1. The Delhi government will exit the liquor business as nearly 600 vends run by it will be shut from Tuesday night making way for new private shops with a walk-in facility, which will begin operations from Wednesday under the new excise policy brought in to boost the city's revenue, crackdown on liquor mafia and improve user experience. The private liquor vends already shut operations on September 30 and the government-owned shops, which were operating in the transition period of one-and-a-half months, will close on Tuesday night.

All the 850 liquor vends in the Capital, including the 260-odd outlets, run privately, have been given to private firms through open tender, under the new excise policy of the Delhi government implemented in June this year. Under it, retailers are free to decide the selling prices in a competitive environment, rather than an MRP mandated by the government. The new excise policy aims at revolutionising the consumer experience by replacing the existing liquor vends in the nooks and corners of the city, with swanky, well-lit and air-conditioned liquor stores spread over at least 500 square feet area with a walk-in facility. These new liquor vends will be set up in 32 zones across the city where people would be able to walk in and buy the brand of their choice just as they do in shopping malls. They will not have iron grilles at the front which most liquor vends in the Capital had.

The new liquor policy stipulates that the new liquor stores will have to be equipped with air-conditioning and CCTV cameras. It also bars selling liquor through grilled shops with people crowding outside on roads and pavements.

Five super-premium retail vends having an area of 2,500 square feet can open and a liquor tasting facility will also be developed at these super-premium retail vends under the new policy. Business hours in the new vends in Delhi will be from 10am to 10pm and those at the airport may open round-the-clock.

Officials familiar with the transition process said the availability of liquor in the city may be affected in the first few weeks and that the prices may spike a little during the initial stage.

“Liquor prices may slightly start with higher rates in the initial days but, it could also be the other way round. Eventually, the prices are bound to stabilise and we can safely say that Delhi will be strongly competing with Gurugram in keeping liquor rates low and offering attractive discounts, which until now was not possible in the national capital,” a senior excise official, who asked not to be named, told Hindustan Times. The Delhi government has already issued guidelines regarding placing orders and receiving the liquor stock for the upcoming shops under the new regime. These vends have already started placing orders for procurement of liquor from November 11, officials have said.

SUMMARY

Nearly 600 Delhi government-owned liquor vends will shut from Tuesday night. New private shops with a walk-in facility will begin operations from Wednesday. New excise policy aims to boost revenue, crackdown on liquor mafia and improve user experience. The new stores will have to be equipped with air-conditioning and CCTV cameras.

