**OPINION 6** 

WHY TRUMPISM

**PREVAILS** 

**WORLD 8** 

PROTESTERS BURN PART OF

**GUATEMALA'S CONGRESS BUILDING** 

SPORT 12

**ROHIT READY TO** 

BAT ANYWHERE

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# DEHRADUN, MONDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2020; PAGES 12 ₹2 he pione

# **Central teams rushed to contain Covid**

High-level teams to help UP, Punjab, HP manage high infection loads, curb fatalities for all entering

As Covid-19 pandemic con-tinues unabated across the country, the Centre has rushed high-level teams to three States Himachal Pradesh, Uttar

high-level teams to three States
— Himachal Pradesh, Uttar
Pradesh and Punjab — to help
them manage high infection
loads and curb fatalities.
Earlier the Union
Government had sent the high
level teams to Haryana,
Rajasthan, Gujarat and
Manipur and Chhattisgarh.
— The Union Health Ministry
official said the high-level teams
to UP, Punjab and HP aims to
UP, Punjab and HP aims to
support them in Covid-19
response and management.
These States have been either
reporting a rise in the number
of active cases —those who are
hospitalised or are in home isolation under medical supervision, or demonstrating a rise in sion, or demonstrating a rise in the daily new cases of coron-avirus infections

the daily new cases of coron-avirus infections. These three-member teams will visit the districts reporting a high number of Covid cases and support the State efforts towards strengthening con-tainment, surveillance, testing, infection prevention and con-trol measures and efficient clinical management of the positive cases. The Central teams shall also guide in effec-tively managing the challenges related to timely diagnosis and follow up, the official said. Acting tough in a bid to break the chain of infection, the UP Government, which initially restricted 100 people at mar-restricted 100 people at mar-

UP Government, which initially restricted 100 people at mar-riage function instead of 200 in Noida and Ghaziabad districts brought the entire States under the marriage guest capping. The violators will face tough



action, the authorities said, adding that the decision has been taken due to a spike in the number of coronavirus

number of coronavirus cases.

Night curfews and Section 144 have returned in States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and others. The Ashok Gehlot Government in Rajasthan has imposed night curfew in Jaipur, Ajmer, Alwar and Bhilwara. According to news agencies, nobody except those providing essential and emergency services will be allowed to come out from 8 pm to 6 am in few cities in Rajasthan. The fine for not wearing a face mask has been

8 pm to 6 am in tew cities in Rajasthan. The fine for not wearing a face mask has been increased from Rs 200 to Rs 500.

In Delhi, the fine for not wearing face masks has been increased from Rs 500 to Rs 2000. Besides, consumption of tobacco, spitting in public places, violation of quarantine rules, and not maintaining social distancing will also attract a fine of the same amount. The Delhi Disaster Management Authority had reverted to the earlier cap on the number of guests in the wake of a spurt in coronavirus cases in the city.

### PM likely to hold meet with CMs to review coronavirus

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to hold virtual meetings with Chief Ministers and other representa-tives of States and Union Territories on Tuesday to review the Covid-19 situation and dis-cuss vaccine distribution strate-tom Modific metabolish hold true.

situation tomorrow

the Covid-19 situation and dis-cuss vaccine distribution strate-gy. Modi is expected to hold two back to back meetings, one with eight States with high caseloads and another with States and UTs to discuss vaccine distribution strategy, sources said.

The PM, till now, has held several virtual meetings with States over the coronavirus sit-aution. While the national daily Covid-19 case count has remained below 50,000 for some time, several urban cen-tres have witnessed a surge, resulting in enforcement of several measures, including curfews in some cities.

# Covid-19 IN INDIA

CASES: 91,37,812 DEATHS: 1,33,731 RECOVERED: 85.59.630



Maharashtra	17,80,208	46,623	16,51,064
Karnataka	8,73,046	11,654	8,36,505
Andhra Pradesh	8,62,213	6,938	8,41,026
Tamil Nadu	7,69,995	11,586	7,43,838
Kerala	5,62,696	2,023	4,88,437
Delhi	5,29,863	8,391	4,81,260
Uttar Pradesh	5,26,780	7,524	4,93,228
West Bengal	4,56,361	7,976	4,19,403
Odisha	3,13,961	1,678	3,03,897
Telangana	2,63,526	1,426	2,49,157
Rajasthan	2,43,936	2,146	2,16,579
Bihar	2,30,632	1,216	2,23,615
Chhattisgarh	2,21,688	2,713	1,98,316
Haryana	2,17,300	2,163	1,92,533
Assam	2,11,513	973	2,07,219
Guiarat	1.97.412	3,846	1.78.886

## **Desi Covaxin at least 60%** effective, to pass WHO norm

India's coronavirus vaccine Leandidate, Covaxin, will be at least 60 per cent effective, said vaccine manufacturer Bharat Biotech on Sunday based on the trial data of the vaccine candidate. The company said while it aimed to achieve at least 60 per cent efficacy, it could actually be more. 'Chances of the vaccine being less than 50 per cent effective are remote, as suggested by our trial results so far,' it said. According to the World Health Organization, clear demonstration of efficacy (on

a population basis) ideally with 50 per cent point estimate should be a minimum criteri-

sould be a minimum criterion for any coronavirus vaccine
candidate. It had also said that
the efficacy can be assessed
against disease, severe disease,
and/or shedding.

The company, which is
conducting the trails in collaboration with the Indian Council
of Medical Research, said on
Tuesday that it had begun the
third phase trials of the vaccine
with 26,000 participants from
across 22 sites in the country.
Meanwhile, the Government
may grant Pune's Serum
Institute of India (SII) with the
emergency use authorisation of

Oxford and AstraZeneca's coro-navirus vaccine if the British-Swedish pharmaceutical company got such approval from the UK Government.

### MODERNA VACCINE TO **COST GOVTS \$25-\$37**

Berlin: Governments seeking to purchase Moderna's poten-tial Covid-19 vaccine may have to shell out \$25 and \$37 per dose, depending on the size of the order, the compa-ny's CEO Stephane Bancel told German weekly 'Welt am Sonntag' (WamS).

# Corona test must UP from Delhi

SUMEET VYAS

KAREENA KAPOOR 10 VIVACITY

PRAISES

### **Rule applies** to fliers. bus/train passengers

PNS NEW DELHI

PNS NEW DELHI

As Delhi fight to contain a month-long surge in coronavirus, its neighbouring State Uttar Pradesh hav decided to the practice of the practice o



plus cases conducted on a weekday. Only 45,568 tests were conducted over the 24 hours before that, showed data from the Health Ministry. Uttar Pradesh, too, has been witnessing a sudden surge in coronavirus cases, which prompted the Centre to rush a three-member expert team to the state.

three-member expert team to the state.
With 24 fatalities in Uttar Pradesh over the last 24 hours, the total rose to 7,524. The number of cases surged to 5,24,223 with 2,326 new infections. The number of active cases in the State stands at 23,471, the positivity rate of November is 1.6 per cent.
Over the last 24 hours, the number of coronavirus cases in

number of coronavirus cases in the country rose by 45,209, tak-ing the total number of infec-tions to 90.95 lakh, Government data showed.

# **Border tunnel used by fidayeen detected**

20-25 feet, 160-metre-long terror tunnel found in Regal area of Samba sector

MOHIT KANDHARI . IAMMII

Exposing Pakistan's com-E-plicity in aiding and abet-ing terrorism, a joint team of Border Security Force (BSF) and Jammu & Kashmir police on Sunday detected a 20-25 feet deep and 160-metre-long cross border tunnel, along the International border in Regal area of Samba sector.

The tunnel was used by the four member fidayeen squad (members of a suicide squad) (principle of jaish-e- Mohammad (JeM) to infiltrate inside the Indian territory before they were neutralised at Ban Toll Plaza near Magotra on November 19.

Indian territory". He said the Nagotra on November 19.
Inspector General of BSF, Jammu Frontier, NS Jamsu sho visited the tunnel site told reporters, "In a coordinate operation a joint team of BSF and Jammu & Kashmir police managed to timely detect this cross border tunnel used by the Jem Bags with markings JeM group to crawl inside the



Indian territory". He said the tunnel was approximately 160-metre-long and 20-25 feet deep.

Referring to the detection of tunnel IG, BSF said it of tunnel IG, BSF said it appears it is a freshly dug tun-nel and appears to be used for the first time. He said it appears that proper engineering effort has gone in making the tunnel which shows the hand of the

and Asif Sahid neral of Police

Director General of Police, Dilbagh Singh, who was also present on the spot, told reporters the items used by the tunnel diggers to cover it up all carry the markings of items made in Pakistan. "Earlier, the seizures made from the encounter site at Ban Toll Plaza also clearly indicated Pak hand in pushing these groups to execute their sinister design of disrupting DDC polls in Jammu & Kashmir," he said.

Jammu & Kashmir," he said JeM terrorists were tasked by their Pakistan based handlers to disrupt the district development council polls beginning November 28 in Jammu & Kashmir. To execute their sinister plot the JeM group was launched inside the Indian territory along with the huge consignment of arms and ammunition which included 11 AK rifles, 29 grenades, RDX explosives, etc.

### Focus on climate change, India exceeding Paris target: Modi World can progress faster

with greater support of ology, finance to developing nations: PM

PNS NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday urged the world leaders to keep the focus on climate change and assert-ed that India is exceeding the target of the Paris agreement. He also said the entire world can progress faster if there is greater support of technology and finance to developing nations.

nations.
Addressing the G20 side event on "Safeguarding the Planet", Mod is said India is not only meeting its Paris Agreement targets but also exceeding them.
Saudi Arabia, which assumed the G20 presidency this year, is the host of the virtual summit that is bringing



together leaders from the world's richest and most develworld's richest and most devel-oped economies, such as the US, China, India, Turkey, France, the UK and Brazil, among others.

Modi said India's focus is

Modi said India's focus is on saving citizens and the economy from pandemic while keeping the pace of fighting cli-mate change. He informed the G20 leaders that India's aim is to restore 26 million hectares

of degraded land by the year 2030 and encourage a circular

economy.

"Today, we are focused on "Today, we are focused on saving our citizens and conomies from the effects of the global pandemic. Equally important is to keep our focus on fighting climate change. Climate change must be fought not in silos but in an integrated, comprehensive, and holistic way. Inspired by our traditional ethos of living in harmony with the environment, and the commitment of my Government, India has adopted low-carbon and climateresilient development practices

"I am glad to share that India is not only meeting our Paris Agreement targets, but also exceeding them. India has taken concrete action in many areas. We have made LED lights popular. This saves 38 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions per year.

### **CAPSULE**

BHARTI SINGH, HUBBY IN CUSTODY TILL DEC 4 Mumbai: A Mumbai court on

Sunday remanded comedian Bharti Singh and husband Harsh Limbachiya, arrested by the Narcotics Control Bureau the Narcotics Control Bureau following seizure of drugs from their house here, to judicial custody till December 4. The court will hear their bail pleas on Monday. The NCB arrested Singh on Saturday and her bushand gath. Sunday and service of the state husband early Sunday morning following seizure of ganja.



# Firms trying to cash in on Covid fear with crafty ads

Companies claim fabric anti-Covid. sweets can fight virus: Advertising **Standards Council** 

RAJESH KUMAR NEW DELHI

At the time of the coron-davirus pandemic, several firms are promoting false and misleading advertisements to misleading advertisements to apparently capitalise on this sit-uation of crisis by exploiting the fear of the virus in general pub-lic, according to the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI).

of India (ASCI).

A clothing company in its advertisement claimed its fabric came with health guard that is 99.94 per cent effective against the coronavirus. A sweet confectionery claimed its sweets could combat Covid-19 and



improve the immune system. Similarly, a grocery chain said it would refund full grocery bill it would refund full grocery bill if their customer tested positive for Covid-19 within 24 hours of shopping at their store. The ASCI has found these adver-tisements to be misleading and told the advertisers either to modify such claims or with-draw their advertisements. According to the ASCI, at the time when the second wave of companying panders start-

of coronavirus pandemic start-ed spreading across India,

many advertisers leveraged consumers fears and insecurities to lure them to make product purchases through their misleading advertisements. A clothing company claimed that their fabric kills 99 per cent of the Covid-19 virus with HEIQ ViroBlock Swiss Technology 2. The advertiser claimed that "HeiQ ViroBlock NPi03 is an intelligent Swiss textile technology that is added to the fabric during the final stage of the textile manufacturing to process. This absent each by HeIQ with the very reputed Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and I m u n i t y Melbourne."

Melbourne."
They also claimed that wearing of their antiviral shirt will give protection to the consumer since viruses that come in contact on the fabric including Covid-19 will be killed and will not be able to reach the body of the consumer thus protecting him. tecting him

#### Delhi's poor air quality to deteriorate further STAFF REPORTER IN NEW DELHI

There appears to be no respite for Delhiites from poor air quality as on Sunday the national Capital's air quality remained "poor" and Government agencies said it is likely to deteriorate further due to unfavourable meteorological conditions.

The city's 24-bow was promoted to the conditions of the conditions of the city's 24-bow was promoted to the conditions.

due to unfavourable meteoro-logical conditions.

The city's 24-hour average
AQI was 274 on Sunday. It was
251 on Saturday, 296 on Friday,
283 on Thursday and 211 on
Wednesday. dnesday. An AQI between zero and

An AQI between zero and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", and 401 and 500 401 and 500 "severe". The Central Government's

The Central Governments Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi said Delhi-NCR's air quality is likely to deteriorate to the "very poor" category on Monday due to unfavourable meteorological

### Guv tests positive for Covid-19

PNS DEHRADUN

The Uttarakhand governor Baby Rani Maurya has tested positive for Covid-19. She tweeted on Sunday that the result of her Covid test had come out positive.



She further stated that she She further stated that she is asymptomatic and not experiencing any problem. Under the supervision of doctors, she has isolated herself. She has requested all those who come in close contact with her during the past few days to observe the content of the conte ing the past few days to observe alertness and get checked.

## Capital's min temp drops to 6.9; coldest Nov since 2003

The minimum temperature of the national Capital dropped to 6.9 degrees Celsius on Sunday, the lowest in the month of November since 2003, as a cold wave swept parts of the city. Delhi had recorded a minimum of 7.5 degrees Celsius on Friday, the lowest in the month in 14 years, according to the India Meteorological Department.

"The Safdarjung Observatory which provides representative data for the city, recorded a minimum of 6.9

representative data for the city, recorded a minimum of 6.9 degrees Celsius. It is Delhi's lowest minimum temperature in the month since November 2003, when the city recorded a minimum of 6.1 degrees Celsius," said Kuldeep Srivastava, the head of the IMD's regional forecasting centre.

The mercury dropped to 6.1 degree Scilius at the Palam weather station, he said. For the



A man sits near a bonfire on a cold morning amid hazy weather condition in New Delhi on Sunday

plains, the IMD declares a cold wave when the minimum temperature is 10 degrees Celsius or below and is 4.5 notches less than normal for two consecutive days.

"However, for small areas such as Delhi, a cold wave can be declared if the criteria is fulled even for a day," Srivastava said. Delhi had recorded the

lowest minimum temperature of 11.5 degrees Celsius last year, 10.5 degrees Celsius in 2018 and 7.6 degrees Celsius in 2017

and 7.6 degrees Celsius in 2017 in the month of November. The all-time record for the lowest minimum temperature in November is 3.9 degrees Celsius recorded on November 28, 1938.



# **Delhi Govt sprinkles 70L litres of water at 13 pollution hotspots**

Over 70 lakh litres of water was sprinkled at 13 pollution hotspots in the past 36 days by the Delhi Fire Service to hold down dust as a measure to improve the deteriorating air quality in the city, officials said on Sunday.

The drive began on October 17 following orders from the Delhi government to check the dust pollution in the national capital, they said According to the fire department, about two lakh litres of water is being sprinkled every day by its personnel at 13 places declared as pollution hotspots by the Delhi government.

The places are

ment. The

ment. E places are Jahangirpuri, Narela, Ashok Vihar, Vivek Vihar, Dwarka, Mundka, Rohini, Wazirpur, Okhla, Bawana, Anand Vihar, Punjabi Bagh and R K Puram. A total of 15 fire tenders have been pressed into service to sprinkle water at the identified hotspots and around 45 fire personnel have been deployed for the task, said Atul

"On an average, two lakh litres of water is sprinkled every day. It has been an ongoing drive ever since the directions were issued from the Delhi government. The exercise began on October 17 and since then our personnel have sprinkled more than 70 lakh litres of water across 13 identified hotspots to curb dust pollution," he said.

The exercise is being carried out for nearly two hours in the morning and two hours in the evening every day, Garg said. Pollutions levels breached the emergency threshold twice this month in the national capital as a grey apocalyptic some genetoped the city for days, blotting out the sun and smudging landmarks from view.

According to the Graded

smudging landmarks from view.

According to the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), the air quality is considered in the "severe plus" or "emergency" category if PM2.5 and PM10 levels persist above 300 g/m3 and 500 g/m3 for more than 48 hours.

Delhi witnessed six "severe" air days on the trot from November 4 to November 9. It had recorded seven "severe" air days in November last year. Pollution levels on Diwali this year and the day after were the maximum in the last four years.

years.

The Delhi government had on November 5 banned the sale and use of all kinds of fire-

on November 3 banned the sale and use of all kinds of fire-crackers in the city till November 30.

The National Green Tribunal had also imposed a total ban on sale or use of all kinds of fire-crackers in the National Capital Region from November 9 midnight, saying "celebration by crackers is for happiness and not to celebrate deaths and diseases".

It may recalled that Delhi government had launched a massive anti-air pollution campaign titled - Yuddh Pradushan Ke Viruddh. Agreen war room' has also been set up at the Delhi Secretariat to monitor steps being taken to bring to the property of the control of the contr

itor steps being taken to bring down pollution levels in the city this season.

# 23 anti-smog guns installed at construction sites

STAFF REPORTER III NEW DELHI

The Public Works
Department (PWD) of the
Delhi Government has
installed 23 anti-smog guns akey intersections and construction sites across the city to

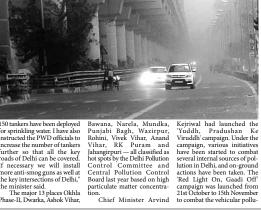
struction sites across the city to improve the national capital's air quality.

Delhi's Environment Minister Gopal Rai said that to reduce dust pollution the PWD has installed anti-smog guns at the key locations and construction sites to reduce pollution in Delhi. PWD officials have been instructed to sprinkle water on the trees, roads and at the construction sites across Delhi to combat dust pollution," He said.

across Delhi to combat dust pollution," he said..

The PWD has also deployed water tankers to sprinkle water to contain dust pollution, he added.

"According to the report given to me by PWD, 23 antismog guns have been installed at different areas of Delhi and



150 tankers have been deployed for sprinkling water. I have also instructed the PWD officials to instructed the PWD officials to increase the number of tankers further so that all the key roads of Delhi can be covered. If necessary we will install more anti-smog guns as well at the key intersections of Delhi, the minister said. The major 13 places Okhla Phase-II, Dwarka, Ashok Vihar,

Bawana, Narela, Mundka, Punjabi Bagh, Wazirpur, Rohini, Vivek Vihar, Anand Vihar, RK Puram and Jahangirpuri — all classified as hot spots by the Delhi Pollution Control Committee and Central Pollution Control Board last year based on high particulate matter concentra-tion. Chief Minister Arvind

tion in Delhi, under which the

tion in Delhi, under which the people of Delhi are contributing to fight pollution by switching the rehicles off on the traffic signals. However, the power ment has also sprayed the bio-decomposer solution, developed by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, on 2000 acres of land across Delh. This solution converted the stubble into manure so that the burning of stubble can be prevented.

Two crore people of Delhi have to contribute and play their part to fight against it; our small contributions create a big impact. Please be aware and support the government in controlling the dust pollution. We are also receiving complaints of garbage burning from various locations on the app. I want to tell the people of Delhi to keep uploading such instances and complaints on the app to make us aware of them and take action to douse the fire," Rai had said.

# ASI arrested in ₹2-crore extortion case

The Delhi Police has arrest-ed its own Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) in an extortion case of two wars Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) in an extortion case of two crore from a businessman in South Delhi's Hauz Khas area. Police said that ASI Rajbir Singh, who was posted with the South West zone Police Control Room (PCR) unit was also the kingpin behind the extortion from the businessmen. Police have also initiated the process to take away the "Police Medal for Meritorious Service conferred to him in 2019.

"Delhi Police has a zero telerance policy towards police presonnel indulging in unwarranted activities. There is no place in the force for personnel like ASI Rajbir Singh, who is

place in the force for personnel like ASI Rajbir Singh, who is



allegedly found involved in a serious criminal case. He will have to go through the legal process. Delhi Police is exam-ning the possibility of with-drawal of medals conferred upon him. He has been sus-pended and proceedings for his dismissal are being contem-plated. This is a strong message

for everyone to be careful and not to indulge in undesirable activities," said Anil Mittal, Additional Public Relation Officer (APRO), Delhi Police. The ASI Rajbir Singh was presently posted in South West 2000 of Police Control Romo (PCR) of Delhi Police and is proving in the Case were earlier arrested. According to a senior police official, an First Information Report (FIR) was registered at Hauz Khas police station in which the complainant had alleged that on June 28, 2020, his father exceived a call lengted, and was used in another exceived a call lengted that on June 28, 2020, his father exceived a call where the caller stream of the phone to make the splantant had alleged that on the case were earlier arrested. The complete of the form a man named with the complainant and his entire family it they failed to comply investigation, it was revealed to the said the state of the case of the complaint and his entire family it they failed to comply investigation, it was revealed to the sold the substitution of the complaint had a complaint and his entire family it they failed to comply an investigation, it was revealed to the sold the substitution of the complaint had been and the SIM card and the substitution call was alleged that on June 28, 2020, his father exception of the case were earlier arrested. According to a senior police official.

"However, the snatched was alleged that on June 28, 2020, his father earlier arrested was used in another exception and asked him to pay 8s two crore.

"Schales of the fail of the complaint and his entire family in the family in the family the family in the family in the family in the family family family had the semantic family in the family family had the semants of the family in the family family had the semants of the family family had the semants of the family had the semants of the family family had the semants of the family family had the semants of the family family had the sema asked him to pay Rs two crore. "Kala also threatened to kill

that handset to Parmod alias Kala, a resident of Jhajjar dis-trict in Haryana, who made the extortion call from Bhiwadi in

trict in Haryana, who made the extortion call from Bhiwadi in Rajasthan. Three accused --Mukesh, Sawan and Sunny alias shooter -- were then arrested by the police, said the police official.

"During enquiry, it came to light that Parmod was using three mobile phones. The numbers were analysed and it was revealed that ASI Rajbir Singh was in continuous touch with Parmod. Singh also knew the complainant and provided information about the him to Parmod. He had also met Parmod on several occasions," said the official.

"The complainant had gotten suspicious about Singh's role in the case after the ASI

called him and tried to talk to him about the extortion call on July 14. Parmod was later arrested and on sustained inter-

arrested and on sustained inter-rogation, he disclosed that Singh had provided the mobile number of the complianant to him and also told him to make the extortion call; he said. "ASI Rajbir Singh had also told him to fire at the car of the complainant's son, if the extor-tion money was not paid. The ASI has emerged as the mas-termind of this entire extortion case. Based on technical analy-sis and interrogation of the accused, Singh was arrested on Friday and sent to judicial cust tody,' said Atul Kumar Thakur, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), South district adding that further investiga-tion is underway.

### World noticing positive changes in Delhi: CM

New Delhi: Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday said the world is noticing the positive changes happening in Delhi and credited the people for the national capital featur-ing at the 62nd position in the list of the world's best cities. list of the world's best cities.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish
Sisodia said Delhi was the only
Indian city in the list and has
improved its rank from the pre-

Indian city in the list and has improved its rank from the previous 81st spot.

"Such a good news for all Dilliwalas. All dilli walas have worked so hard in the last six years to make it happen. The world is noticing the postive changes happening in Delhi," Kejriwal said in a tweet. The deputy chief minister in his tweet congrat-

2 held for forging Covid

As capital features among world's

ulated Delhiites and the chief minister for his leadership.
"Congratulations to all the proud people of Delhi and @ArvindKejriwal for the leadership. Our belowed Delhi is ranked 62 in World's Best cities. The only Indian city in the list. There is significant improvement from the past ranking i.E. 81," he tweeted. The global ranking of 100 cities with over a million population was released recently by Vancouver head quartered Resonance Consultancy Ltd.

### Two held for snatching gold | Delhi recorded 103 fresh chains from ex-DGP wife found that the snatching took place at Lajpat Nagar area on November 11. In that case, the

Delhi Police have arrested Delhi Police have arrested two men for allegedly snatching gold chains from a woman journalist and wife of former Director General of Police (DGP) of Meghalaya in Southeast Delhi.

