC secretaries Devender Yadav and Qazi

Nizamuddin. "Congress president has constitute a five-member committee to discuss and formulate Congress party's stands on key ordi-Digvijaya Singh, Jairam Ramesh, nances...," said AICC general secretary KC Venugopal.

INDIA GLYCOLS LIMITED

Regd Off:- A-1, Industrial Area, Bazpur Road, Kashipur - 244713, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand Phone: +91 5947 269000/269500, Fax: +91 5947 275315/269535

E-mail: compliance.officer@indiaglycols.com; Website: www.indiaglycols.com
CIN: L24111UR1983PLC009097

NOTICE REGARDING 36th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING (VC)/OTHER AUDIO VISUAL MEANS (OAVM) Notice is hereby given that the 36th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the Members o

the Company will be held on Thursday, 24th September, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. (IST through Video Conferencing ("VC")/ Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM") facility without the physical presence of the Members at a common venue in compliance with th applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rules framed thereunder and the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 read with General Circular Nos. 14/2020, 17/2020 and 20/2020 dated 8th April, 2020, 13th April, 2020 and 5th May, 2020, respectively, issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("MCA Circulars" and Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/79 dated 12th May, 2020 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI Circular").

In compliance with the MCA Circulars and SEBI Circular, the Notice of the 36th AGM and Annual Report for the Financial Year 2019-20 will be sent **only by email** to all those Members whose email addresses are registered with the Company or their respective Depository Participant ("DP"). The Notice of the 36th AGM and Annual Report will also be available on the Company's website www.indiaglycols.com, National Securities Depository Limited ("NSDL")'s website at www.evoting.nsdl.com and the website of Stock Exchanges, BSE Limited at <u>www.bseindia.com</u> and National Stock Exchange o India Limited at www.nseindia.com.

In case, you have not registered your email address with the Company/Depository Participant, please follow below instructions for registration of email id for obtaining Annual Report for the Financial Year 2019-20:

Physical Holding

Members holding shares in physical mode are requested to register/update their email addresses by writing to MCS Share Transfer Agent Limited ("the RTA") at F-65, 1st Floor, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-I, New Delhi 110020 or email at admin@mcsregistrars.com along with the copy of the signed request letter mentioning the name, folio number and address of the Member, self-attested copy of the PAN card, self-attested copy of Aadhar and copy of share certificate (front & back).

Demat Holding

Members holding shares in dematerialized mode are requested to register/update their email addresses by following the process mentioned above for-Physical Holding and send 16 digit DPID & Client ID in place of Folio No. along with scanned copy of self-attested Client Master copy or consolidated Demat Account Statement

Members can join and participate in the 36" AGM through VC/OAVM facility only. The instructions for joining the 36" AGM through VC/OAVM and the manner of participation n the remote electronic voting or casting vote through the e-voting system of NSDL during the 36th AGM shall be provided in the Notice of the 36th AGM. The Notice shall also contain the instructions with regard to login credentials for shareholders, holding shares in physica form or in electronic form, who have not registered their e-mail address either with the Company or their respective Depository Participant. Members participating through the VC/OAVM facility shall be counted for the purpose of reckoning the quorum under Section 103 of the Companies Act, 2013.

Pursuant to recent MCA General Circular 20/2020 dated 5th May, 2020 companies are directed to credit the dividend of the shareholders directly to the bank accounts of the shareholders using Electronic Clearing Service. Accordingly, Members are requested to provide/update their bank details with the respective depository participant for the shares held in dematerialized form and with the RTA in respect of shares held in physical form In case of any query/difficulty, a member may send an e-mail to the RTA a admin@mcsregistrars.com or Company at compliance.officer@indiaglycols.com.

For India Glycols Limited

Ankur Jain Date: 26th August, 2020 Company Secretary

New Delhi

No.

(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of H.P.) CIN No. L40101HP1988GOI008409 GATEway to a Successful Beginning and Growth Recruitment of Executive Trainees Through GATE Our Core Business: Candidates from following Hydro Power Wind Power disciplines can apply: +Civil Mechanical Thermal Power Electrical Power Transmission Information Technology Developing Hydro Powe

For details, please visit Career Page of our website www.sjvn.nlc.in

OUR SHARED VISION:

5000 MW by 2023, 12000 MW by 2030, 25000 MW by 2040.

6 THE OUTBREAK

23 legislators test positive for Covid ahead of Assembly session: Punjab CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 26

CHIEFMINISTER Amarinder Singh Wednesday informed Congress president Sonia Gandhi that 23 Punjab MLAs, including Cabinet ministers, have tested positive for coronavirus. Of the 23, at least three are Cabinet ministers.

"As of today, two days before the scheduled Punjab Vidhan Sabha session, 23 ministers/MLAs are Covid positive. If this is the state of the legislators and ministers, one can only imagine how grave the situation on the ground is," Amarinder told Sonia during a virtual meeting she had called with Chief Ministers of opposition-ruled states to discuss a range of issues faced by them.

Those infected include 13 Congress MLAs, six from the Shiromani Akali Dal and three from the Aam Aadmi Party, officials said.

Prominent among the ruling party MLAs are Gurpreet Singh Kangar, Sukhiinder Singh Randhawa, Sunder Sham Arora (all ministers), Hardial Kamboj, Pargat Singh, Madan Lal Jalalpur and Ajaib Singh Bhatti.

The Akali legislators who have contracted the infection include Manpreet Singh Ayali, N K Sharma, Rozy Barkandi, Gurpartap Singh Wadala, Lakhbir Singh Lodhinangal and

Harinderpal Singh Chandumajra. Manjit Singh Bilaspur, Kulwant Singh Pandori and Principal Budh Ram of the AAP also contracted the infection, they said. Besides, one AAP legislator Nazar Singh Manshahia, who had joined the Congress last year, also

tested positive. Last month, Cabinet Minister



Amarinder Singh: One can only imagine how grave the situation on the ground is

Tript Rajinder Singh Bajwa tested positive for Covid-19 but has now recovered.

Meanwhile, senior AAP leader Aman Arora raised guestions over the test report of party MLA Manjit Singh Bilaspur. He claimed that Bilaspur told him that the health authorities first informed him that he has tested negative but later declared him Covid positive.

Arora said Bilaspur was part of the AAP MLAs' meeting held Tuesday to discuss the party's strategy for the upcoming monsoon session. He asked whether Bilaspur was declared positive under a "conspiracy" by the government in order to ensure other members in the meeting go into

mandatory one-week isolation. Arora said he has asked Bilaspur to get himself tested from a private lab for a re-check. He said he given the same suggestion to Akali legislator Gurpartap Singh Wadala.

The 117-member Punjab Assembly will convene for daylong monsoon session on August 28. Vidhan Sabha Speaker Rana K P Singh has made coronavirus negative test report mandatory for legislators and officials to attend the session.

WITHPTIINPUTS

Bihar under watch, Central team looks at home isolation, testing protocol

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

BIHAR HAS come under the Centre's scanner following concerns about the high number of its Covid-19 patients in home isolation and its testing being "lopsided" in favour of rapid antigen. A Central team that was sent to the state four days ago is set to return with details on these issues.

Bihar currently has 19,517 active cases, with an average 2,000odd cases daily. Sources said that the team was

sent to Bihar after the Centre, which is closely monitoring the situation in states, found that a "disproportionately" large number of its patients were in home isolation. An official said, "Despite the surge in cases, we suddenly found that a lot of Covid-19-dedicated hospital beds were lying vacant in Bihar. That led to the question as to where these patients are. Are they in home isolation? If yes, are they being monitored on a daily basis on certain pre-set parameters? The Centre's team will report on what is happening on the ground."

While the Centre has relaxed the guidelines for home isolation, in multiple meetings with states,

1:8). There is nothing wrong with that, but the trend is fairly lopneed for surveillance of such patients. Bihar was specifically told sided. We wanted the Central to follow either the model of team to find out if there was a follow-up with RT-PCR tests, partic-Karnataka and Delhi, where a home-care monitoring agency, ularly in the case of those who dethrough a phone-based app, does velop symptoms later." the twice-daily calls to all patients Sources said Central teams had in home isolation to check if they have any symptoms, or to implement the second model, in which

there is a surveillance officer for

each district, and anganwadi and

ASHA workers physically do

house-to-house visits to check for

Sources said the other reason

for sending the team was the

"fairly lopsided" preference for

rapid antigen testing as compared

to RT-PCR in Bihar. The RT-PCR is

the gold standard for testing. Rapid

antigen, due to its low sensitivity,

results often in false negatives, and

the government has said that

those who show symptoms after

ated this, adding that the national

average for rapid antigen testing

was around 30-40 per cent of the

As compared to this, the offi-

cial pointed out, "Bihar is doing

7,000-8,000 RT-PCR tests and

around 50,000-60,000 rapid anti-

gen tests per day (a ratio of around

On Tuesday, the Centre reiter-

this test must undergo RT-PCR.

symptoms.

also been sent to the Union territories of Puducherry and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, while a team will be leaving for Srinagar on Thursday. The official said the experts would be looking at Srinagar, Baramulla and Pulwama, where both daily positive numbers and deaths are slightly higher than the

"Also, district-level understanding of containment zones and a surveillance strategy is lacking in (these areas in) Kashmir and Puducherry," the official said, particularly tracking of close contacts of positive cases.

In Andamans, the Central team is looking at the protocol for "hospital-based care" and standard clinical management, the source said.

Of Bihar's 19,517 active cases, Patna has the most (2,603), followed by East Champaran (1,073), Muzaffarpur (1,061), Madhubani (996) and Saran (738). The state has seen 519 deaths and has a high recovery rate, of 84.07 per cent.

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

CASES: TESTS: 3,76,51,512 DOUBLING RATE: 31.95**

RECOVERED: 24,67,758 **32,34,474** | DEATHS: **59,449**

1.62%

2.80%

2.77%

44.43

25.69

25.95

DAILY IN, DAILY OUT

67,151

KEYSTATES 7-DAY AVG **DOUBLING TOWATCH** CASES **GROWTH*** 7,03,823 10,425 1.93% 37.22

5,951

9,927

8,161

1,97,388 5,006 2.82% 25.50 * Compounded Daily Growth Rate over last 7 days ** Calculated over 7-day growth

POSITIVITY RATE

CASE FATALITY RATIO 7 DAYS EARLIER: 1.91 1.84

Deaths as a ratio of

in averting deaths

■ Maharashtra

■Tamil Nadu

■ Karnataka

■ Uttar Pradesh

■Andhra

8.72

3,91,303

3,71,639

2,91,826

Positives against the spread of disease

63,173 Becoming sick vs

People buy vegetables on the eve of the biweekly lockdown, at Maniktala market in Kolkata. PTI

Former Assam CM Gogoi tests positive

ABHISHEK SAHA GUWAHATI, AUGUST 26

FORMER ASSAM Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi, 85, tested positive for Covid-19 on Wednesday morning.

"I have been tested Covid 19 positive yesterday. People who came in contact with me during Last few days they should go for Covid test immediately," the Congress leader tweeted.

A Congress spokesperson said Gogoi has "mild symptoms" and is currently in home isolation. "Of course, at his age, we might have to shift him to a hospital if doctors suggest so.'

Assam Health Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma tweeted: "I wish speedy recovery to former Chief Minister Sri Tarun Gogoi as he has been found #COVID19 positive. We have kept a team of doctors ready for best possible medical care and assistance to our revered senior leader."

The veteran leader has served for three straight terms as Chief

IIT Hyderabad, start-up launch

'most affordable

respirator mask' New Delhi: The Centre for Healthcare Entrepreneurship

(CfHE) at IIT-Hyderabad has

launched what its developers

call is the "world's most afford-

able respirator mask", which is

"highly durable and adheres to

cialised by USafe Healthcare, the

CfHE's latest entrepreneurial en-

tity, the mask – called US9 – will

cost Rs 13 per day and has

"98.03% PM0.3 filtration rate and

99.7% bacterial filtration rate

(better than N95 standards)", the

company stated in a media re-

Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, who

launched the mask, said, "The in-

novation of reusability in US9

respirator mask not only reduces

the recurring cost but also dras-

tically decreases biowaste gen-

erated due to protective masks. I

congratulate the entrepreneurs

lease on Tuesday.

Telangana

Developed and commer-

the highest safety standards".

Tarun Gogoi

Minister of Assam, His wife Dolly Gogoi has tested negative, party sources said.

Gogoi, who represents the Titabor assembly constituency in Jorhat district, is the 13th Assam legislator to be diagnosed with Till date, the state has reported

tered 260 deaths. On Tuesday, 1,973 fresh cases were detected from 34,307 tests. The Assam government has

94.592 Covid-19 cases and regis-

imposed a 10-day lockdown in the three districts of Barak Valley till September 4 after a spike in Meanwhile, the state remains

under a complete lockdown on weekends and a night curfew from 9.30pm to 5am is in place.

Mamata nod to flights from six cities with high case counts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, AUGUST 26

WEST BENGAL Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday announced that flight services to Kolkata from six states with a high number of Covid-19 cases can resume from September.

"From September 1, we can allow flight services from these six states on three days in a week," she said after a cabinet meeting.

These six cities are Mumbai, Chennai, Nagpur, Ahmedabad and Pune.

The Chief Minister also said metro and suburban railway



Mamata Banerjee at the state secretariat in Howrah on Wednesday. Partha Paul

services can resume but asked authorities concerned to get in touch with the state government regarding frequency of service and precautionary measures in

view of Covid-19.

Banerjee said restrictions in the state in view of the pandemic will continue till September 20 after which the state government will review the situation. Schools and other educational institutions will remain closed till September 20, she said.

"At many places in our state, Covid-19 cases are decreasing, but at many other places, the situation is deteriorating. So, we are not taking any risks. Restrictions will continue." she said.

The biweekly total lockdown in the state will also continue, she said, adding that the state will be under total lockdown on September 7, 11 and 12.

Testing ramped up, Telangana cases triple, death toll low

SREENIVAS JANYALA HYDERABAD, AUGUST 26

AS TELANGANA ramps up its testing, the number of daily positive cases has tripled from a week ago. On Tuesday, when a record 61,040 tests were conducted, 3,018 samples were positive - against a daily average of less than a 1,000 a week ago.

The fatalities in Telangana, however, remain low, at around 10 a day.

The state has increased testing in the past few days amidst criticism that it was checking less than 10,000 samples per day de-33 districts. On Tuesday, the government also announced that it was converting Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital at Warangal into an exclusive Covid-19 treatment centre — only the second such in the state after Gandhi Hospital in Hyderabad.

Health Minister Rajender said testing was being focused on vulnerable populations like migrants, elderly persons with comorbidities, and those working in conditions where they are exposed to the virus. "We had assured that as and when necessary we will increase the testing. We are doing it now," he said, adding that they would set up more Covid-only facilities across the state.

Of the 10,82,094 tests conducted in Telangana so far. 2.56.284 have been done in the



Of the 10.82.094 tests conducted in Telangana so far, 2,56,284 have been done in the last seven days. File

last seven days, revealing 15,909 cases. "The increased testing is showing the extent of the spread of the infection, especially in Medchal and Malkajgiri, which are adjacent to the Greater Hyderabad Corporation area," an official said.

The state's fatality rate stands at 0.69 per cent, while the recovery rate has improved to 76.30 per cent. Its total Covid death toll is 780, with 53.87 per cent of those patients with comorbidities, as per officials

Director of Public Health Dr G Srinivasa Rao said most cases in the state were in the 31-40 age group (24.47 per cent), followed by 21-30 (22.59 per cent). The state has 20,396 beds available in government and private hospitals, including 2,251 ICU beds with 1,117 of them with ventilators, and 5,961 oxygen beds. As on Tuesday, 641 ICU beds, 1,098 oxygen beds and 654 general beds were occupied.

-CLASSES AMID - COVID



Odisha minister Samir Ranjan Dash

ODISHA 30 pc cut in school syllabus

Bhubaneswar: The Odisha

government Wednesday announced a 30 per cent reduction in the syllabus for Classes I to XII for the academic year 2020-21 as the reopening of academic institutions remains uncertain. Minister for School and Mass Education Samir Ranjan Dash said the decision was taken after consultations based on recommendations of the syllabus committee of the State Council of Educational Research and Training, Board of Secondary Education and the Council of Higher Secondary Education. "Decisions regarding reopening of schools will be taken following the Centre's announcement on guidelines for Unlockdown 4.0. After that, we might hold consultations again," Dash

KARNATAKA Regular classes likely from Oct 1

Bengaluru: The Karnataka

government has decided

to give the green signal for

start of regular classes in

degree colleges from October 1, Deputy Chief Minister Dr CN Ashwath Narayan said on Wednesday. He, however, added that the department of Higher Education would await guidelines from the Central government on reopening of the colleges which have remained shut since March, indicating a final call would be taken later. Narayan, who holds the Higher Education portfolio, said online classes would commence from September 1. "The government has decided to get the ball rolling on all academic activities online from next month. In addition, all colleges will start in October and students are expected to attend classes in person," he told reporters here. According to Narayan, the state government has already made comprehensive preparations for starting offline classes as per UGC guidelines. PTI

POLICE IN MAHARASHTRA AND BENGAL, CRPF, BSF AMONG WORST-HIT

Over 340 deaths, 60,000 cases in state police forces and CAPFs

SUSHANT KULKARNI PUNE. AUGUST 26

MORE THAN 60,000 personnel from the state police forces and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) have tested positive for coronavirus across the country so far with over 340 Covid-related deaths reported, as per the data collated by the Indian Police Foundation (IPF). In terms of the number of

cases, Maharashtra Police, CRPF, West Bengal Police, BSF and Jharkhand Police have the highest tally. IPF, a Delhi-based multidis-

ciplinary think tank, has been collating data of Covid cases among the state police forces and CAPFs and has created a platform for discussion on strategies for pandemic.

From the beginning of the lockdown in March, the state po-

lice forces have been deployed for enforcement of movement restrictions, contact tracing efforts, security of Covid facilities, facilitating movement of stranded people to their homes and back, ensuring flow of supply chains and resources in addition to the regular police duties. Personnel from CAPFs have been moved in large numbers to augment state police forces for performing these tasks. These CAPF deployments were in addition to their existing charter The CAPF is an umbrella term

for forces under Union Home Ministry which includes Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Border Security Force BSF), Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Assam Rifles (AR), National Security Guard (NSG) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). The IPF has also included the

DEATHS Maharashtra Police 13,716 140 **CRPF** 6,855 34 West Bengal Police 4,500 27 4,030 BSF 14 Jharkhand Police 3,640

TOPPING THE TALLY

Covid data of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) which draws its personnel from the CAPFs. As per the latest collated data

by the IPF, state police and CAPFs have till now reported 60,528 cases and 344 deaths. Of these Maharashtra, which is the worst affected state in the country, accounts for 13,716 cases and 140 deaths. While the Maharashtra numbers in the IPF database are from Monday, the figures for Maharashtra stood at 14.189 cases and 144 deaths as per the data shared by the state police on Wednesday.

The CRPF (6,855 cases, 34 deaths), West Bengal Police (4,500 cases, 27 deaths), BSF (4,030 cases, 14 deaths), Jharkhand Police (3,640 cases, 7 deaths) are the entities with the highest number of cases till now.

In terms of percentage of Covid cases among the total official strength of the force, Maharashtra (6.4%), Andhra Pradesh (5.8%) and Assam (5.1%) are some of the worst-affected police entities. Senior officials from various

state police and CAPF entities said that while early testing will be a key strategy in the short term, improving general health will have to be a long term goal, especially for state police forces and particularly for personnel deployed in urban areas.

Over 25,000 personnel are currently in quarantine facilities for being high risk contacts of those who have tested positive.

Fourteen state or CAPF entities have above 1.000 cases while four of them have more than 4.000 cases. A senior CAPF officer said, "From the beginning of the Covid duties, new standard operating procedures have been put in place for deployments. There are ongoing efforts to recalibrate deployment plans to make sure there is least exposure and risk of such infections.' Retired IPS officer N Ramachandran, who is the

President and Founder of the IPF, said, "The very nature of their duties makes it difficult for police personnel to practice social distancing. During the course of their duties, they are often required to physically interpose and enforce the law or even grapple with crowds. Similarly, CAPF contingents are moved from station to station for emergency deployments and very often, they are accommodated in congested spaces. All these factors render them vulnerable to infections. Another matter of concern is the state of physical and mental health of police personnel. The nature of duties resulting in irregular sleep and food intake patterns, high mental

stress along with inadequate

New Delhi

physical fitness, leads to several health issues. Most of these health issues manifest as comorbidities during Covid-19 infections.

Ramachandran, who served as the police chief of Assam and Meghalaya during his tenure, said, "The Indian Police Foundation had recently organised a discussion involving police chiefs of several states and CAPFs to consolidate the learnings from handling Covid so far. The police chiefs discussed and summarised the national good practices in infection control and management, management of occupational stress and mental health of personnel during the pandemic, morale and motivation of the personnel; as well as strategies for ensuring preparedness, availability, operational continuity and resilience of police forces in the country.'

backing this product."

Principal

EXPRESS NETWORK



The wreckage of one of the buses. PTI

UTTAR PRADESH 6 dead, 5 injured as two UPSRTC buses collide

Lucknow: Six passengers were killed and five others injured after an Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (UPSRTC) bus on its way to Hardoi from Lucknow, carrying about 30 passengers, collided with another UP-SRTC bus in Kakori area on Wednesday. The accident took place on the Lucknow-Hardoi highway near Amethiya turn in Lucknow. "We were told the Lucknow-Hardoi bus tried to overtake a truck at high speed and lost control before colliding with the bus coming from the opposite side" said Lucknow Joint Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Naveen Arora. ENS

MAHARASHTRA

Mahad building collapse: Rescue opsend, toll 16

Mumbai: Rescue operations at the Tarique Garden building in Maĥad, which collapsed earlier this week concluded on Wednesday afternoon after 40 hours with the toll in the rising to 16. Meanwhile, the Raigad police Wednesday arrested the consultant of the building, Bahubali Dhamne, from his Navi Mumbai residence. He was produced before a Mangaon court and remanded in police custody for five days. Raigad SP Anil Paraskar said a further probe is underway. ENS

GUJARAT

3 policemen injured in attack during raid

Ahmedabad: Three policemen were injured in a raid in Bapunagar Tuesday when two accused attacked the team with weapons. Police said Sarfaraz Mansoori and Muzzamil Shaikh were nabbed around 12.30 am Wednesday. The team was sent after receiving a tipoff that two persons accused in multiple cases of robbery and assault were seen in Sundaramnagar. When the team tried to apprehend the duo, they ran, and during the chase. attacked the team with sharp weapons, said an officer at Bapunagar police

ODISHA

Teen's morphed photos uploaded, mother kills self

Jajpur: A 48-year-old woman allegedly killed herself in Odisha's Jajpur district after a man uploaded morphed photographs of her teenage daughter on social media, police said Wednesday. The woman was found hanging in her home on Monday night, a police officer said. Based on a police complaint lodged by the her family, two people have been arrested for uploading the obscene images, he said. The girl came to know of the images, and informed her family, after which her mother allegedly killed herself. The accused have been booked under sections of the IPC, IT Act and POCSO Act, the officer said.

Govt moves to amend law for delimitation in NE states

RITIKA CHOPRA

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE UNION government has moved a proposal to amend the Representation of the People (RP) Act 1950 to give legality to its March 6 order setting up a Delimitation Commission for Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Assam and Nagaland.

The Law Ministry had notified the Delimitation Commission for the four northeast states and Iammu and Kashmir on March 6. Former Supreme Court judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai is its chairperson, and Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra is the EC's representative on the

As first reported by The Indian Express on July 17, this notification violates Section 8A of

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

A RESIDENT of Surat district's

Ena village who belonged to the

tribal Halapati community was

booked for cremating his father

on the main village street, after

the crematorium managers re-

fused permission for the same

without payment of the full fee.

At the same time, the death of an-

other man from the same com-

munity led to tension in the area.

Halapatis and the upper caste

members of the village began on

Tuesday when Mohankumar

Rathod, 45, a farm labourer, died.

His son Shiv and other family

members approached Dharmik

Maisurya of Ena Yuvak Mandal,

which runs the crematorium and

were told that the charges were

raised from Rs 1,100 to Rs 2,500.

