

## NOW U.S. PREZ TARGETS TIKTOK

Trump says he will ban the Chinese app which India barred recently

SEE PAGE 11



11 killed as crane falls at top govt shipyard in Vizag

SEE PAGE 6

FORMER SP LEADER & MP AMAR SINGH DIES

SEE PAGE 6

## FIT ENOUGH TO REOPEN?

# CITY GYMS & YOGA HUBS SWEAT IT OUT

Fitness centres eager to restart but pending bills, ensuring social distancing & risk of infection pose massive challenges

By Chayyanika Nigam in New Delhi

EVEN as gyms and yoga centres in Delhi have begun working on reopening after the Centre included them in Unlock 3, they are facing a tough 'treadmill test'.

Coming to terms both structurally and functionally with the 'new normal', settling outstanding dues, getting staffers and clients back are proving to be quite a challenge for the National Capital Region's 5,500 registered gyms and fitness centers.

Over the 120 day-plus shutdown, the gym and fitness industry in Delhi-NCR has lost anything between ₹800 crore and ₹1,000 crore, say industry bodies. A small-scale gym, for instance, might Turn to Page 2

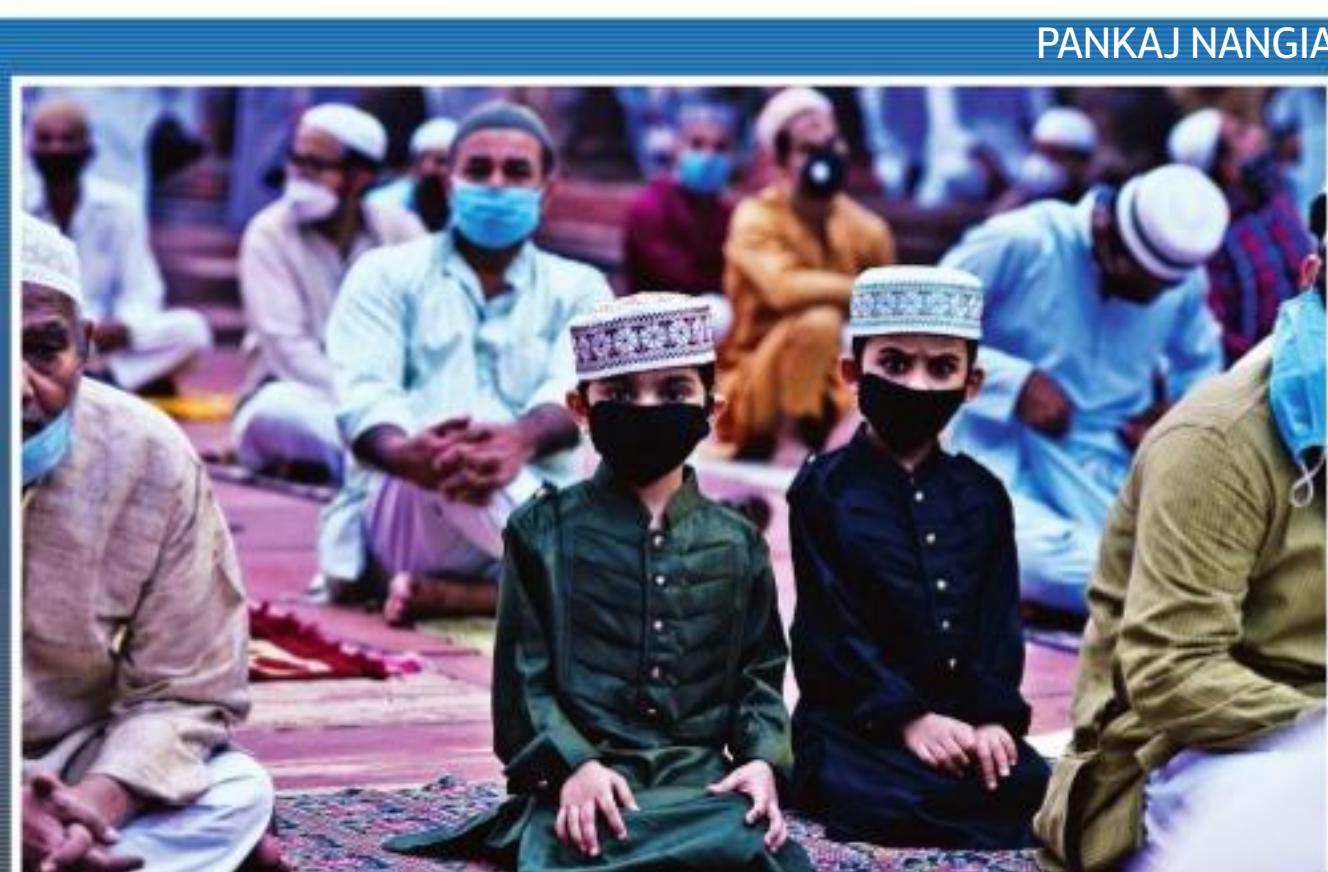
### COVID-19 PANDEMIC

57,118 FRESH CASES ACROSS INDIA TAKE TOTAL TO 16,95,988

764 MORE DIE, TOLL NOW 36,511

1,118 NEW CASES IN DELHI, TOTAL NOW 1,36,716

26 MORE DIE, TOLL RISES TO 3,989



NEW NORMAL: Wearing masks, Muslims offer Eid al-Adha prayers at the Jama Masjid in New Delhi on Saturday.

### DELHI DY CM COMPLAINS TO SHAH

Delhi Deputy CM Manish Sisodia writes to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, seeking directions to L-G Anil Baijal to allow hotels and weekly markets to reopen. Baijal had rejected Delhi government's decision to restart these facilities.

2.15% is the case fatality rate now, lowest since lockdown was clamped in March, the Union Health Ministry claimed.

496 containment zones in Delhi, reduced from 715. From 3.5 lakh people being impacted, now movement of only one lakh people affected, minister Kailash Gahlot said.

REPORTS ON PAGES 2-3

# COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Why it is so difficult for people to wear masks, wash hands or not spit on roads. Don't you care for your fellow Punjabis?

— AMARINDER SINGH, PUNJAB CM



A private hospital in Chennai has been barred from treating Covid-19 patients after it allegedly overcharged a Covid-19