Southeast Delhi.
The accused have been identified as Alok Ranjan (23) and Gufran (26), both residents of Tughlakabad while Vishwanath Das (32), a resident of Garhi Village, East of Kailash who is also receiver of stolen

who is also receiver of stolen item was also arrested.

According to R P Meena, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Southeast district, on Friday, information was received regarding snatching of a gold chain from a woman journalist at Amar Colony.

"Police rushed to the spot near Moolchand metro station and met the compalianant, a journalist in an English newspaper. She was walking to

Moolchand Metro Station from her house. Around 1.50 PM, she reached near the metro sta-

she reached near the metro sta-tion, two persons on a bike came there and snatched her gold chain having diamond pendant, said the DCP. "During investigation, police analysed the CCTV footage of the area and identi-fied the motorcycle which was found registered in the name of Gufran. Therafter, police con-ducted raids at Tughlakabad and nabbed both the snatch-ers," said the DCP. "During interrogation, they

ers," said the DCP.
"During interrogation, they
confessed their involvement
in the offence. Gufran was
riding the motorcycle and
Ranjan was pillion rider who
snatched the chain from the
journalist. They also confessed
that almost ten days ago, they
had also snatched a chain from
a woman at Ring Road, Lajpat
Nagar which was recovered
from Gufran's house," said the
DCP.

# dengue cases last week

STAFF REPORTER III NEW DELHI

The national capital has reported 103 fresh cases of November 11. In that case, the gold chain was snatched from the wife of a former Director General of Police (DGP) of Meghalaya. They disclosed that the chain snatched from Moolchand metro station was sold to Das. On their instance, The national capital has reported 103 fresh cases of Dengue last week, taking the number of people infected with dengue to 1004 this year. Six new cases of malaria and five cases of chikungunya were also reported in Delhi last week taking the table to make the six of the table to make the six of the six of

cases to thikningmy aver aiso reported in Delhi last week taking the total number to 316 and 114 respectively.

According to the latest report released by all three Municipal Corporation, mosquito-breeding has been reported in at least 20627634 households and 82668 legal notices have been issued this year. The dengue breeding checkers have checked 19883179 houses and also issued challans to 1024 humbers of office and residential premises. sold to Das. On their instance, Das was also apprehended from his house, the DCP said. "Das told police that he used to receive gold jewellery from criminals on cheap rates. He gets the gold melted from Chandani Chowk and later sell to other people. He bought the chain and kept the pendant of the chain with him," said the DCP. DCP.

"He got the gold chain melted from one Tapan Vishwas, a resident of Chandani Chowk. After melting it, he was trying to sell but could not be succeeded so far. The melted gold and pendant have been recovered from his house," the DCP said.

premises.

Dengue mosquito larvae breed in clear, standing water while those of malaria mosquito thrive even in dirty water.

Doctors have advised people to



take precautions and ensure that there is no breeding of mosquito larvae around them.

that there is no breeding of mosquito larvae around them. They have urged people to wear full-sleeves clothes and use mosquito nets. Market associations across Delhi came forward in support of the campaign started by the Delhi Government. To escalate the impact of the anti-dengue campaign, the Delhi Government has sought participation from the Resident Welfare Association (RWAs) of Delhi to contain the vector borne diseases in the National Capital. This year, the Delhi government has also launched a telephonic helpline -01123300012 and WhatsApp helpline -8595920530 to assist the general public with dengue.



The Chief Minister flying squad has arrested two men for allegedly making forged Covid-19 test reports to people in Sainikhera village Sector-30 in Gurugram on Saturday night.

Roy, a resident of Murshidabad. The duo were currently residing in rented accommodation in the village.

According to the police, the accused have prepared reports to about one thousand people, on the basis of which many infected people have also gone abroad.

The team of Chief Minister Flying Squad headed by DSP Inderjit Yadav and District Inspector Harish Budhiraja were informed that a corona Roy, a resident of Murshidabad



examination is being done at the 'Medikartz Pathology Lab & Medical Tourism' in Sainikhera village with the permission of the District Health Department.

After a specific inputs about the culprits the team raided the spot late Saturday night and arrested two people, the DSP said.

During interrogation, the accused disclosed that they have tied up with the DYNEX Diagnostic and Path Lab located in Kirti Nagar, Delhi. They

used to prepare fake reports on their letterhead.

The duo didn't seek per-mission from the District Health Department to con-duct Covid-19 tests and work in Gurugran.

Yadav said that they heen doing this forcer for the

in Gurugram.
Yadav said that they had been doing this forgery for the past two months and used to charge Rs 1,400 to 3,000 per test.
There was no specific criterion for deciding negative or positive. Just as per the symptoms of the patient, the reports were prepared. Samples taken were destroyed, police said.
On the complaint of CM flying squard team, a case has been registered against the culprits at Sector-40 police station under the sections of the IPC.
Further probe is in progress and efforts are being made to trace the other persons involved in the nexus, police added.

## Free RT-PCR tests at large-scale using mobile vans

STAFF REPORTER III NEW

In continuing with consistent lendeavours of Delhi Government to provide relief at this difficult time, Raghav Chadha, MI.A from Rajinder Nagar on Sunday commenced free RT-PCR testing at large-scale using mobile vans across his Assembly constituency.

The first round of this extensive drive was done through a Covid-19 Mobile Testing Van at Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar through a special mobile van Agrage of the Covid-19 Mobile Testing Van at Bada Bazar through a special mobile van dedicated exclusively for Covid-19 testing. The residents of and around Old Rajinder Nagar availed the facilities free of cost.

"Increased RT-PCR testing is an effective way of knowing just how much COVID-19 has spread in Delhi. We do not want to be a mere statistic, but take proactive and effective and ef

steps to contain the further spread of this dreadful pandemic. I urge citizens to please get tested as when they exhibite the signature of the

Chadha also distributed masks to several people along the Bada Bazaar Marg stretch and demonstrated how to properly wear a mask, urging citizens to continue to get test-distributed the several people wear their masks properly. By that, we mean wearing it very your noses. I have observed several people wear their gightier masks incorrectly. We cannot afford to be mask-complacent even for a minute, Chadha said.

The Delhi government has Chadha also distributed

Chadha said.

The Delhi government has increased the fine for not wearing a mask in a public place to INR 2,000, from the earlier INR 500. The increase in this amount is for the benefit and betterment of the citizens. This is not a form of government revenue. It is supposed to act as a deterrent," Chadha said.



### RT-PCR tests exceed rapid antigen testing in Delhi for 1st time: Centre

STAFF REPORTER IN NEW DELHI

The number of RT- PCR tests in Delhi has exceeded the number of rapid antigen tests. According to Government officials 3.7 lakh people have been surveyed as part of to contain the spread of coronavirus in the National Canital.

Capital.

According to the spokesperson of the Ministry of Home Affairs, "This was for the first time when the number of RT-PCR tests in Delhi have exceeded the rapid antigen tests. "The number of realtests. "The number of real-time reverse transcription poly-merase chain reaction (RT-PCR) tests in the city sur-passed the number of rapid antigen tests on Friday." It is important to mention here that amid the spurt in coronavirus cases in Delhi, Union home minister Amit Shah took the lead in ramping up medical infrastructure and

formulating a new strategy to combat the Covid-19 surge in the national capital. A total of 250 ventilators have been delivered to the DRDO hospital and are being installed

installed.
The house-to-house survey, as directed by Shah, has started in Delhi and till Friday, 3,70,729 people have been surveyed.

veyed.
AIIMS has also started the

process for recruitment of addi-tional 207 Junior Resident doc-tors, the spokesperson said. The actions come in the wake of 12 decisions taken at a high-level meeting chaired by Shah on November 15 after Delhi saw fresh spike in Covid-19 cases.

19 cases.

The spurt in coronavirus cases in Delhi has been witnessed since October 28 when the daily rise breached the 5,000-mark for the first time and it crossed the 8,000-mark on November 11.

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# Kumbh Mela 2021 will be grand, divine: CM | Covid-19 tally mounts to 71,256 in State

**Decisions on** its form will be taken at the time considering Covid-19 situation

PNS DEHRADUN

The Kumbh Mela will be held in its divine and grand form at Haridwar in 2021. The government will also pay attention to the tradition of the Kumbh Mela and cultural aspects, said the chief minister aspects, said the chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat. The CM said this while attending a meeting with office bearers of the Akhil Bharatiya Akhada Parishad (ABAP) regarding the preparations for the 2021 the preparati Kumbh Mela

Kumbh Mela.
Rawat said that some practical problems have been caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. However, the form of the Kumbh Mela will be expanded considering the status of Covid-19 at that time. The suggestions of the ABAP and the religious fraternity will also be taken in the decisions



which will be taken according to the prevailing situation. The efforts of the State govern-ment will be aimed at ensuring that the devotees do not face any inconvenience. The Kumbh Mela works are being reviewed periodically and departmental secretaries have been discretate popular row. departmental secretaries have been directed to monitor con-sistently to ensure that the works under progress are com-pleted soon. Seeking informa-tion about the progress of works from the Kumbh Mela officer, the CM directed that

starts. The senior officials of the informed in case any issue is faced. He directed the focus be faced. He directed the focus be laid on maintaining cleanliness, removing encroachments and facilitating parking sites. All necessary arrangements should be made keeping Covid-19 in mind, stressed Rawat.

Urban Development minister Madan Kaushik said that all possible effort will be made to resolve issues of the Akhadas. Well planned arrangements will be made to ensure the devotees face no problem dur-

In ABAY nead Manant Narendra Giri said that the body will fully cooperate with the state government for the successful organisation of the Kumbh Mela. Stressing on the timely completion of works for a divine and grand Kumbh Mela, he assured full cooperation for whatver decision the government takes regarding the form of the Kumbh Mela considering Covid-19.

The Kumbh Mela officer Deepak Rawat informed that most of the permanent works will be completed by December 15 this year while all works will

Ganga won't be escape channel at Har Ki Paidi: Rawat Nine deaths,

Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat said that the Ganga will not remain an escape channel at Har Ki Paidi in Haridwar. A new government order will be issued soon to ensure status of a river to the Ganga at Har Ki Paidi, he said. Rawat said that for quite some time, the Ganga Sabha and general public have been demanding that the status of Ganga at Har Ki Paidi should not be an escape channel. Stating that this rare is a symbol of faith, the escape channel. Stating that this area is a symbol of faith, the CM said that the government has taken its decision considering public sentiments.

be completed by December
31. The work on nine new
Ghats, eight bridges and roads
being built for the Kumbh
Mela is nearing completion.
Stating that special focus is
being laid on cleanliness, he
said that work is also being
done consistently on drinking
water facilitation, parking facility and removal of encroachments.

### 466 fresh cases reported on Sunday

PNS DEHRADUN

The number of novel Coronavirus (Covid-19) patients in Uttrarkhand mounted to 71256 on Sunday with the state health department reporting 466 fresh cases of the disease. The department also reported deaths of nine patients of Covid-19 on the day which increased the death toll to 1155 in the state. The authorities discharged 251 death toll to 1155 in the state. The authorities discharged 251 patients from different hospi-tals on the day following their recovery from the disease. A total of 65102 patients have so far recovered from the disease

tar recovered from the disease and the recovery percentage is at 91.36 percent.

Three patients of Covid-19
were reported dead at Sushila Tiwari Government hospital, Haldwani on Sunday, Similarly two patients of the disease expired at Himalayan hospital

Institute of Medical Sciences
(AIIMS) Rishikesh,
Government Doon Medical
College (GDMC) hospital
Dehradun and HNB Base hospital, Srinagar.
The authorities reported
181 fresh cases of the disease
from Dehradun, 65 from Pauri,
53 from Haridwar, 40 from
Nainital, 38 from Pithoragarh,
23 from Udham Singh Nagar,
16 from Chamoli, 15
Uttarkashi, 14 Tehri, seven
from Champawat, five each from Champawat, five each from Almora and Bageshwar and four from Rudraprayag. Uttarakhand now has 4868

Uttarakhand now has 4868 active patients of the disease. Dehradun district with 1254 active cases is at top of table while with 490 active cases Pauri is now on second position. Nainital has 421, Haridwar 399, Tehri 287, Chamoli 284, Udham Singh Nagar 252, Pithoragarh 247, Almora 197, Uttarkashi 150, Rudraprayag 145 and Bageshwar 153 active cases of Covid-19, Champawat is at the bottom of the table.

was reported dead at All India Institute of Medical Sciences number of Covid-19

Even as a surge in the number of cases of novel Coronavirus (Covid-19) is being reported in the state the decrease in the number of tests has made things worse.

The number of weekly tests which were about 85000 a month ago has now reduced to about 64000. The data released by the Social Develonment for

about 64000. The data released by the Social Development for Communities Foundation Communities Foundation 164278 tests were conducted in the week ending on November 21. As compared to this, 85110 tests were conducted from October 13 to 19 in the state. The founder of SDCF, Anoop Nautiyal said that the government needs to put renewed focus to increase tests. He said that the infection rate is steadily climbing up which is not a good sign.

### IMA angry on allowing surgery to Ayurveda docs

Taking strong exception to the Union government's decision to allow the post graduate students of Indian medicines like Ayurveda to formally practice general surgery including Ortho and dentistry, the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has said that the move would corrupt modern medicine. The Uttarakhand chapter of the Uttarakhand chapter of the IMA has demanded that the government should reconsider the decision. The general secretary of the IMA butarakhand, Dr D D Chaudhury told The Pioneer that the government should have taken IMA into confidence before taking the decision. "Many questions need to be answered. Who would give anaesthesia to the patients who would be operat-

(date) ed upon by the doctors of Ayurveda? Would it be a pure or mixed system of medicine? The Supreme Court in one its decision had stated that allo-

decision had stated that allopathic doctors cannot give Ayurveda medicines. The reverse of it should also be true" Dr Chaudhury said.

In a recent order, the regulator of Ayurveda study and practice in the country, the Central Council of Indian Medicines (CCIM) has allowed post graduate degree holders of Ayurveda to perform a variety of surgical procedures.

# Lt Gen (Retd) Badhani, others join Congress

servicemen on OROP- Pritam Singh

In a programme organised at Rajiv Bhawan on Sunday, Lieutenant General (Redd) M C Badhani formally joined the Congress party. The highly decorated officer said that impressed with the policies of Congress party and leadership of Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi he is ciquing the party. of Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi he is joining the party. Speaking on the occasion, the Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) president Pritam Singh said that Congress is a demo-cratic party which respects all religion, sects and castes and the party has also acted as a social reformer. He said that the BJP has done nothing but speaking lies during the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elec-tions. The corruption and



prices are on rise in the BJP ruled states. In reference to the ion in the ongoing discussion in the party on return of rebels, the PCC or in team of the the interests of Congressmen who stood with the party in hard times would be protected. He claimed that the party would get

inclusion of Lt Gen Badhani and his supporters. Launching an attack on the Narendra Modi led Union government; Modi led Union government; the PCC President said that the NDA government has deceived the ex servicemen on the 'One Rank one pension' (OROP). He said that it was the UPA gov-ernment led by the Congress

party which had accepted the long standing demand of ex servicemen on OROP and implemented it. Singh said that the ex servicemen of the country are feeling cheated by the BJP on the issue of OROP. Rajneesh Juyal and others also joined the party along with Lt Gen Badhani.

### Young filmmaker receives appreciation for Zindagi



The recently released short The recently released short film Zindagi written and directed by Vikash Raj Saxena is being appreciated for its content. The movie portrays an individual's dilemma once he feels stuck in his life. Zindagi has been adapted from the upcoming short-story collection- Love In Modern

tion Love In Modern Times.

The dialogues of movie have been written by Dayal whereas the editing has been done by Shubham Saini. The movie stars Anil and Aman Ali, the background score had been composed by Aman whereas the music has been provided by Shivang Biswa Dadhich.

# Nayar Valley Adventure Sports fest concludes

The four day Nayar Valley Adventure Sports festival 2020 concluded on Sunday. In the national level paragliding competition, Chitt Singh, Ranjit Singh and Amit Thakur secured first, second and third position respectively. They received cash prizes of Rs 20,000 as 30,000 and Rs 20,000 respectively. Under women's category the only participant Alisha of Arunachal Pradesh was also awarded. She received a cash prize of Rs 21,000.

21,000. In angling competition Satpal from Himachal Pradesh won the first prize after catch-

ing a fish weighing 13 pounds. The second and third positions were bagged by Ahmed Ali of Dehradun and Tagbeer Singh

Dehradun and Tagbeer Singh Maan of Punjab respectively. In the competition of catching most number of fish-es, Sanjeev Parodhya of Marchula secured the first position. Ahmed Ali Gazzi of Rampur and Shyam Gurang of Marchula secured the second and third positions respective-ly. In mountain biking, par-

ly.

In mountain biking, participants from Nepal secured all positions in male and female category. Ashish Sherpa, Ramesh Bharti and Akash Sherpa bagged the first, second and third positions respective-

ly. They were awarded with cash prizes of Rs 50,000, Rs 30,000 and Rs 20,000 respectively. In the women's category Usha and Anisha secunded first and second positions respectively. They were awarded with Rs 30,000 and Rs 20,000 respectively.

The Pauri district magis-rate Dhiraid Sinch Cabrival

The Pauri district magistrate, Dhiraaj Singi Gabriyal said, 'The festival was inaugurated by the chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat who envisaged that this festival should be organised every year. An event like this will give an impetus to tourism in Pauri district. It will also generate employment opportunities for locals."

# Online property tax submission reaches about 50% in MCD

Due to the conditions result-ing from the Covid-19 pandemic, the Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD) has started to receive

(MCD) has started to receive about 50 per cent of property tax online which was hardly ten per cent in the last financial year.

Moreover, the corporation has collected property tax of about Rs 12 crore since April as per the officials. Informing about it, the municipal tax superintendent Poonam Rawat said that the tax collection was slow for some time but it is now back on track. The property tax payments through online mode have increased in MCD this year which mostly includes residential property taxpayers



and those who live outside the city, said Rawat. However, she informed that the non-residential taxpayers mostly prefer to deposit property tax physically in the MCD campus as

high.
On the question of whether On the question of whether the corporation will organise any property tax camps in any wards, Rawat said that MCD recently organised a one-day property tax camps and will organise in other areas too if they receive any requests from the councillors. So far, the corporation has collected Rs 12 crore about half of this amount was collected online and if necessary in future, MCD might organise camps but it does not seem necessary at present, added Rawat.

# Green revolution is no glory of Pantnagar



What I have been experi-Mhat I have been experi-incing for nearly half-a-century at Pantnagar, first as a student and later as a faculty member of the university, is that the Green Revolution is consistently a Pantnagar University's song of glory. On the occasion of an important event at Pantnagar what is heard by an audience is: Pantnagar is the harbinger of Green Revolution. A single name that is most respectable since the day India's first agri-cultural university came into

Borlaug. Borlaug's statement"Pantnagar is the harbinger of Green Revolution", is invariably heard from a speaker, often from the chief guest, at a function. "Nobel Laureate Dr Norman E Borlaug has eulogised Pantnagar University as a harbinger of Green Revolution in India"—this is the sentence which is invariably read in every report of the university. As if there is nothing more about Pantnagar than what Borlaug said! As if we have to be complacent with what the Nobel laureate said about us. With the Green Revolution in its fold, Pantnagar saved the country from dying of hunger! If you don't trust us, trust Borlaug, the god of Pantnagar. Let us pat our back. For, Borlaug is the ultimate truth for us.

When Borlaug died on September 12, 2009, Pantnagar did take no time to rechristen its Crop Research Centre (the experimental site where seeds of Green Revolution were bred) as Dr Norman E Borlaug Crop

Research Centre. An agricul-ture-based civilisation has no

Research Centre. An agriculture-based civilisation has no ideal of its own larger than Borlaug's size!

Now let us see into the biological-ecological reality of agriculture: all cultures involving plants or any other organism are organic cultures. Everything the plants depend upon for existence, growth and reproduction is inorganic (CO2, H2O, minerals). Plants (CO2, H2O, minerals). Plants (CO2, H2O, minerals). Plants (CO2, H2O, minerals). Plants depend on anything organic in nature. They convert the inorganic cosmos and organic biosphere. In other words, the inorganic cosmos and organic biosphere. In other words, the plants are the natural architects of organic cultures. The chemical farming or the so called Green Revolution griculture has introduced 'alen' factors in the organic system. In the Green Revolution, the new seeds produced by applying genetic principles, or the so-called HYVs, are regarded as



the key to high productivity. This is perhaps the greatest fallacy sown by the Green Revolution. The whole story of the Green Revolution. The whole story of the Green Revolution, in fact, is woven round these non-traditional seeds and high productivity, going by ecological principles, is an attribute of ecosystem functioning. The key to agricultural production, therefore, lies in an ecosystem — and here it is the soil, the largest ecosystem on the land of the earth. Varieties of the seeds plant breeders develop may just carry more potential to exploit

natural resources (soil being the

natural resources (soil being the critical one) and translate the same into higher productivity. But this emanates from the health of the soil. Thus, the greater the productive potential of a variety the more intensive the exploitation of the soil. The Green Revolution does not regard soil as a living system, but just a physical stratum supporting the crop plants. In a blot or recuperate the soil damage by HYVs, use of external inputs (NPK and mined fertilizers) came to the fore as the key strategic cultivation process involving HYVs. To protect crop mono-

introduced the trend of deadly pesticides to be inevitably used if the productivity was to be sustained. To synthesize extra biomass (over and above that the traditional seeds did) water requirements of the Green Revolution crops increased many fold for attaining targeted yields. As much as 72 per cent of our freshwater resources are being exploited just for keeping the Green Revolution green.

Organic farming (a mis-

Organic farming (a mis-nomer in itself) based on a different set of inputs is a new ver-sion of the Green Revolution. It is aimed at new market niches emerging to evade health hazards created by health hazards created by Green Revolution type of food production. A new package of inputs and cultural practices of the so-called organic foods is more complex than that of the Green Revolution. Now humanity seems to have been caught into the dichotomy of food production. Proponents of the Green Revolution and of Organic Farming are at word-

One of the claims often made by the Green Revolutionists carries a Talibani tone- had there been no Green made by the Green
Revolutionists carries a Talibani
tone-had there been no Green
Revolution, we would have
perished! Dear Green
Revolutionaries, we are not
continuing to be alive because
of your miracle seeds, but
because our soil, despite all
kinds of poisoning done by
your deadly inputs, is still alive.
Moreover, we are Indians, and
we have been surviving, flourishing, and creating history of
our glory for millennia and
millennia because we cultistate the soil of worshipping our
soil – The Bhartiya Mitti. The
story of the Green Revolution
in India is just about 50 years
old and India's traditional culture is nourishing Indian civilsation for thousands of years.
Should the Green
Revolution continue to be
Pantnagar's song of glory in the
times when it has totally failed
and has left behind the trails of
air, soil and water pollution,
greenhouse gases, and health
problems? Should regreen Revolution on to regard the Green
Revolution as its most pristine
legacy? No, not at all. An illfated agriculture designed

around the Green Revolution can only lead to an ill-fated environment, an ill-fated society, an ill-fated future. It is now Pantnagar University's ethical responsibility to evolve, design and manage the agricultural systems that are ecologically spend, environmentally feelthy and socioeconomically sustainable. This new pathway of food production has to be evolved based on the principles of agrove-clogy: living soil, biodiversity (agrobiodiversity) and cyclic flow of nutrients. Agriculture in a newironmentally stressed world cannot afford to be climate-neutral. Agroecological processes are essentially climate-healing. Our sustainable agricultura systems and such systems have to be nourished through ecoentric cultivation practices.

What is Pantnagar's agendor transforming the conventional agriculture into the agriculture and transforming the conventional agriculture into the agriculture most appropriate in our contemporary times? India is desperately looking for it. around the Green Revolution

(The author is a former pro sor of Environmental Scie GB Pant University priculture and Technology

# Parl panel seeks laws to foil bio-terrorism | Recognised national, State parties fielded 467



NS III NEW DELHI

PNS NEW DELHI

Expressing apprehension that rivruses like novel coronavirus which has currently emerged as pandemic, infecting a large population across the globe, can be used as biological weapons against enemy nations, a Parliamentary panel has called upon the Government to formulate effective laws to counter such bio-terrorism in partnerships with different nations.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health, in its report "The Outbreak of Pandemic COVID-19 And its Management", underlined the need of bio-safety to prevent the world community from any activity signalling bio-terrorism.

The chairperson of the

a critical area of concern, the report said.

In its reply, the Department of Health and Family submitted that a holistic approach is needed for ensuring bio-security against biological weapons, that interailia include approach for deterrence, prevention, protection and response against biological weapons, engagement with agencies and active participation in organical metalogical weapons, engagement with agencies and active participation in organical metalogical weapons, the proposition of the proposit

any activity signaming of the terrorism.