Indian Express that Shiv, also a

farm labourer, told Maisurya that

he did not have enough money

but the latter refused to waive

Later, Shiv and other commu-

nity members brought wooden

logs from nearby shops and cre-

main road. Several non-Halapati

residents took photos and posted

One resident, Yagnik Thakor,

them on social media

GARGI VERMA

RAIPUR, AUGUST 26

SUDHA BHARADWAI, one of the

activists arrested and incarcerated

in the Bhima Koregaon case, has

developed a heart ailment,

'clearly triggered by the stress"

she is facing in jail, as she "never

had any heart-related complaints

before she was taken in custody'

in October 2018, according to

Ajail medical report of July 23,

given to Bharadwaj's family, states

that she is suffering from Ischemic

Heart Disease, a heart problem

caused by narrowing of arteries

that causes reduced blood flow to

the heart muscle and can lead to

heart attack, Mayesha said in a

press note issued on Wednesday.

"Doctors consulted explained

daughter Mayesha Bharadwaj.

the charge.

Village sources told The

The hostility between the

SURAT, AUGUST 26

who served with the EC for over 50 years, had red-flagged this in a letter to the three election commissioners in June.

Section 8A of the RP Act 1950, introduced by Parliament in 2008, states that delimitation in the four northeast states, when held, would fall within the EC's remit. Hence, any delimitation exercise in Arunachal, Manipur, Assam and Nagaland by the new Delimitation Commission would be "declared void by the courts" and, subsequently, result in "wastage of huge precious public funds", Mendiratta had written in his letter. The poll panel had forwarded the message to the Law Ministry for consideration.

According to sources, the Law Ministry, in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), has agreed to amend the

Tribal man cremates father

on Surat village road, booked

Shiv Rathod took the step after the crematorium managers

Sudha Bharadwaj developed heart ailment

triggered by stress in jail, says daughter

refused to waive the fees for the facility. Express

lodged a complaint at Palsana

police station against Shiv

Rathod saying the funeral at a

public place "hurt his religious

On Wednesday, another

Halapati farm worker, Mahesh

Rathod (40), died. A large num-

ber of community members

reached the crematorium where

they entered into a heated ex-

change with non-Halpatis from

the village, majority of them

Patidars, over cremation charges.

members of the deceased and to

Ena Yuvak Mandal committee

members, following which keys

were given to the family to do

Sudha Bharadwaj

sis," Mayesha stated.

such condition...as serious that

could lead to a heart attack. The

medical report obtained from the

jail does not clarify when this con-

dition was diagnosed, nor does it

explain the basis for this diagno-

heart condition is "clearly trig-

gered by the stress she is facing

due to her two-year-long incar-

Bharadwaj's deteriorating

Palsana police reached the

ot and talked to the family

sentiments"

Delimitation Commission to conduct the exercise in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Assam and Nagaland. The amendment would provide a legal basis for the March 6 order. The Law Ministry had also reached out to the EC this month

for comments, and the latter is

learned to have okayed the pro-

Delimitation is the act of redrawing boundaries of Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies to represent changes in population and is done on the basis of the preceding Census.

The last delimitation exercise, that started in 2002 and ended in 2008, had kept out Arunachal, Assam, Manipur and Nagaland as the use of the 2001 Census for it had been chal-

the last rites at the crematorium.

police called a meeting of

Halapati community leaders and

Ena Yuvak Mandal committee

members and a compromise

was reached, as per which cre-

mation fees would be waived for

Halapati community, provided

the family of the deceased brings

the wood for cremation. After

the cremation, they should also

Palsana sub-inspector C M

Gadhvi said, "Situation is under

the compromise. We have regis-

tered an offence for cremating a

dead body at a public place and

ceration with no trial on sight", she

The lawyer-activist was taken

into custody on October 27, 2018,

"after nearly two months of house

In an online gathering organ-

"The recent heart condition

ised on Sunday, friends and col-

leagues family members de-

adds to her existing ailment of di-

abetes, blood pressure and a past

history of pulmonary tuberculo-

sis, making her extremely vulner-

able and susceptible to infections

of Covid 19. At a time of a pan-

demic, each day spent in an un-

safe, crowded place is exposing a

person with co-morbidities to un-

necessary health risk," they said

in a statement.

manded the activist's release.

arrest," Mayesha mentioned.

will take after investigation."

After the cremation, Palsana

before the Gauhati High Court on the ground that it was riddled with defects.

The Delimitation Act of 2002 was amended on January 14, 2008, to empower the President to postpone the exercise in these states. Subsequently, Parliament had decided that instead of creating another Delimitation Commission for the limited purpose of redrawing seat boundaries in the four northeast states, the exercise there would be carried out by the EC. Section 8A of the RP Act 1950 was introduced for this purpose. Parliament was guided by the fact that there is precedence of the EC being vested with the authority to redraw boundaries of constituencies – including when Delhi was delimited to 70 seats in 1991-92, and Uttarakhand to 70 seats in

Man who killed. entombed live-in partner in Bhopal gets life in jail

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, AUGUST 26

A FAST-TRACK court in West Bengal's Bankura district on Wednesday sentenced Udayan Das, given the moniker "Bhopal killer", to life in prison for killing his live-in partner in 2017.

Additional District Judge Suresh Biswakarma convicted Das of murdering Akansha Sharma and entombing her in a cemented platform in his home in Bhopal on February 2, 2017.

Public prosecutor A Chatterjee said, "We had appealed for a death sentence. The court has sentenced him for life. We welcome the order....' Outside the court, Das told re-

porters, "I have no repentance. We will go to the High Court and Supreme Court if necessary." Though Das allegedly murdered his parents and buried them in a garden in Raipur in

2010, according to sources in the police he was charged with only Sharma's murder. An abduction charge was also dropped. "They couldn't prove that the woman was abducted," said

Police said, "Udayan murdered his parents in Raipur, so the local police have filed a sep-

Bharadwaj worked among labour-

ers for years as part of the Chha-

ttisgarh Mukti Morcha, demanded

a decisive hearing for her release

at the earliest on the grounds of her susceptibility to coronavirus infec-

tion within the jail surroundings,

along with full access to her med-

ical history in jail and all diagnos-

with 11 others, over alleged

Maoist links and their alleged in-

volvement in the Bhima Koregaon

Court directed the Maharashtra

government to provide copies of

the latest medical reports of

Bharadwaj, Anand Teltumbde and

Vernon Gonsalves, accused in the

Elgaar Parishad case, to their fam-

On Tuesday, the Bombay High

violence on January 1, 2018.

Bharadwaj was arrested, along

provide his consent...". arate chargesheet in the case.

Swara Bhasker

21.08.2020, the present request made to me is misconceived," the

In his request, Saxena had

The remarks cited in the first

on the Supreme Court itself or say anything that would scandalise or lower the authority of the Supreme Court.' Venugopal added, "The second statement is a vague statement not related to any particular Court and something which is so general that no one would take any serious note of this statement...Ido not think that this is a

case where the offence of scanda

ising of Court or lowering the au-

August 21, the Attorney General

said, "The statement in the first

part appears to me a factual one

and is a perception of a speaker.

The comment refers to the

Judgment of Supreme Court and

is not an attack on the institution.

This does not offer any comment

thority of the Court would arise." Under Section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1071, the consent of either the Attorney General or the Solicitor General is necessary to initiate contempt

Kashmir: 3 booked under **UAPA** for Azadi slogans at Muharram procession

BASHAARAT MASOOD SRINAGAR, AUGUST 26

THREE MEN have been booked under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act by I&K Police after a video, purportedly showing people raising Azadi slogans during a Muharram procession on the outskirts of Srinagar, was circulated on social media on Tuesday.

Two of the three have been arrested, police said, adding that "further arrests are expected".

"On surfacing of a video in social media in which mourners were found chanting pro-Azadi

"There was no history of or-

ganising any such unlawful gathering before. Neither was there any input of any gathering/procession nor was there any police presence as the area is far from the main Imambara," the spokesperson said.

slogans in a Jaloos-e-Aza, PS Pari-

mpora has taken cognizance," a

police spokesperson said.

"It has been revealed that some boys from the adjoining area of Budgam, led by Sajad Hussain Parray, Arif Ahmad Dar and Raja Mehboob, took advantage of the area, assembled there and raised pro-Azadi slogans," he added.

MANISH SAHU LUCKNOW, AUGUST 26 A 37-YEAR-OLD woman, whose husband died by suicide two months ago, and a 40-year-old man with physical disabilities were assaulted in a village in Uttar Pradesh's Kannauj district on Wednesday morning as the

Woman,

disabled man tonsured and

Kannauj village

paraded in

they were having an affair. Two of the woman's relatives, including her brother-inlaw, have been arrested in connection with the incident in the Gursahaiganj police station area.

woman's relatives suspected

The accused, including cousins and an uncle of the woman's husband, shaved the heads of the two, blackened their faces, draped them with a garland of slippers, and paraded them in the area.

Kannauj SP Amrendra Prasad Singh said the victims were neighbours, and dependent on farming. The relatives of the woman were unhappy as the man used to help her.

After a video of the incident started circulating on social media, a police team went to the village and arrested two of the accused. Senior Sub-Inspector Jitendra Singh at Gursahaiganj station said an FIR was lodged against eight people, all from the Dalit community, on the basis of the woman's complaint.

S-G turns down plea to allow contempt case against Swara

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

'DON'T HIDE BEHIND RBI'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE SUPREME Court on

Wednesday asked the Centre to

make "very clear" its stand on

whether additional interest will

charged on the existing interest

for deferred payment of loan in-

stalments, allowed by the RBI in

RBI," the bench headed by Justice

Justices R Subhash Reddy and M

R Shah, expressed its displeasure

at the Centre not filing an affi-

davit stating its stand and gave

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta

shelving the issue. You will have

to make your stand very clear,"

Justice Bhushan said when

Mehta submitted that the RBI

had decided on August 6 that it

has to be considered sector-wise.

what is being complained of oc-

curred due the lockdown and told

Mehta, "You have to tell us your

stand on the Disaster Manag-

ement Act and whether interest

on interest will be accounted for."

Justice Bhushan observed

"That will be as good as

one more week to submit it.

"Please don't hide behind the

The bench, also comprising

wake of the lockdown.

Ashok Bhushan said.

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

Supreme Court to

Centre: Clear stand

on interest waiver

during moratorium

"This happened because you

locked down the entire country,"

the court told the Centre while

referring to the difficulties in

loan repayments. Justice Shah

told the S-G that is not the time

Agra resident Gajendra Sharma –

advocate Rajiv Dutta said he had

reviewed an affidavit filed by the

State Bank of India, but the Centre

was yet to file any. He said the SBI

or RBI had also not answered the

aspect that arose in the context of

Mehta said there cannot be a

The court will hear the mat-

The plea urged the court to

declare the portion of RBI's

March 27 notification "as ultra

vires to the extent it charges in-

terest on the loan amount during

the moratorium period, which

create hardship to the petitioner

being borrower and creates hin-

drance and obstruction in 'right

to life' guaranteed by Article 21

was "no merit in charging inter-

est on interest" for deferred pay-

ment of loan installments dur-

ing the moratorium period.

The SC had earlier said there

of the Constitution of India".

the Disaster Management Act.

one-size-fits-all solution.

ter again on September 1.

Appearing for the petitioner -

to think about only business.

AFTER ATTORNEY General K K Venugopal, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta too turned down on Wednesday a request seeking permission to initiate contempt of court proceedings against actress Swara Bhasker for allegedly making "derogatory and scandalous" statements

against the Supreme Court. In a letter to Advocate Anui Saxena, who had submitted the request on behalf of his client Usha Shetty, the Solicitor General pointed out that his letter said "the request to initiate contempt was forwarded to the Hon'hl Attorney General of India..." who "on 21.08.2020 has declined to

"Considering the fact that the Ld Attorney General for India has already declined to grant his consent in the present matter for reasons detailed in the letter dated

Solicitor General said.

cited in two paragraphs details of Bhasker's alleged remarks during a panel discussion on that her statements were "derogatory and scandalous".

paragraph related to the Ayodhya judgment and those in the second mentioned the government, police, courts and the

proceedings against a person. Accused held in

Lakhimpur Kheri rape, murder case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, AUGUST 26

A DAY after the body of an 18year-old girl was found in Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri district and post-mortem examination confirmed rape, the UP Police on Wednesday claimed to have solved the case with arrest of a man in his mid-20s.

According to the police, the accused, identified only as Dilshad, confessed to having committed the crime after a heated argument with the girl on August 24.

Police claimed the call detail records of the girl showed she was in frequent touch with the accused over the past few

months. Police said Dilshad admitted that after the girl had come to the market on August 24, he followed her and tried to talk to her. Police claimed that Dilshad admitted that during a heated ar-

gument later lat the spot where the body was found, he raped her and then slit her throat. "Apart from the statement of the accused, the conclusion is also based on scientific evidence such as fingerprints, bloodstained clothes and CCTV footage that has confirmed the

crime. A knife has also been recovered based on the information given by him," said Lakhimpur Kheri SSP Satendra Kumar.

At the online gathering, acilies, lawvers and the NIA before tivists from Chhattisgarh, where the next hearing on August 28.

KERALA GOLD SMUGGLING CASE

CM's former principal secy told Swapna Suresh to open locker to keep proceeds, ED tells court

SHAJU PHILIP THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, AUGUST 26

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED), which is investigating the smuggling of gold through diplomatic cargo to the UAE Consulate-General's office in Thiruvananthapuram, told a special court on Wednesday that accused Swapna Suresh opened a bank locker jointly with a chartered accountant on the instruction of M



Swapna

Sivasankar, IAS officer and former principal secretary to the Chief

Seeking a 14-day extension in the judicial custody of accused P S Sarith, Swapna Suresh and Sandeep Nair, the ED stated in the special court for Prevention of Money Laundering Act cases in kept by Swapna Suresh, who is the second accused, in the bank locker jointly opened with a third person as per the instruction of Sivasankar". "An in-depth investigation in this regard is to be conducted," the agency said.

Kochi that "proceeds of crime was

Rs 1 crore in cash and 980 gm of gold have been seized from the bank locker Swapna opened jointly with chartered accountant Venugopal Iver. The ED special prosecutor TA Unnikrishnan submitted to the court that

Venugopal had told the agency that he was not informed about the source of the cash and gold.

The ED is also looking into the alleged kickbacks received by Swapna Suresh in a housing project for the poor that is being constructed at Vadakkanchery in Thrissur with the financial support of Emirates Red Crescent.

The ED has seized documents related to an MoU signed between Red Crescent and Kerala government's Life Mission for the Rs 20-crore project.

for financing smuggling

NIA arrests four more

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE NIA has arrested four more people in connection with the Kerala gold smuggling case. The accused have been identified as Jifsal CV and Muhammed Abdu Shameem from Kozhikode and Aboobacker and Abdul Hameed P M from Malappuram.

been arrested "for conspiring with other arrested accused persons and for financing smuggling of

gold through import cargo addressed to the UAE Consulate at Thiruvananthapuram, besides re-

ceiving such smuggled gold and proceeds from the smuggling". The agency also conducted searches at the homes of the accused in Malappuram and Kozhikode districts Wednesday. Among the locations

searched was Malabar Jewellery owned by Aboobacker, Ameen The NIA said the four have Gold in Malappuram owned by Abdul Hameed and Ambi Jewellery, Kozhikode owned by accused Shamsudheen

New Delhi

WORDLY WISE

YOU CANNOT SPEND YOUR WAY OUT OF RECESSION OR BORROW YOUR WAY OUT OF DEBT.

—DANIEL HANNAN

The Indian EXPRESS

∞ FOUNDED By ∞ RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

LONG ROAD AHEAD

RBI points to bleak prospects for consumption and investment in near term, underscores need for government support

HE ANNUAL REPORT of the Reserve Bank of India, released on Tuesday, affirms that the recovery from the current crisis will be a painful and protracted process. While leading economic indicators do suggest that the economy has bounced back from the lows observed in April, the report corroborates the view that economic activities are plateauing at lower levels, and that the normalisation of activities to pre-COVID levels is unlikely in the nearterm. "The upticks that became visible in May and June after the lockdown was eased in several parts of the country, appear to have lost strength in July and August, mainly due to reimposition or stricter imposition of lockdowns," it noted. This implies that though the pace of contraction in activities does appear to have eased considerably since the easing of the lockdown restrictions, the central bank now expects the economy to continue to contract in the second quarter of the current financial year as well.

The report offers a grim prognosis of the underlying drivers of growth. On the consumption side, the data points to a remarkable decline in household financial liabilities, indicating that in line with the corporate sector, households in India have also begun to deleverage. Household financial liabilities fell to 2.9 per cent of gross national disposable income (GNDI) in 2019-20, from 4 per cent in 2018-19. And this was before the COVID-19 pandemic struck. Rising income uncertainty stemming from the subsequent job and income losses may well have accelerated this trend, and led to a rise in precautionary sayings, dimming the prospects of a revival in private consumption in the near term. As the report notes, "An assessment of aggregate demand during the year so far suggests that the shock to consumption is severe, and it will take quite some time to mend and regain the pre-COVID-19 momentum." On the investment side, the prospects of a pick-up in the private sector capex cycle also appear to be bleak. Companies have utilised the cash flow freed up due to the reduction in the corporate tax rates to meet their loan obligations, and to build up their cash reserves, indicating limited appetite for launching fresh investment. A risk averse household and corporate sector, both in the midst of a deleveraging exercise, underscore the need for greater public sector spending to revive the economy. As the RBI also notes, public investment funded by the monetisation of assets, could "revive and crowd in private investment."

The central bank's continued reluctance to provide any estimate of economic growth for this year underlines the lingering uncertainty. While the National Statistics Office (NSO) will release its estimates of growth for the first quarter, indicating the extent of the slump during the period, early next week, surely the RBI should provide its own assessment of the economy, and how it sees economic activity shaping up over the medium term, to help guide policy-makers on the future course of action.

TRUTH ABOUT PULWAMA

Co-operating in Pulwama investigation can only be in Pakistan's own interest. And in interest of peace and stability in region

YEAR AND a half after the Pulwama attack, in which a Kashmiri suicide bomber detonated an explosives-laden car, killing 40 CRPF men in a security convoy on the national highway connecting Jammu and Srinagar, the National Investigation Agency has filed a chargesheet in the case. It confirms the claim made at the time by the Pakistan-based group, Jaish-e-Mohammed, that it had carried out the attack. The chargesheet says the attack was conceived, planned and controlled at every step by the Pakistan-based leadership of the JeM. It names IEM chief Masood Azhar, his brother Rauf Asghar, and another brother's son. Mohammed Usman Farooq, who is described as a "key conspirator" and a host of others. Six of those listed as the accused, including Usman Farooq, have since been killed in encounters. Mobile phones recovered from them provided much of the forensic evidence that has been included in the 13,800-page charge-sheet. The material in the chargesheet raises questions for Indian security forces about infiltration by Pakistani terrorists into Indian territory and how they remained undetected as they assembled the explosives.

The Pulwama attack set off a chain of events that culminated in the IAF strike at Balakot in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, at the site of a Jaish-e-Mohammed training camp, to which the Pakistan Air Force retaliated, downing an IAF MiG-21 and capturing the pilot. At the time, India had made it plain that it held Pakistan responsible for the attack, withdrawing the Most Favoured Nation status for preferential trade with it, and declaring that it would work to isolate Islamabad internationally. From the chargesheet, it is clear that Usman Farooq's handlers were guiding him every step of the way. It is well known that the JeM has close links to the Pakistani military establishment.

In response to an Indian dossier last March, Pakistan said it had taken into "protective custody" some 40 Jaish-e-Mohammed cadres, including Rauf Asghar and Masood Azhar's son Hammad Azhar. But Pakistan said it needed more "proof". Delhi rightly accused it of insincerity, pointing out its inaction in other cases, including the Mumbai attacks case, despite being provided with evidence. Now, with the Financial Action Task Force watching, the Pakistan government has been forced to take some measures to comply with the international watchdog's anti-terror requirements. Co-operating in the Pulwama investigation can only be in its own interest, and in the interest of peace and stability in the region.

MOUNT 600

And James Anderson has his head and heart set on scaling more peaks

N THE FINAL hour of this cricket summer in England, James Anderson, the country's evergreen seamer, collected his 600th Test wicket with his 33,717th delivery in this format. It was a rare and remarkable feat. Mount 600 is a peak unscaled by fast bowlers. And it is likely to remain unsurpassable in the imminent future. It would require a boundless amount of talent, hard work, persistence, modesty and most importantly, an utter lack of hubris.

The genius of Anderson is multi-layered. A real Sultan of Swing, his dexterous fingers and malleable wrists follow each instruction of his mind. He can swing the ball when and where and how he wishes. He can also "reverse" reverse swing, like he so famously did to outfox Sachin Tendulkar in Kolkata in 2012. Never predictable, he kept the batsmen guessing all the time. If the pre-2012 Anderson carried the reputation of blossoming only in English conditions, a slave to clouds and moisture, in the subsequent years, he added more tools and trickery to his repertoire. His contributions were instrumental in setting up the Test series win in India in 2012 and the Ashes in 2011. For any opening batsman, he was a beast in England

His biggest achievement has been his longevity. Fast bowlers, stereotypically, hit their peak towards the late 20s. Anderson was just warming up to greatness at that age. The real surge began post 30s, illuminated by the figure that no fast bowler has picked more wickets (336) than him after the 30th birthday. Some bowlers would be elated to hoard these numbers in their entire career. Anderson has his head and heart set on more. At the age of 38, when the siren songs of farewell might have already kicked in, he is busy penning songs of doom for batsmen. The ageless Anderson is one for the ages.

UGC versus States



Time to hold the baby and throw out the bathwater

MILIND SOHONI AND OSHIN DHARAP

THE UNIVERSITY GRANTS Commission (UGC) and the State of Maharashtra with other parties are engaged in a vicious legal battle. It has put the spotlight, once again, on the fraught nature of Centre-state relations in the area of higher education. The case is simple: Given the epidemic and concerns of safety, Maharashtra and some other states have cancelled the final year exams for college students and wish to award grades and degrees based on in-semester performance.

The UGC has said that this "dilutes standards" and has passed a diktat that universities must hold exams — online, off-line or blended - before September 30. It has claimed that the actions of the states have "encroached on the legislative field of coordinating and determining the standards of higher education which is exclusively reserved for the Parliament under Entry 66 of List I of Schedule VII of the Constitution." It has also claimed that its directives are to "protect the academic future of students".

These broad claims must be examined carefully. Right now, fresh graduates are losing job appointments simply because they cannot furnish a final degree certificate. And yet, the MHRD has not bothered to inform employers and institutions to defer this re-

Entry 66 does indeed spell out the Centre's role as "Coordination and determination of standards in institutions for higher education or research and scientific and technical institutions". It has been repeatedly used by the Centre to shape the contours of policy and governance. In fact, it is the basis of the UGC Act of 1956. That led to the UGC-NET, a qualifying examination for college teachers. The IIT Act of 1961 led to the JEE and eventually GATE, and the 2016 amendment to the Indian Medical Council Act of 1956 gave us NEET. Thus, a single provision in the Constitution and a few key Acts have entangled India's higher education in a web of qualifying and competitive exams, regulatory agencies and professional bodies. All this is in the name of upholding standards.

And yet, there have been few efforts to evolve standards and link them with concrete societal goals. There is the excessively bureaucratic national system of accreditation and rankings for institutions. This led to thousands of research papers in worthless journals and hundreds of crores spent on exNational competitive exams such as the JEE, NEET and GATE have become the de facto standards for education. The folly of this is well known. They adversely impact the overall development of our youth. They encourage coaching and intervene in the state's ability to provide doctors and engineers from the local population. They distort the meaning and practice of science. And yet their impact on students and society has not been formally measured or accepted by the MHRD. The most exceptionable is the UGC-NET, the qualifying exam for college

teachers.

otic research areas.

have never been answered.