1. Andy Murray came close to giving himself some extra preparation time for his wedding next week before ensuring that he still has unfinished tennis business to attend to. The world No 4 is into the semi-finals of the Miami Open, but not before getting a scare from 21-year-old Austrian Dominic Thiem, who pushed him to 4-4 in the second set before going down 3-6 6-4, 6-1 in an hour and three quarters. Murray was awaiting the winner from the last eight match between Tomas Berdych and Argentina's Juan Monaco. Prior to this tournament Thiem lost in the second round of a Challenger event to soon-to-be new Brit Aljaz Bedene. Andy Murray pumps his first after defeating Dominic Thiem to reach the Miami Open semi-finals. Murray throws his sweatband into the crowd after completing a 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 victory in Florida. Murray shakes hands with Thiem who he described as a 'strong guy' after the game. And Murray has a fairly simple message for any of his fellow British tennis players who might be agitated about his imminent arrival into the home ranks: don't complain. Instead, the British No 1 believes his colleagues should use the assimilation of the world number 83, originally from Slovenia, as motivation to better themselves. At present any grumbles are happening in private, and Bedene's present ineligibility for the Davis Cup team has made it less of an issue, although that could change if his appeal to play is allowed by the International Tennis Federation. Murray thinks anyone questioning the move, now it has become official, would be better working on getting their ranking closer to his. 'If he was 500 in the world, they wouldn't be that fussed about it but obviously he threatens their position a bit,' said the 27-year-old Scot. ' and he's obviously the British number two, comfortably. 'So, they can complain but the best thing to do is use it in the right way and accept it for what it is, and try to use it as motivation whether they agree with it or not. He's British now so they've just got to deal with it. Murray stretches for a return after starting his quarter final match slowly on the show court. Thiem held nothing back as he raced through the opening set, winning it 6-3 with a single break. The young Austrian is considered to be one of the hottest prospects on the ATP Tour. 'I would hope that all the guys who are below him now like James (Ward), Kyle (Edmund), Liam (Broady) they will use it as motivation. If he becomes eligible for Davis Cup then those guys are going to have to prove themselves. 'It can only be seen as a positive for those guys using it to try to get better. He's a good player but so are James and Kyle and Liam has improved. Aljaz is there, he's on the tour every week, the other guys aren't quite there yet.' For the first time Murray, who has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the top 100, gave his opinion of Bedene: 'He's a good player with a very good serve. He's a legitimate top 100 player, when he plays Challengers he's there or thereabouts, when he plays on the main tour he wins matches, it's not like he turns up and always loses in the first round. Murray's fiancee was once again watching from the stands shaded by a huge brimmed hat. Kim Sears flashes her enormous diamond engagement ring while watching her beau on court. 'He had a bad injury last year (wrist) but has recovered well. I would imagine he would keep moving up the rankings although I don't know exactly how high he can go. I've practised with him a couple of times, I haven't seen him play loads, but when you serve as well as he does it helps. I would imagine he' s going to be comfortably in the top 70 or 80 in the world for a while.' It is understood the Lawn Tennis Association will give background support to his case regarding the Davis Cup but have made it clear that the onus is on him to lead the way. An official statement said: 'To have another player in the men's top 100 is clearly a positive thing for British tennis and so we very much welcome Aljaz's change in citizenship.' The last comparable switch came twenty years ago when Greg Rusedski arrived from Canada. It was by no means universally popular but, like Bedene, he pledged that he was in for the long haul and, in fairness to him, he proved true to his word. Loising the first set shocked Murray into life as he raced to a commanding lead in the second. The No 3 seed sent over a few glaring looks towards his team before winning the second set. Murray had to put such matters aside as he tackled the unusually talented Thiem, a delight to watch. Coached by Boris Becker's veteran mentor Gunter Bresnik, he slightly resembles Andy Roddick and hits with similar power but more elegance. His single-handed backhand is a thing of rare beauty. However, he has had a mediocre season coming into this event and there was little to forewarn of his glorious shotmaking that seemed to catch Murray unawares early on. The world No 4 looked to have worked him out in the second, but then suffered one of his periodic mental lapses and let him back in from 4-1 before closing it out with a break. After breaking him for 3-1 in the decider the Austrian whirlwind burnt itself out. 'He's a strong guy who hits the ball hard and it became a very physical match,' said Murray. Murray was presented with a celebratory cake after winning his 500th match in the previous round.

SUMMARY

Andy Murray beat Dominic Thiem 3-6 6-4, 6-1 in the Miami Open quarter-finals. The world No 4 will face Tomas Berdych or Juan Monaco in the last four. Murray believes fellow British players should use Aljaz Bedene's arrival in the top 100 as motivation to improve.