The chairperson of the parliamentary standing committee, Ram Gopal Yadav, submitted the report to Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu on Saturday.

The committee's attention interface, training and capac-has been drawn to the fact that ity building for management

India may grant Pune's Serum Institute of India (SII) with the emergency use authorisa-tion of Oxford and

novel coronavirus like virus-es infecting large populations across the globe and emerging as pandemics, can be used as biological weapons against enemy nations. Bio-security, therefore, is a critical area of concern, the report said.

the emergency use authorisa-tion of Oxford and AstraZeneca's coronavirus vac-cine if the British-Swedish pharmaceutical company gets such an approval from the UK Government, a top official from the Centre's vaccine expert group has indicated. "We expect emergency authorisation for the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine to be sought in the UK. If so, it will give an opportunity for the Indian regulator also," Dr Vinod Paul who is also mem-ber (Health) of the Niti Ayog said to a news agency here. The Oxford vaccine is already in its third and final phase of clinical trials in India, and if all things go as planned, and if all things go as planned,

vaccine doses would be avail-able by March-April, 2021, he and if all things go as planned, the COVID-19 vaccine may be ready for distribution by said.

Being the largest manufacturer of vaccines in the

India may grant Serum Institute emergency use

authorisation for Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine

January or February 2021.

An emergency authorisa-tion of the coronavirus vaccine would ensure its proper admin-istration based on the priority list, starting with frontline workers, senior citizens, people with comorbidities and so on, place with respect to access to vaccines, he said. Vaccine maker SII's CEO Adar Poonawalla on Thursday

had said the Oxford Covid-19

had said the Oxford Covid.1-9' vaccine should be available for healthcare workers and elderly people by around February 2021 and by April for the general public. On Friday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had chaired a review meeting on Covid-19 vaccination. Countries such as Bangladesh, Myanmar, Qatar, Bhutan, Switzerland, Bahrain, Austria and South Korea have shown keen inter-est in partnering for vaccine workers, senior citizens, people with comorbidities and so on, he explained.

Earlier this week, the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine produced a strong immune response in older adults, raising hopes that it can protect he age groups most at risk from the virus.

The most likely candidate og et licensure in India would be the Oxford-Serum Institute accine, with Phase 3 data likely to be available by latalikely to be available by latalikely to fairly form the control of the Korea have shown keen inter-est in partnering for vaccine development of Indian vac-cines and use thereof, accord-ing to the PMO. Modi also reviewed the aspects of emergency use authorisation and for manu-facture and procurement of the vaccine.

# tainted candidates out of 1,197 in Bihar poll

PNS III NEW DEI HI

Out of a total of 1,197 candidates with criminal 
antecedents who contested the 
recently-held Bihar Assembly 
elections, 467 were felded by 
recognised national and State 
parties while remaining 730 
were either fielded by registered 
but unrecognised parties or 
had contested the polls as independents.

According to the Election

had contested the polls as independents.

According to the Election
Commission, a total of 3733
candidates including 371
women were in the fray in the
three-phase elections. During
the polls, 156 cases were registered against "organisers"
of rallies and meetings of
various leaders and candidates for violating COVID-19
norms. In 2015 out of 3,450
candidates 1,038(30%) and declared
antecedents. There has also
been a rise in the number of

candidates with serious criminal cases, with 915(25%) declaring such cases this year,

as compared to 796 (23%) candidates in 2015.

The Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) has the maximum candidates with criminal cases registered against them followed by the BJP. It said, 'Out of 56 RJD candidates, 36, which is 64 per cent, candidates have criminal cases against them, followed by the BJP with 29 out of 46 candidates which is 63 per cent. Cases were registered against organisers as they had sought permission to hold

sought permission to hold rallies or meetings in which following health guidelines was mandatory, explained an official. Ahead of the three official. Ahead of the three phase elections, the poll panel had made it clear that violation of COVID-19 guidelines during election period would be deemed as a violation of section 144 of the CPPC.

The section of the

The section of the Criminal Procedure Code allows local authorities to issue orders to prevent and address urgent cases of appre-

hended danger or nuisance. Certain sections of the National Disaster

Certain sections of the National Disaster Management Act and the Epidemic Act were also used. The local authorities also relied on section 188 of the Indian Penal Code to deal with cases of violation of health guidelines. It deals with disobedience to follow orders issued by an authorised public servant. Bihar assembly elections were the first full-fledged polls to be held amid coronavirus. Over 4 crore of the total over 7 crore voters exercised their franchise.

Following a Supreme Court direction in February this year, the Election Commission had in March asked political parties to justice and the second of the condition of the second o

asked political parties to jus-tify why they chose candi-dates with criminal history to contest elections.

Assembly elections in Bihar were the first full-fledged polls where such details of their candidates were made public by parties.

### with the Department of Health Research that a holistic approach is needed for ensuring bio-security against biological weapons. The ministry should also engage with agencies and actively participate in ongoing international treaties, said the panel while suggesting to conduct more research and work towards training and capacity building for management of public health emergencies arising from use of bio-weapons. of public health emergencies arising from use of bio-weapons and strengthening research and surveillance activities related to develop-ment of diagnostics vaccines and druss is the most appropriate for the government to formulate effective laws to counter bioterrorism," said the report. The panel stated it also believes that with the expanding network of VRDLs, ICMR would serve as an important platform for diagnosis and surveillance of existing as well as emerging viral infections and thus make the country bio-secured against life-threatening viruses and the menace of bio-terrorism. The committee agreed is the most appropriate for the government to formulate Cong is on its lowest in last 72 years: Azad "The adverse effects of COVID-19 pandemic have taught the lesson on the importance of controlling biological agents and the need of strategic partnerships among different nations. "The committee there."

### GHULAM NABI AZAD INTERVIEW



Leader of Opposition, Rajya Sabha, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Losabha, Ghulam Nabi Azad, on Sunday, said that "Congress is on its lowest in the last 72 years". During an interview with ANI, Azad said that "There is no rebellion in Congres party." Ghulam Nabi Azad said that "Congres party."

Ghulam Nabi Azad said hat "Congress is on its lowest in the last 72 years. Congress does not have even the post of Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha during the last two terms. But Congress won 9 seats in Ladakh hill council elections even as we were not expecting such a positive result."

Office bearers should

result."

Office bearers should understand their responsibility. Till the time, office bearers are appointed, they won't go. But if all office bearers are elect-

ed, then they will understand their responsibility. Right now, anyone gets any post in the party, he added.

He further said that "Polls aren't won by 5-star culture. The problem with leaders today is if they get a party ticket, they first book a 5-star hotel. They won't go if there's a rough road. Till the time 5-star culture is given up, one can't win elec-tions."

tions."
On being asked about recent losses, Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad said "We all

fectin tosses, counters leader folialam Nabi Azad said "We all were worried about losses, especially about Bihar and bypolls results. I don't blame the leadership for the loss. Our people have lost the connection on the ground. One should be in love with their party." "Till the time, we change our way of functioning at every level, things won't change. Leadership needs to give a program to party workers and hold elections for posts. One should be so much indispensable that leadership asks for you in your absence," Ghulam Nabi

Azad said during the interview.
I'm giving a clean chit to
Gandhis due to COVID-19
pandemic as they can't do
much right now. There's no
change in our demands.
They've agreed to most of our
demands. Our leadership
should hold elections if they
want to become a national
alternative and revive the
party," said Azad.
Our party's structure has
collapsed," he said, adding that
"We need to rebuild our structure, and then if any leader is
elected in that structure, it will
work. But saying that just by

elected in that structure, it will work. But saying that just by changing the leader, we'll win Bihar, UP, MP, etc. is wrong. That will happen once we change the system," he added. "Be it our party or any other, the culture of syco-phancy has become the main reason for the party's death as well as the downfall of leaders. We should stay away from this culture at all levels. Politics is a penance. Shame on those a penance. Shame on those who join politics for enjoyment and money," he said.

### Jal Shakti Ministry adopts five novel technologies to overcome drinking water crisis

A sit gears up to meet its tar-get of providing function-al household tap connection to every rural home by 2024 in the country, the Union Jal Shakti Ministry has recom-mended five innovative tech-nologies to help States/UTs to deliver drinking water services of adequate quantity and pre-scribed quality to rural com-munities.

munities.

These are Grundfos
AQpure, a solar energy based
water treatment plant based on
ultra filtration, Janajal Water on
Wheel, an IoT based electric
vehicle based on GPS location



to the doorstep of households, Presto Online Chlorinator, a

Presto Online Chlorinator, a non-electricity dependent online chlorinator for disinfection of water for removal of bacterial contamination.

The two others are Johkasou technology – an inbuilt packaged black (sewage) and grey water (Kitchen and bath water) treatment system having advanced anaerobicaerobic configuration that can

be installed underground and FBTec, a site assembled decentralised sewage treatment system using fixed filter media, said an official from the Minister. said an official trom ...
Ministry.
He said these technologies

"The committee, there-fore, feels that the present time

He said these technologies would now be listed in the innovation portal of the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation under the Ministry. These technologies have been appraised at different levels before consideration and recommendation by a high-scientific level technical panel of the Ministry? said the official. He added that more technologies will be included in case they pass certain criterias specified by the panel.

### Film on Covid pandemic wins this year's tve Global Sustainability Film Awards

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Coronavirus Pandemic:
Making Safer Emergency
Hospitals, a film by UK-based
CineTecture Ltd on how to
convert large air-conditioned
spaces into emergency hospitals has won this year's tve
Global Sustainability Film
Awards in the nominated category along with My Octopus
Teacher Directed by Pippa
Ehrlich and James Reed.
The tvel Global Sustainability Film
Awards in the Sustainability with Difficult Dialogues, has
announced the winners of its
eight competitive and two
nominated award categories.
The online awards presentation
was complemented by four
thought-provoking Difficult
Dialogues panel discussions
on crucial themes related to
global sustainability as well as
the finale of the Daring
Debates, a debate competition
aimed at engaging the youth
from across the world in sustainability-related ideation.
The two GSFA which is in
its ninth year and rewards
films both on their creativity as
well as on the sustainability
impact, had received over a
hundred film submissions from
17 countries. A diverse and
eminent international jury
panel drawn from the fields of

ountries. A diverse and eminent international jury panel drawn from the fields of sustainability and filmmaking adjudicated on the entries to first come up with three or four shortlisted films for each category and then announced the final winners.

gory and then announced the final winners.

The winners in the competitive Award Categories are: Documentary Impact: (Joint Winners): Once You Know(Pulp Films)and Our Planet: Our Business(WWF-UK); Doing Business Differently: Helping People Put the Planet First(BBC StoryWorks); Transforming Society: BREEF and Rolex StoryWorks); Transforming Society: BREEF and Rolex Preserve & Protect Nature(The Bahamas Reef Environment: Educational Foundation); Campaigning: 10 Myths about Deforestation and Food(WWF-UK); Health and the Environment: A

and the Environment: A
Failure of the fragination of the fragination of the fragination of the fraginations: Turning the Tide (Stramash Films);
Solutions News Story: The Man who grew his own Amazon Rainforest(BBC, People Fixing the World);
Young Filmmaker:
Traces(Sébastien Pins)
Nick Nuttall, Chair of the jury for the tve GSFA 2020 and Strategic Communications Director, Earthdayorg said, Selecting the winners is always tough,

and the Environment: Failure of

but this year was even tougher with the quality, range of issues and creativity even higher in 2020. I hope as many people as possible will watch and share these amaring, winning works far and wide, while being motivated to step up action towards a better world and fired-up to submitt their own extraordinary films in 2021.

The inspiring five-day long online event presented by Difficult Dialogues in partnership with the twe GSFAwas focused on Global Sustainability, a key theme that crucially affects the entire planet. It was well attended by sustainability experts, film-makers, businesses, not-forprofit organizations, youthleaders and individuals concerned about sustainability.

The agenda was to highlight the current environmental crisis and suggest solutions and actions we need to take today to ensustainable future. This was done through dialogues, debates and films, with abouttwo hours of environment and sustainability content each day.

Commental and sustainability content each day.

The last week Surina Male E, Founder of Difficult Dialogue and the teach of Difficult Dialogue and the surface of Diffi

developing a more sustainable world including difficult dia-

developing a more sustainable world including difficult dialogues with businesses because of the dilemma of profit over sustainability. This year going virtual over five days gave us more time to provide a better experience for illmmakers and the visibility to showcase our youth ambasadors and their work."

The five-day event concluded with the announcement of the winners of Daring Debates which featured the college finalists from India, Nepal, Myammar, Bangladesh, Africa, the USA and Sri Lanka who debated the topic – Is Global Sustainability Profitable for Business? At the end of a keenly contested finale, Gloria Oziohu Alonge from University of Lagos, Nigeria, Africa was declared as the winner for the motion while Aditya Dhar from Harvard University, USA won against the motion.

The Award category sponsors this year were United Living, Global Healthcare, Azad Ayub Lid and Foundation BNP Paribas (who sponsored the Youth Day), and the Eco Partner was EcoRight Bags.

### Over 2.6 cr families provided piped drinking water under Jal Jeevan Mission, says Modi

PNS III NEW DEI HI

In the last one-and-half years
Lafter the start of the
Government's Jal Jeevan
Mission, more than 2.6 crore
families have been provided
piped drinking water in their
homes, Prime Minister
Narendra Modi said on
Sunday.

He said that under the
scheme, "the life of our mothers and sisters has become easier due to easy water access at
the comfort of their homes and
added that it has led to a
reduction of many diseases
like cholera, typhoid,
encephalitis caused by dirty
water."

"During the last one and

"During the last one and half years from the start of Jal Jeevan Mission more than 2



crore 60 lakh families have been provided piped drinking water connection to their homes including lakhs of fam-lies in Uttar Pradesh as well," PM Modi said after laying the foundation stone of rural drinking water supply projects in Mirzapur and Sonbhadra districts of Vindhyachal region of Uttar Pradesh via video conference.

Prime Minister also interacted with Village Water and Sanitation Committee. Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath were present on the occasion.

"In spite of having several rivers, these regions were known as the most thirsty and drought-affected and forced many people to migrate. Now, water scarcity and irrigation issues will be resolved by these projects and it signifies rapid

districts of Vindhyaha region of Uttar Pradesh via video conference.

The projects will provide household tap water connections in all rural households of 2,995 villages and will benefit about 42 lakh population of these districts.

During the event, the

# Govt orders Ministries not to print diaries, calendars

The Cabinet Secretariat has directed all the ministries to scrupulously follow instructions for non printing of diaries and calendars and instead develop electronic format of these items.

Any lapse in compliance of the instructions will be viewed seriously.

seriously. The decision relating to non printing of diary and calendars was reviewed recently by the Secretary (Coordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat through videoconferencing with various ministries.

istries.

The Secretary (Coordination) also reviewed the progress of development of

The Secretary (Coordination) also reviewed the progress of development of electronic annlications of lendars and diaries

electronic applications of calendars and diaries.

In the meeting, it was
decided that all
ministries/departments,
attached offices and subordiotate offices under their control
are supposed to ensure that calendars/diaries and similar
materials are not pritted.

The meeting was also
attended by Joint Secretary

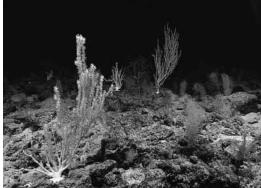
(Administration) in the Union Home Ministry. Subsequently, the Home Ministry has direct-ed all the heads of divisions and its attached offices/subordi-

ed air the heads of divisions and its attached offices/subordinate organisations to comply with the instructions strictly.

The Home Ministry has also directed the Divisional heads to ensure that all the organisations under their administrative control confirm compliance of the instructions related to the non printing of diaries and calendars.

The move to do away with the practice of printing of diaries and calendars has been taken in view of the tight fiscal position in view of the Covid-19 pandemic that has hit economy hard and concurrent loss in government revenues.

# India to launch deep sea mission in 3-4 months: MoES official



India will soon launch an ambitious 'Deep Ocean Mission' that envisages exploration of minerals, energy and marine diversity of the underwater world, a vast part of which still remains unexplored, a top official of the Ministry of Earth Sciences said. The ministry secretary, M Rajeevan, said required approvals are being obtained for the 'Inturistic and game-changing' mission, and it is likely to be launched in the next

likely to be launched in the next 3-4 months.

The mission, which is expected to cost over ₹4,000 crore, will give a boost to efforts to explore India's vast Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf, another senior official of the MoES said.

will also involve developing technologies for different deep ocean initiatives. The multi-disciplinary work will be piloted by the MoES and other government departments like the Defence Research and Development Research and Development Organisation, Department of Biotechnology, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) will be stakeholders in this mission, Rajeevan added.

Same of the technologies involved will be developed by organisations such as the ISRO 'One of the main aspects of the mission will be design, development and demonstration of human submersibles," the MoES official said.

Another aspect is exploring the possibility of deep sea min-

ing and developing necessary technologies, the official added. The official said the move strategically significant as it will enhance India's presence in the Indian Ocean where other players like China, Korea and Germany are active. Last week, China live-streamed footage of its new manned submersible parked at the bottom of the Mariana Trench.

Trench.

This was part of its mission into the deepest underwater valley on the planet.

India has been ear-marked nearly 1.5 lakh square kilometres of area in the central Indian Ocean for exploration.

In September 2016, India signed a 15-year contract with the International Seabed Authority (ISA) for exploration of Poly-Metallic Sulphides (PMS) in the Indian Ocean.

# I'll never join BJP, says TMC MP Roy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE III

Even as speculation went high about future course of action of a number of Trinamooil Congress leaders who had been speaking on rebellious note, senior Trinamool MP Saugato Roy on Sunday made his stand clear saying he would never join the safforn outfit.

Referring to a comment made by Barrackpore BJP MP Arjunt Referring to a comment made by Barrackpore BJP MP Arjunt Singh also a former TMC leader who joined the saffron party just before the 2019 general elections, Roy said he discounted "statements made by 'third class' and bahubali politicians."

Singh had earlier said that 'even Saugato Roy would join the

even Saugato Roy would join the BJP in days to come." He said that Roy along with five other MPs was going to join BJP. He said that it was "nothing but a part of BJP's

campaign. It is BJP IT Cell Head
Amit Malviya's technique to
spread a lot of fake news."

The TMC is already going
through an internal crisis with
senior mass leader and powerful
minister Suvendu Adhikary making statements challenging the
leadership. Meanwhile, TMC
leader and state minister Suvendu
Adhikar's leaving his party is an
open question as on various occasions like in Nandigram and
Midnapore he has been identified
holding public meetings without holding public meetings without the party's symbol, flag or

banner. There were words doing the rounds in the State politics that all the TMC leaders who were being investigated in some scam or the other were likely to join the saffron party out of compulsion. Both Adhikary and Roy were being investigated in Narada payoff scam.

## BJP targets Didi's nephew after TMC salvo

SAUGAR SENGUPTA III KOLKATA

Soon the name of the "Bhaipo" (nephew) would become public when the newspapers would carry his name following CBI investigations. This was what Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh on Sunday said following a diatribe by Trinamool leader Kunal Ghosh who attacked the BJP leadership for maligning TMC leaders by using TMC leaders by using innuendo.

With the BJP mountain

ing TMC leaders by using innuendo.
With the BJP mounting a broadside on Trinamool Congress' "nephew" (read Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's nephew Abhishek Banerjee) for usurping the party affairs forcing all the "self-respecting" leaders to quit the outfit, the TMC on Sunday Junched a counterattack askthe outfit, the TMC on Sunday launched a counterattack ask-ing the saffron leadership to "nephew and stop making innuendo." In a scathing attack on the BJP leadership for "acting like cowards" TMC leader Kunal

Ghosh on Sunday said "if the BJP leaders have the courage they should directly take the name of the said nephew and stop making innuendos ... they are behaving like cowards ... Take the name be specifie and shown at the screen state of the said specifies and shown at the screen state of the said specifies and shown at the screen state of the said specifies and shown at the screen state of the said specifies and shown at the screen state of the said specifies and shown at th

leave the party and soon the Trinamoul will be half-empty."
Subbendu Adhikary a powerful State Minister and the Chief Minister's Nandigram spearhead with massive mass following had recently been in the news for his rebellious ways letting the critics to say that he was on the verge of joining the BIP.
Adhikary and Chief Minister's nephew Abhishek Banerjee had not been on good terms ever since junior Banerjee, — an MP from Diamond Harbour — replaced the former as the party's youth wing great the statement Ghosh said "it has become a habit of the BIP lead-earlipy sailly the image of opposition leaders but that trick will not work in Bengal as they will they are behaving like cowards.... Take the name be specific and then see the consequences." The immediate reference of Ghosh's remark was
a previous statement by BJP's
observer for Bengal Kailash
Vijaybargiya who referred to
the "nephew" saying how the
Trinamool Congress had
been usurped by the said person.

Vijaybargiya told an audience at Ramnagar in East
Midnapore how "TMC does
not belong to Mamata
Banerjee, neither it belongs to
Mukul Roy or Suvendu
Adhikary who made the party
but it has gone into the hands
of the "nephew" who calls the
shots and who takes all the
decisions today compelling all
the self-respecting leaders to
quit the party ... a number of
these leaders are preparing to

sition leaders but that trick will not work in Bengal as they will be rejected by the people."

Dilip Ghosh however defended Vijabargiya saying everyone knew who the 'Bhaipo' (nephew) was. "Everyone knows who the

Aligarh

Aligarh: The Health Department team will be deployed on all the borders of the district from today due to the rising Corona cases in other States including Delhi. People will have to go corona test before entering Aligarh and will be sent to the hospital if found infected.

and will be sent to the hospi-tal if found infected. Instructions have been given to keep an eye especially on those coming from Delhi-Haryana. For this, teams of Health Department have been deployed at Gabbhana and Tappal Border. Arrangements are being made for corona test for the people coming to the district through trains at station itself.

Bhaipo is ... there is no need to take his name as such," Ghosh said adding "in any case the name of the Bhaipo would soon be published by the newspapers after the CBI will take actions against him."

ons against him." He further said that there He further said that there were some people who are recognized by their pseudo names 'like everyone knows as to who Didi is ... similarly everyone knows who the Bhaipo is ... hence the people will easily understand who 'liabargiya ii was referring to and we are only interested in making the people understand about things.

Meanwhile, in a related development Pradesh Congress leadership is likely to submit reports to Rahul Gandhi with whom the PCC

will hold a virtual meeting on November 27. "In the meeting the PCC is likely to submit its reports on organizational affairs including the prospect-sof its alliance with the Left Front, sources said.

### Yogi to promote eco-tourism in Sonbhadra, Mirzapur

Lucknow: The Ultar Pradesh tourism department has decided to develop Mirzapur, Sonhadra, Chandauli and adjoining areas as eco-tourism destinations.

A tourist bungalow will be constructed in an area of five acres in Sonbhadra and activities like water sports, rock climbing, trekking, etc., have also been started there to promote eco-tourism and provide adventure sports options to the tourists.

Kirtimaan Srivastava, tourism officer of the Mirzapur division, said, "We hope to initiate the construction of the tourists bungalow in the next six months and the district magistrate of Sonbhadra already held a discussion on the detailed action plan with the members of the Tourism Welfare Association. Bio toilets will also be constructed at various tourist spots."

Besides this, Re 281 37 labb beau also be a constructed.

rist spots." Besides this. Rs 281.37 lakh have also been sanctioned

Besides this, Rs 281.37 lakh have also been sanctioned for the Way Finding Traffic Solution (WFTS). Under this, signboards having details of the tourist spot are being set at up at various tourist spots and destinations and till date, works of Rs 25 lakh has also been completed. Tour operators have also been engaged to promote film tourism, he added.

tourism, he added.

"Beautification work is being carried out at the tourist spots like Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, Salkhan Fossi Park, Vijaygarh Fort, Agori Fort and Mukha Waterfall so that they can register a prominent presence on the tourist map of the country, Srivastava said. In September, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had announced to convert the airstrip in Sonbhadra into an airport.

IANS

## Iripura retugee resettlement protests: Death toll rises to 2

Agartala: With firefighter Biswajit Debbarma succumbing to his injuries on Sunday, the death toll in the Tripura violence rose to two, and the number of injured reached 35.

injured reached 35
The agitation and indefinite shutdown continued for the seventh day in northern Tripura's Kanchanpur subdivision where people are opposing the Bharatiya Janata Parelli (1988) and the Bharatiya Janata Janata

and 35 others injured, including security and fire service personnel, besides, agita-tors were also critically injured on Saturday when police opened fired at the violent mob which had attacked the security forces at Panisagar in North Tripura district at distric

trict. North Tripura District Magistrate and North Tripura District Magistrate and Collector Nagesh Kumar said the violent mob damaged three government and police vehicles, including a motorbike. He told the media that a huge contingent of security forces, including Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Tripura state Rifle troopers, led by senior police officials were mobilised at Panisagar and Kanchanpur sub-divisions in the North Tripura district to deal with the situation.