The new National Education Policy (NEP) claims that the purpose of higher education is to "enable personal accomplishment and enlightenment, constructive public engagement, and productive contribution to society". But what is this in concrete terms, for students, institutions, the state and the nation? Should a "good" student be able to write a newspaper article on a local issue, or conduct a study? Should IIT Bombay or Shivaji University analyse the Kolhapur floods or measure the parameters of the epidemic in their cities? Can the state rely on its colleges for research on drinking water? Should the nation expect that elite institutions will work to improve the railways and devise timetables for shramik services? These questions

Instead, national competitive exams such as the JEE, NEET and GATE have become the de facto standards for education. The folly of this is well known. They adversely impact the overall development of our youth. They encourage coaching and intervene in the state's ability to provide doctors and engineers from the local population. They distort the meaning and practice of science. And yet their impact on students and society has not been formally measured or accepted by the MHRD.

The most exceptionable is the UGC-NET, the qualifying exam for college teachers. Their curricula are, of course, "national" or for that matter "global". In Economics, it is the last chapter (of 10 chapters), where the Indian Economy is finally introduced. Missing is the District Economic Plan, a document which is regularly prepared by state governments, or the economics of the city. Sociology wends its way through Marx and Weber, ignores key development programmes such as MGN-REGA and forbids any regional content. In Engineering too, the national curriculum for civil engineering is the same for Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra. The national governing body for engineering has now determined that Virtual Reality and Quantum Computing are important emerging areas! Thus, the Centre decides the curricula, the teachers and their salaries. The states pay.

This standardisation is merely "worldclass" wool pulled over our eyes and not based on any study of what the states need. In fact, the disconnect of curricula and teachers with the real world is the real dilution of standards. It is perhaps the principal reason for poor student employability and the reluctance of the states to invest in higher education.

Pedagogically too, it is known that students learn better when presented with reallife problems in a familiar context. And vet the case study on local problems has been absent in the curricula. When states innovate, the MHRD is more likely to steam-roll it. This was witnessed in Maharashtra, where its innovative programme, Unnat Maharashtra Abhiyan, linking colleges with district administration was refused support by the MHRD.

Finally, about elite central institutions such as the IITs or IISERs, the less said the better. Most regulations of the UGC or MHRD do not apply to them. They soak up most of the funds and prestige and yet their output is not ommensurate.

Setting standards in higher education requires us to connect societal needs and professions with training and research. The MHRD or UGC have failed to do this. Nor have they considered the harmful impact of the de facto standards on students and society. The new NEP continues to live in the same exalted evidence-free world of national curricula and nationalised testing. So what is to be done?

The courts should point out that a constitutional right comes with duties. The UGC has failed to appreciate this. They should set aside the issue of encroachment and judge the case on concrete questions. Can the states really hold exams during a pandemic? Are they really that important? Can transport or access to computers be managed? Did the central committee consider all this? Does it have the data?

Secondly, students should understand that their future is bogged down by a higher education system and a scientific bureaucracy which is structurally flawed. It is an elite centralised system which is not accountable to meaningful jobs or welfare within the states. It is time for the states to create a system which opens up professional opportunities, standards and training for our youth to serve their community, of achieving excellence through relevance.

> Sohoni teaches IIT Bombay and IIT Goa. Dharap is a researcher at IIT Bombay

Afterlife Of A Verdict

Ending discriminatory practice of triple talaq was a much-needed reform

Tahir Mahmood

ON AUGUST 21 three years ago, the Supreme Court pronounced its historic judgment in the much celebrated Shavara Bano case relating to the heinous practice of the so-called "triple talaq" prevalent among the country's Muslim citizens. In his judgment, the then Chief Justice J S Khehar said, "There can be no doubt, and that is our definitive conclusion, that the position can be salvaged only by legislation: unfortunately, the Union seeks at our hands what clearly falls in its own". The operative part of the split judgment had declared that, "In view of the different opinions recorded, by a majority of 3:2 the practice of talag-e-bidat, triple talag, is set aside.'

The minority judgment in the case had advised the government to enact a comprehensive divorce law for the Muslims on the lines of such laws in several Arab and non-Arab Muslim countries — which the judgment had taken pains to chronicle at length. Instead of bringing in such a law, the government of the day, however, decided in its wisdom to pass a penal law abolishing the practice of triple talaq and making it an offence.

The proposed law was first enforced by two ordinances promulgated one after the other and finally enacted as the Muslim Women (Rights on Marriage) Act, exactly three weeks before the second anniversary of the apex court's judgment. As the Act comThe impression that the Act has repealed the Muslim law on divorce by husbands in its entirety is not correct. Its provisions are restricted in their effect to 'talaq-e-bidat'. The proper way of divorce by men as prescribed by the Quran and other authentic sources of Muslim law remains unaffected by the Act.

pleted the first year of its life on the last day of the last month, the Union law minister happily tweeted: "This day will always be remembered as a golden day in the Indian democracy for giving gender justice, dignity and equality to Muslim women by ending the evil practice of triple talaq".

The Act uses the word talaq throughout its provisions but restricts its meaning by defining the word as "talaq-e-bidat or any other similar form of talaq having the effect of instantaneous and irrevocable divorce". This definition covers the so-called triple talaq in which a husband says that he is giving "three talags" to his wife, or repeats the word talaq thrice – as also what is known in the traditional Muslim law as a "single irrevocable divorce" in which the husband declares he cannot revoke the talaq he is pronouncing. These are the forms of divorce which textbooks on Muslim law describe as practices "bad in theology but good in law" — a funny proposition, indeed. A constitutionally secular country is not bound to protect by law even what is "good in theology" - of course, theology of any community. It is naive to expect it to legally enforce what is admittedly "bad in theology" in a particular community's theology.

The Act declares the so-called talaq-e-bidat to be "void and illegal" and also makes it an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term up to three years and fine. The offence is to be cognisable but compoundable. A person arrested for the offence can be released on bail by the court after hearing the wife and being satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for granting bail. The Act also enables the court to order subsistence allowance for the wife and children dependent on her, as also for placing minor children in her custody.

The impression that the Act has repealed the Muslim law on divorce by husbands in its entirety is not correct. Its provisions are restricted in their effect to talaq-e-bidat, the two forms of which have been mentioned above. The proper way of divorce by men as prescribed by the Quran and other authentic sources of Muslim law remains unaffected by the Act. Nor does the Act affect in any sense the provisions of Muslim law on divorce at the instance of women or by the spouses' mutual consent.

Whether a man has pronounced a talaq as per authentic Muslim law or in violation of its precepts will be a matter to be proved by evidence. In the former case, the Act will not apply. In the latter case it will, and should, apply with all its vigour.

The writer is former chairman of National Minorities Commission and member, Law Commission of India



AUGUST 27, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

UP STILL DISTURBED THE RETURN TO normalcy of the riot-hit towns of Uttar Pradesh was disturbed following two stabbing incidents in Allahabad during the relaxation of the curfew. The district authorities immediately sent an SOS to Lucknow for police reinforcements and the curfew was withdrawn. There were two violent incidents in Moradabad during the period of curfew relaxation for Raksha Bandhan calling for instant action by the police.

BUT AMITY OVER RAKHI IN A UNIQUE show of communal harmony and fraternity, Hindus and Muslims celebrated "raksha bandhan" in Muzaffarnagar

by accepting and offering "rakhies". Several functions were in the district which were attended by members of both communities.

Wooing Industry

PRIME MINISTER INDIRA Gandhi told industrialists to do everything to step up production. She also asked them to make use of various incentives and concessions offered by the government. "The ball is in your court," she told industrialists. The meeting that lasted two hours was attended by the heads of major organisations like FICCI, the Associated Chambers of Commerce, and federations of export organisations. It was the second such meeting organised by the gov-

New Delhi

ernment. The PM said that there would be no dogma and no control for control's sake.

US Hostage Crisis

MILITANTS HOLDING AMERICAN hostages in Iran threatened to kill their captives if there is the slightest military move against Iran. The militants also said that they were on a full alert to foil any rescue attempt. Meanwhile, Iran's moderate National Guidance (Information) Minister Nasser Minachi has offered his resignation to President Abol-Hasan Bani Sadr, Minachi had come under criticism and was jailed last year, when the militant students occupying the US embassy in Iran had alleged that he has CIA links.

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2020

THE IDEAS PAGE

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"China-US relations cannot be redefined by the US alone. China's say is in our own hands."

-GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

High Command and G-23

To the extent that Congress letter-writers were motivated by personal interest, they may have lost. To the extent that they sought a hearing in the party interest, they have prevailed



Mani Shankar Aiyar

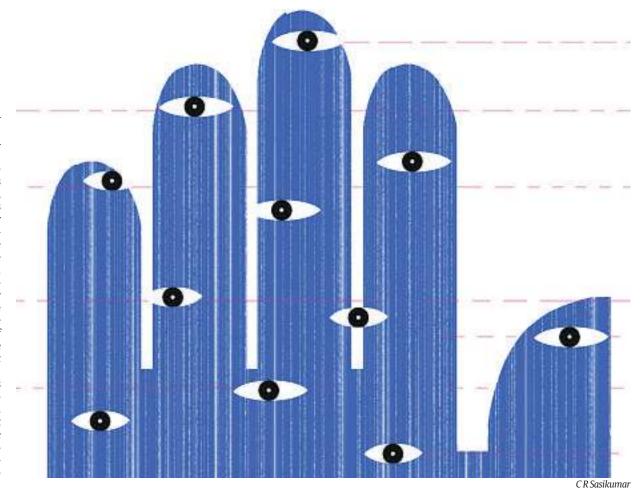
I WAS NOT present at the marathon, sevenhour long virtual meeting of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) and, therefore, have, as my reference point, only Manoj CG's scoop for this newspaper regarding a letter written reportedly by 23 persons, comprising veterans and younger members of the Congress, which led to a letter from the Congress President (CP) to her General Secretary (Organisation) - an interesting innovation since CP's instructions are usually given orally. Both letters were placed before a somewhat hastily convened meeting of the CWC. At the end of the meeting, the text of the resolution adopted was released to the press. That statement is a matter of public record; the two letters are not.

Going by what is on public record, it is stated that the CWC "has extensively deliberated on the letters". That fulfils the main purpose of the signatories. They had not asked for a meeting of the CWC to ventilate their concerns. The CP offered them the unsought opportunity of four of their representatives, who are both signatories and members of CWC, to do so.

The CWC resolution also states that "detailed discussion" took place on both the letter written by G-23 and her letter to her general secretary (which none outside the charmed circle of the CWC has seen because Manoj has failed to scoop that letter). That means debate, discussion and deliberation took place on not only the concerns and recommendations of G-23 but also on whatever were the CP's instructions to her General Secretary. There could not have been a more open or more transparent way of bringing every point-of-view to the table.

Not having been present at the meeting, I have to rely on reports published in the newspapers without vouching for their accuracy. But from such accounts as are available in the public domain, it would appear that the discussion was free and frank and marked by sharp jabs and acerbic repartee. No speaker, it would appear, was guillotined. It became clear, early on, that most of the G-23 approach, rightly or wrongly, was not acceptable to the majority of the CWC and was misconstrued, or deliberately construed, as a palace revolt. It was also clear that the G-23 were content at the end to go along with the general consensus. The hopes of the media that they could feast on continuing dissidence in the party and its disintegration into rival factions were, unfortunately for it, rather abruptly aborted.

But what of the substance of the G-23 missive? The consensus only authorises the CP to "effect necessary organisational changes as she may deem appropriate", but briefings given on record by signatories and non-signatories point to a committee being appointed by the CP to consider such changes as have been proposed for her to "deem" what she regards as "appropriate". This is par for the Congress course, a victory for both sides — a kind of demonstration of Solomon's wisdom. The Congress has a rich tradition of intra-party differences that have usually been resolved without a split. The



splits of 1969 and 1977-78 were not the norm. A democratic party is democratic only to the extent that it allows for a diversity of views. This diversity has been accounted for by keeping avenues open for pursuing specific proposals beyond the CWC meeting. Of course, this applies only if, in fact, such a committee is set up and given a timeline within which to report back. That has not been explicitly provided for in the resolution as adopted, but only as interpreted.

While five major conclusions and sub-

conclusions have been carefully set out, the most important one has been left out. No condign punishment to the G-23 signatories has been recommended. Whatever the alleged imprecations of Ambika Soni, no one has been reprimanded, no one has been suspended, none have been summarily expelled. This is not happenstance. G-23 had not resorted to personalities. It had restricted itself to recommendations of a limited organisational nature, none particularly revolutionary or startling or even innovative. Indeed, most of these recommendations have been made in the past, the most farreaching by Rahul Gandhi himself. He has himself objected only to the timing, not to the necessity or otherwise of going down the G-23 road. He has not pitted himself against the substance of what G-23 has sought and has restricted himself to questioning the propriety of red-flagging these issues and bringing them into public focus when the interim president had to be hospitalised, G-23, for their part, have clarified that they had deliberately held back the letter for 10 days because she was in hospital but are still to explain why they could not wait till she had recuperated more fully. But that is not an earth-shattering matter. The letter was confidential. The authors hoped it would be privately discussed. And beyond their intentions or expectations, they have been given the opportunity of arguing their case before

It would appear that the discussion was free and frank and marked by sharp jabs and acerbic repartee. No speaker, it would appear, was guillotined. It became clear early on that most of the G-23 approach, rightly or wrongly, was not acceptable to the majority of the CWC and was misconstrued, or deliberately construed, as a palace revolt. It was also clear that the G-23 were content at the end to go along with the general consensus. The hopes of the media that they could feast on continuing dissidence in the party and its disintegration into rival factions were, unfortunately for the media, rather

By being selective in determining who the signatories would be, they have antagonised at least 19 members of the CWC and countless others. The main reason for the setback they have initially suffered is their illadvised decision to be selective in their choice of signatories. Perhaps a more openminded and open-ended approach would have served them better. In consequence, their motivations are being questioned, as they should surely have anticipated given their morbidly long experience in politics.

They would answer that they were not seeking a public airing of their views but just a conversation with their leader. That their leader outflanked them by showing up their minority status within the party can hardly be blamed on the leader. She was only showing her mastery of the game. But if their motives were disinterested and all they sought was that someone should take note of their views, they have succeeded for we now have a clear (and, more to the point, uncontested) listing of their recommendations which have certainly survived the personal grilling they have been subjected to — which, of course, is the lot of all politicians.

What needs to be stressed is that their proposals have been defeated but they live to fight another day. The proposals are so intrinsically sensible that they are bound to find at least partial acceptance. They did not seek Sonia Gandhi's ouster. They did not seek Rahul Gandhi's termination. They only sought what is more or less blindingly selfevident to every Congressman and woman. To the extent that they were motivated by personal interest (who isn't?), they may have lost. To the extent that they sought a hearing in the party interest, they have prevailed. What could be a fairer outcome?

The writer is a Congress leader and former Union minister

Taking jobs closer to people

For employers and job aspirants, National Recruitment Agency and Common Eligibility Test promise convenience and transparency



JITENDRA SINGH

AFTER THE passage of the historic and revolutionary recruitment reform in the form of National Recruitment Agency (NRA) by the Union Cabinet, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reached out to the youth of the country, saying the move will prove to be a boon for crores of youngsters. He asserted that it will eliminate multiple tests and save time as well as resources. PM Modi also said that the creation of the NRA will give a big boost to transparency, which is the hallmark of his governance model. A multi-agency body, the NRA will conduct a Common Eligibility Test (CET) to screen/shortlist candidates for the Group Band C(non-technical) posts. The NRA will have representatives from the Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Finance/Department of Financial Services, Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) and Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS).

At present, aspirants have to take different exams that are conducted by various agencies for central government jobs. On average, 2.5-3 crore candidates appear for about 1.25 lakh vacancies in the central government every year. But from next year, the NRA will conduct the CET and based on the score, one can apply for a vacancy with the respective agency.

It may be recalled that in the last six years, a series of governance reforms were undertaken under PM Modi and some outof-the-box decisions including doing away with getting documents attested by a gazetted officer and replacing the same with self-attestation, doing away with interviews for lower-rung selections, the abolition of over 1,500 obsolete rules/laws, three-month central government stint as assistant secretaries for IAS officers at the beginning of their career, amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act and a new format for the PM's Excellence Awards. But the NRA stands out as a unique model as it marks a paradigm shift in the government recruitment process. It's also in tune with the Modi government's mantra of "Ease of Living for the Young Job Aspirants" by facilitating ease of recruitment, selection and job placement. Moreover, the multiple recruitment examinations are a burden on the candidates, as also on the respective recruitment agencies, involving avoidable/repetitive expenditure, law and order/security-related issues and venue-related problems. The NRA is a combination of convenience and cost-effectiveness for candidates.

Examination centres in every district would greatly enhance access to the candidates located in far-flung areas. There will be a special focus on creating examination infrastructure in the 117 Aspirational Districts, which will go a long way in affording access to candidates at a place near where they reside. This will prove a great boon to crores of

aspirants residing in hilly, rural and remote areas and most importantly, for female candidates who face a plethora of problems in taking such examinations at different centres at different times. The resultant benefits in terms of cost, effort and safety will be immense. Taking job opportunities closer to the people is a radical step that would greatly enhance ease of living for the youth. The NRA also envisions conducting mock tests for rural youth and will have a 24x7 helpline and grievance redressal portal.

Another great feature of the NRA-CET Combo is that the CET score of the candidate shall remain valid for three years from the date of declaration of the result. The best of the valid scores shall be deemed to be the current score of the candidate and there would be no restriction on the number of attempts to appear in the CET subject to the upper age limit. Relaxation in the upper age limit shall be given to SC/ST/OBC candidates and from other categories as per the extant government policy. This will go a long way in mitigating the hardship of candidates who spend a considerable amount of time, money and effort preparing for and giving these examinations every year.

The NRA shall conduct a separate CET each for the three levels of graduate, higher secondary (12th pass) and the matriculate (10th pass) candidates for those non-technical posts to which recruitment is presently carried out by the SSC, RRBs and IBPS. Based on the screening done at the CET score level, final selection for recruitment shall be made through separate specialised tiers (II, III, etc) of examination, which shall be conducted by the respective recruitment agencies. The curriculum and standard for this test will be common. This will ease the burden of candidates who are at present required to prepare for each of the examinations separately.

Candidates would have the facility of registering on a common portal and give a choice of centres. Based on availability, they will be allotted centres. The ultimate aim is to reach a stage wherein candidates can schedule their tests at centres of their choice.

The CET will be available in several languages. This will greatly facilitate people from different parts of the country to take the exam and have an equal opportunity of being selected. Besides Hindi and English, tests will be conducted in 12 languages in due course and efforts will be made to include all the languages mentioned in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution.

Initially, the CET scores would be used by the three major recruitment agencies. However, over time, it is expected that other recruitment agencies of the central government will adopt it as well. Further, other agencies in the public as well as private domain will be able to adopt the CET if they so choose. In the long run, the CET score could be shared with other recruiting agencies in the central government, state governments/Union Territories, public sector undertakings and the private sector in a true spirit of cooperative federalism.

The is the Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space and Mos (Independent Charge) for the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region



An unserviced sector

Service sector, driver of India's growth, has been left out of Centre's relief package

abruptly aborted.

Geethanjali Nataraj and Rishika Singh

THE SERVICE sector has been a key driver of both the global and Indian economy over the last three decades. The economic reforms since the early Nineties unleashed the potential of the services sector by utilising available skilled manpower due to state-supported higher education. India is probably the only big economy that didn't follow linear growth theories by jumping from a predominantly agricultural economy to a services-led growth economy without much improvement in manufacturing. The share of manufacturing in India's GDP has remained stagnant around 16 per cent for nearly three decades and we are nowhere near the 2022 target of 25 per cent. As a result, India's growth story has been driven by services, which has a 55 per cent share in the economy. Services exports have outperformed goods exports in the recent years, due to which India's share in the world's commercial services exports has risen steadily over the past decade to reach 3.5 per cent in 2018 – twice the sector's share in the world's merchandise exports, 1.7 per cent.

India is fast becoming a major quality service provider. Even before the COVID pandemic set in and just before the nationwide lockdown was announced at the end of March, the sector was booming. The widely-tracked Nikkei India PMI Index stood at 57.5 in February, up from 55.5 in January. However, IHS Markit India Services

Index reports that the services sector has been contracting for five consecutive months since March, with an index of 34.2. In PMI jargon, the 50-mark level separates expansion from contraction. Given the uncertainty in the world market and the projected slowdown of developed economies by 8 per cent this year, India's services-led growth has to depend mostly on the domestic economy. Have we done enough to revive the services sector?

The Centre rolled out a whopping Rs 20.9 lakh crore stimulus package to pull the economy out from the ravages of the pandemic. The package had a strong focus on the MSME sector, employee provident fund, power distribution companies and taxation, among other affected areas. Most of the stimulus package is in the form of funding and loan opportunities and, injecting liquidity to the market.

While the package is a beam of hope for some, it has overlooked the plight of the services sector. The sector finds little mention or attention in the government's Atmanirbhar Reform Package. The sector's significance in the economy continues to grow with its share amounting to two-thirds of total FDI inflows into India and about 38 per cent of total exports.

As the post-pandemic world is taking shape, the sector is struggling hard to keep its head above water.

The tourism industry, which contributed

nearly 10 per cent of GDP, is now witnessing a large-scale reduction in jobs and operating returns have plummeted to 10 per cent of previous revenues for most. If the CAPA Centre for Aviation is to be believed, the aviation sector is expected to have lost \$3.6 billion in the three months leading up to June. The number of potential job losses in the sector gives an even harder jolt to an already dwindling economy. After holding rounds of meetings with industry representatives and making several references to its condition in speeches, the government is not aloof from the catastrophic consequences suffered by the sector. But its by-stander position would only worsen the situation.

From tourism, aviation, shipping, space to call centres and delivery services, the standstill in activities is bound to have a knock-out effect on employment, production and the economy as a whole. The big picture suggests that the current relief provisions for the primary and secondary sectors would also be nullified as a consequence of neglecting the tertiary sector. An immunitybuilding exercise through capital infusion and appropriate relaxation in relevant sectors will help the economy to survive the pandemic. Most of the services sectors are the worst affected and unfortunately, we don't see any specific fiscal and monetary stimulus for them. In fact, some sectors would find it difficult to survive if the pandemic continues. In the short run, the government needs to make cuts in VAT, which ranges from 0-30 per cent on aviation fuel, make provisions for GST holidays, compensate for wages of workers under distress and draft flexible terms for working capital credit.

Since no great incentives were given to this sector in the reform package, it contracted for the fifth successive month in July (34.2 PMI). The government is also in the process of scrapping or rationalising most of the export-incentive schemes affecting both goods and services exports — these including the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS), Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS), schemes related to export-oriented units and the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme — due to certain issues raised by the department of revenue and also to make some of these schemes WTO-compliant. This is expected to further hurt exporters. Unless the government focuses on the sector in the forthcoming Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) by announcing schemes-based export incentives and provides interim relief by continuing with the existing schemes in the short run, the sector will take a long time

The writers are Director (Research and Policy), Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC) and Intern at SEPC, New Delhi respectively. Views are personal

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

ALL POLITICS

THIS REFERS TO the article, Their Kamala, not ours' (IE, August 26). The nomination of Kamala Harris as Vice President, is racially inclusive, but so was Barrack Obama's election to the office. Even with a Black US president, men like Philando Castile and Alton Sterling continued to be shot and killed. Even today, Americans have to demand what should have been theirs by right — racial equality. Amid enduring protests, the nomination of a candidate who has a hyphenated racial identity comes across as little more than excellent political acumen. Indian Muslims have been victimised by a majoritarian government like the black community in America. The difference, however, is the inadequate Muslim representation in politics in India, which is of a piece with the systemic discrimination against them. America, on the other hand, seems to be in two minds about "equality".

Fatima Ghazali, Patna

TEACHING, ADAPTING

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Teacher's day & night' (IE, August 26). With the seismic shift in the education sector brought about in the wake of the pandemic, the creative initiatives are mentioned in the editorial are welcome. These are yet more small steps towards adapting to life in the times of the pandemic. Academic plans and modes of

New Delhi

IDEAS ONLINE

ONLY IN THE EXPRESS

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ATMANIRBHARATA WITH QUALITY: **PNARAHARI**

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Varun Das, Zirakpur

teaching need to be more flexible.