1. The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim is an open-world action role-playing video game developed by Bethesda Game Studios and published by Bethesda Softworks. It is the fifth main instalment in the Elder Scrolls series, following 2006's The Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion, and was released worldwide for Microsoft Windows, PlayStation 3, and Xbox 360 on November 11, 2011. The game's main story revolves around the player's character, the Dragonborn, on their quest to defeat Alduin the World-Eater, a dragon who is prophesied to destroy the world. The game is set 200 years after the events of Oblivion and takes place in Skyrim, the northernmost province of Tamriel. Over the course of the game, the player completes quests and develops the character by improving skills. The game continues the open-world tradition of its predecessors by allowing the player to travel anywhere in the game world at any time, and to ignore or postpone the main storyline indefinitely. Skyrim was developed using the Creation Engine, rebuilt specifically for the game. The team opted for a unique and more diverse open world than Oblivion's Imperial Province of Cyrodiil, which game director and executive producer Todd Howard considered less interesting by comparison. Upon release, the game received critical acclaim, with praise for its character advancement, world design and depth, graphics, and dual-wielding combat. Minor criticism targeted the melee combat, dragon battles, and the numerous technical issues present at launch. Critics consider Skyrim one of the greatest video games of all time. The game shipped over seven million copies to retailers within the first week of its release, and over 30 million copies on all platforms as of November 2016, making it one of the bestselling video games in history. Three downloadable content (DLC) add-ons were released separately — Dawnguard, Hearthfire, and Dragonborn, which were bundled along with the base game into The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim – Legendary Edition and released in June 2013. A remastered version, titled The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim – Special Edition was released for Microsoft Windows, PlayStation 4 and Xbox One in October 2016. It includes all three DLC expansions and a graphical upgrade. A port for the Nintendo Switch was released on November 2017. A separate VR-only version, titled The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim VR, was released in November 2017 for the PlayStation 4 using PlayStation VR, and for Windows-based VR headsets in April 2018. In addition, the Special Edition is planned for release on PlayStation 5 and Xbox Series X/S as part of a compilation titled The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim – Anniversary Edition in November 2021.

SUMMARY

The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim is an open-world action role-playing video game developed by Bethesda Game Studios and published by Bethesda Softworks. It is the fifth main instalment in the Elder Scrolls series, following 2006's The Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion. The game shipped over seven million copies to retailers within the first week of its release, and over 30 million copies on all platforms as of November 2016. A remastered version was released for Microsoft Windows, PlayStation 4 and Xbox One in October 2016.

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said data is information and will dictate history in the future as he exhorted for strong and scientific audits to make systems strong and transparent.

Speaking at the Audit Diwas event of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), he said in the past information was transmitted in form of stories.

"History was written through stories. But in the 21st century, data is information and in coming times our history will be looked through and understood using data. In the future, data will be dictating the history," he said. He went on to list reforms such as contactless customs, automatic renewals, faceless assessments and online applications for service delivery, that have ended unnecessary government interventions.

"When transparency is brought in the system, results are visible," he said adding that India is the world's third-largest ecosystem for startups and already has 50 unicorns.

He said documents, data and files sought by the national auditor, CAG should be provided by government departments.

Strong, scientific audits will make the system strong and transparent, he said adding his government has taken CAG's concerns on fiscal deficit and state expenditure in the right spirit.

Appreciating CAG's new practice of sharing preliminary findings with government departments before the beginning field audits, he said the combination of the two will give better results.

SUMMARY

Narendra Modi said data is information and will dictate history in the future. He exhorted for strong and scientific audits to make systems strong and transparent. He went on to list reforms such as contactless customs, automatic renewals, faceless assessments and online applications for service delivery, that have ended unnecessary government interventions.

1. The European Union has said it will slap new sanctions on Belarus targeting "everyone involved" in facilitating a migrant crisis on the bloc's eastern frontier, as military moves and accusations continue to test a fragile political order in the region.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg on Monday warned Moscow against "potential aggressive actions" amid a large concentration of Russian troops on Ukraine's borders, deepening concerns over the potential for a wider geopolitical crisis.

"We have to be clear-eyed, we need to be realistic about the challenges we face. And what we see is a significant, large Russian military build-up," Stoltenberg told a news conference with Ukraine's Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba in Brussels.

Though he said did not want to speculate about Russia's intentions, he added: "We see an unusual concentration of troops, and we know that Russia has been willing to use these types of military capabilities before to conduct aggressive actions against Ukraine." Ukraine is not a member of NATO or the EU.

SUMMARY

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg warned Moscow against "potential aggressive actions." He said there was a large concentration of Russian troops on Ukraine's borders. The European Union has said it will slap new sanctions on Belarus targeting "everyone involved" in facilitating a migrant crisis.