The injured persons were admitted to various government hospitals, including GBPMCH.

Tripura government spokesman and

GBPMCH.
Tripura government spokesman and
Law and Education Minister, Ratan Lal
Nath, said the state government would provide Rs five lakh compensation to the family of the deceased Srikanta Das.

"A magisterial inquiry has been ordered into the police firing. If the agi-tators want talks with Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb they are free to do so. The Tripura government's doors for dia-logue are always open," N

Sunday.

The minister said the state government with the help of the Central government had earlier announced that 35,000 Reang tribal or "Bru" refugees, who fled from Mizoram would be rehabilitated in the state's eight districts and not only in North Tripura district.

Tripura police tweeted, saying, "The unfortunate incident at North Tripura was a law and order issue, but several videos are being circulated on social media giving it a communal violence spin, which is a punishable legal offence."

Even after facing violent attacks, the police personnel maintained restraint and sensitivity in controlling law and order and used proportionate forces for self-defence in the Panisagar incident on Saturday." The minister said the state government

#### Covid-19 test Cows worshipped on 'Gopashtami' in Agra, Mathura now mandatory before entering

Cows were worshipped and fed various types of deli-cacies to celebrate Gopashtami in Uttar Pradesh's Agra and Mathura districts in a series of programmes held by voluntary organisations.

organisations.

Recognising the valuable contribution of cow-wealth, the Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government has launched a number of schemes launched a number of schemes to support the rural economy. Cow-dung manure was being produced at more than 1,000 centres in the state and more than five lakh cows have been provided shelter at the state government-run centres. The district administrations have tagged nearly a crore cows for identification in the state, according to an Animal Husbandry Department official. In Agra, the Girraj Sewa Mandal organised a special programme to feed and wor-ship scores of cows at the Balkeshwar Gaushala. The devotees prayed to the cows (Gaumata) to free India from the scourge of Covid-19 pan-demic.

irc. 'Friends of Vrindavan

demic.

Friends of Vrindavan'
Convener, Jagan Nath Poddar,
said Mathura district was
declared "Gau Kshetra" by the
former Divisional
Commissioner Pradip
Bhatnagar but no follow-up
action was taken.

The 'Cow-Economics' is
now being recognised as a
pragmatic model of rural development and a number of
schemes are being implementdin the district having more
than 100 Gaushalas Barsana's
Gaushala run by patron saint
Ramesh Baba is the biggest
cowshed with more than

50,000 cows.

In Radha Kund, 60-year-old German woman Padamshri Sudevi, runs a Gaushala with more than 1,600 injured and sick cows.

Sudevi wants farmers to augment their incomes by keeping a few cows.

"The government should buy back the cow dung to make it attractive for farmers to keep cows," she said.

The pastoral culture of the Braj Mandal is closely related to cow-keeping. "On

Braj Mandal is closely related to cow-keeping. "On Gopashtmi, a festival being celebrated today, Sri Krishna was initiated into cattle grazing as a Gwala.

"All over the Braj area, cows are worshipped and offered food today acknowledging their contribution to the agrarian economy," said River Activist Dr. Panchsheel Sharma.

# Rajasthan Foundation's Global Pravasi Deepotsav organised at Bikaner House

Jaipur: A colorful Rajasthani cultural evening was organised along with the Global Pravasi Deepotsav programme on Saturday at Chandni Bagh Complex in Bikaner House, New Delhi. The cultural evening and Global Deepotsav program was broadcast live on Zoom Online, and on YouTube platform, where expatriate Rajasthanis from all over the world simultaneously lit a lamp and demonstrated their emotional engagement with the land of Rajasthan.

The Global Deepotsav program started with Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot's message to the migrant Rajasthanis, Mr. Gehlot säd that such programs surfer with the first message to the migrant Rajasthanis, Mr. Gehlot säd that such programs will inspire

Rajasthanis, Mr. Gehlot said that such programs will inspire future generations of migrant Rajasthanis to rejoin their soil of Rajasthan. He said that this com-mendable step of Rajasthan Foundation will inspire the migrant Rajasthanis living in



every corner of the world to con-tribute in all aspects of develop-ment in Rajasthan in the com-ing days. Chief Minister Shri Gehlot said that the efforts of the Government of Rajasthan in the management of the Corona global epidemic have been great-ly appreciated in the country and world, the cooperation of the country and institutions of diascountry and institutions of dias-pora Rajasthanis in this step of the government is appreciated. In his message, Mr. Gehlot while wishing the Diaspora all over the world for the Global Deepotsav, said that we hope that the sup-

port of the Diaspora Rajasthanis will continue to get rich in all the programs run by the Rajasthan Government in the public inter-

est.

Commissioner of Rajasthan
Foundation, Mr. Dhiraj
Shrivastava said that programs
like Global Pavassi Deepotsav
are a meaningful step towards
connecting the expatriate
Rajasthanis settled in the world
to their motherland and participating in various social concerns programs run by the government. He said that the
cooperation of migrant

Rajasthani doctors settled around the world has been very important in dealing with the corona epidemic and other migrant Rajasthani institutions have heavily collaborated in dealing with this epidemic. He said that right now, organizations of 18 diaspora Rajasthanis from around 52 countries are continuously collaborating with Foundation. On this occasion, Shri Dheeraj thanked Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot as well as Industries Minister Shri Parsadi Lal Meena and Minister of State for Tourism Shri Govind Singh Dotasara for their support in the campaign to Govind Singh Dotasara for their support in the campaign to reconnect the migrants to Rajasthan and said that through such programs All the migrant Rajasthanis will feel the cultural sensations of their soil to the depths.

A colorful cultural program has been organized on this occasion at Bikaner House, New Delhi.

### Avalanche warning issued for higher reaches in J&K

Srinagar: Following the adverse veather forecast in J&K on Monday and Tuesday, authorities Kashmir division.

An official of the Disaster

Management Department said Management beganning a medium danger avalanche warning will remain in force during the next few days in Kupwara district while low danger avalanche warning will remain in force in Baramulla, Anantnag, Kulgam, Bandipora and Ganderbal districts. "People are advised to avoid

reupne are advised to avoid unnecessary movement outside their homes till the warning remains in force," the official said. Avalanches in higher reaches of J&K have become a big threat for people, especially the security forces manning the Line of Control (LoC).



Youngsters spend evening at beach, during sunset in Mumbai on Sunday

### UP re-imposes 100-guest limit at weddings, functions

Lucknow: In view of the surge in Covid cases, the Yogi Adityanath Government has decided to re-impose the restrict 100 guests at weddings and other social functions.

The state government, on October 15, had allowed 200 guests at weddings with proper safety protocols. But with Covid cases rising again after the recent festive season, the state government keen to check the resurgence of cases.

According to the government spokesman, the Chief Minister, on Saturday night, asked all district magistrates to ensure restriction of 100 guests at weddings. The state home department will be issuing a formal order in this regard on Sunday.

The district magistrates of Gautam Buddha Nagar have already issued orders in this regard.

The state government has

already issued orders in this regard.

The state government has already started doing random tests on the UP-Delhi border after Delhi reported a mass rise in the Covid curve.

IANS

# Karnataka colleges to be shut if Covid cases spike: Minister

Dharwad (Karnataka):Degree colleges, which reopened after Diwali on November 17 across Karnataka, would be closed if l cases rise again, said Health Minister K.

Covid cases rise again, said state Health Minister K. Sudhakar on Sunday. "Though degree, engi-neering and polytechnic col-leges reopened for final year students after remaining shut for over eight months, we may close them again if Covid cases increase in the state, as safety of students and teachers is more important than offline classes." Sudhakar told reporters here in the state's

more important than offline classes," Sudhakar told reporters here in the state's northwest region.

The response of students to the reopening of colleges has also been tepid last week, as besides negative Covid test report from RT-PCR method, consent letter from parents was mandatory for attending classes with face mask.

"As students were not getting test reports in time and many parents have been wary of sending their wards for offline classes, the attendance was 15-20 per cent in most of the colleges in five days last week," Sudhakar recalled.

Though Covid cases have been declining across the southern state over the last three weeks and recoveries have been outnumbering positive cases, the state's tally at 8,71,342 till Friday is the second largest after Maharashtra across the country, with 24,714 active cases and 11,641 deaths till date.

"As we have to protect the students and shape their academic future, colleges have been conducting online classes since August to ensure continuity in their studies," said Sudhakar. According to the state health department, tests across cities and towns showed that only 130 students were infected while majority of them were virus free.

"If more students test pos-

virus free.
"If more students test pos-"If more students test positive, we may have to shut colleges and continue with online classes. We will asses the situation and decide in a week, said the minister, who is medical doctor by profession.

The state government decided to reopen pre-university course (PUC) and medical colleges from December 1 if Covid cases further decline in

dents testing negative is due to more natural immunity they

dents testing negative is due to more natural immunity they have at their age though some of them can be vulnerable," asserted Sudhakar.

On the reopening of schools, which have also remained shut since mid-March due to the Covid-induced lockdown and its extension, the minister said the issue would be discussed with Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa at a meeting in Bengaluru on Monday.

State education minister S. Uresh Kumar, health experts and officials will discuss when schools could be reopened, as their safety was paramount. As consent of parents was more important, they will also be consulted through schools where their wards study," said Sudhakar.

Wearing of mask, thermal sercening and maintaining physical distancing will be mandatory to contain the virus spread, all the schools have to gear up to the new normal to ensure the safety of students and teachers.

### **BOLLYWOOD DRUG MAFIA NEXUS CASE Comedian Bharti, husband Harsh sent** to judicial custody till December 4

Aspecial Court here on Sunday Aremanded television comedian Bharti Singh and her husband Harsh Limbachiya in Judicial custody till December 4 in connection with the drugs seizure and consumption case filed against them by the Narcotise Control Bureau (NCB).

While Bharti was arrested on Saturday evening, Harsh was placed under arrest by the NCB in the early hours of Sunday.

Their arrests came after the NCB seized 86.5 grams of Cannabis during the raids conducted on their residences at Andheri's Lokhandwala Complex and Versova in north-west Mumbai.

Bharati and Harsh, both of vhom have been booked by the NCB for various offences under the provisions of NDFS Act 1986, were on Sunday produced before a special court, which sent them to judicial custody for 13 days.

During their questioning by the NCB, Bharti and her husband reportedly confessed to having consumed cannabis (ganja). The drug consumption is in addition to the charge of possesing banned drugs that they face.

The raid on the homes of Bharti and her husband Harsh and their subsequent arrest came after their names figured in the custodial interrogation of a 21-year-old A Special Court here on Sunday

drug trafficker whom the NCB officials had arrested earlier the day on Saturday. drug trafficker whom the NCB officials had arrested earlier the day on Saturday. During the raid conducted at a location in Khar Danda area, the investigators seized various drugs including 15 biots of LSD (commercial quantity), ganja (40 gm) and Nitrazepam (psychotropic medicines). Bharti and Harsh are being investigated in connection with the Bollywood-drug mafia case registered by the NCB in the wake of the alleged suicide of Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rapput. Sushant, it may be recalled, was found hanging from a ceiling fan in his closed room of his duples flat at Mont Blanc building at Bandra's Carter Road in north-west Mumbai on June 14. Earlier, on November 9, the NCB had raided the residence of Bollywood actor Arjun Rampal on November 9, the NCB had raided the residence of Bollywood actor Arjun Rampal on November 9, this and his live-in friend Gabriella Demetriades questioning and the subsequent arrest of his

live-in friend Gabriella Demetriades' ques-tioning and the subsequent arrest of his Australian friend Australian friend Paul Bartel was on Friday arrested by the NCB in the much-discussed Bollywood-drug mafia nexus

case.

Rampal and Gabriella were questioned later. The NCB had earlier last month arrested a South African national Agisilaos Demetriades – the brother of Rampal's live-in partner Gabriella Demetriades from Lonavla near Pune.

Agisilaos is alleged to be a part of a larg-

Agisilaos is alleged to be a part of a larger drug syndicate operating in Bollywood, which is being investigated after the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput.

Earlier on November 8, the NCB officials had carried out searches at film producer Firoz A. Nadiadwala's residence along Gulmohar Cross Road at Juhu Vile Parle Development (JVPD) Scheme in north-west Mumbai and seized a total of 717.1 gm of various drugs and arrested five persons, including Firoz A. Nadiadwala's wife
Shabana Saeed.

Nearly twenty persons -including

Nearly twenty persons —including Sushant's girlfriend Rhea Chakraborty and her brother Showik — have so far been arrested in connection with a case registered by the NCB on August 28, two days after it registered a case suo moto.

The CB had registered a second case after it told the Mumbai court that it wants to 'to uproot the drug citadel in Mumbai especially in Bollywood.' Subsequently, Rhea was granted conditional bail by the Bombay High Court in the Sushant death-related drug case on October 7, 2020.

As part of the investigations, the NCB had earlier questioned Bollywood's prominent actresses Deepika Padukone, Sara Ali Khan, Shraddha Kapoor and Rakul Preet Singh.

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# The vaccine challenge

We need public-private partnerships to meet targets as our existing immunisation drives are quite under-served



Since 2020 has been "a lost year", engulfed as it has been by the pandemic, many are looking forward to 2021 as "the year of the vaccine." And when it comes to India, a year would still fall short of inoculating its people. As Adar Poonawalla, the CEO of the Serum Institute of India, which is the world's largest vaccine manufacturer and will be rolling out the Oxford vaccine, predicted that it could take till 2024 to secure all Indians. If containing the virus is level 1 of the challenge, vaccinating people against it is level 2 indeed. The toughest, of course, would be devising the logistics of the supply chain, ensuring the safety of the vials, avoid-

ance of wastage and lining up trained health workers to administer the vaccine and monitor its effects on the recipients. In fact, given India's population, there has to be a multiphased, general election-like drill and efficiency, all of which cost money and resources. Poonawalla himself estimated a Government spend of ₹80,000 crore in one year. Of course, though we have not yet had an adult immunisation programme, the Government will be riding piggyback on the existing immunisation network for women and children, one of the world's largest. But we have to reckon with some cold facts considering that our Universal Immunisation Programme is yet to achieve 100 per cent success and is still struggling to meet targets despite years of investment and efforts. An IndiaSpend survey of September 2019 shows that 47 per cent of India's poorest children are not fully immunised, 17 per cent more than the richest ones, leaving them prone to preventable diseases that compound the burden of healthcare costs for their families. Although Government immunisa-tion programmes have been carried out for 30 years, the coverage rate has been grow-ing at a snail's pace. According to the Health Ministry's own findings, India's vaccination coverage increased from 35 per cent in 1992-93 to 62 per cent in 2015-16. Only 16 districts in India have a coverage of over 90 per cent. Currently our immunisation shield targets 26.7 million newborns and 29 million pregnant women every year, which works to around 390 million doses of vaccines. Needless to say the pandemic has slowed down the pace and efficacy of drives this year. Assuming we can tap into this network immediately, we will still need to supplement its strength and capacities to administer 400-500 million doses by the first two quarters of 2021. Also, a two-shot vaccination drive would mean double the effort. Much has already been said about the challenges of a contiguous cold chain infrastructure that includes moving contained, sanitised and temperaturecontrolled vaccine consignments under tropical conditions and ensuring last mile equity. The first vaccines announced by Pfizer and Moderna require sub-zero conditions; they must be thawed from -70 degrees celsius and injected within five days. Or else, the whole consignment could go bad. Such delicacy of maintenance and administering doses require a sophisticated and expensive infrastructure that India and even other developing countries would find difficult to harness at short notice. We would have to look at a vaccine that can be stored and transported in liquid form (anything between two and eight degrees celsius) instead of the frozen kind. Besides, no vaccine has a 100 per cent efficacy or can claim a lifetime guarantee — a shot could have to be repeated if antibody levels drop before the predicted periodicity. Some nations would then have to wait for a more conventional vaccine that brews batches of protein or inactivated viral particles in living cells, has the same effect as that of the pharma majors, and can be delivered through existing health care networks. We need to prepare allied items like syringes and glass vials and since glass breaks at sub-zero temperatures required of the announced vaccines, it needs to be a toughened and fortified kind. Even these need to be tested for the vaccine's stability and subjected to laboratory approvals. These need to be started right away if we want a good stock ready to seal the vaccines. We may be privileged to produce and supply the bulk of the world's vaccines but can we deliver it to every Indian in the hinterland and protect communities even as managing cities themselves may pose a challenge?
There are no dilemmas really. Nations rich in resources and with an evolved health

infrastructure will be deploying the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines before ours. And though the World Health Organisation's Covax project intends to raise \$18 billion to buy stocks for poorer countries, the trickle-down effect would be delayed, creating a new kind of healthcare hierarchy. Asia, Africa and South America, even with emergent economies, would need an all-new template in the health sector. There are huge recurring costs involved with vaccines made in one part of the world required to be transported to another. And given their fragile and unstable nature, they would mostly be airlifted. Analytics firm McKinsey has estimated that over 10 billion doses would be traded globally. Planes, trucks, warehouses and health centres will have to be outfitted with freezers. The last implies an unin-terrupted electricity supply. How many villages and district towns in India can afford continuous power supply? Even with back-ups and generators, how many health centres can sustain the added costs? The Government immediately needs to involve the private sector in developing the delivery and distribution infrastructure in right earnest. It can use Digital India programmes to map the supply chain requirements, track the response modules and effectively manage and deploy resources. The pandemic has taught us how health is the real wealth of a nation. Even if we tame COVID-19, it won't be the last. We have to reconfigure health and human resource as a major driver of the economy going forward.

## Time for football

Can the revamped Indian Super League take on the might of cricket?



e must give credit where it is due. The Indian Super League (ISL) tournament has made a V Super League (ISL) tournament nas maue a mark on our football scene thanks to the professionalisation of the sport in India. The merger with the older I-League has proceeded to a certain degree and while some are still upset at how that took place, the emergence of a predominant professional league should help the country emerge as a football power-house in the future. It is a crying shame that India is still far behind the curve when it comes to football globally, and qualifying for the top tournaments remains a nine dream in the world's most nonular team sport

As it is, no Indian player has made it to the first team in any major global league. The grassroots of the sport in India have remained weak for decades, confined to being part of the local club culture. Tournaments like the ISL should be able to make a difference over here by making football a lucrative career for young players and sharpening their talent with some foreign expertise. Currently, other than cricket, and possibly kabaddi to a limited extent, youth have few options for careers in sport unlike in Europe and North America. That said, India has been remarkably successful in creating one of the

most popular and successful sports leagues outside these regions.

With traditional Kolkata powerhouses East Bengal and Mohun Bagan now part of the ISL, it might be easier for tournament organisers to appeal to a wider audience. However, they have to be wary of competition from international leagues which happen around the same time. Besides, without passionate and cheering spectators, will the atmosphere remain the same? Some could argue that since football had a limited audience in India anyway, a lack of audience will not make a difference to the players. But with few spectators and a limited television audience, can the ISL compete for eyeballs, particularly as global sports recover from the pandemic? That is an open question. When it started out, ISL was watched by a record audience, the first week notching up a viewership of 170 million. Hopefully, the numbers go up given the closed door nature of the games.

# opanion

# Why Trumpism prevails

The liberal Left cannot disregard the role it played in the rise of Trump. Ignoring ordinary voters would be a catalyst for another populist surge



JANET DALEY

re was only one possible reflection on that extraor-dinary broadcast from the

reflection on that extraor finary broadcast from the distinction on that extraor dinary broadcast from the tramp bunker. How did this ludicrous, dangerously ignorant man ever become president of the United States? That is not a rhetorical question. We need to know how and why this was possible, not only for the sake of America's political future but for ours, too. Before the whole hideous chapter is written off as a historical abertaion, it is important to understand the sense in which it was not surprising at all. There was, in fact, a kind of inevitability about it: a vacancy that was waiting to be filled by some demagogic figure who would offer what mainstream politics was refusing to provide. And make no mistake, the policies – and even the attitudes – that he embodied addressed directly the frustrations of a huge proportion of the population, as evidenced by the first election victory and the remarkably narrow result of the second.

Exposured to the control of the second. A carry out this task but why did it have to be a man like this? An obnoxious ignoramus who appeared to know nothing about the Constitution – even though every American school child learns to rectie its basic provisions like a catechism?

The answer is quite simple, If

cvery Afficient successions like a catechism?

The answer is quite simple. If you make certain views unspeakable, then only the unspeakable will be prepared to express them. A clue lies in that infamously damaging remark made by Hillary Clinton during the 2016 campaign in which she described Trump supporters as a "basket of deplorables."

The essence of democratiferedom is argument and open debate. You enter the game on the assumption that this is a principled contest, not a mud fight. So you do not just castigate and condemn your opponents, treating their position as beneath contempt. Which is not to say that you must be gentle or even courteous: I fully understand the view that some political opinions are so maligned that they must be met with anger and hostility. But how much more effective to attack the "feelorable" programme with devmuch more effective to attack the "deplorable" programme with dev-astating accuracy, to rip the posi-tion to shreds with rigorous criti-cism, to disprove its claims and undermine belief in its effective

of course, there is one obvious



reason why Mrs Clinton in 2016, or the Biden campaign in 2020, or the ibleral media both times, could not easily do this because many of the policies which Trump advocated – and the complaints that he made on behalf of the 'forgotten man'; rionically a phrase associated with the presidency of the great-set Left-liberal of them all, Franklin Roosevelt — were sound and convincing to a vast army of dispossessed victims of the post-industrial apocalypse which had decimated blue collar America. These are the people who believed themselves to be not just 'forgotten' but despised. To fail to see this was the unforgivable error not only of the Democrats and their camp followers in the media but of most of the Republican Party too.

It may be difficult for the British, with their ingrained class guilt, to understand how this could have happened so easily-how such blithe indifference to the concerns of communities that were built on old industries like mining and steel

ence to the concerns of com-munities that were built on old industries like mining and steel production could be written off by Democrat politicians who would once have seen such places as their natural base. Hillary Clinton did not even Hillary Clinton did not even bother to campaign in the rust belt - presumably because she knew that her feminist message about glass ceilings was unlike-ly to beguile women who were more worried about putting food on the table. Joe Biden did campaign frenetically in those



MANY POLICIES OF TRUMP - AND THE COMPLAINTS THAT HE MADE ON BEHALF OF THE 'FORGOTTEN MAN' - WERE SOUND AND CONVINCING. **PARTICULARLY** CONVINCING TO A VAST ARMY OF DISPOSSESSED VICTIMS OF THE POST-INDUSTRIAL **APOCALYPSE** 

WHICH HAD

**DECIMATED BLUE COLLAR AMERICA** 

places but without many substantive policy proposals to counter the protectionist solution that Trump had offered.

We are seeing a remarkably similar tendency here but the Islingtonisation of the Labour party with its new metropolitan obsessions is, at least, an ongoing ideological battle. The abandonment of working class voters became a point of huge interest once again with the breaching of the northern Red Wall by the Fories in the last general election. Class disavantage is still very much alwelectoral issue in Britain. To become a part of the educated middle class is to enter immediately—with one jump—into the privileged elite which accepts noblesse oblige as a historic duty.

But American political cul-

toric duty.
But American political cul But American political cul-ture is very different. There is almost no sense of inherited responsibility to those who are poor or victimised by eco-nomic change – especially if they are White. The American

information change – especially if they are White. The American credo is that you should strive to succeed in whatever circumstances you find yourself: that is why you (or your forebears) came to the country.

Almost everybody started poor. If you do not succeed, by equipping yourself with whatever skills or personal characteristics are necessary or by moving across the country to somewhere with better opportunities, then that is largely your own fault. Self-determination is not optional: it is a moral

obligation. What follows from this? That poverty or failure are not to be passively accepted and treated with patronising compassion – which is why most Americans will vote against democratic socialism.

It is important to realise that even most of the American poor feel this way. What they want is what Trump promised them – "jobs, jobs, jobs," not welfare dependency. So dismissing their anger and failing to offer solutions which restore their dignity and self-worth is an inexcusable betrayal, not just of them but of the American at the self-worth is an inexcusable betrayal, not just of them but of the American dream – the national spirit, the whole point of the country's existence as a refuge for those who want to make something of themselves.

That is what Trump stood for. To the surprise of the liberal establishment, huge numbers of Black and Latino voters were attracted to this message because, like most Americans, they did not want to see themselves as permanent victims or losers. What they wanted was a chance to succeed.

Over the coming months, senior Republicans and Democrats are going to have to find a way to talk to the Trump constituency without insuling them. If they don't, then it will just be a matter of time before another ranting populis tures them away. And the next one might be less obviously abourd.

(Courtesy: The Daily Telegraph)

### SOUNDBITE

India is trying to reduce its carbon footprint by 30-35 per cent. We need to increase natural gas usage by four times in our need for energy.



What's the reason that the Yogi Government has failed to take action against the liquor mafia despite so many deaths? Who is responsible?