POPULARITY ILLUSION

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'The TINA delusion' (IE, August 26). According to the writer, attribution of PM Narendra Modi's success to "TINA" is a delusion. Similarly, his owing Modi's success to the latter's striking a chord with people is also an illusion. The BJP got a massive mandate in the 2014 and 2019 general elections by dividing society along caste and religion lines, not treating it as a whole. For the BJP, ends justify means. Success achieved through such dubious means always remains questionable. Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur

OFFICE OF THE PROJECT MANAGER CONSTUCTION UNIT, UTTAR PRADESH JAL NIGAM, SAHARANPUR

Letter No. 3524/411/34 Dated: 24-08-2020

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE Online percentage rate e enders in two bid system for the 17 Retrofitting work of water supply scheme under "Jai Jeewan Mission Yojna' programme, District- Saharonus s hereby invited on behalf of the Chairman U.P. Jal Nigam from the reputed contractors having work experience of similar works & inancial capabilities. Tender document shall be available on eprocurement website http://etender.up.nic.in. Interested contractors may view & download ender document (i.e. Technical & inancial capacity evaluation cum echnical bid and financial bid) on procurement website http://etender.up.nlc.in from date 26-08-2020 to 03-09-2020 upload duly filed online Dt. 03-09-2020 upto 13:00 hrs.) Technical bid opening date 04-09-2020 (at 15:00 hrs) at office of the Project Manager Construction/Unit, U.P. Jal Nigam Saharanpur. The date and time of opening of financial bid will be intimated to bidders separately.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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India, China troops to take part in Russian exercise; Pak may join

China, it is learnt, is likely to

participate with a substantial

number of naval surface com-

batants. Since 2018, an increas-

ing number of nations have

been participating in these ex-

ercises, which, the source in

defence establishment said.

until then was limited to

Russian armed forces, or took

the form of bilateral exercises

with neighbouring east

In 2018, Exercise Vostok

saw participation of China and

Mongolia. Exercise Tsentr last

year had participation of India,

Pakistan and all SCO member-

SCO peace mission exercise in

2018, and in 2019, for the first

time, was involved in a strategic

command and staff exercise as

The aim of the exercise is to

"provide real-time training to

counter international terrorism

in the Northern and Caucasus

region", and the setting "will in-

volve both offensive and defen-

sive operations against interna-

tional terror", the source said.

part of Exercise Tsentr.

India had participated in

European countries.

nations.

KRISHN KAUSHIK

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

AMID A stalemate in talks between New Delhi and Beijing following the military standoff in eastern Ladakh, Indian and Chinese troops will participate in an international exercise in Russia next month.

This will be the first time that troops of the two countries will see each other in a friendly exercise since tensions began along the LAC in Ladakh early May.

India will send a tri-services contingent to participate in Exercise Kavkaz, to be held in southern Russia between September 15 and 27.

While it is learned that China has confirmed its participation, Pakistan is also likely to send its troops for the exercise. The Indian contingent will include a company-level strength of approximately 180 troops from an infantry battalion, 40 personnel of the Air Force, and two Navy officers as observers.

In all, 13,000 troops will participate in the exercise, sources in the defence estab-

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In letter to Centre, Mizoram govt slams **Assam Rifles conduct**

THE MIZORAM government has written to the

Centre criticising the Assam Rifles for its behaviour and lack of cooperation with the state government, saying the force failed to recognise that Mizoram was a "peaceful state".

In two letters to Union Home Secretary Ajay

Chuaungo wrote 15 men of Assam Rifles "forced their way" through the checkmate at Vairengte without mandatory Covid screening on August 18, aided by 25 personnel who had gone to Vairengte from Aizawl "to intimidate the state police and medical team on duty". "It is, therefore, requested that the Assam Rifles be directed to stop recalcitrant behaviour and to cooperate with the state government like other Armed Forces/CAPF in the state in fighting the spread of Covid-19..." Chuaungo wrote.

to recognise, on the part of Assam Rifles, that Mizoram Powers) Act, 1958 had long been withdrawn, and inthe civil administration is coming in the way of good relations and cooperation between Assam Rifles and the civil administration.

ABHISHEK SAHA GUWAHATI, AUGUST 26

Bhalla on August 24, Mizoram Chief Secretary Lalnunmawia Chuaungo complained about the conduct of the Assam Rifles regarding an incident of violation of Covid screening protocol and another when the Assam Rifles had reportedly returned invitations to the Independence Day celebrations in Aizawl in disagreement over 'Warrant of Precedent'.

In another letter, Chuaungo wrote, "...The failure is a peaceful state where Armed Forces (Special sensitivity and contempt with which they deal with

Office of The Chief Engineer M.P.P.W.D. **Bridge Construction Zone Bhopal (M.P.) Tender Notice**

NIT No- 26/C.E.(Bridge Zone)/ 2020-21 Date 21.08.2020 Online Tender for mentioned below are being invited. The Tender have been uploaded on the mptenders

,,,,,	system of Public Works Department on the Portal <u>www.mptenders.gov.in</u> Tender details are as below:						
S. No.	Tender No.	District	Nature of work	Name of work	Call No.	Cost of Project (PAC) (Rs. In lack)	Physical submission (Original EMD & Other Document) at the office of as mentioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Construction of Submersible	First	905.78	Chief Engineer PWD	
1		Sagar		Bridge across Sonar River in km 41/4-6 on Sagar- Rehli- Jabalpur Road in Rehli Town i/c Approach Road. Distt. Sagar (M.P.)			Bridge Construction Zone Plot NO- 27-28 Second Floor Nirman Bhawan Arera Hills Bhopal

last date & time for purchase of Document on line is Dated 10.09.2020 up to (17:30) Detailed NIT and other details can be viewed on the above mentioned portal. Amendments to NIT, if any, published on website only, and not in newspaper

The Original FDR & Other document will be received on Dated 14.09.2020 up to (17:30) in the office

Chief Engine

Bridge Construction Zone Bhopa

Ayushman Mitra, 2 pvt firm staffers sacked for dialysis bill fraud

SANTOSH SINGH PATNA, AUGUST 26

A PRIVATE company, which was given a contract to carry out dialysis under the Ayushman Bharat scheme, made fake bills amounting to Rs 2.98 lakh of nearly 175 such procedures in the name of four patients, who had already died of renal complications between December 2019 and April this year, and had once undergone dialysis at Jamui Sadar Hospital.

The matter came to light during an internal audit of Ayushman Bharat in May, with the Fraud Wing under the scheme contacting the families of the four deceased patients in Jamui, Munger and Lakhisarai districts, and later alerting the Jamui district administration to look into

M/S B Braun Medical India, which was running dialysis centres in 17 districts across Bihar under the scheme, has completed its contract period with no renewal. While the firm immediately terminated two staffers manning the dialysis centre at the Jamui Sadar Hospital, it did not take any responsibility for the lack of monitoring.

Under the scheme, a photograph of the patient on bed has to be uploaded with details of admission and discharge and the private company is reimbursed Rs 1,666 for each dialysis. Every dialysis has to be approved by a doctor at Sadar Hospital, even if a patient is referred by a

Dr Bijendra Satyarthi, Jamui Civil

Surgeon cum district member secretary of the Bihar State Health Society, said, We have found Ayushman Mitra Anup Kumar Sinha the main culprit for incorrect uploading of dialysis data... We have terminated all his contracts.'

Asked why no action was taken against any doctor as they are the ones approving dialysis procedures, Satyarthi said, "Our doctors just have to do the approval as a matter of routine. The investigation has been done as per the terms of references set by the district magistrate.'

However, Ayushman Mitra and data entry operator Anup Kumar Sinha said, "I uploaded pictures of patients sent by people at the dialysis centre. While I accept that I should have cross checked the veracity of these pictures, why could no doctor ever cross check that a patient is being impersonated... It is very easy to catch those at the last rung of the ladder."

District programme officer Sudhanshu N Lal said, "Most cases are on referral basis. But now we are ensuring that doctors should verify the identity of each patient before referring." He said the company has accepted its mistake but did not comment on whether it could be blacklisted for the lapse.

However, Jamui dialysis centre incharge Balbir Kumar said, "Jamui is the only centre that reported such malpractices... Though we had been monitoring through internal software. I was not able to do physical verification because of the lockdown. But I want to submit that hospital doctors should also screen out any impersonation.'

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU **HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT** VILLUPURAM (CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE) CIRCLE, **TENDER NOTICE**

TENDER NOTICE NO.27 /2020-21 / HDO. DATED:25.08.2020 For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Percentage tender through online only will be received upto 15.09.2020 - 13.30 hours by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Villupuram Circle for CRIDP 2020-21 Works, (Package No.59) pertaining to Kallakurichi (H) (C&M) Division.

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 28.08.2020 onwards in the Government website https://tntenders.gov.in. If any Changes/Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.

DIPR/3174/TENDER/2020

Superintending Engineer (H) C&M Circle, Villupuram

U.P. RAJKIYA NIRMAN NIGAM LTD. Notice No: 2307/G.M.(Avodhva, Zone)/NIVIDA/RNN/20 Dated: 24.08.2020

TENDER NOTICE On behalf of U.P.R.N.N. LTD., E-Tenders are invited on two bid system for Construction of Government Polytechnic College, Harraiya at District Basti. Detail can be downloaded from etender.up.nic.in and U.P.R.N.N LTD. Website <u>www.uprnn.co.in</u> from 25.08.2020

GENERAL MANAGER AYODHYA ZONE

U.P. RAJKIYA NIRMAN NIGAM LTD. (ISO 5001:2008 Certified Company) ranka Brasan, Vishel Good, Good Regar Lockey Notice No. 329TIG/M (Ayochys Zone)/NIMDA/RNN/20 Dated: 20.00.2020

TENDER NOTICE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

संक्षिप्त विवरण

Decorated Kanat size

Decorated Kanat size

Decorated Kanat size 1 (L) * 11(W)

T. Pole stainless steel 16 No.

Triangular shape base 03 No.

1 (L)8 * 7(W)

and lances

L.O. No. Sr. DMM/NR/TENDER/AT/LKO/2020-21 Dated:- 19.08.2020 1852/2020

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

On behalf of U.P.R.N.N. LTD., E-Tenders are invited on two bid system for Construction of Government Polytechnic College, Ghughulpur at District Balrampur, Details can be downloaded from etender.up.nic.in and U.P.R.N.N. LTD. Website vww.upmn.co.infrem 20.08.2020.

GENERAL MANAGER, AYODHYA ZONE

Government of Maharashtra

PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION, AHMEDNAGAR

Phone No. 0241-2325334 & 0241-2325086 e-TENDER NOTICE No. 05 for 2020-2021 (Online)

Online e-Tenders in B-1 form for the following works invited by Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Ahmednagar (Phone No. 0241-2325334/ 2325086) from the Competant and Interested contractors (not necessary registered with P.W.D.). If globle company having its Branch/ Sub Company in Indian they can participate in Tender, Superintending Engineer, Public Works Circle, Ahmednagar, who reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason therefore.

Sr. No. 01:

NAME OF WORK:

(A) Construction of concrete road Lakshman Doke house to Ashru Doke House in Jamkhed at . Wart No. 1, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (B) Construction of Concrete road from Nagal Road to Khadewasti in Municipal Ward No. 5, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (C) Construction of Road from Chandrama Showroom to Doulat Bekari Municipal Ward No. 6 and 7, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (D) Construction of Concrete Road from Indira Hospital to Jaya Jadhav house Municipal Ward No. 7, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (E) Construction of Concrete Road and gutter line from Usha Musale house to Arun Jadhav House in Ward No. 7, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (F) Construction of Concrete Road from Rasal Nagar Rajesh Khade house to Pappu Ware house in Municipal Ward No. 7, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar (G) Construction of Concrete Road from Popat Jadhav to Sanjay Bhosale house in Municipal Ward No. 4 & 8 at Jamkhed, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (H) Construction of Concrete Road from Tekale Vihir to Baba Tamboli house in Municipal Ward No. 15 at Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (I) Construction of Concrete Road and drainage line from Amol Jadhav house to Raju Khan house in Ward No. 15, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (J) Construction of Concrete Road from Subhash Bhandari house to Balasaheb Kathote house in Municipal Ward No. 7 at Jamkhed, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (K) Construction of Concrete Road from Mahadev More house to Vijay Jagtap house in Municipal Ward No. 11 at Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (L) Construction of Concrete Road to Shrirame wasti to Chumbali in Municipal Ward No. 21 at Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar.

Estimated Amount : Rs. 196.14 Lakhs

NAME OF WORK:

(A) Construction of CD work and Concrete Road at Dhotri to Aadhale Wasti in Ward No. 2, Tal Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (B) Construction of Concrete Road MSEB back side Tapneshwa Road in Ward No. 10, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (C) Construction of Concrete Road (CD work) Shiur Road to Santaji Nagar, Near Police Station in Ward No. 11, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist Ahmednagar. (D) Construction of Concrete Road and underground drainage to Professor Colony Shiur Road in Ward No. 11, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (E) Construction of Concrete Road Dada Mehtre to Old Shiur Road in Ward No. 12, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (F) Construction of Concrete Road and underground drainage to Pramoc Ralebhat to Hajare Sir, Ice Factory in Ward No. 12, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (G) Construction of Concrete Road from S.R.Tailer house to Andure Sir house in Municipal Ward No. 13, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (H) Construction of Concrete Road at Shaikh Jakir Bhai Andewale Home to Old Kusadgaon Road in Ward No. 17, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (I) Construction of Underground Drainage to Bajirao Salunke to Z.P. School, Dhotri in Ward No. 2 Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (J) Construction of RCC Drainage line from Mukund Gade house to Gorakh Shinde house in Municipal Ward No. 2, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar (K) Construction of Underground Drainage Jamkhed Collage, East side to Shiur Road in Ward No. 11, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (L) Construction of Underground Drainage line upto Kusadgaon Road in Ward No. 17, (Jakir Bhai Andewale to Old Kosadgaon Road), Tal. Jamkhed Dist. Ahmednagar. (M) Construction of Underground Gutter from Vijay Jadhav house to Old Shiur Road in Ward No. 11, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (N) Construction of Concrete Road to Mahaveer Mangal Karyalaya in Ward No. 7, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (O) Construction of Underground Gutter from Ramesh Pise house to Bhalsing house in Ward No. 2 at Jamkhed, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (P) Construction of Underground Gutter from Lad house to Namdeo Mhaskeand Urmila Varat house in Ward No. 2, at Jamkhed, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (Q) Construction of Underground Gutter in Kumbharwada, Yarikwada and Kumbhargully in Ward No. 12, at Jamkhed, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (R) Construction of Underground Gutter from Beed corner to Mugalpura in Ward No. 13, at Jamkhed, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (S) Construction of RCC Drainage pipe line Doke Kirana to Hotel Kinara in Municipal Ward No. 6&7, at Jamkhed, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar. (T) Construction of RCC Drainage line Ahilyanagar Mehtrewasti to Arjun Mehtre house in Municipal Ward No. 16, at Jamkhed, Tal. Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar.

Estimated Amount: Rs. 215.55 Lakhs

NOTE:

Please Submit Hard Copy of all Tender Documents on or before Dt. 14/09/2020, 17:00 p.m. Tender Document Sale Start & End Date: Sale Date 27/08/2020 to 10/09/2020

Bid Opening Date: 14/09/2020. Prebid Meeting Date 03/09/2020 at noon 12.00. Place of Prebid Meeting: Office of The Superintending Engineer, Public Works Circle

The details of works are provided on the websites as below (1) www.mahapwd.com (2) https://mahatenders.gov.in

(dgipr/2020-2021/588)

- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER **Public Work Division, AHMEDNAGAR**

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP. /AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL				
1	GMDA, GURUGRAM	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE OF GMDA ROADS (ASSET ID 35, 37, 43, 38, 40, 136, 135 & 139) GURUGRAM	25.08.2020 31.08.2020	135.94 LACS	https://www.gmda.gov.in/	se4.gmda@gov.in				
2	GMDA, GURUGRAM	CONSTRUCTION OF KABADDI PRACTICE HALL/SHED OF SIZE 20 X 20 MTRS IN TAU DEVI LAL STADIUM, SECTOR 38, GURUGRAM	25.08.2020 31.08.2020	17.71 LACS	https://www.gmda.gov.in/	xen3infra1.gmda @gov.in				
3	GMDA, GURUGRAM	IMPROVEMENT OF BAKHTAWAR AND MAYFIELD GARDEN CHOWK. (RE CALL4THTIME)	26.08.2020 08.09.2020	123.67 LACS	https://www.gmda.gov.in/	8851038654 eng- mobl.gmda@gov.in				
0045	FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in									

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

Dated: 17.08.2020

E - Tendering Tender Notice Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering) / North Central Railway / Allahabad, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite

		s of the Tender a	re as under:-	
SN	Tender No.	Name of Work	Approx Cost	Earnest Money
1	94	Complete item rate for reconditioning of full tamping tool, building up of the worn out area of tamping tools blade of 3X/CSM/UNIMAT/MP/DUOMATIC & VPR machines to the original standard size by using flux cored wire CPOA–517 (1.6 mm dia)/XALOY-52/ABROCAR184 or equivalent brand with all lead, lift, handling, taxes, labour, material transporting of tools, crossing of tracks etc. Nothing extra will be paid except the accepted rates under DEN / Track/NCR/PRYJ.	₹ 6021386.91	₹ 120400.00

Completion Period: 12 Months. Date of Opening of tender: 23.09.2020. Eligibility Criteria for similar work: Reconditioning of tamping tools of track machine or reconditioning of points and crossings. Note: (1) The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders are available on Website www.ireps.gov.in up to 13:30 hrs. on the due to date of tender opening i.e. 23.09.2020. (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. (3) Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entry in any other form / letter head if attached by vendors shall be straightway ignored and shall not be considered. (4) The supplier / contractor of goods and / or services would be subject to GST Act and Rules as applicable from time to time. (5) The tenderers shall submit a certificate as given in tender document in standard romat without which their tender may not be considered and shall be summarily rejected. (6) Contractor should also submit an assurance letter from the manufacturer of CPOA-517, 1.6mm dia/XALOY-52/ABROCAR – 184 or equivalent brand by which reconditioning of tamping tools is proposed to be done, for continuous supply of genuine material during currency of work, along with tender without which tender will be summarily rejected. (7) Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. (8) This tender notice has also been uploaded on www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in. (9) Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in respect of e-tendering shall be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. (10) n case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. (11) Tender on line can be sub up to 13.30 hrs. on 23-09-2020. (12) E-Tender Form will be issued free of cost to all tenderers. 909/2

Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MORT&H), New Delhi OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER **National Highway Division, Dhanbad** Notice Inviting Bid

 $\begin{array}{ccc} Bid/\ Package\ no.\ NH/Dhanbad/05/2020-21 & Dated\ 26.08.2020 \\ RFP\ for\ \textbf{Construction\ of\ ROB\ at\ Km-204\ of\ NH-114A\ at\ Patharia\ (LC\ No.\ 4SPL/E)\ in\ the} \end{array}$

of Jharkhand on EPC mode for the year 2020-21]under NH(O). The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways through [Chief Engineer, National Highway Wing,

Jharkhand, Ranchi] is engaged in the development of National Highways and as part of this endeavour, i has been decided to undertake Construction of ROB at Km-204 of NH-114A at Patharia (LC No. 4SPL/E) in the State of Jharkhand on EPC mode for the year 2020-21]under NH(O) through an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract. Road Construction Department, Jharkhand, Ranchi by its Chief Engineer, National Highway

Wing, Jharkhand, Ranchi now invites bids from eligible contractors for the following project:

State	NH No.	ICB No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (Crore)	Completion period	Maintenance period	
Jharkhand	114A		Construction of ROB at Km-204 of NH- 114A at Patharia (LC No. 4SPL/E) in the State of Jharkhand on EPC mode for the year 2020-21]under NH(O)	37.18	24 Months	10 Years	

The complete BID document can be viewed / downloaded from official portal of the CPPF website https:// eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app from **08.09.2020** (upto 11.00 Hrs. IST). Cost of RFP Document – Rs. 10,000/- for work specified above shall be paid through Online Challan in the shape of Online payment on NTRP Portal - https://bharatkosh.gov.in/MinistryInfo.aspx. Bidder must submit its Financial bid and Technical Bid at https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app on or before **28.09.2020** (up to **11.00** hours IST). Bids received online shall be opened on **30.09.2020** (at **11.30** hours IST). Bid through any other mode shall not be entertained. However, Challan, Bid Security, document fee, Power of Attorney and Joint Bidding Agreement etc., shall be submitted physically by the Bidder on or before 29.09.2020 (at 11.00 hours IST), will have to be deposited in the offices viz: Chief Engineer, N.H. Wing, Jharkhand, Ranchi. Please note that the [Ministry/Authority/ Executing Agency] reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the BIDs without assigning any reason whatsoever. Executive Engineer

PR 232110 National Highway Authority of Jharkhand(20-21)D

National Highway Division Dhanbad 82600

New Delhi

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	rted on behalf of the Director TSER Notes at E-p Repressive Eapp, for the following items	rocurement portal il
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Tendor Rot. So. 85ERW 1913 Supply, E 21/51Per Chromat For detail and apply or "http://www.lisermoh;	Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Gas lograph Nass Spectrometer (DC-NS)	upland the tender 28 Sept. 3028 up to the gov/in/eprocure/app online mode and to



No.1, Dr. SiddaiahPuranik Road, KHB Colony, Magadi Road, Bangalore – 560079 Phone: +91-80-23486221, Fax: +91-80-23281477 Email: ad.kdlws@gmail.com

No: KDL/EQPT/Re-TND/Laparo OT/FW/ 37/ 2020-21) Date: 26/08/2020

SHORT TERM Re-TENDER NOTIFICATION Ref: 1.Tender Notification No:.KDL/EQPT/Re-TND/Lapard OT/FW/37/2020-21 (IND-713) dated 26/08/2020.

Nation wide Short Term Tender is invited through e-Tendering system under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tenders:

1.Short Term Re-Tender for Supply Installation & Commissioning of Hydraulic Laparoscopic OT Table under FW programme The tenderers who have registered under e-Procurement

Department may participate through e-tendering system. Details regarding specification, EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information is available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the website https://eproc. karnataka.gov.in from 26/08/2020. The eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders in e-procurement platform for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained

from this office during working hours. Sd/-Commissioner, Food Safety and Standard Authority DIPR/DDU/SSC/2020-21 and Director, KSDLWS Bengaluru



No: EE/SJN/TEND/05/2019-20 Date: 25.08.2020 **INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER**

The Executive Engineer, Shivaji Nagar Division, BBMP Bangalore, invites tenders on behalf of the Commissioner, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore from eligible tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

SI. No.	Name of the work	Approximate Value of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
1	Construction of RCC drain Arunachalam Mudaliyar Road from Baithumahal circle to Sepping Road in ward No. 92.	150.00	2,25,000/-
2	Providing CC to Arunachalam Mudaliyar from Baithumal circle to Sepping Road in ward No. 92.	175.00	2,65,000/-
3	Construction of RCC drain and footpath at sepping road from St. john Church road to OM Shakthi Temple in Ward No. 92	175.00	2,65,000/-
4	Providing CC to Sepping road from St. John Church road to OM Shakthi		3,00,000/-

(1) Tender documents may be downloaded from GOk e-Procurement portal <u>https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in</u> from **28.08.2020 onwards . (2)** Pre bid meeting : **07.09.2020 at** 12:00 hrs. (3) Tenders must be submitted online through e-procuement portal: 11.09.2020 upto 4.00 p.m. (4) Opening of Technical bids: 14.09.2020 at 4.30 p.m. (if possible) or next working day. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours & also from website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Shivaji Nagar Division

If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

C*VID-19 VACCINE TRACKER

Fauci urges against emergency clearance of vaccines in making

ANTHONY FAUCI, one of the United would make it difficult, if not impos-States' top experts on infectious diseases, has argued against granting emergency use authorisations (EUA) to novel coronavirus vac-

cines before the completion of all necessary tests. Fauci's comments came

in the backdrop of reports that have suggested that US President Donald Trump was preparing to grant emergency authorisation to at least one leading vaccine candidate ahead of the November 3 Presidential election. Trump is seeking a re-election, and

boost his chances. The news agency Reuters quoted Fauci as saying in an interview: "One of the potential dangers, if you prematurely let a vaccine out, is that it

the availability of a vaccine could

sible, for other vaccines to enrol people in their trials... To me, it is absolutely paramount that you

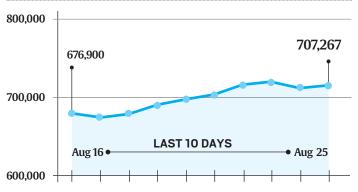
definitively show that a vaccine is safe and effective,

A few days ago, President Trump had claimed that a "deep state" with the the Food and Drug

Administration (FDA) was working to sabotage his re-election bid, and one of the ways of doing it was to delay the vaccine. In response, FDA head Stephen Hahn has said all decisions on the authorisation of any vaccine would only be taken on the basis of science. "I have not seen anything that I would consider to be "deep state" at the FDA," Reuters quoted Hahn as saying.