patient, TN health deptt said in a statement. The hospital charged ₹12.2 lakh from a coronavirus patient for a 19-day medical treatment.



## PRAYING TOGETHER, ONCE MORE

THE festive spirit of Eid al-Adha was subdued in the national capital on Saturday with the coronavirus pandemic badly hitting livestock sale for the festival of sacrifice and restricting many people to their homes. Despite just around 10,000 active Covid-19 cases in Delhi — far better than was feared — and easing of lockdown restrictions, many faithful preferred offering 'namaaz' at their homes than visiting mosques. Those who offered prayers at mosques said a fewer number of people had turned up there, and the mood was not as ebullient as previous years.

—PTI

# WILL IT WORK OUT FOR GYMS?

continued from page 1

have incurred a debit of Rs 30 lakhs and a high-end gym must have borne losses of approximately Rs 2 crore since the lockdown began, said a member of the Delhi Gym Association.

### WAITING FOR CLARITY

Many gym owners are waiting for SOPs from the Delhi government before they reopen their facilities. Several are yet to settle their pending rent, electricity, water bills and also have to invest towards renovation, repairing of ACs and training equipment.

Though the Centre has permitted gym and fitness centres to resume functioning from August 5, the Delhi government is yet to decide on reopening. However, the Uttar Pradesh and Haryana governments have notified that gyms in the state will reopen from August 5.

A senior manager with Fitness First gym in South Extension, not wishing to be named, told Mail Today they are yet to decide on the date of reopening. "We have already done the servicing of all machines and sanitisation work. But we need to decide on the date of reopening," he said.

Fitness First has around 86 branches across the country and 35 outlets in Delhi-NCR.

Paras Gupta, 30, owner of Universal Club gym, who is also the Secretary of the Delhi Gym Association and vice-president at UP Gym Association, says all gyms are suffering massive losses due to the pandemic, with little hope for recovery. "I am myself yet to settle rental issues with my landlord and there are electricity bills of Rs 1.5 lakh that need to be looked into. We have three branches in Delhi-NCR. We may need to shut down our East Delhi branch as most of the active members were students — who have now returned



to their hometowns," said Gupta.