I can't tell you how excited I am to be playing with my son Charlie in our first official tournament together It's been great watching hin progress as a junior golfer.



Don't worry about Virat. He is up for every single game he is playing. Maybe, there will be extra motivation. I am sure



#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Pak's new ploy

Sir — The Nagrota encounter possibly helped us avert a major disaster in Jammu and Kashmir and justified the renewed diplodisaster in Jammu and Kasmini and justified the renewed diplomatic offensive against Pakistan. The encounter comes days after the Pakistan Government and its military said that they had prepared a dossier on India-sponsored terror activities on their soil. The document was seen as a feeble attempt at throwing back at India some of the charges like terror financing that Pakistan faces in the international arena. Intelligence officials say that Pakistan has stepped up its anti-Kashmir narrative following the election of Joe Biden as future US President, hoping to play on his past stance of restoring civil liberties in the Union Territory. Our neighbour has Territory. Our neighbour has simultaneously increased infiltra-

simultaneously increased infiltra-tion attempts. Senior Government officials said communication equipment found on the terrorists showed that they had been in touch with handlers in Pakistan before the encounter in Nagrota and carried a large cache of weapons and ammunition. This attempt at internationalising the Kashmir issue won't hold water. Besides,

# **Indo-US ties must be mutually supportive**

it a courtesy gesture or not, the phone call betwe rime Minister Narendra Modi and US President-el Brime Minister Narendra woul and Go 1 105000.....

Brillie Minister National and U.S. Presouth-level.

Joe Bilden enabled both the leaders to assure each other of cooperation. The latter may be self-effacing and sort a soleme appression but Mod is should try to establish a close rapport with him, forgetting his endorsement of U.S. President Donald Trump for re-election at the "Howdy Modif" mega event at Houston.

Despite its preference for Donald Trump as a sort or natural global ally, India's ruling dispensation has now no option but to ome to terms with the reality of the Biden Administration and what it entails. The relieration of commitment to further strengthening Indo-U.S relations and cooperation in dealing with a range of issues signals and cooperation in dealing with a range of sissues signals and cooperation in the H-18 regime in its entirely, lifting of visa and work permit restrictions and a fair trade deal. Biden's read-out following the phone call mentioned "strengthening democracy at home and abroad." Its omission in Modifs tweet and the MEAs read-out for whatever reason did not go unnotteed. Biden and Vice-President-elect Kanada Harris do not see eye to sey with the Modi Government. tweet and the MLAs read-out for whatever reason did not go unnoticed. Biden and Vice-President-elect Kamala Harris do not see eye to eye with the Modi Government on the abrogation of Article 370, the curtailment of civil liberties in Jammu and Kashmir, the discriminatory Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the punitive action



against NGOs and so on. New Delhi can assess their views against the touchstone of "justice", "equality" and "freedom." India can walk tall on the global stage and feel at ease with the incoming Biden Administration by demonease with the incoming losen administration of section strating that it respects human rights and shurs discrimination against minorities. There is scope for workarounds. The Bidan Administration is likely to reshape the US role in world affairs in order to regain its lost pre-emilience, When it comes to its role vis-a-visit official, we should engage on equal terms and tackle global challenges in a spirit of multilateralism.

David Milton Maruthancode

Free Stan Swamv Sir — The arrest of the 83-year-old priest Stan Swamy, who is suffering from Parkinson's dis-ease, has caused a stir among many people in India. The vet-

Pakistan needs to set its own house in order as dissent against its Government grows in the form of a people's movement and its economy is in shambles. CK Subramaniam Mumbai

eran tribal rights activist has worked for over 50 years in Jharkhand, fighting for the Adivasis on land, forest and labour rights. The charges against this ailing social worker aim to discredit intellectuals, legal pro-

fessionals and social activists who raise their voices for the rights of the poorest of the poor. He should be released at the earliest, come what may.

The National Platform for the Rights of the Disabled has The National Platform for the Rights of the Disabled has recently written to the National Human Rights Commission seeking its intervention to provide "reasonable accommodation" to Swamy, who has been in detention in Nagpur Central Jail. It is shameful that an ailing clorition, is being delerly man, who needs a straw to drink because of his debilitating condition, is being denied basic help and forced to seek help from the court just to be able to nourish himself. In the meanting, the suffering from severe dehydration physically and the worst kind of humiliation mentally. This is inhuman, cruel and strikes of political vendetta. The State and its law and more strikes of political vendetta. The State and its law and planting the non-implementation of the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution. He must be freed Constitution. He must be freed constitution. He must be freed constitution. n. He must be freed before he loses his life in jail.

Jubel D'Cruz

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

### FIRSTCOLUMN Incomprehensible digital world

Information technology wizards often coin new words and their jargon is confusing. Much of these await handling in a statesman-like manner



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

e are living in the age of digitisation and now the pandemic has made it much more universal and in a much lesser span of time than would have been otherwise possible. The multiplication of online platforms and transactions of almost every variety has almost divided the world community into categories, depending upon their facility with this process and medium. The "traditional" mom-and-pop set-ups, dealing with maintenance and services, have been speedily eliminated in favour of the do-it-yourself (DIY) culture and by online instructional videos. There would be nothing to grudge that if two things were ensured. First, the basic infrastructure for online communication as and First, the basic infrastructure for online communication as and when needed. Second, credible skills at the responding digital end to diagnose the problem and articulate it in comprehensible terms. Both of these clearly need far more attention than currently seems to be the case. This is not to find sulb to temphasise an essential pre-condition for digital maintenance services. The proposition of both infrastructure and skill take time to reach a level of maturity, making them amenable for use. If it is sought to be artificially expedited, the casualties are several. Among the first is the breakdown of systems and interruption in work. The second is loss of opportunity which would have a dominior effect on critical aspects of productivity and the livelihood chain. This concern needs to be a universal one and must be catered to right from the planning stage itself. There is no magic wand to see one through, skipping the preceding processes. The facts of life being what they are, investing in bridging these gaps is not lucrative enough to draw investment. Business by its nature tends to skirt around unprofitable activities to focus on revenuench modules.

rich modules.

The Government itself seems to be surrounded by so many pressing concerns that it tends to operate in a fire-flighting mode. The result is all-round confusion, errors in data entry and mis-reading of categories by semi-flierate staff who on fully grass the failout of errors. Carelessness often compounds matters. The inefficiency is further aggravated by a progressively increasing punitive protocol with which default is met. So results of technological default can easily be interpreted as conscious acts and

In a pandemic situation (which came in weeks before the crisis got recognised as one such) in India, the sheer speed with which "policy" and "vision" measures are being put in place is breathtaking. Almost everything, from education to maritime vision, seems to have been fashioned and the rollout has begun. This is only matched by the dip in the number of copies each news-paper is printing and how much of the dialogue is almost confined to those with access to the internet and a screen

Logic is often known to be subservient to desire and the Indian genius for finding arguments for what one wishes to do is uni

Logic is often known to be subservient to desire and the Indian genius for Inding arguments for what one wishes to do is universally known to be strong. But some day all this will change. Some day the pandemic will be a thing of the past. Some day, it is likely, the tale of internet non-users and those at the receiving end of economic growth would have reached a point of equilibrium. The lesser fortunate would have been, metaphorically, wiped out or relegated to a state of destitution. Of the surviving ones, a percentage of the successful would be firmly in the driving seat, growing bigger, richer and more powerful. There is a distinct possibility that even in that situation, good sense may prevail. Whether that will be so or not, only time will tell. Oligarchies do sometimes have a wiser side in oretain cases. That, at this point of time, is essentially a matter of speculation. In all this, the process of digitisation would have been a strong both force. In effect, it would have to go hand-in-hand with local ones. Our preparation for the future demands recognition of such a reality. Effectively, mindests need to be tuned to look at the big picture and not temporary gains. It would require a conscious and systematic approach to decision—making. It may not be just survival of the fittest in simple Darwinian terms but a lot of self-dependence would need to be ingrained. For the present, one could begin this much-needed journey by making the language used in ushfreing in and spreading the digitisation mission comprehensible. Unfortunately, the jargon which information technology specialists usee even in explaining the working of their gadgets is not in a format of normal communication. Information technology wizards often coin new words and their jargon often confluses. Much of these awark handling

munication. Information technology wizards often coin new words and their jargon often confuses. Much of these await handling in a statesman-like manner.

atesman-like manner.
(The writer is an internationally-acclaimed management

### POINTCOUNTERPOINT

analysis

LOVE JIHAD HAS COME TO BE REALISED AS A MENACE IN ALL STATES IN INDIA, NOT JUST AMONG HINDUS BUT AMONG ALL NON-MUSLIMS, TOO. -UNION MINISTER





FAMILY MEMBERS OF MANY BUP LEADERS HAVE PERFORMED INTER-RELIGION MARRIAGES. WILL THESE MARRIAGES TOO COME UNDER LOVE JIHAD? —CHHATTISGARH CHIEF MINISTER

# Focus on primary care

Though national policies are often preceded by commitments of political parties in their manifestos, it is for the first time that health infrastructure has become a poll agenda



SURAVI SHARMA

In spite of the pressing needs of a huge population, healthcare in India has never been an electoral mobiliser unlike in older democracies, such as the UK and the US. Only three National Health Policies (1983, 2002 and 2017) have been promulgated by respective Governments in the last 70 years. Though national policies and promises are often preceded by commitments of political parties in their manifestos, it is for the first time in the history of independent India that healthcare infrastructure has now become a top election agenda. This is all due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Our country should be moving towards a healthcare system that places a high priority on keeping people healthy and out of hospitals. And the primary care doctor should be playing the leading role in this transformation. This, in turn, will lead to a reduced financial burden, diminishing the high cost of emergency rooms and tertiary care centres. Good primary care improves patient outcomes too, yet we have ignored these fundamentals to our detriment. This blind spot is the biggest flaw in our current healthcare system.

Democracy is a system of governance for the people, by the people and the primary healthcare, similarly defined, is healthcare provided to all, especially the most marginalised, with their participation and for their needs. If the primary healthcare system of a country is not functioning well, it is symptomatic of problems in its democracy, public good is publicly funded. The right to health is subsumed under the right to life in the Constitution. Yet, India figures at the very bottom of the global health systems rankings. We have the dubious distinction of having the maximum number of tuberculosis and leprocy patients and the lighest maternal and infant mortality rates.

With a focus on primary care, our health systems should move away from procedures/hospital-

highest maternal and infant mortality rates. With a focus on primary care, our health system should move away from procedures/hospital-based care, in which primary care physicians (PCPs) have been devalued. Such systems depict the PCPs as paper-pushers in a world of specialists. The Bhore Committee set up in 1946 published a landmark report highlighting the need for a "social physician", who would be a key player in India's healthcare system. The report also emphasised the need to recognise the field of Family Medicine as a separate speciality with a post-graduate residency programme in post-graduate medical institutes. Our medical education system, too, needs to encourage medical students to view primary care as a route to

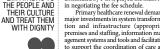
programme in post-graduate medical institutes Our medical education system, too, needs to encourage medical students to view primary care as a noute to creating a more effective healthcare system.

The Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, an organisation working to improve healthcare in the US, says that in order to produce more primary care doctors, such as the contract of the contract o



WITHIN COMMUNITIES THAT ARE EQUIPPED aged to contain the cloud of specialists in its healthcare system and accorded a prominent voice to PCPs in its decision-making process.

In the early days of Japan's modeline medicine history, hospitals catered to only an affluent few and the Government limited their funding, restricting them to functions like training of medical students and isolation of infectious cases. Reciprocal connections between doctors in private clinics and hospitals were forbidden, thwartning possibilities of a nexus between the two groups. However, a sturdy lobby of clinic-based PCPs evolved, which tipped the balance in favour of private healthcare. The Japanese social health insurance was implemented in 1927 and the medical association, that was dominated by PCPs, played the main role in negotiating the fee schedule. Primary healthcare renewal demands major investments in system transformation and infrastructure (appropriate premises and staffing, information management systems and tools and facilitation to support the coordination of care and the improvement of quality). Sadly, in India until 2018, only one per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was seption healthcare and since EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH THEIR NEEDS AND PROVIDE PREVENTIVE AND CURATIVE CARE. THEY SHOULD BE STAFFED BY A SKILLED TEAM OF PROVIDERS WHO ARE EMPATHETIC TO THE PEOPLE AND THEIR CUITTIES.



Sadly, in India until 2018, only one per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was spent on healthcare and since 2019 this has increased to 3.6 per cent. This is much lower than many non-demo-cratic/poorer nations and is ahead of only five countries, namely Burundi, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sudan and Cambodia. Such low spending, as we know, leads to a pervert-ed pattern of healthcare as our health sys-tem is meant to cater to a population of over a billion human beings.

over a billion human beings.

Poor investment in the primary healthcare system naturally under-equips it. Hence, we lack supplies and drugs for

comprehensive primary care. For example, of the 709 public health centres (PHGs) surveyed in 2009 by the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, about 24 per cent did not have electricity and 63 per cent did not have pled water supply. At the same time, PHGs are expected to deliver centrally-designed, targeted, vertical programmes, alienating them further from communities. As a result, even those families that can access PHGs continue to look elsewhere for their critical healthcare needs. There is empirical evidence that public spending on primary healthcare is the most effective, efficient and equitable approach to improve the health of populations. Higher public spending has always shown decreased mortality and morbidity of the poor. An analysis by the Centre for Economic and International Studies examined the relative efficiency of public and private healthcare spending in 162 countries and private healthcare spending in 162 countries and the latter, to higher. India has a large network of PHCs. and cach is meant to serve a population of 2,5000. In poorer States, such as Madhya each is meant to serve a population of 2,5000. In poorer States, such as Madhya reass in the south and in the desert in the west) that a family may need to travel 10-20 km to reach the nearest PHG. This means that when a person is sick, she may have to wait for many hours or days to reach a healthcare facility.

A few countries in South America with limited resources have managed to design and scale up populations for

delivering primary care. Family clinics in Brazil and polyclinics and nurses offices in Cuba are examples of systems with nationwide coverage. Cuba has one of the in Cuba are examples of systems with nationwide coverage. Cuba has one of the most effective primary healthcare systems in the world, whose centerpiece is the community-based polyclinic, each of which serves a catchment area, bostic, each of which serves a catchment area, bostic outside the properties of the community and the serves a catchment area, bostic outside of the communities. One such office is for any other communities of the communities of the communities. One such office is for the communities. An important requirement of primary healthcare is the active participation of the masses — akin to citizen participation in a democracy. Such systems are likely to be more responsive to public needs, in the States of West Bengal and Kerala, in which primary healthcare is co-manged by panchayats, health outcomes are better than in most other States at similar levels of conomic development.

Government healthcare centres even in cities are yet to be able to provide treatment to the sick with dignity. Patients struggling for its sharing beds, children along with parents lying on the floor in hospital wards and women delivering babies in hospital corridors are an everyday sight in Government healthcare system should have facilities focated withit communities that are equipped to deal with their needs and provide preventive and cura-

have hacilities located within communities that are equipped to deal with their needs and provide preventive and curative care. They should be staffed by a skilled team of providers, who are empathetic to the people and their culture and treat them with dignity.

(The writer is an author and a doctor law membraich.)



# Raising the spectre of the 'Deep State'

The oft-used term means a very different thing in countries like Pak. But when Donald Trump uses it for the US, he does it as a ploy to deflect attention from his failures



NADEEM PARACHA

A friend, settled in the US, recently quipped that never has he heard so many Pakistanis (in the US) use the word "Deep State" as much as they have been doing since the recently-concluded US presidential elections. The polls were won by the Democratic Party nominee John Biden. My friend clarified that the mentioned term was being used mostly by those Pakistani-Americans who actually voted for President Donald Trump.

Even though exit polls published by The New York Times show that a majority of Asians had cast their vote for Biden (63 per cent), up to 31 per cent of them voted for Trump. According to my friend, a majority of these included Pakistanis who believed Trump was good for the curend, settled in the US, re

rent coalition Government in Pakistan being led by Prime Minister Imran Khanis Centre-Right PTI.
The Opposition parties in Pakistan have increasingly insisted that certain State institutions installed Khan "through an engineered election" in 2018 and were using him as a "puppet." Pakistan has had a history of State institutions influencing political outcomes, sometimes through direct interventions and sometimes by influencing the results of elections.

through direct interventions and sometimes by influencing the results of elections.

This is why my friend was sounding sarcastic, because he added that not once did he hear the term "Destate" from American-Pakistanis (who voted for Trump) during discussions on the current political arrangement in Pakistan. The term "Deep State", now being aired so frequently by Trump supporters, was proliferated by the defeated President himself, who is accusing the "American Deep State" of engineering his electroal defeat.

So far Trump has provided no evidence whatsoever of this and is largely sounding like an archetypal conspiracy theorist. The difference between the US and Pakistan in this context is the fact that there is now

enough evidence in the latter coun-try to build a substantiated history of

try to build a substantiated history of the State's over involvement in influencing political matters outside of its constitutional obligations. So what really is a "Deep State"?

The scholar Matthew Wills says that the term is a translation of the Turkish phrase, derin devlet. Author and academic Ryan Gingeras writes that "Deep State" generally refers to a kind of a parallel system of Government in which unofficial or unacknowledged individuals play important roles in implementing State policy. According to Gingeras, the idea of a "Deep State" can be traced to the twilight years of the Ottoman Empire.

Gingeras writes that clandestine 'Gingeras writes that clandestine forces were recruited from paramilitary and criminal elements by the Committee of Union and Progress (CUP), the party that ousted the Ottomans in 1923. Across much of the Ottomans in 1923. Across much of the 20th century, opponents of the CUP claimed that the party had established a clandestine network of military officers and their civilian allies who, for decades, suppressed anyone thought to pose a threat to the secular order established in Turkey by Mustafa

Kemal Atatürk, Deuter Filkins, in a March 2012 article for The New Yorker, writes that the former Prime Minister of Turkey (now President), Recep Erdogan, was extremely nervous when he was first elected as Prime Minister in 2003 because he believed that since he was a candidate of an (albeit 'moderate') Islamic party, Turkey's 'Deep State' would never allow him to rule.

But no such thing happened. His party has continued to win elections since the early 2000s and the only coup attempt that his Government faced in 2016, according to Erdogan's own admission, was mounted by a Kemal Atatürk, Dexter Filkins, in a

own admission, was mounted by a faction of the military influenced by a clandestine Islamic group. There is nothing secretive about how, after 1923, the Turkish military

how, after 1923, the Turkish military continued to directly and indirectly interfere in Turkish politics, and the country's indiciary and bureaucracy were committed to secure Kemal's secular Turkish republic. For this military rule, military-backed candidates and constitutional courts were used. But there were no hidden agenda, as such, even though men such as Erdogan believed that shadowy forces were at work and would topple him.

Interestingly, all talk of "Deep State" vanished from his rhetoric once he consolidated his power.

So what does this imply? In many countries, certain powerful State institutions do interfer in political processes, but increasingly, it's being done rather unabashedly, It was always justified as a "necessary step taken to curtail political chaos", but now the interfering State institutions use social and electronic media to generate support for their actions in this regard. Again, there is nothing clamdestine about all this. There has always been "a State within a State" in most modern nation "States."

always been "a State within a State" in most modern nation-States. Recently, the Pakistani Opposition leader Nawaz Sharif used the phrase 'State above the State'. This is probably because he knows that the knowledge of Pakistan having a State within a State is now common, and he would be saying nothing new. So he wanted to point towards a much deeper malaise. According to his narrative, the State within the State, which is not quite hidden anymore, is now facing a challenge from within.

But what about the US? Does it have a "Deep State" that, as Trump believes, helped Biden hijack the

election? In the January 27 edition of the Business Insider, the American academic Rebecca Gordon writes that the idea of a sinister "Deep State" in the US, popularised by Trump across his presidency, is somewhat different than how it is understood in most other countries. According to Gordon, "rather than referring to a parallel system of Government operating outside official channels, for Trump he 'Deep State' is the Government."

For Trump, any State or Government institution, which stalls any of his orders, is working for a

Government institution, which stalls any of his orders, is working for a 'Deep State'. To him, elements within America's domestic and intermational Intelligence agencies, such as the PBI and the CIA, were also working for the 'Deep State'. In November 2019, the former Deputy Director the CIA, John McLaughlin, was amused about Trump's constant usage of the phrase. In a radio interview McLaughlin said, 'There is no 'Deep State'. What people think of as the Deep State' is just the American civil service, social security, the people who fix the roads, health and human services.'

vices."

In his 2016 book, *The Deep State*,
the American author and a former

Republican US Congressional aide, Mike Lofgren, wrote that the "Deep State" was not some secret, conspir-atorial cabal. It is a "State within a State" that is hiding in plain sight, and its operators mainly act in the light of

As I argued earlier, there is really nothing clandestine about what is understood as "Deep State". Its actions are in the open because it wants to impose the fact that it will secure its interests in a political arrangement. Governments negotiate a space for themselves with the State as long as that space is not overtly violated by State institutions in an unconstitutional manner.

al manner.

If and when it is, the Government
has constitutional tools to push the
State back as much as it can, or just State back as much as it can, or just give in and get on the same page just to survive. This is common in most countries. But what if the Government starts to see its own elements in league with the so-called "Deep State", as Trump saw it? In afraid this is then nothing more than either a delusion, or simply a cynical ploy to blame something sinister, intangible and largely imaginary, for one's own failures. (Courtesy: Dawn)

# Trump's legal team cried vote fraud, but courts found none

Philadelphia: As they frantically searched for ways to sal-vage President Donald Trump's failed reelection bid, his cam-paign pursued a dizzying gam-of legal hopscotch across six states that centered on the biggest prize of all: Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania.

The strategy may have played well in front of television cameras and on talk radio.

But it has proved a disaster in court, where judges uniformly rejected their claims of wote fraud and found the campaign's legal work amateurish.

In a rullipe late Saturday.

vote fraud and found the cam-paign's legal work amateurish. In a ruling late Saturday, US District Judge Matthew Brann — a Republican and Federalist Society member in central Pennsylvania — com-pared the campaign's legal arguments to "Frankenstein's Monster," concluding that Trump's team offered only "speculative accusations," not proof of rampant corruption. Now, as the legal doors close on Trump's attempts to have courts do what voters would not do on Election Day and deliver him a second term, his efforts in Pennsylvania



show how far he is willing to push baseless theories of wide-spread voter fraud. It was led by Rudy Giuliani,

Trump's personal lawyer, who descended on the state the Saturday after the November 3 election as the count dragged on and the president played

golf.

Summoning reporters to a scruffy, far-flung corner of Philadelphia on November 7, he held forth at a site that would soon become legendary:
Four Seasons Total

Landscaping.
The 11:30 am. News conference was doomed from the

At 11:26 am, news outlets had started calling the presi-dential contest for Democrat Joe Biden.

The race was over.

Just heating up was
Trump's plan to subvert the
election through litigation and
howls of fraud — the same tactic he had used to stave off losses in the business world. And
it would soon spread far
beyond Pennsylvania.
"Some of the ballots looked
suspicious," Giuliani, 76, said of
the vote count in Philadelphia
as he stood behind a chain link
fence, next to a sex shop.

the vote count in Philadelphia as he stood behind a chain link fence, next to a sex shop. He maligned the city as being run by a "decrepit Democratic machine." "Those mail-in ballots could have been written the day before, by the Democratic Party hacks that were all over the convention center, 'Guillain' said. He promised to file a new round of lawsuits. He rambled. "This is a very, very strong case,' he asserted. Justin Levitt, a Loyola Law School professor who specializes in election law, called the Trump lawsuits dangerous.

It is a sideshow, but its a harmful sideshow," Levitt said. "It's a toxic sideshow. The continuing baseless, evidence-free claims of alternative facts

are actually having an effect on a substantial number of Americans. They are creating the conditions for elections not to work in the future."

Not a single court has agreed with the strength of the case, but that did not stop Trump's team from firing off nearly two dozen legal challenges to Biden's victory in Pennsylvania, including and more more consultant of the control of the control

### Ioe Biden's Chief of Staff: Everything Trump doing now is bad for American democracy

Washington: President-elect Joe Biden's Chief of Staff Ronald Klain on Sunday launched a scathing attack on President Donald Trump, say-President Donald Trump, say-ing American voters have rejected his leadership and everything the Republican leader is doing now is bad for the democracy of the US. "I think he has definitely

set back the democratic norm here in the United States. He's been doing that for four years, and that's ramped up since the

election," Klain told ABC News in an interview.

"The voters rejected his leadership. A record number of Americans rejected the Trump presidency. And, since then, Donald Trump's been rejecting democracy. He has been launching baseless claims of voter fraud, baseless litigation. He's been rejected by 34 courts, and now these efforts to try to get election officials to overtum the will of the voters," he alleged.

PTI

### Trump campaign files for recount of votes in Georgia

Washington: The Trump Campaign has filed a petition for recount of votes in Georgia, days after US President-elect Joe

votes.