INDIA ACTIVE CASES

707,267



Note: The August 25 figure in this graph is based on government update on August 26

INDIA TOTAL CASES

Source: Ministry of Health & Family

WORLD TOTAL CASES

: Johns Hopkins University

T cell response stronger in women patients of Covid

THROUGH THE Covid-19 pandemic, studies have often observed that the disease is more severe in men than women, and also more often fatal in men. Various reasons have been proposed for this. A new study published in the journal Nature on Wednesday has provided vet another clue —

that women mount a more robust and sustained immune response via the body's T cells.

The new study assessed 98 patients admitted to the Yale New Haven Hospital in the US with mild to moderate Covid-19. It is first study to look at gender-based immune responses to the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2.

When a virus or pathogen invades the body, the immune system can fight it either by mounting antibod-



NEW RESEARCH

which are a kind of white blood cell. T cells can fight the infection attacking cells that have already been infected. Otherwise, they can act as "helper cells" by helping the immune cell to produce antibodies.

ies, or with its T cells.

In women, the new study found that the T cell response is stronger. The researchers said the study may help

guide a sex-based approach to Covid-19 treatment. Also, a poor T cell response nega-

tively correlated with the age of male patients. In other words, older men had a weaker T cell response than younger men, and they showed a worse disease outcome. This was not the case in female patients.

The study is online at www.nature.com/articles/s41586-020-2700-3.

SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

What's vaccine nationalism?

Countries such as the US and UK have pre-booked more coronavirus vaccines than their populations need. This could end up putting vaccines out of reach for countries that need them. What is the way forward?

AMITABHSINHA

PUNE, AUGUST 26

THE UNITED States has entered into multi-billion-dollar agreements with at least six big pharmaceutical companies for assured supplies of a combined 800 million doses of vaccines that they are separately developing for novel coronavirus. That is more than two doses for every American citizen. The agreements mean that if any of these companies are successful in developing a vaccine, they would be obligated to provide the agreed supplies to the United States before anyone else.

The United Kingdom has entered into similar agreements with multiple companies to secure about 340 million doses, or about five doses per capita. Similar arrangements have been reached by European Union, and some other countries like Mexico, as well.

A novel coronavirus vaccine is still some distance away - if we discount the vaccines developed by Russia and China for which the international demand is not very well evaluated. But the way countries are pre-booking vaccine supplies, often throwing billions of dollars at candidate vaccines whose success as of now is uncertain, has led to questions over the accessibility and affordability of a vaccine, whenever it is finally developed. It has also given rise to a term called "vaccine nationalism".

Why is 'vaccine nationalism' a concern?

The concerns arise from the fact that these advance agreements are likely to make the vaccine inaccessible to large parts of the world that do not have the money to bet on candidates whose success is not guaranteed.

After all, there is limited capacity to produce a vaccine. The wait for a vaccine for these countries could get prolonged because whatever is produced in the first few months or years would have to be sent to the richer countries to fulfil the contractual obligations.

Also, not all the candidate vaccines are likely to succeed. The ones that do would be in great demand, especially from the countries that have entered into advance agreements that have clauses to enable increased supplies for more money. It would thus drive up the



Trials for Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine began in Pune on Wednesday. Arul Horizon

prices of the vaccine, making it potentially unaffordable for a large number of countries.

An ideal situation would be to ensure that the vaccines are first made available to whoever needs them the most. Experts agree that frontline health workers, those on emergency duties, the elderly and the sick, pregnant women, and other similarly vulnerable population groups across the world must be given first access to the vaccines. But that is not what seems to be happening.

Why do countries hoard vaccines?

The coronavirus vaccine is being used by governments across the world as an opportunity to make an impression on their own people, as well as the international community. To their citizens, the governments want to show how concerned they are about their safety and health, for which they want to hoard as many vaccines as they potentially can. And for the international community, and also for their own public, they want to flaunt their scientific capability and expertise. This is also the reason why China and Russia have gone ahead in approving vaccines that have not yet completed necessary trials to prove they are safe and effective. There are political dividends for declaring oneself the first one to develop a vaccine.

Are there precedents of such pre-booking in other outbreaks? Indeed, the fears about scarcity and unaf-

fordability of the novel coronavirus vaccine are not unfounded. There have been precedents: In 2009, following an outbreak of H1N1 influenza, or swine flu, rich countries had hoarded vaccines in a way similar to the prebooking happening now. As a result, many countries in Africa had no access to these vaccines for months. The US and some European countries finally agreed to release 10% of their stocks for other countries, but only after it had become evident that they did not need the vaccines for themselves any longer.

Similarly, anti-retroviral drugs for the treatment of HIV patients were unavailable in Africa, the worst affected region, for several years after being developed in the 1990s.

Scientists and experts have been maintaining that such a strategy might not work out very well even for the countries that are able to

stock up on the vaccines. If some parts of the world continue to reel under the epidemic because of lack of access to the vaccine, it would keep the virus in circulation for much longer than it would otherwise have been. That would mean that other countries too would remain at risk, at least economically, because of continued disruptions in global supply chains due to movement, work and trade restrictions in large parts of the world.

So, what is the way forward for addressing

It is not that there is no alternative way to this "me-first" approach that the richer countries have been taking. The World Health Organization (WHO), along with some other international alliances, have launched a platform called ACT (or Access to Covid19 Tools) Accelerator Programme. Its objective is to accelerate the development, production, and equitable access to Covid-19 vaccines, and also therapeutics and drugs. The vaccine part of the programme is called the COVAX facility.

COVAX is supposed to do for the world what the richer countries are doing at an individual level —invest money into the leading candidate vaccines to accelerate their development and production. But it also has another important objective — to ensure that the successful vaccines are made equally accessible to all, at an affordable price. It seeks to achieve this by ensuring that all participating countries are provided supplies to cover at least 20% of their populations, at a uniform price. Then as more vaccine doses become available, they would be distributed to countries in proportion to their population size and the extent of the problem they face. Like the US and other countries that are get-

ting into advance agreements, COVAX is supposed to fund the research and development of multiple vaccine candidates. As of now, the facility is backing nine leading candidates. It is asking countries to join the platform and contribute funds, so that everyone can benefit. But while more than 170 countries are in discussions, very few of them have agreed to fund the initiative. Recently, the WHO noted that while it needed at least \$100 billion for the CO-VAX facility, not even 10% of the amount had so far been collected.

Why RBI sent ₹ 76,315 cr to its Contingency Fund

GEORGE MATHEW MUMBAI, AUGUST 26

THE RESERVE Bank of India has kept a massive Rs 73,615 crore for its Contingency Fund (CF), plus transferred to the government in the current year. The CF has swelled to a high of Rs 2,64,034 crore, according to the RBI's Annual Report. The RBI's main risk provision accounts - CF, Currency and Gold Revaluation Account (CGRA), Investment Revaluation Account Foreign Securities (IRA-FS) and Investment Revaluation Account-Rupee Securities (IRA-RS) together amount to Rs 13.88 lakh crore now.

What is the RBI's CF?

This is a provision for unexpected and unforeseen contingencies, including depreciation in the value of securities, risks arising out of monetary/exchange rate policy operations, systemic risks, and any risk arising on account of the special responsibilities enjoined upon the Bank. This amount is re-

(In ₹ crore) 2020 2,64,034 1,96,344

RBI'S CONTINGENCY FUND

2010	1,00,511
2018	2.32,108
2017	2,28,207
2016	2,20,183
2015	2,21,614
2014	2,21,652
2013	2,21,652
2012	1,95,405

tained within the RBI.

With a provision of Rs 73,615 crore, the balance in the CF as of June 2020 was Rs 2,64,034 crore, compared to Rs 1,96,344 crore in June 2019, and Rs 2,32,108 crore in June 2018. Last year, it withdrew Rs 52,637 crore from the CF to pay a higher surplus to the government.

What did the government get as surplus

CHART 1: MEAN AGE AT

The Central Board of the RBI recently approved the transfer of Rs 57,128 crore as surplus (or dividend) to the government for the accounting year 2019-20, 67.5% lower than the Rs 1.76 lakh crore that it paid to the government crore was written back from CF to income, falast year. While the transfer this year is as per cilitating the transfer of Rs 1.76 lakh crore surthe economic capital framework (ECF) adopted by the RBI Board last year, last year's transfer included Rs 1,23,414 crore dividend due from the previous financial year, and Rs 52.637 crore taken out from the CF as per the revised ECF.

As per Section 47 of the RBI Act, profits or surplus are to be transferred to the government, after making various contingency provisions, public policy mandate of the RBI, including financial stability considerations.

Why did surplus transfer rise last year? The government, which was looking for

funds to bridge the deficit, sought higher surplus from the RBI, pointing to the large reserves retained by it. RBI, which was headed by Urjit Patel at the time, initially resisted, but subsequently relented and appointed the

Bimal Jalan committee to work out the modalities of the transfer. Last year, the RBI said that as its financial

resilience was within the desired range, the excess risk provision amounting to Rs 52,637 plus to the government.

Why did RBI's income decline this year? RBI's income declined by 29 per cent to Rs

1,49,672 crore as of June 2020, compared with Rs 1,93,036 crore in 2018-19. This is because the previous year's income included a writeback from the CF, amounting to Rs 52,637 crore which was then transferred to the government. A comparison excluding this amount from the previous year's income shows a marginal increase in the income for 2019-20. The RBI's expenditure for 2019-20 is Rs 92,540 crore, including a risk provision of Rs 73,615 crore towards CF, as compared to an expenditure of Rs 17,045 crore in 2018-19. The year ended with an overall surplus of Rs 57,128 crore, which will be transferred to the government this year.

Marriage age and women's health

PM has announced a panel to fight malnutrition in young women and ensure they get married at the right age. A look at how the two are linked

NUSHAIBA IQBAL

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 25

DURING HIS Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said: "We have formed a committee to ensure that the daughters are no longer suffering from malnutrition and they are mar-

An Express

Report

Research GrOup

ried off at the right age. As soon as the report is submitted, appropriate decisions will be taken about the age of marriage of daughters.' Reports suggest the

minimum age of marriage for girls may be raised from 18 at present to 21.

How prevalent is underage marriage?

Data show that the majority of women in India marry after the age of 21. Chart 1 shows the mean age of women at marriage is 22.1 years, and more than 21 in all states.

This does not mean that child marriages have disappeared. The latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) found that about 26.8% of women aged 20-24 (Chart

2) were married before adulthood (age 18). How does the age of marriage correlate

with health?

Preventing early marriage can reduce the maternal mortality ratio and infant mortality ratio, according to Dipa Sinha, professor of economics at Ambedkar University. At present, the maternal mor-

tality ratio — the number of maternal deaths for every 100,000 children born - is 145. India's infant mortality ratio shows that 30 of every 1.000 children born in a year die before the age of one. Both these indicators in India are the highest among the BRICS economies (Chart 4).

Young mothers are more susceptible to anaemia, said Shweta Khandelwal, Head of Nutrition Research and Additional Professor at the Public Health Foundation of India.

More than half the women of reproductive age (15-49 years) in India are anaemic. The prevalence of anaemia among women has consistently been high over the last 20 years (Chart 3).

Can a mandated age of marriage bring about a change at population level?

Purnima Menon, senior research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute in New Delhi, said poverty, limited access to education and economic prospects, and security concerns are the known reasons for early marriage. "If the main causes of early marriage are not addressed, a law will not be enough to delay marriage among girls," Menon cautioned.

What do the data on these show?

Women in the poorest 20% of the population married much younger than their peers from the wealthiest 20% (Chart 5).

The average age at marriage of women with no schooling was 17.6, considerably lower than that for women educated beyond class 12 (Chart 6). Almost 40% of girls aged 15-18 do not attend school, as per a report of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights. Nearly 65% of these girls are engaged in non-remunerative work.

That is why many believe that merely tweaking the official age of marriage may discriminate against the poorer, less-educated and marginalised women.

WHY NUTRITION AND EDUCATION ARE FACTORS TOO

MARRIAGE IN 2017 Andhra Pradesh 22.3 Assam 1998-99: Bihar 21.8 Chhattisgarh 21.8 23.7 Delhi 22.5 Gujarat Haryana 22.5 Himachal 23.4 Jammu & Kashmir 25.1 21.9 Jharkhand 22.3 Karnataka 23.2 Kerala Madhya Pradesh 21.4 Maharashtra 22.5 Odisha 21.9 23.5 Punjab 21.5 Rajasthan

Tamil Nadu 23 Telangana 22 Uttar Pradesh 22.2 Uttarakhand 22.3 West Bengal 21.2 **ALL INDIA**

Source: Women and Men in India 2019,

CHART 2: WOMEN MARRIED BEFORE AGE 18 (%)	
1992-93:	!

2005-06:	47.4
2015-16:	26.8
	Source: NFHS
CHART 3: ANAEMIC	C WOMEN AGED

15-49 (%) 1998-99: 55.3 2005-06: 53.1 2015-16:

CHART 4: INFANT & MATERNAL MORTALITY, 2017

Country	IMR	MMR
Brazil	12.8	60
China	7.4	29
India	29.9	145
S Africa	28.5	119
Russia	6.1	17
Course IIN Inte	. Agangu Craum fan	Child Montality

Source: UN Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation; WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group, and the United Nations Population Division

New Delhi

CHART 5: WEALTH & MARRIAGE AGE

Wealth quintile

50

	marriage
Lowest	17.6
Second	18.2
Middle	18.9
Fourth	20.2
Highest	22.3
Source: NFHS-4	

Mean age at

CHART 6: EDUCATION & MARRIAGE AGE

Years of schooling	ars of schooling Age at marriage			
No schooling	17.4			
>5 years	17.6			
5-7 years	18.2			
8-9 years	18.9			
10-11 years	19.8			
12 years+	23			
	Source: NFHS-4			

Data show that less educated girls and those belonging to poorer families tend to get married before age 18

"The Discomfort of Evening' a story of childhood grief that reviewers have called both "disturbing" and "exceptional", was named on Wednesday as the winner of the International Booker Prize, the prestigious award for fiction translated into English. Marieke Lucas Rijneveld, the book's author, shares the prize with Michele Hutchison, who translated it from the original Dutch.



Outside the hospital where a 61-year-old died of Covid. Reuters

WEST ASIA Lockdownin Gaza to contain its first Covid-19

outbreak GAZA WAS in lockdown on Tuesday after the first cases of Covid-19 in the general population of the Palestinian enclave, whose restricted borders

until now had helped spare it from an outbreak. Health authorities in the Hamas-controlled territory are concerned over the potentially disastrous combination of poverty, densely populated refugee camps and limited hospital facilities in dealing with an outbreak. A government spokesman said the four cases were uncovered after a woman travelled to the West Bank, where she tested positive.

EUROPE

EU eyes initial vaccination for 40% of people

EUROPEAN UNION nations, Britain and EU partners have agreed on a blueprint for a Covid-19 vaccination plan envisaging inoculation of at least 40% of their populations, a step that may set back the Health Organisation's own vac-

cine blueprint. The EU target for early vaccinations is twice as high as the goal set by the WHO, which is aiming to buy vaccines initially for 20% of the world's most vulnerable people through a global procurement scheme. REUTERS

SOUTH KOREA

Striking doctors ordered to get back to work

SOUTH KOREA ordered doctors in the Seoul area to return to work on Wednesday as they began a three-day strike in protest of several government proposals, including one to boost the number of doctors to deal with health crises like the coronavirus. Trainee doctors have been staging ongoing walkouts, and thousands of additional doctors were due to stage a three-day strike starting on Wednesday. The strikes come as South Korea battles one of its worst outbreaks of the coronavirus, with 320 new cases reported in 24 hours, the latest in over a week and a half of tripledigit increases. REUTERS



2 killed during third night of unrest in Wisconsin over shooting of Black man

MIKE HOUSEHOLDER & SCOTT BAUER

KENOSHA, AUGUST 26

TWO PEOPLE were shot to death and another was wounded during a third night of protests in Kenosha over the police shooting of a Black man, Jacob Blake, and authorities Wednesday hunted for a possible vigilante seen on cellphone video opening fire in the middle of the street with a rifle.

The gunfire was reported just before midnight, and Sheriff David Beth said one victim was shot in the head and another in the chest, the Milwaukee Iournal Sentinel reported. The third victim's wounds were not believed

State under pressure to bring in Feds

GOVERNOR Tony Evers, a Democrat, has refused the White House's offer to send in federal troops to control the unrest in Kenosha. Trump has repeatedly threatened to send federal troops to cities across the US after deploying them in Portland,

to life-threatening. According to witnesses and video, police apparently let the $young white \, man \, behind \, some \, or \,$ all of the shootings walk past them

Nearly 80 killed as flash flood

ravages city in Afghanistan

People search for victims in Charikar, capital of Parwan province, on Wednesday. Reuters

Many residents of

Charikar city were

believed to be trapped

under collapsed homes

Charikar resident, said he woke

to the sound of water rushing

through his neighborhood and

quickly decided to get his family

out of the city. When he re-

turned, nearly half his house was

flooded and six homes on his

act casualties in our street, but I

know many people were killed

"I don't know about the ex-

street had been destroyed.

City caught off guard as heavy overnight rain sets off flood

velling for him to be arrested.

with a rifle over his shoulder as members of the crowd were The sheriff told the Journal

and wounded," Mr. Samadi said.

mud, toppled houses and bodies

in their wake. Photos in the

Afghan news media showed flat-

tened buildings, scattered debris

and mangled cars. Rescue work-

ers sifted through the wreckage,

as many residents were believed

to be trapped under collapsed

homes. One hospital reported

receiving 78 bodies and 105

wounded people. The death toll

in the city was expected to rise.

blow for Afghanistan, which has

been ravaged by the coronavirus

and bloodied by Taliban attacks

across the country. NYT

The flooding is just the latest

The flash floods left a trail of

where they have been

accused of worsening

the situation by using ex-

cessive force on protest-

ers and even abducting

some of them using unmarked

vans. Wisconsin's Republican

congressmen now demand

Trump's offer to send troops.

that the governor accept

been patrolling the city's streets in recent nights, but he did not know

if the gunman was among them. Cellphone video of at least two of the shootings that was posted online shows a young man with a rifle jogging down the middle of a street as a crowd and some officers follow him. Someone in the crowd can be heard asking, "What did he do?" and another person responds that the man had shot someone.

The man with the gun stumbles and falls, and as he is approached by people in the crowd, he fires three or four shots from a seated position, hitting at least two people, including one who falls over and another who stumbles away to cries of "Medic! Medic!" AP

Colombo will adopt 'India first approach': Lanka **Foreign Secy**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA COLOMBO, AUGUST 26

SRI LANKA will adopt an "India first approach" as its new foreign policy plank and protect New Delhi's strategic security interests, the country's Foreign Secretary Jayanath Colombage has said as he sought to allay concerns amid China's growing presence in the island nation.

Admiral Colombage became the first-ever foreign secretary from a military background when he was appointed by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to head the Foreign Ministry on August 14.

In an interview published by the Daily Mirror on Wednesday, Colombage said Sri Lanka is to adopt an "India first approach" as its new regional foreign policy plank.

That means Sri Lanka will not do anything harmful to India's strategic security interests," said Colombage, who was the chief of the Sri Lanka Navy between 2012-14 and later became a foreign policy analyst mostly on the Chinese initiatives in Sri Lanka and the immediate region.

"Sri Lanka cannot afford, should not afford and will not afford any particular country to use it as a staging area to do anything against another country – especially India," he said.

Commenting on the Chinese investment in the southern port of Hambantota, Colombage says that Sri Lanka had offered India

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION: DAY 2

He won't stop fighting for you: First lady makes case for Trump



STEVE PEOPLES, MICHELLEL PRICE& **DARLENE SUPERVILLE** WASHINGTON, AUGUST 26

FIRST LADY Melania Trump portrayed her husband as an authentic, uncompromising leader in a Rose Garden address as President Donald Trump turned to family, farmers and the trappings of the presidency to boost his reelection chances on the second night of the scaled-down Republican National Convention (RNC).

Melania offered a polished portrait of Trump's presidency Tuesday night that was often at odds with the actions of his administration.

But it was part of a broader effort to show a more forgiving side of a combative President who will soon face the voters. Beyond the first lady's remarks, Trump pardoned a reformed felon and oversaw a naturalisation ceremony in the midst of the programme, though he frequently states his







FAMILY AFFAIR: Donald Trump's wife Melania, and his children Eric and Tiffany spoke at the RNC on Tuesday. AP, Reuters

In my husband, you have a President who will not stop fighting for you and your families. He will not give up."

MELANIA TRUMP

opposition to more immigration. "In my husband, you have a President who will not stop fighting for you and your families," said Melania, an immigrant herself. "He will not give up."

Melania and two of the

President's five children led a diverse collection of supporters, including a convicted bank robber, calling for Trump's reelection on a night that featured a more positive tone than the night before.

The lineup also had a Maine lobsterman, a Wisconsin farmer and a Native American leader. Social conservatives were represented by an anti-abortion activist and Billy Graham's granddaughter. The convention also featured a Kentucky high school student whose interaction last year with Native Americans became a political flashpoint in the US. AP

Pompeo speech

from Jerusalem

sparks criticism,

investigation

JONATHAN LANDAY



Trump at a naturalisation ceremony at the White House on Tuesday evening during the RNC. NYT

During RNC, Trump hosts naturalisation ceremony

MICHAEL D SHEAR WASHINGTON, AUGUST 26

US PRESIDENT Trump sought Tuesday to wrap himself in proimmigrant sentiment – even though his administration has waged a yearslong assault on the nation's immigration system - by presiding over a naturalisation ceremony at the White House during the second night of the Republican National Convention (RNC).

Trump appeared during the convention's second hour as "Hail to the Chief' played and strode to a lectern where five immigrants, including an Indian, were waiting to take the oath to become citizens.

"Today, America rejoices as we welcome five absolutely incredible new members into our great American family," he told them in a 10-minute ceremony that had been taped in the afternoon.

It was not the first time Trump has presided over such a ceremony. But the willingness to use the trappings of presidential power during a campaign convention was a stunning departure from the past, in which prior presidents have avoided seeming to blur the lines between official actions and political activity.

And Trump's explicit claim that he loves and appreciates immigrants stands in stark contrast to his record over the past four years, during which he has repeatedly pursued anti-immigrant policies, often fuelled by xenophobic language.

He has blocked asylum seekers and refugees fleeing persecution, war and violence. He has built nearly 300 miles of border wall (though without persuading Mexico to pay for it, as he once insisted). He has made it harder for poor people to immigrate to the US, imposed travel bans on predominantly Muslim countries, and separated migrant children from parents at the border. NYT

WASHINGTON, AUGUST 26 US SECRETARY of State Mike Pompeo praised President Donald Trump's foreign policy record in a Republican National Convention speech on Tuesday that Democrats criticised as a breach

of protocol and perhaps the law. Speaking in a recorded video from a Jerusalem rooftop during an official trip, Pompeo, a Trump appointee widely believed to harbor presidential aspirations, said the president had exposed the "predatory aggression" of the Chinese Communist Party, while defeating IS militants and lowering the threat from North Korea.

Even before he spoke, critics pounced, saying Pompeo had broken with decades of protocol in using his appointed office for partisan purposes.

The chairman of a Democratic-led US House of Representatives subcommittee announced on Tuesday an investigation into whether Pompeo's appearance broke federal law and regulations. "The Trump administration and Secretary Pompeo have shown a gross disregard not only of basic ethics, but also a blatant willingness to violate federal law for political gain," Joaquin Castro, head of the House Foreign Affairs Committee's oversight subcommittee, said, REUTERS

HER BODY WAS ABOUT TO BE EMBALMED WHEN SHE WAS SEEN BREATHING WITH HER EYES OPEN

Declared dead, 20-year-old wakes up at funeral home

ALLYSON WALLER & DERRICK BRYSON **TAYLOR**

AUGUST 26

A MICHIGAN woman who was declared dead by paramedics Sunday was discovered alive hours later by a funeral home worker who was preparing to embalm her body, a lawyer for her family said.