Chirag Sethi, vice-president of Delhi Gym Association, said, "To give some relief to the gym owners, we have issued guidelines to the landlords to either waive the rent or give a 35 to 50 per cent reduction at least. Also, we've written to the Delhi government to adjust the fixed electricity bills, some of which run in lakhs, which can be paid in installments over the next few

months."

### SOCIAL DISTANCING CHALLENGE

Gym owners are also making arrangements for online registration to keep a check on the number of people visiting at a certain time. Malini Chawla Sehgal, owner of Fit by Ravissant gym in New Friends Colony, said, "Gym culture will never be the same again, but we all need

to revive the business soon. We are extending membership to all our existing customers. Now, they have to pre-book the appointment and the machines they want to use. No walk-ins will be allowed. Cotton masks and gloves will be provided to each member and the trainers will be in their PPE Kits."

However, fitness enthusiasts are still in a dilemma over whether to visit health centres or continue digital training,

which got an immense push during the lockdown. Fitness fanatic Ashu Mehta, 28, a software engineer residing in Panchsheel Park, says: "My parents won't allow me to join a gym again, even though I have recently bought the membership in February. In the lockdown I appointed a personal trainer who gives me online sessions. I may continue to take online advice rather than work out in the gym."

Explaining business in the new normal, Delhi-based yoga trainer Pratibha Mehra, who runs three studios of Yoga and Me, says she is relieved that the government has finally allowed business to resume. "There are many people who still want to continue with online sessions rather than returning to the centre. For all those who will start coming back, we've made necessary arrangements including marking of positions where they can do yoga. We will allow only five persons at a time. Yoga is all about breathing and if masks are worn at the time of practice, it might create a problem," she says.

Explaining how gym and fitness centres will have to ensure the safety of its employees and members, fitness expert and athlete Jinnie Gogia Chugh says, "The pandemic has put the focus on health and fitness, but gym and yoga centres won't be the same anymore. SOPs and guidelines of physical distancing have to be strictly followed. Gyms will be giving slots to members and the time-duration must be adhered to. Precautions such as sanitisation and a separate pair of gym shoes shall be mandatory. So will small things like cleaning the sweat on a machine after a set, and maintaining distance. The opening of the gym industry was much needed as a lot of livelihoods are dependent on it."

**Serological Survey will start from today... In last survey, 24% people came positive. This is a very technical process but will be conducted across the capital.**

—SATYENDRA JAIN, DELHI HEALTH MINISTER



# 97,417

Challans issued by Delhi Police between June 15 and July 31

The high-level Group of Ministers on Covid-19 has agreed to allow the export of indigenously made

ventilators. The decision was taken as India continues to maintain a progressively declining low rate of fatality.

# Now, 496 containment zones remain in Capital

By Pankaj Jain  
in New Delhi

THE NUMBER of containment zones in Delhi has come down to 496 after an extensive review by Delhi government, providing relief to thousands of people living in such restricted areas.

The number of containment zones in Delhi was 715 by the end of July affecting nearly 3.5 lakh people. With the number going down to 496, movement of 1.4 lakh people will be affected, Delhi Revenue minister Kailash Gahlot said in a statement.

The review to decrease number of containment zones by Delhi government comes on the heels of a Health ministry office memorandum earlier this week, allowing all the states and union territories, to de-notify a containment zone 14 days after discharge of the last confirmed case which was 28 days earlier.

"As desired by CM Arvind Kejriwal all the containment zones in Delhi were extensively reviewed in last 2 days with each District DM and surveillance Team," Gahlot said in a tweet.

In Delhi, a locality is declared



containment zone by district authorities if three or more person test positive to Covid-19.

In a review of Covid-19 situation in Delhi, on June 27, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had expressed concern over large size of containment zones in Delhi as it restricted movement of a large population, Gahlot said.

"During the last

There were total 715 containment zones

two days an extensive review of Containment zones was carried out with Revenue and Health officials. The result has been quite satisfactory. Against 715 containment zones affecting 34,809 people, number of containment zones is now down to 496 which affect the movement of 10,621 people," the minister said in the statement.