Democrat Biden became the first Democrat to have won the key battleground state since 1992 after a hand recount of nearly five million votes, that lasted for several days.

Georgia hadrit voted for a Democratic presidential candi-

Democratic presidential candi-date since Bill Clinton in 1992. In case of a recount, election officials in Georgia will have to re-scan the five million hand-recounted and audited legal ballots.

"We are focused on ensurance of Georgia

We are focused on ensur-ing that every aspect of Georgia State Law and the US Constitution are followed so that every legal vote is counted. President Trump and his cam-

paign continue to insist on an honest recount in Georgia, which has to include signature matching and other vital safe-guards," the Trump campaign said in a late-night statement on Saturday.

### Iran policy in Gulf ahead of Biden presidency

paign continue to insist on an nonest recount in Georgia, which has to include signature matching and other vital safe guards, the Tump campaign statement of Saturday. Without signature matching, this recount would be a sham and again allow for illegal votes to be counted. If there is no signature matching, this would be as hony as the initial vote count and recount; said the statement issued by the legal team of the campaign. "Left stop giving the people false results. There must be a time when we stop counting illegal ballots. Hopefully it is coming soon," said the campaign, a day after Georgia Secretary of State who is about the North County and the Tump administration of Gulf Arabitation of Staturday. Although Pompeo has not administration led by Joe Biden prepares to enter the White thouse in January. Almosp Pompeo has not along the propers to enter the White thouse in January. Almosp Pompeo has not along the propers to enter the White prepares to enter the White

### Xi calls on G20 to push for full, effective implementation of Paris Agreement

Beijing: Chinese President Xi Jinping said on Sunday that the G-20 countries should take the lead in tackling climate change, follow the guidance of the UN Framework the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and push for the full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. With US President-elect Joe Biden's promise to rejoin the Paris Agreement after he

takes over power early next year, its implementation is expected to get a big boost to efforts to tackle climate change and other environmental chal-

and other environmental chal-lenges to protect the planet. The US and China are the top two polluters of the world. Addressing the Leaders' Side Event on Safeguarding the Planet of the G-20 Riyadh Summit via video link, Xi said,

the lead in tackling climate

the lead in tackling climate change."

"We need to follow the guidance of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and push for the full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement," he said.

He reaffirmed China's commitment to striving to peak carbon dioxide emissions by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060.

Xi said China supports the shift to low-carbon energy in the post-Covid era to achieve the goal of Sustainable Energy for All. China has put in place the world's biggest clean energy system, and has led the world in the output and sales of new energy vehicles for five years running, he said.

China will pursue clean, low-carbon, safe and efficient

growth of new energy and green industries to promote greener economic and social development in all respects, he said. He called on the G-20 said. He called on the G-20 countries to protect the ecosys-tem with a respect for Nature, and said China supports deep-ening G20 cooperation in reducing land degradation, conserving coral reefs, and cleaning up plastic from the

ocean.

Xi welcomed participation to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to be held in the Chinese city of Kunming in May 2021

# Protesters burn part of Guatemala's Congress building

Guatemala City: Hundreds of protesters broke into Guatemala's Congress and burned part of the building Saturday amid growing demonstrations against President Alejandro Giammattei and the legislature for approxima budge that cut

for approving a budget that cut educational and health spend-

educational and health spending.
The protest came as about
7,000 people were demonstrating in front of the National
Palace in Guatemala City
against the budget, which protesters say was negotiated and
passed by legislators in secret
while the Central American
country was distracted by the
fallout of back-to-back hurricanes and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Diversity to be field in the Chinese city of Kunning in May 2021. Wideo on social media showed flames shooting out a window in the legislative building. According to media floor dipolal biodiversity in the years ahead. PTI

Polls open in Burkina Faso for



An official photo of former Congress President Eduardo Meyer is thrown out from the Congress building after protesters set a part of the building on fire in Gualemala City on Saturday

A

were people injured. Giammattei co

Saturday.

"Anyone who is proven to have participated in the crim-

inal acts will be punished with the full force of the law." He wrote that he defended people's

right to protest, "but neither can we allow people to van-dalize public or private prop-erty." The president said he had been meeting with various groups to present changes to the controversial budget. Discontent had been build-ing over the 2021 budget on social media and clashes erupt-ed during demonstrations on

social media and clashes erupt-ed during demonstrations on Friday. Guatemalans were angered because lawmakers approved \$65,000 to pay for meals for themselves, but cut funding for coronavirus patients and human rights agencies.

patients and human ngmagencies.

Vice President Guillermo
Castillo has offered to resign,
telling Giammattei that both
men should resign their positions "for the good of the
country". He also suggested
vetoing the approved budget,
firing government officials and
attempting more outreach to
various sectors around the
country. AP

### Erdogan says Turkey's place is in Europe before EU summit

Ankara: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Sunday that Turkey sees itself as a part of Europe, but he called on the European Union to "keep your promisee" on issues such as the country"s membership bid and refugees.

Before an EU
ummmi due to be held next

month.

In recent weeks, EU members have raised the prospect of sanctions against Turkey over its gas exploration missions in the eastern Mediterranean.

"We always see ourselves as part of Europe," Erdogan said in a virtual speech to ruling party members. "We chose to favour Europe as long as they don't force us to look elsewhere."

He added: "Keep your promises to our country, from full membership to the issue of refugees. Let's establish a clos-

null membership to the issue, or refugees. Let's establish a closer and more efficient cooperation together."

Turkey applied for membership in the bloc in 1987 and four years ago signed a deal with the EU to manage the flow of wignests to Europe.

migrants to Europe.

However, claims of democratic backsliding have seen its application effectively suspended while both sides have accused ed while both sides have accused the other of not properly imple-menting the refugee agreement. Ankara has dispatched research and drill ships to waters claimed by EU members Greece and Cyprus, sparking a military escalation over the summer. AP

Ouagadougou: Voters went to the polls in Burkina Faso on Sunday for presidential and legislative elections that have been marred by ongoing extremist violence in this land-locked West African nation. President Roch Marc Christian Kabore has promised to secure the country and is vying for another five years against 12 other candidates. Rabore is expected to win, but the opposition hopes to split the vote, depriving the president of the 51% support needed for an outright victory in the first round, and then form a coalition behind the strongest candidate for round two.

On Saturday, opposition

round two.
On Saturday, opposition candidates accused the ruling



### More mass testing in China after 3 new cases

AP ■ BEIJING

Authorities are conducting down schools after China reported three new domesti-cally transmitted cases in the

cally transmitted cases in the past 24 hours — two in northern Inner Mongolia province and one in Shanghau. The city of Manzhouli, in Inner Mongolia, will start testing all its residents for Covid-19 on Sunday, a day after the two cases were discovered.

The city has suspended classes and shut public venues, telling residents to not gather for dinner banquets.

### Pak Opp alliance holds anti-govt rally despite ban on gathering in Peshawar

PTI ■ PESHAWAR

Pakistan's newly-formed alliance of 11 Opposition parties on Sunday held its massive anti-government rally in Peshawar despite a ban imposed by the city administration owing to a spike in COVID-19 cases and security threats, with top coalition lead-respredicting that the Imran Khan Government will "have to go home by January".

Khan Government will "have to go home by January". The fourth power show by the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) was held despite the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Government's warning that it may lodge cases against the PDM leaders

if a spike in Covid-19 cases was witnessed in the province after the rally. The alliance earlier held three massive back-to-back gatherings in Gujranwala, Karachi and Quetta.

Karachi and Quetta.
Addressing the gathering,
Pakistan People's Party leader
Bilawal Bhutto Zardari vowed
that January will be the incumbent Government's "last month
in power" and the people will
decide how Pakistan will be
governed.

decide how Pakistan will be governed.

"They will go home in January," he said. "Time is near when you, the people, would hold this selected Government and its selectors responsible for current crises...," he said.

### पंचायतीराज निदेशालय, उत्तराखण्ड, देहरादून Azerbaijanis who fled war look ई-निविदा आमंत्रण निदेशालय पंचायती राज, सहस्त्रधारा रोड, देहरादून द्वारा Helpdesl to return home, if it exists

Services हेतु आवश्यक Hardware Equipments के क्रय हेतु ई–निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। ई-निविदा दिनांक 23 नवम्बर, 2020 से वेबसाईट https://www.uktenders.gov.in पर उपलब्ध होगी।

भविष्य में इस निविदा से सम्बन्धित कोई भी विवरण / शुद्धिपत्र मात्र उक्त वेबसाईट पर ही प्रसारित किया जायेगा।

निदेशक, पंचायतीराज

### **SEARCH FOR MISSING**

eneral public is hereby informed that by Mohd. Suhel S/o Mohd. Zuber, R/ boy Mohd. Suhel Slo Mohd. Zuber H.No. 3815, Gall kumhar wall, Shah Ajmerl Gate, Delhi has been missing in 0.1.1.2020 from his house. In this re DD No. 62A dated 10.11.2020 has registered at P.S. Kamla Market, C Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing bo no clue has come to light so far.

no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing boy is as under.

Name: Mohd. Suhel, Gender: Male, Age:
20 years, Height: 5'. Complexion: Wheatsh, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Identification: Mentally Weak, Wearing: Black and white colour track pant, sky blue colour t-shirt and dark brown colour slippers.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing boy, kindly inform SHO/Kamla Market, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax : 011-24368639

P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi. Ph. No. 011-23230623, 23233743

Baku: As Azerbaijan regains control of land it lost to Armenian forces a quarter-century ago, civilians who fled the fighting decades ago won-der if they can go back home now — and if there's still a home to go back to.

now — and if there's still a home to go back to. An estimated 600,000 Azerbaijanis were displaced in the 1990s war that left the Nagorno-Karabakh region under the control of ethnic Armenian separatists and large adjacent territories in Armenia's hands

Armenian ser adjacent territories Armenia's hands. During six weeks of renewed fighting this fall that and Nov. 10, Azerbaijan took

ended Nov 10, Azerbaijan took back parts of Nagorno-Karabakh itself and sizeable swaths of the outlying areas. More territory is being returned as part of the case-fire agreement that stopped the latest fighting. But as Azerbaijani forces discovered when the first area, Aghdam, was turned over on Friday, much of the recovered land is uninhabitable. The city of Aghdam, where 50,000 people

ruin.

Adil Sharifov, 62, who left his hometown in 1992 during the first war and lives in Azerbaijan's capital, Baku, knows he will find similar devknows he will find similar devastation if he returns to the city of Jabrayil, which he longs to do.

of Jabrayil, which he longs to do.
Jabrayil is one of the outJuning areas regained by Azerbaijani troops before the recent fighting ended. Soon after it was taken, one of Sharifov's cousins went there and told him the city was destroyed, including the large house with an orchard where Sharifov's family once lived. Nonetheless, 'the day when I return there will be the greatest happiness for me,' he said.
For years, he said, his family had followed reports about Jabrayil on the internet. They knew the destruction was terrible, but Sharifov's late mother retained a desperate hope that their house had been spared and held on to the keys.

"I will build an even better

"I will build an even better house," he vowed.

Ulviya Jumayeva, 50, can go back to better, though not ideal circumstances in her native Shusha, a city that Azerbaijani forces took in the key offensive of the six-week war.

war.

Her younger brother,
Nasimi, took part in the battle
and phoned to tell her the
apartment their family fled in
1992 was intact, though mostly stripped of the family's pos-

ly stripped of the family's pos-sessions.

"According to him, it is clear that Armenians lived there after us, and then they took everything away. But our large mirror in the hallway, which we loved to look at as children, remains," Jumayeva said, adding: "Maybe my grandchil-dren will look in this mirror."

"We all have houses in Baku, but everyone considered them to be not permanent, because all these years we lived in the hope that we would return to Shusha," she said.

AP

### Israel strikes Hamas sites in Gaza Strip after rocket attack

Jerusalem: Israeli aircraft on Sunday struck multiple sites in the Gaza Strip in response to a rocket fired earlier from the Palestinian territory, Israel's military said.

There were no immediate reports of injuries.

While several militant groups operate out of the Palestinian enclave, Israel holds Gaza's Hamas rulers responsible for all rocket fire out of the territory and usually strikes

ble for all rocket fire out of the territory and usually strikes Hamas targets in response. The Israeli military said in a statement that fighter jets and attack helicopters hit two rock-et ammunition manufactur-

et ammunition manufacturing sites, underground infra-structure and a Hamas naval forces training compound.
Late Saturday, Palestinian militants in Gaza fired a rock-et toward Israel, setting off air-raid sirens in the southern Israeli city of Ashkelon, the Israeli military said.
Israeli police said the rock-et caused damage to a structure



in the Ashkelon area, roughly 10 kilometers (6 miles) north of Gaza, but there were no injuries. Israeli media said the rocket struck a factory, causing damage. nage. Israel and Hamas, an

### **Man dies in** shark attack in Western **Australia**



Sydney: A man died Sunday after being attacked by a shark in Western Australia, the eighth fatality in the county this year. Police were called to Cable

Beach, a popular tourist spot on Australia's Indian Ocean coast, at about 8:40 a.M. The 55-year-old was pulled from the water with serious injuries

the water with serious injuries and treated by police before paramedics arrived. He died at the scene, police said.

Park rangers immediately closed the beach.

The man was the eighth to die in a shark attack in Australia this year, the highest toll since 1929 when nine died. Australia this year, the highest toll since 1929 when nine died. The introduction of shark nets at popular beaches in the 1930s led to a significant fall in fatal attacks.

# **India's manufacturing poised to witness recovery in Jul-Sep: Survey**

Manufacturing Sector

PTI II NEW DELHI

India's manufacturing sector its poised to witness recovery in the July-September quarter, even as hiring outlook for the segment remains bleak, according to a survey.
Industry body FICCI's latest quarterly survey on manufacturing points towards recovery of the manufacturing sector in the second quarter ended September as compared to the previous quarter, with a rise in percentage of respondents reporting higher production.

The proportion of respondents reporting higher root to 24 per cent, as compared to 24 per cent, as com-

pared to 10 per cent in the previous quarter.

Besides, the percentage of respondents expecting low or same production is 74 per cent in the second quarter which was 90 per cent in the first quarter of 2002-21.

However, hirring outlook for the sector, though improving slightly, shows a bleak picture as 80 per cent of the respondents mentioned that hey are not likely to hire additional workforce in the next three months.

"This presents slightly improved situation in the hir ing scenario as compared to the

ing scenario as compared to the previous quarter Q-1 of 2020-21, where 85 per cent of the

Moreover, the average interest rate paid by manufac-turers has reduced slightly to turers has reduced signify of 9.2. per cent per annum as against 9.4 per cent per annum during the last quarter and the highest rate is reported to be 12.5 per cent. The recent cuts in repo rate by the RB has not led to a consequential reduction in the landing rate of in repo rate by the RBI has not led to a consequential reduction in the lending rate as reported by 55 per cent of the respondents, found the survey. Based on expectations in different sectors, all the sectors except medical devices are likely to register low growth in Q-2 2020-21. The primary reason

for such depressed expectations seems to be the imposition of lockdown, subdued demand,

The survey covered wide

response towards COVID-19 outbreak.

ty utilisation, ongoing restrictions, availability of labour/workforce and others. In many of these areas there are signs of operations inching towards normal and in coming months could see better performance.

The survey assessed the sentiments of manufacturers for 12 major sectors namely automotive, capital goods, cement and ceramics, chemicals, fertilizers and pharma ceuticals, electronics & electrical devices, metal & metal products, paper products, textules machinery, and miscellaneous.

Responses were drawn from over 300 manufacturing units from both large and SME segments with a combined annual turnover of around Rs

annual turnover of around Rs 3 lakh crore.

The survey showed that overall capacity utilisation in manufacturing has risen to 65 per cent as compared to 61.5 per cent in Q4 2019-20.

per cent in Q4 2019-20.
The future investment outlook, however, is subdued as only 18 per cent respondents reported plans for capacity additions for the next six months as compared to 22 per cent in the previous quarter, the survey revealed.
High raw material prices, high cost of finance, shortage

of skilled labour and working capital, high logistics cost, low domestic and global demand due to imposition of lockdown across several countries, lack of across several countries, lack of financial assistance, are some of financial assistance, are some of the major constraints affecting expansion plans of the respondents. Significantly, the percentage of respondents expecting increase in exports in July-September has increased substantially to 24 per cent when compared to the previous quarter, wherein merely 8 per cent respondents were expecting a rise in exports. Also, 19 per cent are expecting exports to continue to be on same path as that of same quarter last year, the survey noted.

# Petrol, diesel prices rise for 3rd straight day across metros

Prices of petrol and diesel rose across the four metro cities on Sunday for the fourth consecutive day after a nearly

consecutive day after a nearly two-month hiatus.

In the national capital, petrol was priced at ₹81.46 pet litre on Sunday, eight paise higher than the previous level.

In the other key cities of Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata, the fuel was sold at ₹88.16 \$4.53 and ₹83.03 per litre, higher than the Saturday's levels of ₹88.09, ₹84.46 and ₹82.95, respectively.

els of ₹88.09, ₹84.46 and ₹ 82.95, respectively. The prices of diesel in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata were ₹71.07, ₹77.54, ₹76.55 and ₹74.64 per litre, respectively, compared to ₹ 70.88, ₹77.34, ₹76.37 and ₹ 74.45

The increase in petrol and



tive news on the successful introduction of a coronavirus vaccine soon.

Moreover, the demand for oil and falling inventory levels in major consuming markets has also firmed up the crude

price.

The benchmark Brent The benchmark Brent crude price is hovering close to \$45 a barrel for some time now while the US WTI crude is also over \$42 a barrel.

The two have remained firm since the beginning of the month after remaining soft in most parts of October at close to \$40 a barrel or less.

OMC sources said that the auto fuel hike may not end just

yet and the price of the two
petroleum products may
increase gradually over the
next week as well.

This is required to keep
OMCs from incurring losses
on the sale of petrol and
diesel.

While India has brought
both petrol and diesel out from
an earlier administrative price
regime and their retail prices
are revised daily based on the
global movement product
prices, holding the retail price
revision for almost two months
was surprising.

revision for almost two months was surprising.
At a time when globally prices change by the hour, in India it could be kept static for such a long period.
The increase of every dollar in the price of crude results in a retail price of petrol and diesel to be increased by up to 40 paisa per litre.
This would mean that the fuel prices should be up by at least ₹1.20 per litre by now.

## GST Council panel for 2-pronged strategy to curb fake invoices

IANS III NEW DEI HI

The Law Committee of the GST Council has suggested a two-pronged strategy to tackle the issue of fake invoic-

tackle the issue of fake invoices, sources said.

According to people in the know, the panel has recommended that new or fresh registrations in GST may adopt an Aadhaar-like registration can be done online with live photo and use of biometrics with due verification of documents.

Such facilities can be provided at banks, post offices,

Such facilities can be provided at banks, post offices, and GST Seva Kendras (GSK), just like the Passport Seva Kendras or the Aadhaar Seva Kendras. The GSKs can work on the pattern of the Passport Seva Kendras to provide new registration facilities with required checks on fake registration.

According to sources, the Law Committee has suggested



that a fresh registrant must go for compulsory physical veri-fication and personal identifi-cation in case he or she opts for non-Aadhaar authentication-based registration process and does not have income tax return supported adequate financial capability. In such a case, he or she may have to submit a recom-mendation letter by two tax-payers of adequate reliability. Further, also, if on the basis of document supported non-Aadhaar authentication

credentials, a registrant or deal-er falls in "trustworthy" cate-gory, then he or she can be given registration within seven

given registration within seven working days.

If he or she is not in the trustworthy" category, then conditional registration shall be given within 60 working days only after physical verification of the place of business wherein in such cases input tay cred. in in such cases input tax cred-it to their buyers shall be allowed only after filing of their return and the dealers Such facilities can be provided at banks, post offices, and GST Seva Kendras, just like the Passport Seva Kendras or the Aadhaar Seva Kendras

Additad Seva kenturas
would be required to pay certain portion of their liability in
cash instead of paying 100 per
cent tax through ITC.
According to sources in the
Department of Revenue, to
weed out existing fake dealers
from the GST system, the panel
proposed full application of the
Business Intelligence and Fraud
Analytics (BIFA) tool for precise identification of riskier
dealers based on the riskier
dealers based on the riskier
input supply chain and outward
supply chain, abnormal taxpayer behaviour in terms
of ITC availment, tax payment for
catching fake dealer and taking
appropriate action, including
enforcement.
It has suggested suspension.

enforcement.

It has suggested suspension of first lot of riskier traders and identification of such taxpayers on the basis of significant crierion including non-filing of return for six months, said sources, adding that the committee underlined that fact that there are about 6 lakh domant registrants in GST.

### RBI becomes 1st Central bank to have 1 mn followers on Twitter



The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Twitter handle achieved 1 million followers on

achieved i million followers on Sunday, turning it the first central bank in the world to achieve the feat. Taking to Twitter, RBI Governor, Shaktikanta Das wrote: 'RBI Twitter account reaches one million followers today. A new milestone. Congratulations to all my col-leagues in RBI." It is followed by the Banco de Mexico (Bank of Mexico) as a distant second with 774,000 followers.

de Mexico (Bank of Mexico) as a distant second with 774,000 followers.

The US Federal Reserve has 677,000 followers and the European Central Bank has 591,000 followers.

The Federal Reserve joined Twitter in March 2009, while the ECB has been active on the social media platform since October 2009.

India's central bank, on the other hand joined the micro-blogging site in 2012.

Apart from its primary Twitter handle, RBI has another Twitter account called 'RBI Say's which largely spreads awareness among consumers and bank account holders.

## Sebi to spearhead World Investors Week activities

TYAGI ASKS INVESTORS TO TAKE INFORMED DECISIONS

There is a need for new investors to take informed investment decisions without getting lured by false promises and unsolicited advice, Sebi chairman Ajar Yagai has said as the regulator spearheads World Investors Week celebrations in India beginning Monday.

Every year, the World Investor Week (WIVIW) is culebrated the world over, under

Investor Week (WIW) is cele-brated the world over, under the aegis of IOSCO, the glob-al body of securities regulators, in order to give further impe-tus to the various investor edu-cation and awareness initia-

cation and awareness initia-tives.

The WIW is celebrated in more than 100 jurisdictions across the world.

Sebi has been participating in the celebrations along with

exchanges, depositories, investor associations, commodity derivative trainers and resource persons since 2017. Sebi is the national coordinator for the WIW in India,

which will be celebrated this time from November 23-29. "There is a need for the new investors to make informed investment decisions. new investors to make informed investment decisions. Thus, investor awareness and education play an important role in educating the ivestor. One should not get lured by false promises and by unsolicited advice," Tyagi said in a special message on this occasion. Economic function of the securities market is to ensure that savings get channelised into productive investment proposals, which lead to capital formation and economic growth, he said.

## **Resume mining to overcome jobs,** economy issues: CII to Goa Govt

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Goa chapter has emphasised the need for has emphasised the need for prompt resumption of mining activities in the coastal state to overcome disruption in econ-omy and unemployment caused by the Covid-19 pan-demic.

demic.
Alterations to the National Mineral Policy, phasing out of mining activities from ecosensitive areas, setting up of a comprehensive regulatory mechanism to deter illegal mining, and effective management of iron ore deposits are some of the key recommendations made by the industry body in a White Paper titled 'Accelerating the Goan Economy - A White Paper.'

"Since the halt on mining in Goa during 2012 and later again in 2018, after only a brief resumption, tourism has been one of the key employment generating sectors. However, with the sudden and highly disnic. Alterations to the National

ruptive emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic, most of Goa's traditional economic engines and employment generators are facing significant challenges, it said.

Resumption of mining can play a huge role in generating at raditional economic engine, it added.

The CII document points out that the National Mineral Policy which has prioritised import substitution, value addition and discourages exports leans in favour of brigger one Karmachag, Illiants and Codisha and is against the inter-state of Goawhich a rine low-

Karnataka, Jharkhand, and Odisha and is against the inter-ests of Goa which mines low-grade iron ore.

"This is on account of sig-nificantly lower ore quality compared with the rest of India, and therefore not suit-able for domestic steel pro-duction. The export of Goan ore does not burden the nation-al assets, thanks to the excellent inland waterways. The Goa

government should therefore press for the removal or reduc-tion of export duty from low-grade. Goan iron ore," the White Paper said.

White Paper said.

To regulation of the mining sector, especially near green zone. Well-regulated and autho-iced entines in Good should be

rised mining in Goa should be allowed outside the sensitive allowed outside the sensitive cones. If it pose any significant threat or danger to a sensitive zone, mining activities should be phased out," the document said, adding, that mines whose ore deposits were exhausted should be rehabilitated as per the Mines and Minerals Regulation and Development Act.

Act.