The lawyer, Geoffrey Fieger, said the woman, Timesha Beauchamp, was born with cerebral palsy. "She requires constant care since birth," he said Tuesday. "I believe her relative fragile condition contributed to the false belief by the authorities" that she had died.

THOMAS GIBBONS-NEFF

WHEN THE heavy rain came

overnight, setting off flash floods

in northern Afghanistan, the del-

uge quickly turned deadly and

caught many residents off guard

On Wednesday, a hospital of-

ficial said the floods had killed

nearly 80 people and injured

scores of others in Charikar.

home to nearly 200,000 people

and the capital of Parwan

Mahmood Samadi,

Province, just north of Kabul.

because they were sleeping.

& FAHIM ABED

KABUL, AUGUST 26

For Beauchamp's family, it has been an agonising couple of days. First they were told she had died, only to learn later that she was somehow still alive. On Tuesday, she was fighting for her life in a Detroit hospital. The ordeal prompted them to hire a lawyer to try to get to the bottom of how such a thing could have happened.

Around 7.30 am Sunday, paramedics responded to a call of an unresponsive woman at a home in Southfield, Michigan, northwest of Detroit, Chief Johnny L. Menifee of the Southfield Fire Department said in a statement. Fieger said at a



A funeral home employee noticed Timesha Beauchamp was alive, but only after she was kept in a body bag for two hours

news conference Tuesday that Beauchamp's family had made the emergency call.

When the paramedics arrived, they found a 20-year-old woman, later identified as Beauchamp,

who was not breathing. "The paramedics performed CPR and other life-reviving methods for 30 minutes," Menifee said. "Given medical readings and the condition of the patient, it was determined at that time that she did not have signs of life."

In an interview with WDIV-TV, Beauchamp's mother, Erica Lattimore, said the emergency responders had then told her that her daughter had died. "They said, 'Ma'am, she's gone," Lattimore said. "I told them, 'Are you absolutely 100% sure that she's gone?' They said, 'Yes, ma'am, she's gone.

Later Sunday morning, after spending more than two hours

in a body bag, Beauchamp arrived at the James H. Cole Home for Funerals, where an employee discovered that she was alive, breathing with her eyes open, Fieger said. The funeral home, he said, then called Lattimore and sent Beauchamp to the hospital.

"This devastated my life," Lattimore told WDIV.

On Monday, the Southfield Fire Department issued a second statement saying an emergency department physician had pronounced Beauchamp dead based on medical information that emergency responders provided by phone from the scene.

It said the responders followed the correct procedure. NYT

New Delhi

US officials change advice on virus testing, bewildering experts

MIKE STOBBE NEW YORK, AUGUST 26

US HEALTH officials have sparked a wave of confusion after posting guidelines that coronavirus testing is not necessary for people who have been in close contact with infected people.

The new guidance was posted earlier this week on the website of a federal agency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The CDC previously had advised local health departments to test people who have been within six feet of an infected person for more than 15 minto say that testing is no longer recommended for symptomless people who were in close contact situations CDC officials referred all questions to the agency's parent

ing overview page was changed

organisation, the US Department of Health and Human Services in Washington. That suggests that HHS ordered the change, not CDC, said Jennifer Nuzzo, a public health researcher. Across the country, public

health experts called the change bizarre. They noted that testing contacts of infected people is a core element of public health efforts to keep outbreaks in check. AP

② ₹74.30

② \$45.64

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market; gold per 10 g, silver per 1 kg; Brent crude as of 0030 ISI SENSEX: 39,073.92 ▲ 230.04 NIFTY: 11,549.60 ▲ 77.35 NIKKEI: 23,290.86 ▼ 5.91 HANG SENG: 25,491.79 ▲ 5.57 FTSE: 6,021.44 ▼ 15.57 DAX: 13,100.26 ▲ 38.64

Sensex reclaims 39.000-mark after 6 months on Health ID data privacy: Patients to be global tailwinds

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE BSE Sensex closed above the 39,000-mark for the first time in six months on Wednesday as equities extended their winning streak for the fourth straight session amid upbeat global cues.

The BSE benchmark, which opened on a cautious note, touched a high of 39,111.55 amid fag-end buying. It finally ended at 39,073.92, up 230.04 points or 0.59 per cent.

The Sensex last closed above the 39,000-level on February 27 this year. On similar lines, the NSE Nifty advanced 77.35 points or 0.67 per cent to finish at 11,549.60. The rupee pared some of its early gains to settle 3 paise higher at 74.30 against the US dollar on Wednesday supported by positive domestic equities and sustained foreign fund inflows. WITH PTI

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE GOVERNMENT Wednesday released a draft of its Health Data Management Policy, detailing how patient information will be collected, processed and managed under the National Digital Health Mission's (NDHM) digital health IDs

National Health Authority (NHA), which is implementing the mission, has sought public comments on the draft by September 3.

The policy, which comes in the absence of clear data protection and security laws, draws from existing and proposed legislation to propose a framework that would safeguard patient in-



Draws from existing proposed legislation

DRAFT HEALTH DATA MANAGEMENT POLICY OF NDHM

IN THE absence of clear data protection and security laws in the country, the draft policy draws from existing and proposed legislation to propose a framework that would safeguard patient information.

The Indian Express reported on August 19 that the NHA had carved out two policies in an ef-

fort to implement NDHM's "privacy by design" approach to safeguarding patient informa-

The mission was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Independence Day during his address from the ramparts of the Red Fort.

The draft states that patients who opt for the health ID will be given "complete control" and decision making power over the manner in which their personal data and any sensitive data associated with them is collected and processed. They will also be allowed to withdraw their consent "at any time".

Those processing the data. including health information providers and health information users, are expected to formulate and implement a "personal data breach management mechanism".

This is to ensure that any instances of violations and noncompliance, including any unauthorised or accidental disclosure, sharing, alteration or use of the personal data, are "promptly" reported to the NHA and other relevant entities.

The NHA, on its part, shall formulate and implement procedures to "identify, track, review and investigate" such incidents and will maintain a record of these instances along with the action taken.

"Without prejudice to the foregoing, in the event of any incident of data breach, the person responsible for such breach shall be liable in accordance with the provisions of applicable law," states the draft policy.

Reverse migration hits urban telephone subscription: Trai data

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE REVERSE migration of dailywage workers and labourers following the nationwide lock down in March had a major impact on urban telephone subscription. which fell to 63.7 crore at the end of May 2020, from 64.7 crore at the end of April, according to the latest data from Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai).

The month of May marked the fourth consecutive month during which the number of urban telephone subscribers fell, while the number of rural subscribers increased at the same time. During May, the rural telephone subscribers increase marginally from 52.2 crore to 52.5 crore, compared to 51.1 crore users at the end of

from 58.8 per cent at the end of Apr-20 to 59.2 per cent at the end of May-20. The share of rural and urban subscribers in total number of telephone subscribers at the end of May-20 was 45.1 per cent and 54.8 per cent respectively," Trai said in its report.

Even in the month of May, Reliance Jio Infocomm continued to add users at the expense of both Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea. While Jio added 36.5 lakh users in the month of May, both Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea lost 47.4 lakh and 47.2 lakh users, respec-

Jio, which has over 34 per cent market share now, added 15.7 lakh users in April, while Vodafone Idea and Bharti Airtel had lost 45.1 lakh and 52.7 lakh users, respectively, as per Trai

₹3.4 lakh crore: Risein

meltdown in growth of their liabilities

net household financial savings in

2019-20, indicating significant

39%: Rise in liabilities of

households in the six-year period

₹50,000: Suggested rise in

PPF (public provident fund) limit for

individual households, which will lead

to additional savings of over ₹1 lakh

crore compared to the revenue

₹8,500 crore: Extra

interest burden, i.e. 8.5 per cent on

₹1 lakh crore, which if added will lead

foregone of ₹10,000 crore

to 22 per cent

ending 2019

Time to make radical changes in the way we work due to pandemic, says Bhargava

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

MARUTI SUZUKI India (MSI) chairman RC Bhargava Wednesday said the key to growing the economy and creating jobs lies in the growth of the manufacturing sector. India, he said, has been attempting to do this for the last 70 years without reaching the desired growth levels as it adopted Soviet policies that did not deliver results. Bhargava called for a national consensus on the need to grow manufacturing and to create jobs.

Addressing shareholders at the company's 39th annual general meeting, he said: "In the last 5-6 years, many changes have been made by the government in policies, which are making conditions much more conducive to competitive manufacturing."

He said: "To the best of my understanding and knowledge, the government is very aware of all other steps which are needed to ensure and bring about competitiveness of the Indian industry. I believe the pandemic is creating a greater awareness among all the people in the country that this is the time to make radical changes in the way we do our work. This is the time when we should take steps which should lead to much faster growth of the economy, which means much faster growth of manufacturing.' The Maruti chairman said

prospects for India's automobile industry were somewhat unclear at present. Bhargava added, however, the growth of the auto sector, particularly the car segment is a good indicator of the well-being of the people of a country and its economic health. Moreover, it is also an indicator of how well the country is growing in terms of providing different kinds of benefits to the citi-

TCIL chief selection process: Overlooked, claim four Telecom Dept officials; DoPT seeks comments

AASHISHARYAN NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE DEPARTMENT of Telecommunications (DoT) went ahead with its plan for selection and interview of candidates for chairman and managing director (CMD) of Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL) even as four its own officials had approached the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) with representations that they had been ignored in the selection process, documents reviewed by The Indian Express showed.

These four officials have now moved the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) challenging the selection process. None of these officials were called for the interviews held at Public Enterprises

Bhawan on August 18, where Sanjeev Kumar, a technical director with Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, had been selected as the next CMD of TCIL. A detailed questionnaire sent to the DoT seeking its reply on the allegations did not elicit any response.

In an office memorandum dated August 11, the DoPT had written to the DoT Secretary and Secretary of Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) to apprise it of a representation from the four DoT officials who had alleged that despite fulfilling the eligibility criteria for selection as the CMD of TCIL, they had not been shortlisted for interviews. In the memo, the DoPT had said the DoT should furnish its comments as to why these people had not been shortlisted.

The selection for the CMD of TCIL has been marred by contro-

versies and brought the internal rift among the post hopefuls out in the open. Several officers of the DoT and the Indian Telecom Services (ITS) have alleged that they have been unfairly left out of the selection process despite fulfilling all criteria. The Indian Telecom Service Association, a representative group of ITS officers, had on August 6 also written to the Chairman of PESB and the DoT Secretary, expressing their displeasure at the exclusion of eight ITS officers from the selection process without their candidature even being considered.

Apart from the ITS officers, many other executives working in different capacities with the DoT had approached the DoPT claiming they had been unfairly left out of the search and selection process despite fulfilling all criteria.

In its advertisement for the post of TCILCMD, the DoT had said that only those central government or All India Services officers who currently held a post equal to additional secretary with the central government or had equivalent scale of pay, could apply.

However, when the officers who although did not hold a post equal to additional secretary, but had an equivalent scale of pay applied for the post, they were not called for the interviews. These officers have now approached the Jabalpur Bench of CAT with a plea to look into the irregularities.

An earlier application challenging the selection procedure for the post of TCILCMD is already pending with the CAT. Even the final selection of Sanjeev Kumar will be subject to the outcome of the CAT's decision.

'Growth in disposable income of households may enter negative zone in FY21'

Expansion of disposable incomes of households slumped to 0.8 times in FY20 as against an average growth of 2.3 times in the previous six fiscals, and is likely to dip into the negative zone this fiscal, an SBI Research report said



to total revenue foregone of only ₹20,000 crore as compared to ₹1 lakh crore iump in savings

Why this is important: While a decline in net financial liability is welcome, | Source: SBI

in hindsight, it portrays unwelcome trends in household saving behaviour

EXPORT PREPAREDNESS INDEX 2020 DRAWN UP BY NITI AAYOG IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INSTITUTE FOR COMPETITIVENESS

Most states failed to address three main issues: NITI report on export preparedness

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE EXPORT Preparedness Index (EPI) 2020 launched Wednesday port infrastructure, "poor" trade support and growth orientation as well as research and development infrastructure as key barriers to boosting India's exports. While the index tries to counter the one-size-fits-all approach by scrutinising the performance of each state against various criteria, the learnings have shown that "most" of these states have

main issues.

"The inability of most states to come up with relevant strategies for these three domains raises the question if the states do not have the capacity to address these issues. This has to be explored outside the context of this study as it requires a much-detailed analysis," stated the report, prepared by NITI Aayog in partnership with the Institute for Competitiveness.

At the same time, it has offered some short-term solutions to these "significant" bottlenecks, ranging from facilitating joint development of export infrastructure to collaborating with aca-

demic institutions, "By creating convergence for building export infrastructure, facilitating robust industry-academia-government linkages to build trade-support networks, promoting state-level diplomacy, and an emphasized focus on designs and standards, India would be able to develop some of the key learnings of this analysis."

"States will not only have to focus on increasing and diversifying exports but also need to focus on ensuring forward and backward integration to global value chains, which would allow the states to export higher value-

Gujarat tops NITI rankings The parameters include

Ahmedabad: In the first ever Export Preparedness Index released by NITI Aayog, Gujarat the states for their potential for exports and performance.

The index weighed all the 28 states and eight Union Territories on 50 different parameters, stated an official release from the Gujarat government on Wednesday.

added goods and services," the report added.

and goods to 180 nations. **ENS** It also highlighted India's inability to take advantage of

No F-49/RWSLIP/PMU/JICA/9311-12

RWSLIP are as follows:

export promotion policy, busi-

ness environment, R&D sup-

frastructure, etc. The new

industrial policy announced

by Gujarat has export oriented

units among 15 thrust sectors,

the release said. Gujarat han-

dles 40 per cent of India's

cargo and exports services

port export diversification in

China's falling export capacity during 2014-16, and losing out to nations like Vietnam due to delayed action. This "vital period" had served as an opening for other developing economies to enter and subsume lines of production from where China had either been weakened or its influence toned down.

"India did bring in reforms in late 2017 to ensure that the export sector remained competitive and attracts potential investors. However, Bangladesh and Vietnam had made the most of the situation before India and enhanced their export competitiveness by targeting their strengths," it stated.

Dated. 21.08.2020

Estimated Cost in Lac

Series F funding from DST Global' two months after

'Byju's raising ₹908.95 crore in

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

BYJU'S IS raising a fresh Rs 908.95 crore (\$122.33 million) in funding from DST Global as part of its series F funding round, according to the company's regulatory filings sourced from business signals platform paper.vc.

Billionaire Yuri Milner-led DST Global is reportedly looking to invest as much as \$400 million in Byju's and the latest funding could be part of a bigger financing round. Byju's did not comment on the development.

The latest fund-raise comes

Bengaluru-based ed-tech startup secured an investment from US-based Bond that valued it at about \$10.5 billion. Bond is believed to have invested less than \$100 million in the company. In all, Byju's has raised over \$1.5 billion from investors including Naspers, Tencent, Verlinvest and Sequoia Capital.

Byju's has over 57 million registered students and over 3.5 million paid subscribers. It doubled its revenues to Rs 2,800 crore in FY20 from Rs 1,430 crore in FY19 when it posted stand-alone net profits of Rs 20 crore. FE

BRIEFLY —

'Book directly with airlines'

New Delhi: Foreign flight passengers need not apply to Civil Aviation Ministry and can book with airlines.

of chemicals

gested anti-dumping duty on Chinese 'choline chloride'.

I-Trefunds of ₹95,853 cr

25.55 lakh this fiscal. PTI

Powergrid MoU for op theatre

New Delhi: Powergrid Corp has signed an MoU with AC-TREC, Tata Memorial Centre, for constructing a modular

CIL contract goes to Belaz

of 96 dumpers, ENS

JOINT REPORT BY DATA SECURITY COUNCIL OF INDIA AND PAYPAL 'Retail industry must open itself to cross-industry

collaboration, add additional layer of verification

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE RETAIL industry, one of the major weaknesses exploited by cyber criminals, must open itself to cross-industry collaboration and add an additional layer of verification for high-value transactions in order to prevent fraud, the Data Security Council of India and PayPal said in a joint report.

"Digital payments are ubiquitous in today's connected world and have eased payments and transactions. However, the threat landscape has also grown dynamically as an unintended effect of the progressive momentum.

all stakeholders involved in the payment ecosystem to join hands and curb the growth of frauds and payment scams," the report said. According to the report, while

"This warrants attention from counterfeit products, it said. "With the reports of fraud in-

the growth of online shopper is 73 per cent during in tier-I cities so far during the year, it is an exponential 400 per cent in tier-II and tier-III cities. However, with the growth of online retail shopping, tions by consumers," it added.

there has also been a growth in types of frauds. While the buyers are being cheated by perpetrators by luring them with false promotions and buyer coupons, the sellers are being defrauded by sale of

cidents at different scales at the national and global levels, the consumers have serious concerns over security and privacy. Integrating additional layers of security would have significant impact on the ease of performing transac-

(i) WRD 2021 RFP0001 (ii) WRD 2021 RFP0002 The details are available on Websites (i) www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.ir i) www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in (iii) www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in (iv) www.water.rajasthan.gov.i

Office of Chief Engineer Quality Control,

Vigilance & EAP. Water Resources.

Sinchai Bhawan JLN Marg, Jaipur-302017

Fax: 0141-2710940 email: sepmurajamiip@yahoo.com

Notice Inviting RFP No. 01/2020-2021

2. Interested firms may download details regarding RFP through websit

http://eproc.raiasthan.gov.in from 26.08,2020 to 28.09.2020 (upto 6.00 PM) The las date of on-line submission of RFP is 28.09.2020 upto 6.00 PM

Name of Assignment

Engagement of Monitoring & Evaluation Consultant For JICA Funded Rajasthan Water Sector Livelihood Improvement Project

(ii) Hiring of Services of Firm to provide Multi Tasking Personne

'India needs to create 90 mn non-farm jobs in 10 years'

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, AUGUST 26

INDIAWILL have to create 90 million non-farm jobs over the next decade which will require an ambitious reform agenda able to deliver 8-8.5 per cent annual GDP growth and productivity gains, consulting firm McKinsey said.

In its latest report on India's economy, McKinsey Global Institute said the country is at a turning point. "It needs to create at least 90 million jobs by 2030 as a new generation reaches working age, millions of workers move

from farm work to better-paid jobs in other sectors, and more women participate in labour force," it said. Creating that many jobs will in

 $turn\,require\,a\,strong\,boost\,to\,GDP$ growth, which will need to average between 8 and 8.5 per cent every year from 2023 to 2030, it said. This is an ambitious goal, given the slowdown in the year leading up to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the extreme economic uncertainties posed by the crisis itself. Yet, not taking steps to address the growth imperative now could mean a decade of stagnation, with

employment, McKinsey said. "A clarion call is sounding for

India in the demographic and economic trend. The country must get back on to a highgrowth path to ensure sufficient gainful new jobs will be created over the next decade, and thus ensure continued prosperity," said Shirish Sankhe, a McKinsey senior partner in Mumbai and report co-author. "To achieve this will take a clear vision, strong execution, and close collaboration among central government, state governments, and the business community. Everyone has a critical part to play."

(Amarieet Singh Meharada Quality Control, Vigilance & EAP Water Resources, Jaipu DIPR/C/6699/2020

TENDER NOTICE "IREL RED" invites e-tenders for the following item/job description usin -Procurement portal of M/s MSTC Limited

Supply, installation and commissioning / testing of Inductively Coupled Plasma-Atomic Emission Spectrometer (ICP-AES) with accessories E-Tender (Public)No. IREL/Udyogamandal/20-21/ ET/33 ₹ 3750/- (Exclusive of GST) TDC to IREL ₹ 1,120/- (inclusive of taxes) EMD to IREL ₹ 75.000/-Tender starting date & time 27/08/2020 - 15.00 hrs Tender closing date & time 24/09/2020 - 17.00 hrs Tender opening start date & time 25/09/2020 - 10.00 hrs

विवरण के लिए वेबसाइट देखे For details, visit websites http://www.mstcecommerce.com

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD. NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (E-TENDERING PROCESS) Tender Inviting Authority Specification No. CE/Hydro HE 2388 Due Date Extension CE/MTPS-II 06 Due Date Extension For details of works/Procurement/Due date of submission/opening Corrigendum. Due date extension, viewing and downloading of e-tenders.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice Tender No: 9-11/2020-21/PHC/KNR. Jal Jeevan Mission- Kannur District

please visit websites: www.tangedco.gov.in www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app,

Pattuvam , Kannapuram, Ezhome Panchayaths- JICA WSS to Pattuvam an adioining villages Phase II - Laving Distribution System and providing FHTC EMD: Rs. 100000. Tender fee: Rs. 8400. Last Date for submitting Tender 08-09-2020, 03:00:pm. Superintending Enginee Phone: 0497-2705902

Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in KWA-JB-GL-6-205-2020-21 vww.etenders.kerala.gov.in

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA SAGTRAINING CENTRE, THALASSERY, KERALA, 670101 TELEPHONE:0490 2324900,E Mail:saitly@yahoo.com No.28/SAI/SLKIC/TLY/ACCTS/MESS/TENDER/2020-21

TENDER NOTICE No.01/2020 Sports Authority of India, Training centre, Thalassery published E-Tender notification for outsourcing Mess. Further details free download of the E-Tender documents visit following Websites.

I. https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app

2. www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in

3. www.lncpe.gov.in

Centre Incharge JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED

(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WING)
NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JOHPUR-342003
(10291) 2742223
FAX: (0291) 2746538 **E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

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Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tende opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at www.jdvvnl.cor and also at http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045

low income growth and rising un-

(ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & OHSAS 18001:2007 Certified Compar Phones: +91 484 2545062 - 65 Fax: +91 484 2545269

Validity of tender in days

eprochome/irel, https://eprocure.gov.in, http://irel.co.in. परिष्ठाष्ट्र/ शुद्धि केवलवेबसाइटों में होस्ट को जाएगी. Addendum/Corrigendum shall be hosted in the websites only. स्पष्टीकरण के लिए For clarification contact 0484 2545199, purchase-red@irel.co.in में संपूर्क करें। महाप्रबंधक एवं प्रधान (आरईडी) G.M & HEAD (RED)

New Delhi

failed to address these three

Duty on import New Delhi: The DGTR sug-

New Delhi: The I-T department said it issued refunds of Rs 95,853 crore to over

operation theatre complex.

New Delhi: Coal India has awarded a Rs 2,900 crore contract to Belaz for supply

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,Manojj S Kumar,S/o Jagadish S

Delhi-110007, have changed the

0040546186-2

0040546163-5

0040546172-2

0040546169-

0040546169-7

0040546169-2

0070712140-1

0070712160-1

0040546163-1

0040546163-3

0040546131-1

0070712143-1

 $name\ of\ my\ minor\ Son\ Purab$

I, Usha Rani, W/O Rajesh Kumar,

R/O.D-78, upper-ground-floor,

changed my name to Usha, for

I, Sarbjit Kaur, W/o Sukhwinder Pal Singh, R/o-D-140, Third

to Sarabjeet Kaur, for all

UGF,Flat.No.1, Near-

Santosh Singh.

Gurudwara, Sultanpur

Floor, Fateh Nagar, New Delhi-

I, Santosh,D/o Babu Singh,W/o

Mehrauli, New-Delhi-110030,

I. Said Ahmad, S/o Haji Jumma

changed my name to Saeed

, SADIYA D/o MOHD FAROOQ,

SHIVAJI ROAD, AZAD MARKET,

I, Rohit Kumar Singh S/o Bijay Pal

Singh, R/o H.No 64, Shivpuram.

Ghaziabad, have changed my

I, Rita Goswami W/o Pradeep

. Goswami R/o 101, Devi Nagar,

S.K. Road Meerut Surai Kund

changed my name to Reeta

I. Rajendrabhai Kalara S/o

391.G.F., Vikaspuri, Delhi-

to Rajendra Kalra.

to Pushpa Singh.

Road, Meerut, UP-250002, have

Harnarinder Nath Kalra R/o-C-

110018, have changed my name

I. Pushpa W/o Late Sh.S.N. Singh

110018, have changed my name

I, Punita Kumari W/o Sh. Suraj

Kumar Mahato, R/o Flat No. D-

2/176, 1st Floor Sec-11 Rohini

name to Punita for all

purposes. Both are same

I, Priankal aggarwal s/o of

I, Piyush s/o Man Mohan

agarwaal

satish aggarwal r/o of 23/4

house no 16 chadha bhawan

shakti nagar delhi 110007 have

Changed my name to priyankal

Delhi-110085 have changed my

H.No.137, Mukherjee-Park,

Tilak-Nagar, New Delhi-

name to Rohit Kumar Prajapati.

DELHI-110006, CHANGED MY

NAME to SADIYA FAROOQ.

vihar,delhi-110094,have

Ahmad, for all purposes.

H.NO-724, SHISH MAHAL

Khan R/o-B-358, st.no.2, indira

have changed my name to

Mr.Chatar Singh, R/o Plot, No.55,

110018, have changed my name

Fateh-Nagar, Tilak-Nagar,

New-Delhi-110018.have

Kumar, Residing at, A-19/20,

Double-Story, Malka-Gani.

Khanna aged 15-years to

Poorab Khanna, for all

purposes.

all purposes.

Kanta W/O Krishan House No.-837/4 Subhash Nagar Bahadurgarh Harvana-124507 Changed My Name as Kanta 0130016531-1

I,No-10481177W,Rank Naik Unit 103 Infr. Bn (TA SIKHLI).Nazir Ahmad Gulkar F/O:- Murtaza Nazir,R/O:-Kelam Bozgam, Tehsil:-Devsar. District:-Kulgam.In my service records (D o B) of my ward has been wrongly mentioned as 24.04.2007 instead of 25.10.2010 as in school records & Aadhaar card. It needs corrections .Objections befiled to concerned authorities within

I,No-10481177W,Rank Naik Unit 103 Infr. Bn (TA SIKHLI),Nazir Ahmad Gulkar F/O:- Imran Nazir Gilkar.R/O:-Kelam Bozgam, Tehsil:-Devsar, District:-Kulgam.In my service records (DoB) of my ward has been wrongly mentioned as 01.07.2001 instead of 04.08.2003 as in school records&Aadhaar card. It needs corrections .Objections be filed to concerned authorities within

I,No-10481177W,Rank Naik Unit 103 Infr. Bn (TA SIKHLI),Nazir Ahmad Gulkar F/O:- Hadiva Nazir,R/O:-Kelam Bozgam, Tehsil:-Devsar, District:-Kulgam. In my service records (D o B) of my ward has been wrongly mentioned as 29.03.2011 instead of 29.03.2014 as in school records & Aadhaar card.It needs correction .Objections be filed to concerned authorities within 0020410135-

I,Kulwant Singh Sethi,S/O Shri.Harbhaian Singh.R/O.C-6/79A, Keshav Puram, Delhi-110035, have changed my name to Kulwant Sethi.for all future purposes.

I,Harsh Tayal,s/o-Sh.Amrish Kumar Tayal, R/o-R-74D, Block R. Dilshad-Garden. Delhi-110095;do hereby,declare affirm that, correct name, of my father is Amrish Kumar Tayal and, the same, should be incorporated,in all my,documents. 0040546186-5

I,Hanifa Akhtar,W/O:-No-10481177W,Rank Naik Unit 103 Infr. Bn (TA SIKHLI),Nazir Ahmad Gulkar R/O:-Kelam Bozgam, Tehsil:-Devsar, District-Kulgam. In my husbands service records my (D o B) has been wrongly mentioned as 10.08.1980 insted of 10.08.1981 as in Aadhaar card. It needs corrections

I, Saurav Balodi S/o Chander Shekhar R/o Flat-No-32B, Block-D2A, Janakpuri, N.Delhi-58, have changed my name to

.Objections be filed to

Lal Chawla Kumar R/o 1241, 1st Floor, J Block, Palam Vihar Gurugram Haryana have changed to Meenu Chawla for all future purposes.

0040546130-1 I, Mandeep Sangatpuri Jain W/O Pivush Jain R/O 402, Park Roval

Apartments, GH-80, Sector56, Gurugram, Haryana-122011 have changed my name to Mandeep Kaur Sangatpuri for all future purposes 0050168059-1

I. MEENAKSHI M Spouse of NO

15499776N SOW PARAMESHWARAPPA K Resident Vill-Davangere Post -Vidya Nagar Teh and Dist-Davangere State - Karnataka have changed my name from MEEENAKASHI M to MEENAKSHI M Vide affidavit no IN-DL71369316479283Sdated 25/08/2020 Delhi

0040546133-I, Kiranben W/o Rajendra Kalra R/o-C-391, G.F., Vikaspuri. Delhi-110018, have changed my

name to Kiran Kalra. 0040546163-2 I. Kandan Patra S/o Uttam

Kumar Patra R/o Uparkechanda, Bankura, WB-722121, have changed my name to Kundan Patra 0070712152-1 I, KARAN, S/O JAGDISH VERMA

R/o-L-23.SRI NIWAS PURI,DELHI-110065.Changed my name to KARAN VERMA permanently. 0040546163-7

I. Jagdish Chand Rana S/o-Chandgi Ram R/o-2026, Sector-12,Sonipat.have changed my name to Jagdish Chander Rana for,all purposes.

0040546186-6

I. DHRITI KHANNA.D/O MANOJJ S KUMAR R/O-À-19/20 DOUBLE STORY, MALKA GANJ, DELHI-110007.have changed my name DHRRITHI KHNNA, for all 0040546186-4

I. DEVANGI KHANNA.D/O MANOJJS KUMAR R/O-À-GANJ, DELHI-110007, have changed my name DEVANGI K KHANNA, for all purpose.

0040546186-3

I. Bhawna Singh.R/o-110.New Lohare-Colony, Shastri-Nagar,Delhi-110031,have changed my Minor son's name,.Hamza Mohamed Yasin Chougle to Lavik Singh, for all purposes. 0040546163-6

I, Beenu Malhotra w/o Vikas Gupta R/o F-66, Bali Nagar, New Delhi-110015,have changed my name to Binu Gupta,

0040546169-3

seven davs. 0020410136-1

seven days.

0040546172-1

concerned authorities within seven days. 0020410138-

Krishan R/o-19/29A, Gali.No.1, Saurabh Balodi. 0040546136-2 West Moti-Bagh, Sarai Rohilla, I, Meena Rani W/o Mr. Jawahar Delhi-110035, have changed my name to Piyush Diwan 0040546169-4 permanently I. POONAM.W/O DHARAM

CHAND R/O S-626 SCHOOL BLOCK SHAKARPUR DELHI-110092, HAVE changed my name to KM ANJALI VISHWAKARMA.

I, Nirmal kalpana moti lal, W/o vinav kumar, H.no.257, nanglivihar extention baprolanajafgarh new-delhi-

110043, changed my name to kalpana Nirmal. 0040546163-8 I, Neeraj Kumar S/O Sh.Tara Chand residing at D-401,

Bhawalpur Appartment, Plot no.30, Sector-6, Dwarka, New Delhi -110075, have changed my name to Neeraj Choudhary, vide affidavit dated 24 Aug 2020 at Delhi 0050168058-1

I. Monilal Sinha S/o Madhusudan Sinha R/o Narsinghpur, Part-6, South Bekirpar, Punirmukh, Cachar, Assam-788123, have changed my name to Neel Monilal Sinha 0070712163-1

I. Mohd Imran.S/o Aftab Ahmed R/o H.No.783.F.F., Gali.No.26. Jafrabad, Delhi-110053, have

Mohammad Imran Khan. 0040546172-3

I, Ivy Jonita Mendes D/o Romualdo Francisco Mendes R/o 65, Calvim Carona Bardez North Goa, Goa-403523, that name of my father and my mother has been wrongly written as Rumald Francisco Mendes and Agnes Mariyam Mednes respectively in my Birth Record. The actual name of my father and my mother is Romualdo Francisco Mendes and Ines Maria Mendes 0070712151-1 respectively

I. Hathoihlam Samte, wife of Nehginpao Kipgen, resident of OP Jindal GlobalUniversity, Sonipat 131001, Harvana, has changed my surname/last name from 'Samte' to 'Kipgen' after marriage. My name henceforth shall be HathoihlamKipgen.

0040546144-1

I. Anila A N D/o R Anilkumar R/o Naduvathra House, Othera East PO, Thiruvalla Eraviperoor, Kunnathukara HSC, Pathanamithitta, Kerala-689546, have changed my name to Niranjana Naduvathra

I Taanya Sagar alias Taanya Vohra, D/o Sandeep Sagar R/o-2/450, Top-Floor, Subhash Nagar, New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Tanya Sagar. 0040546186-1 **I,** Davender Kumar,s/o Jagat Singh R/o-179, Aliganj, Kotla Mubarakpur, New Delhi-110003, have changed my name to Devender Kumar 0040546169-5

permanently. I, Arti/Aarti Aggarwal W/o-Vikas Gupta R/o-H.No.2058, Old-Anaj Mandi, Narela, Delhi-110040. have changed my name to Arti Aggarwal, permanently.

0040546163-4

I, Anoj Tevatia,S/o Perhlad Singh,R/o-CD-42,Cedar Drive, Malibu Town, Sector-47, Gurgaon-122018, have changed my minor daughter name, from Shireen to Shireen Tevatia.

0040546172-4

I, Menoo Kumari D/o Ram Chandra R/o-A-54, Sector 61, Noida, G.B. Nagar, U.P.-201301, I,have change my Name Meenakshi Singh for All 0040546136-1 Purpose.

I, Anoj Tevatia, S/o Perhlad Singh R/o-CD-42,Cedar Drive,Malibu Town, Sector-47, Gurgaon-122018, have changed my minor daughter name, from Michelle to Michelle Tevatia.

0040546172-5

SITUATION VACANT

OTHERS

REQUIRED A Person for the Post of Director in Jan Shikshan SansthanContract Basis.Qualification MBA minimum 5 years Experience. Max Age 55 years, E:jsssonepat2000@gmail.com, Address .Gali No-19, Mayur Vihar, Gohana Road Sonipat (Harvana)

ACADEMIC

MERI College of Engg. & Tech. Asanda, Near Sampla, District Jhajjar, Haryana

CORRIGENDUM he advertisement published or 1.08.2020 may be read as 1.Invites application for the regular positions (Teaching & Non-Teaching). 2.Professor-01, Associate

Professors-02 & Assistant Professor-08 each in the Department of CSE, ME, CE, 3.Assistant professor in BBA-04

NET/ Ph.D. Qualified) Application form is available on the institute website (www.meri.edu.in). Last date of Application is extended up to 15.09.2020. Other T & C of the advt. remains unchanged.

TESWS, New Delhi

LOST & FOUND

I Sharad Sharma S/o Shri A N Sharma R/o 17/103A, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar-4, Delhi-110024 have lost my original Plot Buyer Agreement, Allotment Letter, Possession Letter and Zoning of plot no. M-10/13, DLF Phase-2, Gurugram, Haryana. Finder may contact at 9090919117 or at above address.

0040546128-1

I, Suresh W/o Late Rohtash Singh have Lost my Original, Documents of, Property.No.344, Khasra, No.70/1, Village Mangolpur Kalan Delhi, Finder Contact-9250058295.

I, Vasu Dev Jain,S/o Sh.Ayodhya Prasad R/o-81-B.Pocket-4,Mayur-Vihar-I,Delhi-91,have lost my Flat Possession/Allotment-Letter

original of Flat.No.81B, Pocket-4, Mayur Vihar PH-I, Delhi-91.Finder Contact:8368741727.

0040546172-8

I,Apoorva D/o Amar Kumar Jha,R/o B-601,Amrapali Exotica sector-50, Noida, have lost my Original 10th & 12th certificates year-2013 & 2015, Roll.no. 5161165 & 5855712 please contact-8816812074.

0040546172-6

Be it known to all that my client Bijender Kumar S/o Gariba R/o S-36, Bapu Park, Kotla Mubarakpur, New Delhi-110003, has disowned/ debarred his Son namely Rajiv and his wife Mundresh and their children Piyush (6 years) and Mayank (5 years) from all his movable/ immovable properties: assets and severed all his relations with them due to the misbehavior/ misconduct towards isbehavior/ misconduct toward y client. If anybody deals with em will do so at his/ her/ thei

Ch. No. 374, 3rd Floor, Lawyer

he owner of the property bearing H.No. J-526, Dakshinpuri, New Delhi-110062 nd has disowned/ debarred her sor namely Sh. Sanjay @ Sanju Prajapati and nis wife Smt. Pinki from al**l** her movable nd immovable properties/ assets usiness (including the above sai-roperty) and severed all relations with Sh

Saurabh Kumar (Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE Sh. Parmanand Alreia & Madhu Alrei W/o Sh. Om Parkash Alreia both R/ namely Anmol Alreja, as he is no under their control therefore my both clients will not has any responsibilit for any acts and transactions entered into by their above named son. As such my both clients shall severance of their elations with their above said son and debar him from all kind of their RAJESH KR. PATOHA (Advocate)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby notified hat the Share Certificate of Delhi Dayalbagh Coop House Building Society Ltd. n the name of Devraj Korpal, owner of plot No C-47, Soami Nagar, New Delhi-110017 has beer

f any person finds it, is requested to please inform

korpalrakesh@yahoo.com Devraj Korpal C-47, Soami Nagar, New Delhi-110017

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that my client Smt. Durga Wati Wo Mr. Lal Bahadur R/o 24/122, Trilokpuri Delhi has disowned her son namely Pankaj form her movable and immovable properties being disobedient. Neither my client nor any of her family members have any concern with him henceforth, any person dealing with him will be doing so at his

H.L. DASI (Advocate) Ch. No. Y-18, Civil Wing Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

Be it known to all concerned that my client Sh. Javinder Kumar S/o Sh. Tulsi Ram R/O A-84, Weavers Colony, Ashok Vihar Phase-IV, Delhi-110052 has disowned / debarred his son namely Raman Verma and his wife Diksha Jain from all movable and immovable properties due to their conduct, misbehavior and being out of his control. Any person dealing with them in any manner shall be on his/her risk and consequences. My client shall not be responsible for an acts, things or liability done by them

PUBLIC NOTICE

ISHWAR SINGH ADVOCATE rd Floor, Building No.9, DDA Mkt Ashok Vihar Ph.II, Delhi-110052

PUBLIC NOTICE

Damanjeet Singh from alt his moveable immoveable properties & assets vid. Public Notice Dated 07.02 2018 in Pioneer I Navbharat Times Newspapers. Hereinatte whatsoever matter has been resolved in between both of them. Hence, from Toda to Bated. 25.08 2020 onwards my abov said client Recalts/Revoke's his above Public Notice and his Son Damanjeet Singi will have alt the inheritance rights and will have alt the inheritance rights and will make alt the properties and assets wit immediate effect.

Adv Ishvinder Singh, K-23 Fateh Nagar, Delhi 9811773177

PUBLIC NOTICE

esouved in Jecument both of their, Helic from Today onwards ie Dated. 25.08.2020 m bove said client Recalls/Revoke's hi bove said Public Notice and his So tamandeep Singh will have all th hheritance rights and will have all rights i

Adv Ishvinder Singh, K-23 Fateh Nagar, Delhi 9811773177

PUBLIC NOTICE it is nereby informed to all general public i large that my client Smt. Kulraj Kaur, W. Lt. Sh. Gurbax Singh, R/o B-70, Fateh Nagi lew Delhi-18, has debarred/disowned h randson Sarabjeet Singh from all h noveable & immoveable properties ssets vide Public Notice Dated 20.04.20 ssets vide Public Notice Dated ZU.M. ZUI In Indian Express & Jansatta Newspapers lereinafter whatsoever matter has bee esolved in-between both of them. Hence rom Today onwards i.e. Dated. 25.08.202 ny above said client Recalls/Revoke's he bove said Public Notice and her Grandso sarchient Singh, will have all the Jacabient Singh, will have Jaca

Sarabjeet Singh will have all the inheritance rights and will have all rights his moveable and immoveable properties and acceptant the immediate of fact.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sd/- KESHAV KUMA

Chamber No. 238, Lawyer's Block District Court Sake

PUBLIC NOTICE

name Mrs. Harsharan Kaur, her Son-in aw Mr. Parminder Singh and their children Jasleen Kaur & Avneet Kaur all R/o WZ 565- A, Shiv Nagar Extn., Janakpuri, B-1 New Delhi-110058, from all her movabl

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Hunkar Singh S/o. Late Khajan Singh and Smt. Manjeet Kaur, W/o. Hunkar Singh R/o.C-1/46 B, Near Masjid, Raju Park, Khanpur, New Delhi

10062, have debarred and disowned

their son Navjot Singh Sodhi from al

their movable & immovable properties

as he is not under their control. My

clients and his other family member

shall not be liable for any omission o commission of their aforesaid son & i

any one deals with him, he/she/they shall be doing so on their own risks &

Ch.No. 153, Saket Courts, New Delhi-17

& have severed all relations from h

known to all that my client Smi ep Kaur W/o Late Shri Ranjeet Singl 3- 145/1, B-Block, Yadav Nagai 110042 has severed all her relation isowned & disinherited her daughte

0040546172-7 nom rougy in west see act 25.05.20.2016 bove said client Recalls/Revoke's hi bove said Public Notice and his So arabjeet Singh will have all the inheritanc ights and will have all rights in hi

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE y clients Sh. Kishan Lal Arora, S/ tte Sh. Nand Lal Arora and Sm aya Arora, W/o Sh. Kishan Lal Aror th residents of K-14, First Floor, S was Puri, New Delhi-110065 reby disown their son Sh. Rahi Arora and daughter-in-law Smt. Pooja Arora W/o Sh. Rahul Arora and deba 'Ora Wio Sh. Hailar Floor

em from inheriting any movable or
imovable property belonging to my
ients. Any one dealing with the
foresaid persons shall be doing so at Sd/- ANIL KUMAR BASOYA

PUBLIC NOTICE

anjay @ Sanju Prajapati and his wife mt. Pinki due to their misbehaviour isconduct towards my client Smt. Girja levi, he and his wife are not in control o Devi, he and his wheater not incontrol on you not liet, if anybody deals with Sh. Sanjay @ Sanju Prajapati and his wife Smt. Pink in any manner whatsoever, will do so at his/her/their own risk & responsibility, my client shall not be responsible for the same.

Ch. No. 483, Saket Courts, New Delhi-17

SEARCH FOR MISSING BOY



Suraj

General public is hereby informed that one boy namely Suraj, S/o Ashok Kumar, R/o Ward No. 22, Bhona Chowk Hargobind Nagar, Moga Punjab. Age 6 yrs., height 3ft, wheatish complexion, face round, medium build wearing check yellow shirt blue sweater blue pant and black clothes shoes in feet has been missing since 06.03.2020 from the area of PS Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi.

In this regard a case FIR No. 64/20 Dt. 14.03.2020 U/s 363 has been registered at PS Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing boy, but no clue has come to light so far.

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

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-23011334 Ph.: 011-23014046

011-23015218

DP/160/ED/2020

S.H.O. PS Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi. Ph.: 011-22146490, 22146491

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



Sonam

General Public is hereby informed that one girl Namely: Sonam, D/o: Shyam Lal, R/o: H. No. 14, Shrikant Wali Gali, Badl Village, Delhi has been missing/ kidnapped since 07.08.2020 at 3:00 pm. from her house from the area of P.S. Samaipui Badli, Delhi. In this regard a case vide

DD No. 86A dated 11.08.2020 has been odged at P.S. Samaipur Badli, Delhi. The description of the missing/kidnapped girl are as under: Age: 23 years, Sex Female, Face: Round, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Fair Built: Normal, Wearing: Dark red colour top, blue colour jeans and black colour sandal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

Website: http//cbi.nic.in E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax No. 011-24368639 DP/431/ON/2020

SHO P.S. Samai Pur Badli, Delhi Ph.: 011-27854757, 7065036326

Office of Satna Smart City Development Limited (SSCDL) Municipal Corporation, Satna (M.P.)-485001 E-TENDER NOTICE

NIT No.: SSCDL/2019/Tender/514 Satna, Dated: 25.08.2020

Tender ID: 2020_UAD_103607_1 Online tender through e-tendering is invited by Satna Smart City Development Limited (SSCDL), Satna, M.P. Request for proposal For Selection of implementation Agency for Supply. Installation and Management of Digital Library with Library Management Software 2" Call (LibMS) in the City of

Satna* The brief details of the project are as below: (i) Document Download/Sale Start Date: 26.08.2020, 17:00

(ii) Bid Submission Start Date: 26.08.2020, 17:30 Hrs. (iii) Pre-Bid meeting Date: 09.09.2020. 11:00 Hrs at

(iv) Bid Submission Closing Date: 16.09.2020, 17:00 Hrs For eligibility details, EMD and terms & condition of the tender please visit https://mptenders.gov.in

Executive Engineer Satna Smart City Development Limited Satna (M.P.)

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely Nikki, D/o Arvind Singh R/o H. No. 1/3443, Street No. 4, Ram Nagar Ext,, Shahdara, Delhi, Age: 16 years, Height: 5', Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Oval, Built: Thin, Wearing: Pink colour top, light green colour jeans and plastic slipper in her feet,

the area of PS Mansarovar Park, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR/DD No. 73/2012 U/s 363 IPCdated 28.04.2012 has been lodged at PS Mansarovar Park, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this girl please inform undersigned. Website: http//cbi.nic.in

has been missing since dated 26.04.2012 at 10:00 am from

E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641 SHO Fax No. 011-24368639 PS Mansarovar Park, Delhi Ph.: 011-22599373. 22599375 DP/166/SHD/2020

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.

CIN-L65910KL1992PLC006623 IV/470A (old) W638A(New), Manappuram House, Valapad, Thrissur, Kerala - 680 567.