Mining activities in Goa
was banned by the apex court
in 2012 following the
unearthing of a Rs 35,000 crore
scam by a judicial commission
appointed by the central government. But it was resumed in
2015 with restrictions before it
was halted again after the apex

### Cargo movement issues likely to stay as supply chains resume: ADB

As international trade gets back to normalcy with gradual lifting of lockdowns across countries, difficulties in cargo movement and clearace processes are likely to continue, said an Asian Development Bank blog post. Emphasising the need for automations, the blog post said that although the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) courries have made progress in automation, there is still a need for physical interfacing and paper filings, which is difficult during the pandemic. "Inadequate digitisation in many of the cross-border regulatory agencies, and lack of digital connectivity among these agencies, ports and terminal operators, and shipping lines further hindered the flow of cargo," it said.

ses, which should hav processes, which should have played a greater role in helping cargo move seamlessly across borders, with limited need for human contact, affords an example of the gaps in trade facilitation progress," said the blog authored by Aileen Pangilinan and Satish Reddy.

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### Govt plans 10% stake sale in MIDHANI via offer for sale

The Government is planning to sell up to 10 per cent stake in defence PSU Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd (MIDHANI) in the current fiscal ending March, an official said. The company got listed on stock exchanges in April 2018 and the government had raised Rs 438 crore by selling 26 per cent stake through IPO. The official said that with the opening of space sector to foinvestment and bringing defence sector under automatic route for 74 per cent foreign

defence sector under automatic route for 74 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI), MID-HANI shares are expected to attract investors.

MIDHANI muntactures special steel and super alloys for use in defence, nuclear and space sectors. "We are looking at up to 10 per cent stake dilution via offer for sale," the official said. Shares of MID-HANI closed at Rs 193,50 apiece on the BSE on Friday.

### **CAIT urges DPIIT to penalise Amazon,** Flipkart for alleged violations

IANS III NEW DELHI

IMSE MEW DELHI

The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) has written to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) to take action against e-commerce major Amazon and Flipkart for alleged violation of FDI and FEMA norms.

In a letter to the DPIIT Secretary, Guruprasad Mohapatra, the traders' body said: 'Our association has been requesting your good office to take appropriate steps and investigate, punish and penalize the multinational companies like Amazon and Flipkart (owned by foreign multinational company 'Walmart', interchangeably used here-inafter) for the blatant violation and/or by exploitation of the loopholes of the FDI policy and Foreign Exchange Management Act."

It said the traders' body has been examining various public statements and documents per-

It said the traders' body has been examining various public statements and documents per-taining to the investments made by both Amazon and Walmart and it has come to



light that both these companies have been conducting their activities in blatant violation of Foreign Exchange Management (Non-debt Instruments) Rules, 2019 (FEMA Rules).

(FEMA Rules).

It said that the the latest revelation by Amazon during the arbitration proceedings at an arbitration court in Singapore clearly shows its control over Future Retail.

"Amazon has equivocally calmed that it has absolute control over FRL through the shareholder agreement between Amazon and Future Coupons Private Limited," it said.

"While FCL has only 9.2 per cent equity participation in FRL, but by the way of shareholder agreement between Amazon and FCL, it has full control over FRL, "it alleged.

CAIT also told DPIIT that Amazon indirectly invested around Rs 4,200 crore and took over control of More Retail Limited.

It also made allegations against Flipkart and said that it has on numerous occasions, brought to the notice of the authorities about the operation of inventory-based model of ecommerce, that is prohibited to foreign companies, by Flipkart.

### Realty brokers upbeat about sector outlook: Report

As housing demand has couple of months, the sentiments of real estate brokers have also risen regarding the outlook for the sector, showed a report by 360 EDGE.

Ankit Kansal, Founder & MD, 360 Realtors and 360 EDGE said: "Incremental growth across various macroeconomic and socio-economic and soci

EDGE said: "Incremental growth across various macroeconomic and socio-economic parameters has also resulted in a rise in broker confidence, painting an overall positive picture. 63 per cent of brokers have indicated that they are confident about the future of their business."

Improved economic conditions, lower rates of home loans, depreciated value of Indian rupee, plenty of attractive payment plans along with a reduction in stamp duty in states like Maharashtra are giving a positive boost to the industry, said Sahil Kapoor, National Head, 360 EDGE.

spread across numerous cities in India, including NCR, MMR, Pune, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Patna among others

"As financial markets are staggering, many investors are looking for real estate as a safe haven." he said. haven," he said.

360 EDGE is the franchise networking arm of 360 Realtors.

networking arm to Job Realtors.

The respondents are spread across numerous cities in India, including NCR, MMR, Pune, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Patna among others. Around 41.6 per cent of the respondents are independent brokers, while 27.6 per cent are employed in a brokerage house. Other respondents include channel partners, brokerage house owners, franchise own-ers among others.



# enc Slazer

#### 'Not hopeful about **OTT** future in India

NAWAZUDDIN SIDDIQUI feels OTTs are getting cramped in India and herd mentality is seeping in. The actor says everyone wants to do something on the digital platform, not for the art but just for the sake of

business. "Frankly speaking, OTT used to be a platform for content that was different from the typi-cal Bollywood form, and had a distinctive character. I am not talking about social content, but content for the audience who want something apart

from the regular Bollywood," he said. "At the moment, bharmar ho raha hai (there is an overload). We have a tendency of herd mentality. With that, there will be a decline and there is no doubt about it," added.



'There is a reason why Kareena (Kapoor) is so popular and so successful over such a

long period of time. Unless you are hardworking and committed to your craft, you cannot sustain vour success. You can achieve it but cannot sustain it for this long. This has been a big learning experience for me.

### Sumeet Vyas

Actor TAAPSEE PANNU has been training hard for her forthcoming sports drama, *Rashmi* Rocket. She gave her fans a glimpse of her training routine for the film on Instagram.

Taapsee posted three pictures from her training sessions. In the images, she is seen wearing a black tank top paired with white shorts. She is seen hopping in one picture, skipping in another and

running in the third one.
"Hop... Skip... Run... Repeat!
#RashmiRocket... P.S: Those
marks aren't of brutal assault on me but technically only on my muscles. #BattleScars," she wrote.

#### **Bieber curious about** India's COVID scene

JUSTIN BIEBER is curious about the COVID situation in India, and whether people are wearing masks. Recently, Bieber held a live

session on Instagram, and was joined by Indian Tik Tok star Riyaz Aly. Among other things, they discussed India's situation during the pandemic.

Bieber, who joined in from

nome in the US. asked Rivaz "What's COVID looking like over there?" Rivaz replied.

"COVID is still going on like crazy

crazy."
To this, Bieber admitted, "Yes, it is pretty crazy."
Bieber recently released his song Monster with Shawn Mendes.

Ever since cinemas reopened unlock process, a few new releases — including Hollywood films — have hit the big screen. Trade experts say regular Hollywood popcorn flicks will not help bring the crowds back to theatres, nor will small Bollywood releases. A star-studded pan-India film would do the trick, with good marketing. The Divali weekend saw the release of Suraj Pe Mangal Bhari, starring Manoj Bajpayee, Diljit Dosanjh and Fatima Sana Shaikh. The film was the first new Bollywood release following the opening of cinemas after the COVID-19 lockdown. Although the opining of cinemas after the COVID-19 lockdown. Although the film received a lot of support from the film fraternity, it could not excite the audience much. According to a trade source, the comedy film could not ever vake in a crore at the box office since its release on November 15.

Among other new releases was the Masiale Williams-starrer, The New Mutants. The horrorthriller superhero film released in India on October 30. It was followed by the Robert De Nirostarre comedy drama, The War

## What would do the trick?

Theatres have reopened but trade looks for one star-studded, pan-Indian film to change fortunes

With Grandpa, which had a the-atrical release on November 13. Hollywood film *Trolls World Tour*, with voices of stars like Anna Kendrick, Justin Timberlake, Rachel Bloom, Ozzy Osbourne, Kunal Nayyar, James Corden, Ron Funches, Kelly

Corden, Ron Funches, Kelly Clarkson, Anderson Paak, and Sam Rockwell, hit the screens on November 19.

Trade analyst Girish Johar said all these films performed below the mark." "The audience have not come to the theatres either due to the scare factor or maybe they didn't find the content lucrative enough to take the risk. Hollywood films too haven't done well" lobar said

risk. Hollywood films too haven't done well," Johar said. Talking about *Trolls World* Johar said, "I doubt people will go for these films. They are typ-ical Hollywood popcorn flicks. Maybe people in metro cities



have seen a small growth in foot falls. It started with youngsters

would have gone over the week-end, but the COVID cases are rising in Mumbai and Delhi, and the audience are aware of that. They are being cautious. I doubt they would take a risk for these films."

Kunal Sawhney, Senior Vice President, Operations, Carnival

come back," he said.

While Bollywood films are yet to be announced, more new Hollywood movies will be playing at theatres in the country. The Katie Holmes-starrer romantic drama, The Secret: Dare To release on November 27. Steven Spielberg's Amblin Partners and Reliance Entertainments Come Play is set to hit theatres on November 27 as well. Hollywood star Gerard Butler will be seen in Greenland, which is set for a December 4 release.

Sawhney added, "There has to be good content with good marketing where people are aware that this movie is releasing on this date. Only then will the

marketing where people are aware that this movie is releasing on this date. Only then will the crowds be back." He is hoping a star-studded Bollywood film like 83 and Sooryavanshi can probably make people get out of the comfort of their homes and

watch the films on the big screen. Not just Bollywood, even the more hyped Hollywood releases have stayed away. Christopher Nolan's Tenet might have opened internationally, but the film is yet to confirm an India release date. On the other hand, the other major film that has been lined up — Daniel Craig's final James Bond act in No Time To Die—has been pushed worldwide to 2021.

"Other than Bollywood, once Tenet opens, we should get more crowd. We have queries for help with the film," said Sawhney. Nolan's Tenet is also special for Hollywood buffs here because the spy thriller has an India consect. The film, starring Robert Pattinson and John David Washington, also features Dimple Kapadia. Not just that, it was shot in India apart from the US, the UK, Denmark, Estonia, Italy and Norway.

"I think mentally everyone is waiting for lanuary only, I hope we have an upsurge in activities by then," said lohar, who feels that though the footfalls have been low, "one pan-India film would change everything."

# MUSICAI

The Hindi version of the film Trolls World Tour features singer NEETI MOHAN lending her voice to the lead character. She shares that translation is more than just words, it's about maintaining their intent, style, tone and context. By Ayushi Sharma



hile the year has trolled each one of us in style, saving the best for the last, the animated musical comedy Trolls World Tour takes over the theatres. The film features singer Neeti Mohan lending her voice to the lead character — Poppy. With Anna Kendrick regaling the audience in the English version of the film, Neeti blows us all away with three songs in the Hindi version of it: Koi Geet Gao, Iss Pal Ko Jio and Trolls Toh Karenge Fun. Excerpts:

■ What fascinated you to say yes to the film?

Singing for animated films, for characters which are trying to tell a story and spread positivity fascinates me the most, especially when it's musical character. That was the main reason why I said yes to the project.

How was your dubbing experience? Was it challenging to translate songs and dialogues to another language?

Of course, yes! It was definitely challenging. When you are trying to translate something from English to Hindi or any other language for that matter, you don't want to lose out on the poetry or the real essence of it. That's why we wanted to make sure that it sounds amazing and the

'MY CHARACTER POPPY SENDS **ACROSS THE** MESSAGE THAT EVERY GIRL IS A QUEEN. SHE IS A FREE-SPIRITED SOUL WHO IS A 'GO GETTER'. SHE INSPIRES THE AUDIENCE TO A GREAT EXTENT, WHICH IS WHY GETTING THE **CHANCE TO BE HER** WAS ONE OF THE **BEST THINGS** 



meaning stays the same. We did our best to not lose the meaning of the lyrics in translation. Translation is more than just the words, it's about context, tone and aim. It's the process of adapting a particular text

from one language to another, while maintaining its intent, style, tone and context. A good translation will evoke the same emotions in the target language as it does in the source language. We have to make sure that our tone is suiting the character, the energy level is jumpy, so we have to match that as well. And if the character is in a romantic state, then we have to match that kind of vibe too. These are some of the challenges we usually face. However, I feel the challenges were fun because I love to deliver the vocals as per the visual requirements.

You sang three songs for the film, each quite different from each other. How did you strike a balance between them and the genres?

Yes, I sang three different songs, one of which was the title track, all the them quite different from each other. But I have always loved singing in various genres. This wasn't the first time that I did it. I have done it before, so it comes naturally to me. I believe that if you feel the lyrics and the melody, you can easily mould in any genre.

You said that your character Poppy sends across the message that every girl is a queen and a 'go-getter.' Could you give us a deep insight into the charac-

ter?
Yes, Poppy sends across the message
irl is a queen. Poppy is a ter?
Yes, Poppy sends across the message that every girl is a queen. Poppy is a free-spirited soul who is a go-getter. The character inspires its audience to a great extent, which is why getting the chance to be 'Poppy Mohan' was one of the best things of all time if you ask me. With music being such an integral part of the narrative, af lim like this ranks among my most-favorite. I feel that poppy is someone who wants to change the world and is very positive about it. She is an icon of music. She wants to tell every child and every girl that you can make it happens. She conveys a message that you are not alone. I feel like I am myself so much similar to Poppy.

■ How do you think music tours will see a change now that the pandemic and social distancing norms are here to stay...

Yes, pandemic has changed the face of live concerts, weddings and parties or any gatherings. It is going to be here for a while unless and until we find the cure. That's going to take a lot of time, so yes, we have resorted to virtual concerts as of now. I haven't performed a live gig in front of the audience as of now but I have been doing Insta Lives and some virtual gigs... If think because of social media, it's quite helpful to stay in touch with fans, connect to a larger audience who can watch your work online. Social media, it's quite helpful to stay in touch with fans, connect to a larger audience who can watch your work online. Social media is a great way for individuals and communities to stay connected even while physically separated. For now, it's safe that way.



### 'OTT can be enjoyed anywhere'

Actor Iqbal Khan says OTT platforms create space for stories and experimentation. While content creators should be responsible, self-censorship should not limit storytelling. Iqbal, who was last seen in the web series Crackdown, is currently shooting an forthcoming series in the scenic hill town.

"OTT has taken stories to mobiles and laptops, and can be enjoyed anytime and anywhere.

'The initial success of OTT prompted me to go for more. I believe that in a short period of time OTT platforms have been able to blur the boundaries of language and geography'

I believe that over a period of time synergies will work out between these platforms. Content can be customised for the platforms. As the authorities are mulling self-censorship on OTT platforms, cognisance will be taken of the nature of content being released by responsible content creators. I believe that such censorship would not come at the cost of creative freedom."

such censorship would not come at the cost of creative freedom."

"The initial success of OTT prompted me to go for more. I believe that in a short period of time OTT platforms have been able to blur the boundaries of language and geography. Now, good content in any language can be viewed and enjoyed in any part of the world. There are so many stories being told online that good actors can explore much more compared to television or films. However, I always choose a project based on content, irrespective of the exhibition platform or the language," Iqbal mentioned.

—IANS



AFTER WE COLLIDED

Tessa fell hard and fast for Hardin but after a betrayal tears them apart, she must decide whether to move on — or trust him with a second chance. The film releases on December 1



BHAAG BEANIE BHAAG

Facing disapproving parents, a knotty love life and her own inner critic, an aspiring comic ditches her cushy but unsatisfying life to pursue stand-up. Starring Swara Bhaker, Dolly Singh and Ravi Patel, season 1 releases on December 4 on Netflix.



### **TORBAAZ**

At an Afghanistan refugee camp, an ex-Army doctor seeks to bring children joy through cricket — and soon realises that the stakes go beyond the sport. Starring Sanjay Dutt, Nargis Fakhri and Rahul Dev, the film releases on December 11 on Netflix.

# SHE'S THE CHANGI

Sixteen-year-old VASUNDHARA PRAJAPAT of Rajasthan has been nominated for the International Children's Peace Prize 2020 for her instrumental work in stopping girl child marriages in her village and empowering women to discuss menstrual hygiene more openly. By Dr Abha Sharma

Until a few years ago, she was an unusually shy girl. Rather timid and even hestlant to strike a conversation with visiting guests and relatives. All she would do was to quicks greet them and slip away at the earliest opportunity. Today, she is a youth icon, one of the most vocal forces in her village. Sixteen-year-old Vasundhara Prajapat, who was nominated for the International Children's Peace Prize 2020, has all the reasons to smile. A resident of Dardaturki village of Tonk district in Rajasthan, Vasundhara was nominated for her active efforts in advocating gender equality at grassroots level.

ident of Dardaturki village of Tonk district in Rajasthan, Vasundhara was nominated for her active efforts in advocating gender equality at grassroots level.

Excited about her journey so far, Vasundhara recalled how she was nittially reluctant to join the meetings organised by Save the Children and Shiv Shiksha Samiti, a local NGO working in Tonk district for the past three decades. Her parents were not very enthusiastic either. But when she finally felt persuaded by her friends, she developed interest instantly. "It was an eye opener, an introduction to a new perspective. The most motivating fact that now keeps ringing in my mind is — how to be capable of handling your own affairs," she said.

Born and brought up in a region where child marriages have social acceptability despite legal provisions in place, Vasundhara hadri thought about weddings beyond an occasion to eat, dance and enjoy. Thanks to an awareness drive for reproductive rights, she became aware about the impacts of early marriage on adolescent health, menstrual hygiene, girls "ight to education and much more. She realised that all these aspects were so significant to a youngster's life but hardly discussed or mentioned in homes or schools. This orientation tringered many questions in her mind.

Her active association with Shiv Shiksha Samiti, however, started when she came into contact with Dholi, the then project coordinator for the campaign, Shaadi Bachhon Ra Khel Nahim (marriage is no child's play). She soon became a member of the children's group and acquirred life skills training. Sensing her aptitude for social work, Dholi urged Vasundhara's parents to encourage and struktach her training. Sensing her aptitude for social work, Dholi urged Vasundhara's parents to encourage and struktach her training. Sensing her aptitude for social work, Dholi urged Vasundhara's parents to encourage and the struktach her special coordinator staff. The drive for provess on 'here the beginner of the stage of the sensing her aptitude for social work, Dholi urg

a member of the adolescent discussion group in 2017. Sitaram, the present project coordi-nator, said, "The drive focuses on peer educator concept", where groups are formed for life skill training on different modules ranging from identifying your-self to gaining confidence and commu-



THE RIGHT START SUMMIT

'I WISH TO BE IN

POLITICS TO BE ABLE TO BETTER THE LIFE OF PEOPLE AND GIRLS. THE KEY TO ADDRESS **PUBLIC GRIEVANCES** COMES FROM THE GOVERNMENT. IF YOU

ARE AT A CERTAIN POSITION, YOU CAN BE INSTRUMENTAL IN BRINGING CHANGE'

nication skills to empathy. They are prepared to address the challenges of gender norms, how to bring out changes in society, me and my body' that includes health issues as well as awareness about physical violence."

With time, Vasundhara became more observant and sensitive towards adolescent issues. She started noticing that girls would just end up working in fields if there were no girls' schools in villages. She also started identifying the taboos — how important was menstrulages, what are the government schemes for women education and empowerment, how of avail facilities provided by government at health centres,

vided by government at health centres, etc.

This carved her journey of becoming a changemaker. As part of the project, a Federation was constituted at Panchayat level in February 2019 named 'Kalpana'. Around 20 girls were selected for the Gram Panchayat and Block Level Federation and assigned different roles. Yasundhara was assigned the responsibility of media given her good communication skills. By asserting the right public narrative on issues of importance, one can make the people in power listen to our cause," she believe no our cause," she believe no was as she had thought. Most difficult as was to talk about menstrual hygiene and child marriage. But presistent efforts

helped break the ice. She motivated other groups of girls too to discuss menstrual hygiene more openly. She now felt confident in discussing all issues with her family members as well and was able to convince them to support her. She in fact, also taught her mother how to use a sanitary and

convince them to support her. She in fact, also taught her mother how to use a sanitary pad.

Vasundharás village has schools up to Class 12 for both boys and girls but many other villages of the Panchayat only have primary schools for girls. Since parents do not wish to send their girls to study outside their village, most of the girls drop out of active schooling after Class 5. Vasundhara persuaded the dropout girls to join the two-month session organised by the Samiti and help them become well-versed in basic English and Hindi.

She confidently led all the campaigns at Gram Panchayat, block and district levels, be it ugprading and ligrits school in neighbouring Khedula village up to eighth standard or providing sanitary napkins in private schools and demand to include Tonk district in the National Adolescent Health Programme. She was vociferous in raising the issues on all forums and submitted memorandums to Sarpanch, District Collector, local MP and of course, the media.

Vasundhara said, "During the recent lockdown, the entire attention of the government and other organisations was on maintaining food supplies which was, of course, the need of the hour. But where

do girls and women get sanitary pads since the supply was halted at the health centre? When schools are open, girls do get pads there, but it was essential to keep the supply chain in order during lock-down too." Her concerns were also raised on social media with the support of the Shiv Shikha Samiti. The demand was conveyed to the administration as well. She had been requesting installation of an incinerator too for disposal of sanitary pads. Moved by her well-intentioned efforts, the Sarpanch has now promised to install one in the village girls' school. The secretary of the Shiv Shiksha Samiti, Shivji Ram Yadav told us about how Vasundhara trained nearly 180 girls through life skill sessions. Her role has been commendable in the 'Chuppi Todo' (Break the Silence) programme, foccussing on menstrual hygiene. She has done really well in creating awareness about child marriage and adolescent health and rights,' he said.

Vasundhara is the eldest among her three siblings, and hence, her grandparents were keen on getting her married too. They loved her immensely but were stuck in an old mindset so Vasundhara mustered up the courage to speak to her parents and convinced them to let her study. She was instrumental in stopping three child marriages eventually were called off but she invited a lot of displeasure of villagers for her alleged 'audacity'. Some of them even dissociated with her family. 'Look at her. Now she will teach us what is right,' became a common refrain. But for Vasundhara, her family, 'Look at her. Now she will teach us what is right,' became a common refrain. But for Vasundhara, her family, 'Shopport helped her continue the path. 'If your family is with you, you cand oanything''s she says. Her recent nomination for the award, however, has eased out the somewhat hostile environment towards her. Well, now, she has begun to receive praises!



# The key to sustainability

We need to live a simple life and practice more self-control to save the world from a grave catastrophe says Raiyogi BRAHMAKUMAR NIKUNJ JI

Looking at the recent series of events, we can Lookserve how the environment is increasingly witnessing a global change. There is now a greater realisation of the serious danger that the depletion of the cozone layer has been posing. The greenhouse effect is now resulting in an increase in the ultraviolet radiation and eventually, graver consequences like global warming, rise in the level of oceans and vanishing islands and coastal countries from the world map.

Hence, in the context of preservation of

Hence, in the con-text of preservation of environment and planning for develop-ment, 'sustainable' has become a catchword. And that is why it is



ment, sustainable has become a catchword. And that is why it is now being emphasised that our efforts to improve the living standards of people in the under-developed countries, as also our means of production and transport should not result in depletion of natural resources and degradation of environment. Greater emphasis is thus being put on the term 'sustainable' whenever one talks of development. Many steps in that direction are, therefore, being suggested. However, in this whole planning, to much has been thought and done to reduce the population growth rate, especially in some Asian countries. It is not being realised that if the population continues to grow in these countries, the efforts of development, however slow and small, would certainly cause more and more damage to the natural environment. Even if there were not much industrial expansion in these and other developing Asian countries, the luge population and its continuous growth would itself result in the rise of the greenhouse effect because of the production of methane from human and cattle resources. On the other hand, even if the developed countries continue to practice control over growth in human population, the per capita consumption of energy and non-renewable, natural resources in these countries is already so high that it will certainly result in a serious depletion of natural resources. The excessive use of automobiles and other factors would gravely affect the environment. Thus, the threat posed by the lifestyles in these countries is real. But almost nothing is being done to bring the desired change in people's outlook on their everyday habits which majorly contribute to an environmental imbalance.

World over, it is still not being properly realised

the desired change in peoples outlook on their everyday habits which majordy contribute to an environmental imbalance.

World over, it is still not being properly realised that if the population continues to grow, to meet he over all demands of that population, developmental efforts also go on Which will lead to a deterioration of the environment. Similarly, if the lifestyle of the people in the developed countries continues to be what it is today, then there would certainly be a depletion of natural resources. Combining the two factors together, one can say that 'sustainable development' has become a dream rather than a reality.

If, therefore, we wish to avert a major catastrophe because of these two grave threats, we must inspire people to have self-control and live a simple life and for that purpose, adopt a spiritual outlook on life. And for that we need to realise our spiritual identity and values. Such awareness will make us naturally eco-friendly and send out a positive energy that will bring the elements of nature into harmony with us again. If a critical mass of humans begin to live with this spiritual awareness, nature will by tiself become our friend, and humanity will look at a golden instead of doubtful future.