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 16/09/2020 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any)will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

DELHI, DELHI, GEETHA COLONY, 107590700022479, 2606, 3140, 107590730005583, 6451, 6510, 6515, 6571, 6580, 6583, 6584, 6585, 6586, 6611, KAKARDOOMA, 102760700010465, 102760730008575, 8597, 8598, 8599, 8759, KALKAJI, 100870700058805, 9803, 100870700061019, 1279, 1343, 1614, 1850, 1963, 2808, 2926, 3020, 3124, 3265, 3287, 3295, 3409, 3415, 3486, 3526, 3543, 3578, 4680, 4789, 4791, 4792, 100870730022386, 2514, 2515, 2551, 2552, 2515,2560, 2735, 2737, 2769, 2771, 2835, 2865, 2867, 2873, 2884, 2927, 2928, 2937, 2940, 2947, 3005, 3063, 3164, 3165, 3271, 3279, 3280, 3281, 3414, 3485, 34863602, 3611, 3612, 3613, 3626, 3668, 3669, 3670, 3741, 3747, 3748, 3749, 3752, 3753, 3756, 3757, 3769, 3828, 3831, 3832, 3875, 3882, 3904, 3920, 3927, KRISHNAN NAGAR, 108530700017223, 7315, 7317, 108530730024730, 4731, 5105, 5219, 5220, LAXMI NAGAR, 100890700058505, 8524, 8595, 8608, 8661 9471, 9704, 9769, 9816, 100890700060051, 100890730018522, 8529, 8705, 9048, 9159, 9180, 9217, 9223, 9269, 9322, 9323, 9434, 9435, 9545, 9565, 9811 MANGOL PURI, 109040700042830, 4677, 4724, 5535, 5655, 6198, 6281, 6414, 6602, 7165, 7874, 7880, 7885, 7887, 7907, 109040730007093, 7171, 8670, 8806 8861, 8941, 8944, 8945, 8947, 9031, 9032, 9038, 9039, 9052, 9112, 9118, 9179, 9187, 9201, 9202, 9219, 9249, 9251, 9252, 9278, 9282, 9283, 9284, 9291, 9293, 9310, 9334, 9338, 9355, 9366, 9363, 9364, 9374, 9383, 9404, 9405, 9407, 9438, 9464, 9485, 9503, 9504, 9507, 9574, 9623, 9684, 9686, 9687, 9703, 9816, 9829, 98369851, 9866, 9867, 9873, 9880, 9881, 9887, 9888, 9893, 9914, 9932, 9959, 9990, 9992, 109040730010003, 0004, 0005, 0042, 0043, 0100, 0101, 0126, RANIBAGH, 108720730009786, 9851, 108720730010755, ROHINI, 100900700715632, 100900730007717, 7757, 7759, 7792, 7815, 7816, 7817, 7818, 7819, 7842, 7854 7859, 7867, 7903, 7904, 7905, 7922, 7929, 7938, 7939, 7969, 7970, 7984, 7991, 7992, 7993, 8030, 8075, 8173, 8215, 8216, 8224, 8252, 8253, 8254, SHALIMAR BAGH, 102780700014977, 102780730006798, 6898, 6919, 6920, 6988, 7024, 7048, 7079, 7210, 7211, 7302, 7318, 7321, 8240, 8243, 8244, VISHWAS NAGAR DELHI, 123330700019865, 123330700020473, 0489, 1238, 123330730008196, 8197, 8198, 8199, 8200, 8241, 8277, 8324, 8339, 8448, 8581, 8584, 8585, 8590, 8602, 8628, 8871, 8876, EAST DELHI, BHAJANPURA DELHI, 122040700036978, 122040700044392, 6614, 7593, 9185, 9250, 9271, 9296, 9347, 9598, 9655, 9664, 9686, 9842, 9895, 9917, 122040700050076, 0254, 0508, 1508, 1511, 1515, 1558, 1732, 1770, 1775, 1794, 1795, 1796, 1915, 1961, 1962, 1983, 1987, 2057, 2068, 2110, 2116, 2126, 2149, 2196, 2241, 2268, 2299, 2305, 2354, 2356, 2357, 2359, 2401, 2405, 2519, 2538, 2570, 2630, 2634, 3577, 3668, 122040730008310, 8311, 8312, 8653, 8657, 8658, 8670, 8745, 8772, 8806, 8848, 8859, 8862, 8864, 8865, 8912, 8913, 8914, 8955, 8959, 8967, 8968, 8971, 8972, 8973, 8978, 8979, 8985, 8986, 9009, 9067, 9095, 9098, 9102, 9133, 9135, 9155, 9156, 9159, 9180, 9217, 9238, 9246, 9249, 9255, 9256, 9292, DILSHAD COLONY 120330700030341, 2256, 2268, 2590, 2610, 2724, 2785, 2790, 2886, 3786, 3865, 3917, 3991, 4005, 4041, 4154, 4164, 120330730008596, 8597, 8815, DILSHAD GARDEN, 122030700018546, 122030730005896, 5897, 6006, 6007, 6009, 6051, 6052, 6058, 6091, 6116, 6343, 6525, 6544, 6545, DURGAPURI CHOWK DELHI, 118870700029452, 118870700030141, 0142, 0291, 118870730011551, 1552, 4635, 4700, 4725, 4873, 4915, 4944, 4988, 4990, 5053, 5096, 5105, 5160, 5161 5164, 5254, 5266, 5269, 5270, 5300, 5301, 5302, 5313, 5330, 5362, 5455, 5564, 5565, 5580, 5581, GURU ANGAD NAGAR, 109980700016864, 6995 109980730005072, 5100, 5114, 5115, 5162, 5195, JAGATPURI DELHI, 120840700008530, 8829, 8874, 8876, 120840730004926, MAYUR VIHAR PHASE 1, 104630700030493, 0548, 1636, 1665, 1689, 1720, 1734, 1761, 2333, 2505, 104630730008218, 8735, 9339, 104630730010274, 0441, 0461, 0482, 0540, 0647, 0817, 0823, 0840, 0842, 0851, 0852, 0871, 0872, 0881, 0892, 0915, 0959, 0994, 0995, 1012, 1014, 1036, 1072, 1076, 1110, 1111, 1121, 1124, 1144, 1145, 1183, 1195, 1237, 1244, 1267, 1268, 1270, 1271, 1272, 1273, MAYURVIHARPHASE 3, 116240700030357, 2216, 2543, 2730, 3107, 3210, 3234, 3258, 3266, 3270, 32873330, 3391, 3392, 3428, 3525, 3534, 3535, 3536, 3588, 3589, 3633, 4363, 116240730009480, 9681, 9807, 116240730010829, 0859, 0866, 0899, 0941, 0945, 0990, 1007, 1032, 1061, 1088, 1089, 1090, 1132, 1193, 1213, 1278, 1338, 1339, 1340, 1403, MOUJPUR DELHI, 122690700023823, 4576, 5310, 122690730005838, 6538, 6576, 6713, 6735, 6736, 6737, 6769, 6800, 6810, 6811, 6812, 6813, 6829, 6831, 6835, 6836, 6850, 6852, 6853, 6871, 6872, 6873, 6874, 6875, NEW DELHI, DABRI ROAD, 112000700011693, 1698, 1713, 1749, 2055, 2689, 3029, 3030, 112000730013631, 3646, 3753, 3805, 3809, 3816, 3905, 3907, 3969, 3972, 3978 4017, 4018, 4019, 4020, 4021, 4022, 4023, 4024, 4052, 4053, 4054, 4056, 4146, 4147, 4250, 4253, 4288, 4392, 4398, 4404, 4406, 4444, 4445, 4545, 4547, 4558, 4563, 4596, 4678, 4774, 4847, 4848, GOVINDPURI, 112150700024231, 4542, 4605, 4753, 4872, 5807, 5860, 5970, 5980, 5982, 6753, 6818, 6866, 6876, 6893, 6896, 6960, 7021, 112150730011135, 1164, 1626, 1627, 3236, 3326, 3342, 3425, 3434, 3455, 3472, 3473, 3503, 3539, 3604, 3605, 3636, 3643, 3649, 3740, 3741, 3742, 3940, 4079, HARI NAGAR, 108520700012135, 2826, JANAKPURI D BLOCK, 108410700028560, 9060, 9524, 9998, 108410700030089, 0162, 0708 108410730017432, 7967, KAROLBAGH, 100850700034234, 4347, 4429, 100850730012742, 2743, 2768, 2769, MAHAVIR ENCLAVE, 109760700018291, 8748, 8906. 109760730008980, 9048. 109760730010846. 1176. 1177. 1274. 1275. MAHAVIR NAGAR. 114910700014883. 114910730008615. 8616. 9039. 9175. NAJAFGARH, 108810700017545, 7560, 7951, 8639, 108810730010085, 0149, NANGLOI MARKET, 108580700021727, 1739, 1744, 2061, 2418, 2594, 2621, 2737, 2794, 3442, 3443, 108580730007213, 7336, 7344, 7345, 7416, 7438, 7507, 7598, 7599, 7648, 7676, 7693, 7694, 7695, 7696, 7697, 7703, 7754, 7757, 7760, 7777, 7802, 7803, 7804, 7830, NEHRU PLACE, 136210700001652, 1843, 136210730005585, 5586, 5726, PADAMSINGH ROAD KAROLBAGH, 108920700029656, 108920700031126, 1163, 1238, 2459, 2465, 2540, 2544, 2559, 2561, 2596, 2607, 108920730008418, 9781, 108920730012023, 2030, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2109, 2110, 2164, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2256, 2257, 2283, 2298, 2299, 2304, 2384, 2407, 2408, 2497, 2504, 2645, 2649, 2658, 2704, 2715, 2717, 2738, 2793, 2795, 2797, 2799, 2800, 2834, 2859, 2862, 2863, 2876, 2877, 2895, 2898, 2911, 2915, 2944, 2945, 2951, 2992,

PAHARGANJ, 108730700034012, 5740, 5756, 6710, 6911, 7072, 7093, 7132, 7259, 7511, 7526, 108730730012959, 3006, 3053, 3057, 3066, PALAM COLONY,

107760700016384, 107760730014252, 7089, 7391, 7665, 7840, PIRAGARHI, 108640700023286, 108640730010866, RAGHUBIR NAGAR, 123410700025971,

7006, 7236, 7476, 8002, 8028, 9563, 9645, 9773, 9973, 123410700030121, 0210, 0211, 0228, 0520, 0521, 0875, 1508, 1537, 1636, 1875, 1895, 1908, 1955, 1968,

1999, 2007, 2010, 2018, 2046, 2105, 2121, 2198, 3206, 123410730006697, 9636, 123410730010292, 2270, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2304, 2306, 2361, 2370, 2371, 2423, 2370,

2424, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2476, 2491, 2492, 2523, 2545, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2562, 2563, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2589, 2599, 2600, 2611, 2612, 2633,

2635, 2636, 2639, 2665, 2674, 2763, 2779, 2805, 2846, 2866, 2867, 2966, 3002, 3003, 3004, 3005, 3006, 3027, 3028, 3034, 3059, 3078, 3090, 3144, 3145, 3170,

3171, 3185, 3188, 3233, 3239, RAJAPURI, 109680700020142, 0197, 0266, 0301, 1033, 1064, 1122, 1167, 1199, 1507, 1644, 109680730005542, 6360, 6380, 6381

6382, 6387, 6388, 6391, 6466, 6485, 6498, 6525, 6529, 6531, 6535, 6553, 6593, 6594, 6623, 6648, 6714, 6741, 6743, 6793, 6818, 6838, 6891, 6896, 6899, 6900,

6902, 6922, 6923, 6968, 6988, 6989, 6990, 6991, 6992, 6995, 6996, 7008, 7009, 7016, 7025, SWAROOP NAGAR DELHI, 123420700011249, 1282, 1765,

123420730011417, 1431, 1436, 1475, 1614, 1621, 1622, 1634, 1635, 1636, 1680, 1681, 1708, 1709, 1725, 1811, 1812, 1844, 2001, 2060, 2062, 2090, 2093, 2183,

2184, 2200, 2201, 2211, TILAK NAGAR, 100860700032211, 100860730025967, 7930, TUGHLAKABAD EXTENSION KALKAJI, 111110700035652, 7343, 7870,

7892, 8096, 9236, 9290, 9345, 9346, 9399, 9422, 9436, 9461, 9504, 9631, 9632, 9672, 9674, 9714, 111110730016045, 6423, 6590, 6591, 6593, 7497, 7506, 7651,

7652, 7660, 7724, 7726, 7800, 7801, 7946, 8062, 8411, 8572, 8632, UTHAM NAGAR, 107630700031204, 1911, 1913, 2267, 2360, 2380, 3014, 3245, 3258, 3275,

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Authorised Officer For Manappuram Finance Ltd

New Delhi







LA Clippers coach Rivers outraged at Blake shooting

Los Angeles Clippers coach Doc Rivers said Americans should do better and demand better treatment following the police shooting of Jacob Blake, an unarmed Black man, in Wisconsin, on Sunday. Blake, 29, was hit by four of seven shots fired and left paralyzed and "fighting for his life," his family and lawyers said on Tuesday, hours before the latest round of civil unrest broke out in the lakefront town between Milwaukee and Chicago. REUTERS

Covid in rearview, caution ahead IPL bubble: Bluetooth bands to enforce

Tests, monitoring, reduction in load for India hockey players who have recovered

MIHIR VASAVDA AUGUST 26

FOR THE next six-to-eight weeks, the heart and lung conditions of the Indian hockey players, who have recovered from Covid-19 disease, will be closely monitored. A raft of tests - from electrocardiograms to pulmonary function tests - will be carried out at regular intervals and their workload could see a sharp reduction in the coming months.

This cautious approach has been necessitated because of very little material available on how much impact can the novel coronavirus have on an elite athlete and concerns raised by medical experts that some of the effects could be 'career-ending.' In milder cases of Covid-19, doctors say they have noticed cases of 'weight loss, weakness, nutritional problems and easy fatigability', all of which could affect an athlete.

Five of the six players, including captain Manpreet Singh, who had tested positive for the virus upon returning for the training camp at the National Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru, completed their post-recovery isolation period on Wednesday. But they are yet to merge with the rest of the players, who have begun 'sporting activities' – a bureaucratic term used for light, socially-distanced training during the pandemic.

"Initially, their workload will be different (than rest of the players)," chief coach Graham Reid says. "We have been reading up on how the players elsewhere are returning after recovering from the infection. But the more you read, the more you discover that it is still very early days. They are starting to get a body of data for normal people but not elite athletes.'

It's a challenge a lot of trainers are facing worldwide.

There is growing evidence, infectious disease experts and pulmonologists say, about the effects of Covid-19 on the heart and respiratory systems. These studies have not been athlete-centric, but their findings can have implications.

Risk factors

Dr SK Chhabra, the pulmonary medicine head at Delhi's Primus Hospital, says one of the fallouts of Covid-19 is there is a scar on

Five of the 6 players, including captain Manpreet Singh, completed their postrecovery isolation period on Wednesday.

the lungs. "The condition is called lung fibrosis. If the scar is large, then it will reduce the lung capacity," Dr Chhabra says. "Once the lung capacity is reduced, then the capacity to exercise is reduced as well. So if it's an extensive scar formation, then the players will have breathing difficulties when they run fast and that will impair their ability to play."

In hockey, especially, speed is a significant factor. The matches are played at an extremely high pace, the players have to make extra efforts to bend a bit while running, which can be energy-sapping. In fact, the Indian team's progress in the last few years is largely attributed to their improved fitness and the speedy counterattacks are one of their hallmarks.

There isn't conclusive data available on how Covid-19 can impact an athlete's heart and lungs. Recently, a paper published in the Journal of American Medical Association revealed that 78 per cent of middle-aged patients who had recovered from Covid-19 (two-thirds of whom had mild or no symptoms) developed some kind of cardiac abnormalities and 60 per cent showed inflammation of heart muscles.

Dr Chhabra adds that in patients aged over 45-50 years, the lung capacity in severe cases of Covid-19 had reduced to as much as 60 per cent.

But in both cases, there isn't enough data available to conclude how Covid-19 can impact an athlete's lungs. "(But) There could be some players whose career would end with this," Dr Chhabra warns. "It depends on the severity of the disease. Fortunately, all these players are young and healthy. Because they don't have any underlying disease, the risk factor is not there."

Regular screening

One way to understand the impact Covid-19 has had on the six hockey players, if any, is constant monitoring. Reid says the medical experts from a Bengaluru hospital are helping the team to work out a testing programme for the initial six-to-eight weeks. "These tests will be things like an electrocardiogram... Standard tests, but it gives you an idea of where they are now, whether there has been any damage to lung capacity, heart muscles, and all those sorts of things. It will be a real team effort as to how we best bring them back as slowly and safely as we can," Reid says.

Dr Chhabra says the screening should be done routinely for up to six months after recovery. He shares a long to-do list for the returning players. "With these players, they should have chest x-rays and see if it shows any scar, a CT scan of the chest may be required and then they should have a lung function test," he says. "This should be followed-up with their weight (management), so nutritional deficiencies should be covered up. This should happen for five-six months after recovery post-Covid. Even if it shows 100% recovery, the monitoring should continue. And after that, there should be a pulmonary rehab, which means they should do some breathing exercises."

Reid adds that the team management is in no hurry, given the national team does not have any engagements this year.

Apart from Manpreet, the other players who had been infected and have now recovered are goalkeeper Krishan Pathak, defender Varun Kumar, midfielder Jaskaran Singh and forward Mandeep Singh. Defender Surender Kumar had to be readmitted last week after a blood clot formed in his arm.

"We will certainly be on the conservative side," Reid says. "It's their health, their future, their life. The most important part is the athlete's welfare and that will be a guiding factor in our decisions.'

distancing, others' rooms out of bounds

DEVENDRA PANDEY MUMBAI, AUGUST 26

'WHAT IF I need a haircut? Why can't I go to another player's room if we maintain social distancing there? During photoshoots, can we hug and give high-fives? What is the protocol for the make-up person? Will the team barber be in a PPE kit? Can we avoid nose-swab testing and opt for saliva testing to detect Covid? Will I have to wear the Bluetooth wrist band all the time?' - These are some of the questions raised by players during a webinar conducted by Indian Premier League officials in the United Arab Emirates on Monday.

The protocol that raised the most hackles among players is the one that prohibits going to another player's room despite staying in the bio-bubble – they are not allowed to go not just during the quarantine period but at any time before or during the tournament. They can meet each other at the doors of their rooms or in the designated meeting areas, but have to adhere to the two-metre social distancing re-

Bands with warning alarm

The players have to wear a special Bluetooth wrist band that will sound an alarm if they break the two-metre distance rule. The players can take off the band only when they go to sleep. It's also learnt that even the family members of the players staying with them have to wear the band though there is no clarity yet on the functioning of this device.

The players were informed that even in the team bus, they have to sit in a zig-zag fashion so that they don't come in each other's contact. A few of them wanted access to the hotel lobby, but it was denied.

Rajasthan Royals seamer Jaydev Unadkat shared the difficulty from the players' point of view. "I think that restriction about not going into each other's rooms will be the most difficult part for us players. We have never faced it in the past," Unadkat told The Indian Express. "You need someone to talk to when you are away from home for such a long time. It's easier to say than to actually do it but there is no

This restriction was the most unpopular among players during the webinar, chaired by BCCI's interim chief executive officer Hemang



Haddin interact from their rooms in The Palm Dubai Resort. Twitter/@SunRisers

RCB TO BEGIN TRAINING

Virat Kohli-captained RCB will begin a three-week training camp for the upcoming IPL from Thursday after completing their mandatory six-day quarantine. The players will train within the bio-secure environment. RCB will train at the ICC Cricket Academy. Rajasthan Royals and Kings XI Punjab had their first training sessions on Wednesday. Chennai Super Kings are expected to hit the ground on Friday.

Amin, anti-doping manager Dr Abhijit Salvi and the Indian team physio Nitin Patel.

In-house hair-stylist

Incidentally, Mumbai Indians have taken a hair-stylist along with them from India to the UAE. Rajasthan Royals had pre-arranged for a private beach to be exclusively kept for the use of their team. "I guess I will have to cut my own hair as our team hasn't been posh enough to fly in a barber!" says a player from another team, with a laugh.

One of the usual sights in team hotels are players ganging up at a room for some PlayStation and game-console time. But that won't be possible this IPL. They will have to use the designated areas like gym, team room and pool where they can communicate, but with the requisite social distancing. Many franchises have also decided not to allow outside food; instead teams will have only the food served by the hotel.

Unadkat talked about some of the do's and don'ts. "Now we can go to a private beach or at the team gym or the team room. Those are the places we can meet. Players can't come to my room and when we meet, we have to wear that band to ensure social distancing," he informed.

At the webinar, a support staff wanted to know if someone who has tested positive can contract Covid-19 again. During photo shoots, the camera crew will have to wear PPE kits and hairstylists will have to use them when they are on the job.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

events which are utterly

unpredictable. There is

BY PETER VIDAL

The whole point

about today's planetary picture is

that it creates

supposed to be an uncertainty

really a rather good thing, for it

about the future, but this is

enables you to change your

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

particular your love of the exotic, of mysterious worlds

and spiritual investigation. It's

time to travel to the ends of

dreams. But if you can plan a

 $SAGITTARIUS \, (Nov \, 24 - Dec \, 22)$

time is necessary to sorting

every last detail is clear. As

an important bearing on

your plans. Do you know

them out, and don't rest until

ever, legal issues seem to have

If you have any financial concerns

devote whatever

round the world trip, then

how about it?

the earth, if only in your

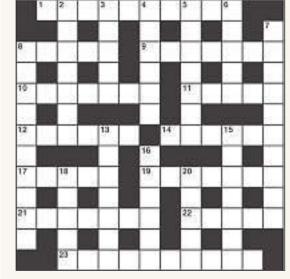
You may give free

classic Scorpionic

rein to some of your

direction and approach in both personal and

CROSSWORD 4208



1 I am in a hunt after a job transport required

- (4,6)8 A spelling bee? (5)
- 9 Non-uniform citizens
- 10 Moorland (7) 11 Put off Ted's return with
- hesitation (5) 12 Break for food in an attempt to
- 14 This train may be held up by an
- attendant(6) 17 It's pretty loopy
- 19 Losing the rubber prevents you
- $doing\,this\,(7)$ 21 Leaps out of bed, perhaps

JUMBLED WORDS

the answer for the given quip.

CMEEE

GMULO

- 22 Change later or change now
- 23 Nonstop flights (10)

2 Observe slight upset, not the

- Garment unusual in cut
- Bully for him! (6) A driven out intruder
- Order cathead to be immersed
- in the rising tide (5) Fresh cast sees star role go to
- star student (10) Happen to reach a gap in the
- hills (4,2,4) 13 If it is to be raised, it can be rebuilt on a huge scale
- 15 A boat; possibly a tramp
- 16 Craft in which wives seldom excel(6)
- 18 About five get better in turn
- 20 A bit on the side?

may set fire to reason. - Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. (9)

DFLONU

EINUCO

Answer: Every idea is an incitement... **eloquence** may set fire to reason. - Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

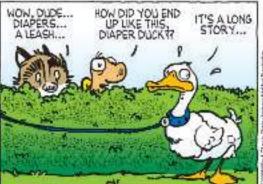
SOLUTION: EMCEE, MOGUL, UNFOLD, QUINCE

Solutions Crossword 4207: 1 Resist, 4 Enters, 9 Diverge, 10 Leper, 11 Syria, 12 Denmark, 13 Firm backing, 18 Wildcat strike, 20 Offer, 22 Elio, 23 Realism, 24 Silver, 25 Slater. Down: 1 Radish, 2 Sever, 3 Sarcasm, 5 Nylon, 6 Explain, 8 Head waiters, 14 Ill will, 15 Know-all, 16 Sweets, 17 Primer, 19 Cutie,

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to

the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and iumble them to get

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis







CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson







DID THIS HAPPEN? I TOLD YOU :

WE HAVE TO

MARVIN by Tom Armstrong









Difficulty Level 2s To solve a Sudoku puzzle

SUDOKU

every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the

> Difficulty Level 1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s =

7	2	9				3	8	9
	4	6		9		8	5	
			5		4			
	3	5		7		2	1	
6		2				1		8
	5	8				9	4	2.20
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SOLUTION SUDOKU 4212 7 5 3 4 2 6 1 8 9 2 8 6 9 1 5 4 7 3 9 1 4 7 8 3 6 5 2 3 4 1 5 2 8 3 2 6 5 8 9 4 7 2 7 9 5 1 6 2 7 3 4 2 7 5 9 4 8 6 1 4 6 1 8 3 7 2 9 5

DAY TODAY

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) I am sure that other people will have a great deal to say about your progress and behaviour, but you

needn't listen too hard. Their opinions will, in fact, have much more relevance to them than to you. Perhaps you will have some good advice to offer in return.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) There's a fair

amount of emotion in the air today, and that's what accounts for the possible misunderstandings. If you're arguing your case you might

do best to work from your gut reactions, but recognise that what is important to you may be meaningless to other GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

The fact is that no amount of effort is going to make this a day for reasoned discussion, so please don't imagine that you're being your normal rational self. Instead, it's a time for poetry,

imagination and love, so don't argue over trivial facts. CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Some of your stars

are at their most intense, romantic and imaginative, so you may reach the clouds, but could be let down if your hopes are unrealistic. I have a feeling that it may be something in the news or on TV which exerts the strongest influence on your delicate

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23) The line-up of

feelings.

planets in your chart really is rather intriguing, to say the least, but if you're too selfcentred you may be knocked off your perch. The Greeks had a word called hubris to describe the pride that comes before a fall, and this is precisely what you should

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23) It's an important time of the month, and one when you

guard against.

would quite honestly do best to check out what other people are doing. It might be a good idea to team up with likeminded souls in a group or society of some sort. A social obligation might have to be abandoned to make the necessary room.

your rights? CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20) Everything that happens now will

memories, perhaps of last year. However, while I have nothing against nostalgia, this is no time to dwell on the past. Contemplate the future with hope and optimism, even if someone close is behaving strangely.

evoke fond

AQUARIUS (Jan 21- Feb 19) Two parts of your chart stand out

today, and the most important areas of your life therefore involve work and love, including your emotional well-being. In each you should think in terms of a completely fresh start and a break with the habits of the past.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) I know it's difficult, but if you can focus on love, pure and simple, devoid of

possessiveness, iealousy or false hopes, this could be a very special time indeed. This is also, by the way, a perfect moment for all of you pursuing personal and creative projects.

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