# The ultimate dilemma

While some experts argue that masks are of utmost importance, researchers warn that they might only be helpful in containing the Coronavirus spread by up to 60 per cent

VA lot of efforts to slow the spread of the Coronavirus comes down to a seemingly simple concept — Wearing a mask. But the issue has proven a thorny one. Health authorities have changed their guidance on who should wear masks and when. This has led to some confusion

masks and when. This has led to some confusion and even suspicion.

But since the Coronavirus first appeared, authorities have gained a better understanding of how it spreads and how masks can help stop that spread. Here's a look at how, what we know about, masks has changed, and how government officials are increasingly getting behind the idea of mandating the use of masks.

What the experts say?
The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has long advised people to wear masks because they help prevent people who are infected — whether they know it or not — from spreading the Coronavirus. But last week, the CDC added a new reason — masks can also protect wearers who are not infected, though to a lesser degree.



The agency referred to a study led by Japanese researchers that found masks block about 60 per cent of the amount of virus that comes out of an infected person. When an uninfected person who isn't wearing one, the amount of virus the uninfected person who he was the uninfected person who so the was the uninfected person who people are wearing masks, that produced the best result. The decline in virus particles reaching the second person was close to 70 per cent.

So, if everyone wears a mask when social distancing is not feasible, the infection rate will be cut, experts say.

tancing is not feasible, the infection rate will be cut, experts say.

A study done in Denmark, published in Annals of Internal Medicine, seemed to question whether and to what extent masks protect the wearer. The study had a number of flaws, however, as the researchers acknowledged. For example, study participants who were supposed to wear masks sometimes didn't. And the work was done at a time when not much Coronavirus was spreading in Denmark — there wasn't a lot of data to conclude from.

Either way, experts say masks, while helpful, are not perfect. Keeping a distance, being in well-ventilated areas, and washing hands are also important ways to reduce risk.

ventilated areas, and washing hands are also important ways to reduce risk.

How is this different from what has been said?

Surgeon General, US, Jerome Adams had tweeted on February 29, "Seriously people — Stop buying masks! They are not effective in preventing general public from catching #Coronavirus."

But today, Adams has a different message pinned to the top of his Twitter account. "When we can't stay six feet away from others, please, I'm begging you, wear a face covering," Adams says in the videotaped July 2 tweet. And in July, the CDC stressed that cloth face coverings are a critical tool in the fight against COVID-19, particularly when everyone wears them.

Similarly, the WHO early on had recommended against mask-wearing for the general public, saying they might lead to a false sense of security and that people who didn't know how to use them properly could infect themselves. The World Health Organisation changed its advice in June. It now suggests that people should wear masks when they are outdoors at a crowded are or when they can't be socially distant.

Even though not everywhere around the world, there is a mask rule, especially in some states of the US, but some countries, including Asian, have mandated mask use, from requiring them everywhere in public to using them on public transportation and in stores.

#### Courage is not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. -Nelson Mandela

MANGOES REDUCE WOMEN'S FACIAL WRINKLES

TB VAX LINKED TO LOWER RISK OF COVID-19

New research adds to a growing body of evidence that Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG), a vaccine for a vaccine for tuberculosis (TB), is associated to reduced possibility of contracting the COVID-



19 virus.

In the new study, published in *The Journal of Clinical Investigation*, the research team tested the blood of more than 6.000 healthcare workers for evidence of antibodies to SARS-GOV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and also saked them about their medical and vaccination histories.

They found that workers who had received BCG vaccinations in the past, nearly 30 per cent of those studied-were significantly less likely to test spikile for SARS-GoV-2.

antibodies in their blood or to report having had infections with Coronavirus or associated symptoms over the prior si months than those who had not received BCG. These effect were not related to whether workers had received meningococcal, pneumococcal or influenza vaccinations.

COVID SOCIAL ISOLATION LINKED TO HIGH BP

COVID SOCIAL ISOLATION LINKED TO HIGH BP

The COVID-induced lockdown and social islation is linked
with an increase in high blood pressure (BP) among
patients admitted to emergency, say researchers.
According to the study, admission to the emergency
department during the mandatory social isolation period was
linked with a 37 per cent increase in the odds of having high
BP, even after taking into account age, gender, month, day and
time of consultation. "After
social isolation began, we
patients coming to the
emergency had high blood
pressure. We conducted
this study to confirm or
reject this impression," said
study author Mattas Fosco
of Favaloro Foundation University Hospital in Argentina.
Blood pressure is a standard measurement on admission Blood pressure is a standard measurement on adr billoop pressure is a saminate interaction in the energency department and almost every patient (98.2 per cent) admitted between 21 March 2019 and 25 June 2020 was included in the study. The most common reasons for admission were chest pain, shortness of breath, dizziness, abdominal pain, fever, cough, and hypertension.

reduce facial wrinkles in older women with farer skin.

The study, published in the journal *Natrients*, revealed that mangoes, like other orange fruits and vegetables, are rich in beta-carotene and provide antioxidants that may delay cell damage. The researchers found that post-menopausal women with old as half cup of Alaufio mangoes for stress the control of the post-menopausal women with old as half cup of Alaufio mangoes. four times a week saw a 23 per cent decrease in deep wrinkles

Researchers have found that Reating Ataulfo mangoes, also known as honey or Champagne mangoes, may reduce facial wrinkles in older

after two months and a 20 per cent decrease after four months.

"That's a significant improvement in wrinkles," said study lead author Vivien Fam from the University of California, Davis

"Women who ate a cup and a half of mangoes for the same periods of time saw an increase in wrinkles. This shows that while some mangoes may be good for skin health, too much of it may not be, too," Fam added.

### INFECTIOUSNESS PEAKS IN COVID PATIENTS

In a major study, researchers have claimed that infectiousness peaks early in COVID-19 patients, highlighting the need to quickly identify and isolate cases before the virus spreads.

Systematic review and meta-analysis of three human

Systematic review and meta-analysis of three human Coronaviruses, published in the journal *The Lancet Microbe*, suggests that people infected with Coronavirus are most likely to be highly infectious in the first week after the symptom onset. The report used meta-analysis to assess 48 chritise on

assess 98 studies on COVID-19, SARS and

MERS. The researchers studied all three diseases was to determine why COVID-19 has spread more rapidly than the earlier diseases. "This is the first systematic review and meta-analysis that has comprehensively examined and compared viral load and shedding for these three human Coronaviruses," said study lead author Muge Cevik, University of St Andrews, UK.

### COVID PREGNANCY POSES LOW RISK TO BABIES



naissinued to the fetus in just three per cent of the cases. "Our findings are that approximately five percent of all delivered women with COVID-19 infection develop a severe or critical illness," said study author Emily Adhikari from the UT Southwestern Medical Centre in the IIS

"Most women with the asymptomatic or mile

infection will be relieved to know that their babies are unlikely to be affected by the virus," Adhikari added. For the findings, the research team followed 3,374 mothers, 252 of whom tested positive for the virus during pregnancy, from March through August.

# Rohit ready to bat anywhere Was disappointed



PTI NEW DELHI

e has enjoyed and revelled in his new role as a Test opener but Rohit Sharma is ready to be flexible about his batting position in the

against Australia as per the demands of the team manage-

demants of the team management.

The senior batsman is expected to play a big role alongside Test vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane and Cheteshwar Pujara when skip-

per Virat Kohli returns to India after the opening Test for the birth of his first child.
"I will tell you the same thing that I have told everyone all this while. I will be happy to bat wherever the team wants me to but I don't know if they would change my role as an opener," Rohit told PTI.

opener," Rohit told PTI.

He believes that the team
management will have figured
out his role in the batting order
by the time he would reach
Australia after completing the
strength and conditioning work
at an National Cricket Academy
in Bangalum

at an National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru.

Tam sure the guys already in Australia must have figured out what are options when Virat leaves and who are the guys who will open the innings. Rohit said.

"Once I reach there, I will probably have a clearer idea of whats going to happen. I will be okay to bat wherever they want," added the dashing batsman, who has a 46-plus average in 32 Tests.

man, who has a 46-plus average in 32 Tests.

One of the finest players of the hook and pull shots, the Mumbaikar believes that the bounce on Australian tracks is sometimes, not as big a factor as it is made out to be.

"We talk about bounce."

as it is made out to be.

"We talk about bounce
but except for Perth, over the
past few years, the other
grounds (Adelaide, MCG,
SCG), I don't think have that

Rohit, Ishant need to leave for Aus in 3-4 days: Shastri

SYDNEY: India head coach Ravi Shastri has expressed his appre-hensions about senior players Rohit Sharma and Ishant Sharma's participation in the upcoming Test series if they don't reach Australia in the next few days few days.

Both Rohit (left hamstring)

Both Rohit (left hamstring) and Ishant (side strain) are at the NCA undergoing rehabilitation, but the BCCI is yet to announce when the duo would reach Australia.

Considering the mandatory 14-day quarantine requirement, it is clear that they would miss the first warm-up eame

ment, it is clear that they would miss the first warra-up game against Australia A, at Drummoyne Oval from December 6-8, if they don't depart by Monday. "He (Rohit) was never going to play the white-ball series, they were just looking to see how long he needed the rest, because you can't afford to be resting for too long." Shastri told ABC Sport. "Hyo need to play in the Test series or any red-ball cricket, you've got to be on the flight in the next three or four days. If you aren't, then it's going to be

tough."
Shastri said that NCA's medical team is currently assessing how long would be Rohits' break from the game.
"But things could get difficult if he's asked to wait for too long, (because) then you're talking of the quarantine again, which might make it really tough for even him to come just in time for the Test series," the head coach added.
Shastri said that even Ishant's case is similar and he would also need to play at least one practice game before he can be considered for Test.
The second and final warm-

The second and final warm

up game, at the SCG from December 11-13, will be a day-nighter before the first Test commences in Adelaide from December 17.

December 17.

"It's (Ishant's) a similar case to Rohit," Shastri said.
"You don't really know how quickly hell be available to fly out. Like I said, if anyone has to be on the flight in the next four or five days. Otherwise, it's very difficult."

PTI

"Nowadays, especially while opening the batting, I will have to think about not play- as straight as possible," he said.

# with Oz snub: SKY

me; he said.
The 30-year-old Mumbai batsman conceded that the team selection for the Australian tour was at the back of his mind

ISING

Anguished beyond words Anfter being overlooked for the tour of Australia, Suryakumar Yadav found com-fort in a pep talk with Rohit Sharma Soon after his conversation

Soon after his conversation with Mumbai Indians' inspirational captain, Suryakumar's mind was suddenly wired for distraction, and his bat ready to do some more talking.

"That time in the gym Rohit was sitting besides me and he just looked at me, and I said, 'obviously, I am a bit disappoint-ed', because he could see that I was expecting some good news," Suryakumar told PTI.

"Later on he was like 'I just believed you have been doing a

Suryakumar tous I I Just believed you have been doing a great job for the team right now, and instead of thinking about that (non-selection), you just do the same things what you have been since day one in this IPL.

"..."and when the time is right, your opportunity will come, may be today or tomorrow but it will come, you just got to believe in yourself; Sunya recalled.

believe in yourself, Surya recalled.

The non-selection, despite his prolific run in domestic cricket and the IPL, extended Suryakumar's wait for an India cap.

He said that "those words" from Rohit helped him come out of the disappointment. "Treally left good because I knew how I was feeling at that time and even he could see it in my eyes clearly. I think to come out of that was a big boost for me," he said.

The 30-year-old Mumbai

thought — there is a squad selection tonight.

"So I thought I'll just focus on my process and my things properly and instead of thinking about the call up, I will try and keep myself busy, I can go to the gym or maybe spend time with my teammates.
"But yes, at the back of the mind, there was a thought that the tam is coming out tonight," he admitted.

And when he saw that his

admitted. And when he saw that his

And when he saw that his name did not feature in the list, Suryakumar was hurt. "I sat in a room and started thinking, why my name is not there, but after looking at the squad there were lot of players who got lot of runs as well and even they have been playing consistently, doing well for India, doing well in IPI.

"Then I thought instead of thinking about that, I'll just try and keep scoring runs, do my job, what's in my hand, what's in my hand, what's in my control, and then wait for the opportunity, whenever it comes, grab with both hands," he said.

### Toss-up between Mayank & Gill for opening spot

The Indian team management will think over the Ideal opening combination for the upcoming three-match ODI series against Australia, with a toss-up between Mayank Agarwal and Shubman Gill for the second opener's slot on the cards. The visiting Indian team has been training for over a week now and while the primary aim is to retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, winning the white ball games will certainly increase their confidence.

roce.
For skipper Virat Kohli, the key will be to get rho consuper view Aoni, me key will be to get the combination right in the 50-over games, which are currently low priority going into the next one year with a World Test Championship final spot and the T20 World Cup on their minds. The last ODI series that India played in New Zealand was a nightmare for the Men In Blue who

lost 0-3.

Agarwal played all three games in New
Zealand with not much success but that would
count for little as it happened eight months back.
With Shubman also in the mix, it will be a call

that coach Ravi Shastri and Kohli will have to take considering the SCG pitch and the Australian

considering the SCG pitch and the Australian attack.

There was not much difference in terms of form between Gill and Agarwal in the recently-held IPL. The KKR opener scored 440 runs while KXIP's Agarwal had 48 runs in his kitty.

At least, nine players select themselves in the first XI for the ODIs.

The in-form Shikhar Dhawan, skipper Kohli, Shreyas Iyet, wicketkeeper-batsman KL Rahul (another opening option), Hardik Pandya, Ravindra Jadeja, Yuzvendra Chahal, Jasprit Bumrah are automatic picks.

Chahal, Jasprit Bumrah are automatic picks. While Mohammed Shami may start in the first ODI with India's current fastest bowler Nawdeep Saini for company, there is a chance that Shardul Thakur may get a look in if the Indian team management decides to rest one among Shami and Jasprit Bumrah looking at their workload.



Ronaldo's red-hot form continues

early goal ruled out for offside before Ronaldo struck twice in a four-minute spell before the break.

The Portuguese striker blasted in an Alvaro Morata cross on 38 minutes, before latching onto a Menib Deminle hader from a corner for the second from close range minutes later.

Ronaldo, 35, has come back strong after his coronavirus layoff, scoring eight goals in five games to join Milans Zlatan Ibrahimovic at the top of the Serie A scorres' chart.

Ragnar Klavan had a

. Ragnar Klavan had a goal disallowed for goal disallowed for Cagliari midway through the second half.

But it was Inventus who

SYDNEY: The legendary lan Chappell believes that Virat Kohli's departure after the first India-Aus Test next month will leave a "big hole" in the visiting line-up, creating a selection dilemma which could ultimately decide which way the series goes. Kohli will return home after the first Test in Adelaide from December 17 to 21, to welcome his first child. The 77-year-old Chappell feels the situation provides a perfect opportunity for young Indian batters to show their skills.
"This creates both a big hole in

show their skills.

"This creates both a big hole in
the Indian batting order and an
opportunity for one of their talent-



for ESPNcricinfo.com.
"What was already shaping up as an exciting tussle now has the added stimulus of crucial selection decisions. The result could well come down to who is the bravest set of selectors."

decisions.
come down to who is the traveller
of selectors.
Stressing on the importance of
making correct selection choices,
Chappell voted in favour of Will
Pucovski over an off-colour Joe
Burns to be David Warner's patrier

\*\* Australia's opening slot.

Burns to be David Warner's partner at Australia's opening slot. Austral He differed with Australia coach Justin Langer, who has backed Burns. Chappell said selection is should always be made on the basis of current form.

"...I was flummoxed by the

Australian coach's summation of the choice between incumbent Joe Burns and rising star Will Pucovski for the job of David Warner's opening part-

r. "...You shouldn't overestimate the "...You shouldn't overestimate the value of the partnership. Burns' contributions last summer equated to an aggregate of 256 runs at average of 32 with two half-centuries. That is the performance of a below-average Test player," the former Australia skipper said. "Pucowski has taken a sledge-hammer to the entryway by making six centuries at Shield level, three of them doubles; two of those double-hundreds came this season," he added.

since shoulder surgery in August, a boost for Pirlo's side without injured duo Leonardo Bonucci and Giorgio Chiellini before Tuesday's Champions League game against Hungarian side Ferencvaros.

arrears.
Sanchez turned provider for Lukaku to level
in the 67th minute and the Belgium star kept his
cool from the spot six minutes from the end of
ormal time, before Lautaro Martinez came off
the bench to make it four shots on target and four
goals for Inter in a crazy second hall.

# PTI SYDNEY

bouncing out Smith

McDonald warns against

Attempting to replicate Neil Wagner and rattle Steve Smith with a barrage of bouncers may not be a good idea for the visiting Indians in the upcoming series, according to Australia's assistant coach Andrew McDonald. Against New Zealand in

Australia's assistant coach Andrew McDonald.

Against New Zealand in the 2019-2020 season, Smith was dismissed by left-arm pacer Wagner four times, as the Kiwi consistently attacked the batsman with short-pitched deliveries aimed at his body.

But despite Smith's recent issues with the short balls, McDonald doesn't think the Australian run-machine has any weaknesses in his batting.

"I know within a Test match he had that moment with Archer where he got him," McDonald said on Sunday.

"But in terms of coming back off that, he was still able to score runs. Even in one-day cricket and T20 cricket, he been able to score runs with that plan being adoated by

been able to score runs with that plan being adopted by

opponents.

"So, I don't necessarily see it as a weakness ... they can keep approaching it that way if

In recent times, quite a few bowlers tried to rattle Smith with short-pitched stuffs and the Australian had also suffered

League game against Hungarian side Ferencvaros.

LUKAKU LIGHTS UP
Romelu Llukaku inspired a remarkable second-half comeback as Inter recovered from 2-0 down to defeat Torino 4-2 and claim their first win for almost a month.

Marco Giampaolo's Torino came into the match with a solitary Serie A win to their name this season but belied that meagre return as the effervescent Simone Zara crowned an enterprising first-half display with the opening goal.

A penalty from former Inter man Cristian Ansaldi made it 2-0 in the 62nd minute, although Alexis Sanchez swiftly reduced the arrears. the Australian had also suffered concussion on two occasions after being hit on the neck and head respectively. The Indians also tried to employ the short-ball strategy against him during the three-match ODI series in January, but the 31-year-old Australian

Tottenham on top

Spurs reach No 1 position in PL table for first time in six years

maestro responded with scores of 98 and 131.

"They had a leg gully, a deep square and a deep man just in front of square and they had everyone up on the off-side during the Powerplay.

"So that's a tactic they've used before, and it's probably to negate the runs that he scores and to try and give themselves the best opportunity to potentially get him out in that area.

"But he was able to combat that in India last time ... so he's had that before and he's worked his way through it. I see this series being no different in the way he approaches it."

McD onal "added," They've used it before and he's done well with it before so I'm suggesting that plan hasn't necessarily worked to its full effect."

# We needed a match like this," said pirlo. "There were excellent performances, even from those returning from national team." "A lot of them arrived two days ago and did their first training yesterday and were also tired from the trip. "Tonight they also had fun, performances like this allow the players to gain confidence." gain confidence." Federico Bernardeschi had an

### Haaland nets four in Hertha rout



goals in seven Bundesliga

BERLIN: Erling Braut Haaland netted four goals and Youssoufa Moukoko became the youngest player in Bundesliga history on Saturday as Borussia player in Bundesliga history on Saturday as Borussia Dortmund routed Hertha Berlin 5-2 to trim Bayern Munich's lead at the top of the table to just a point.

It was the first time the 20-year-old Halaland had scored four goals in a game for Dortmund since his January debut, with all of them coming in the second half.

in the second half. "I drank a Red Bull at half

time, I got some wings and everything was good," said Haaland. The Norwegian now has 10

### Atlético in pole position

victory over Barca in 10 years

AFP MADRID



eal Sociedad.

It also leaves their opponents languishing in 10th, with Barcelona's 11 points
from their first eight games their worst
tally at this stage since the 1991-92 sea-

"Like any coach, I am responsible," said coach Ronald Koeman. "We know we have to improve the results I continue to trust the players I have."

Beating Barcelona in La Liga for the first time since 2010 — before Simone arrived as coach — will do wonders for the Madrid side's belief and extends what is now a considerable advantage in the table.

It also extends Atletico's umbeaten run in the league to 24 matches.

AFP LONDON

But it was Juventus who
threatened a third with
Demiral, Morata,
Bernardeschi and Paulo
Dybala having shots at
goal.
Dutch defender
Matthijs de Ligt played
the entire game in his first match

Tottenham powered to the top of the Premier League with an impressive 2-0 win against Manchester City at home on

Manchester Chy a nome on Saturday. Manchester United remain well off the pace in ninth, but did manage a first home win in the Premier League for seven games as Bruno Fernandes's twice-taken penalty saw off lowly West Brom 1-0.

penalty saw off lowly West Brom
1-0.
Spurs ended the day on top of
the table for the first time in six
years as goals from Son Heungmin and Giovani Lo Celso saw
fift a toothless City at the Tottenham
Hotspur stadium.
Tottenham took the lead after
five minutes as Son ran onto
Tanguy Ndombele's lofted pass,
beat the City offside trap and slotted a cool finish under Ederson for
already his 11th goal of the season.
City dominated possession
but struggled to create chances and
were cut open again for Spurs' second with just their second shot on
target.

target.

Lo Celso came off the bench to score just 35 seconds after his introduction as he raced onto Harry Kane's sublime pass to slot

weekend, sparking hopes of a genuine title challenge.

"The players gave everything and followed a strategy. They were amazing," Mourinho said.

"We found a way to play and it was magnificent to see them play how they did."

Tottenham, who last won the top-flight tile in 1961, lead Chelsea by two points with the two set to face each other next weekend.

City are languishing in 11th place, eight points behind the leaders, albeit with a game in hand.

leaders, albeit with a game in hand.
heve Pep Guardiola extended his
contract at the Etihad to 2023
this week, but his side look a
shadow of the swaggering
outfit that won successive
league titles in 2018 and
2019.

Twelve points from eight games is City's lowest total at this stage of a Premier League cam-paign since 2008-09.

"We had more chances than m but we lost. Mourinho's them but we lost. Mourinho's teams are like this, you make a mis-take and they punish you on the counter attack," Guardiola said.

BRUNO SCORES
United still have a long way to go to claw themselves back into title contention as they again flattered to deceive at Old Trafford despite picking up a long-awaited with

despite picking up a iong-awared win.

Ole Gunnar Solskjær's men ogt two slices of penally fortune as West Brom were awarded a spot-kick first early in the second-half when Fernandes challenged Connor Gallagher.

However, on review, referee David Coote overturned his orig-isal deciries.

inal decision.

Moments later, the Red Devils

Moments later, the Red Devils got a penalty for Darnell Furlong's handball.

Fernandes's first effort was saved, but he got a second chance as Sam Johnstone had jumped off his line prior to the Portuguese international's kick.

Fernandes slammed home the reprieve, but was still not happy at missing from the spot for the third time this season.

# **GOLDEN BOY**



in all competitions for Dortmund.

After Matheus Cunha gave Hertha a first-hafflead at Berlins Olympic Stadium, Dortmund roared back.

Haaland equalised when he tapped home an Emme Can pass on 47 minutes.

He grabbed his second two minutes later with perfect timing to slip his marker and fire in a Julian Brandt pass.

Haaland wrapped up his hat-trick on 62 minutes, just before Raphael Guerreiro stabbed the ball home from close range to make it 4-1.

Cunha converted a late penalty belonged to Haaland with the night belonged to Haaland with finished a move he started with 10 minutes to play.

There was still time for his-

ed with 10 minutes to play.

There was still time for his-tory to be made as Moukoko made a late cameo off the Dortmund bench to replace Haaland.

One day after his 16th birthday, Moukoko is the youngest player in Bundesliga history.



Simeone's side record first league

Cristiano Ronaldo scored his third brace in five games as champions Juventus moved up to second place in Serie A on Saturday with a 2-0 win over Cagliari in Turin.

Andrea Pirlos side are one point behind leaders AC Milan, who travel to fourth-placed Napoli on Sunday.

Juventus had been held 1-1 at Lazio last time out — one of four stalementes this season for the nine-time reigning champions — but quickly took charge against the Sardinians.



signing their opponents to use with some a very some in 29 years. Sinished brilliantly from range after mistakes from Gerard Pique and Marc-Andre ter Stegen left the goal gaping but Barca, and a below-par Lionel Messi, failed to respond at the Wanda Metropolitano. Instead, Atletico recorded their first league victory over Barcelona in 10 years, which puts them three points ahead of Real Madrid, with a game in hand, and second in the table, level on points with early leaders Real Societadd.

It also leaves their opponents languish-

Harry Kane's sublime pass to slot past Ederson.
On the one-year anniversary of Jose Mourinho's appointment, Tottenham are unbeaten in their last eight league games since los-ing to Everton on the opening