**I am myself yet to settle rental issues with my landlord and there are electricity bills of Rs 1.5 lakh that need to be looked into... We may need to shut down our East Delhi branch as most of the active members were students — who have now returned to their hometowns.**

—PARAS GUPTA, Secretary of the Delhi Gym Association

**Gym culture in the city will never be the same again... No walk-ins will be allowed. Cotton masks and gloves will be provided to each member and the trainers will be in their PPE Kits.**

—MALINI CHAWLA SEHGAL, Owner of Fit by Ravissant Gym

**Wearing a mask while working out can lead to respiratory issues. Heavy sweating during exercise and poor ventilation can turn hazardous. Sweating can cause surface contamination and can trigger the spread.**

—DR SRINIVAS RAJKUMAR T, Gen Secy Resident Doctors' Association, AIIMS

## RISK OF INFECTION

One of the biggest concerns of health experts about Covid-19 is how readily it can spread through the air via respiratory droplets in confined spaces such as gyms. People breathe harder when they work out, which is how the virus spreads from person to person.

"Wearing a mask while working out can lead to respiratory issues. Heavy sweating during exercise and poor ventilation can turn hazardous. Sweating can cause surface contamination and can trigger the spread. The other big concern is that Covid-19 is suspected to be airborne and it can spread through air via respiratory droplets, especially in confined spaces. When people breathe more rapidly and more deeply, they expel greater numbers of droplets," said Dr Srinivas Rajkumar T, General Secretary, Resident Doctors Association, AIIMS.

For instance, in South Korea's Cheonan city, 112 people who participated in Zumba classes

involving high aerobic intensity at 12 sports facilities got infected with Covid-19.

Highlighting some of the measures that can help keep a check on the spread of Covid-19 in a gym, Dr Srinivas Rajkumar T said, "It is advisable that members use masks for convenience, deploy strict screening at the entrance and create a negative air pressure using high-flow exhaust fans. Also, maintaining a registry of people who use the premises is vital to prevent transmission. The elderly and those with co-morbidities can avoid the gym altogether."

One has to be extra-cautious while exercising in closed spaces with poor ventilation and while sharing equipment, adds Subhash Jangid, director and unit head, Bone and Joint Institute, Fortis Memorial Research Institute, Gurugram. "While wearing of masks is essential, gym users must try and wear masks made of breathable fabric to avoid suffocation while exercising."

## Biomedical menace in Gurugram

By Ajay Kumar  
in Gurugram

AMID the ongoing pandemic, it is feared that Gurugram can become an epicentre for infectious diseases due to inadequate facilities for biomedical waste management.

According to a data available with MAIL TODAY, there are 220 hospitals and nursing homes that are operational in the city and have combined strength of 13,183 beds. But there is just one waste management unit. Sonia Duhan, a consultant of Municipal Corporation of Gurugram says, "We have one facility named biotech management at sector 37 for disposal and recycling of bio-medical waste in Gurugram. The bio-medical

## City has just one waste management unit

waste also come from other districts including Rewari."

"In Corona pandemic, we have 12 door to door collection vehicles, which collect bio-medical waste generated from houses having Corona patients in the city. They are collecting it and transporting it to the facility," Duhan said.

Shakti Singh, regional officer of Gurugram pollution control board says, "We have a single unit which is responsible for the treatment of bio-medical waste generated in this region. Incineration of around 8 ton bio-medical waste is currently underway in this unit."

The most alarming fact revealed by the sources that this surplus biomedical waste is thrown out on the vacant lands or most often collected by the municipal corporation with the general waste.

## Belur Math shrine to stay shut from Aug 2

By Indrajit Kundu  
in Kolkata

RAMAKRISHNA Mission authorities have decided to shut the Belur Math shrine for an indefinite period starting Sunday, August 2.

The decision comes in the wake of the restrictions being extended by the West Bengal government till August 31 with a stricter lockdown being enforced twice every week to contain the rapid spread of coronavirus in the state.



## Delhi govt begins new sero survey in the city

By Pankaj Jain  
in New Delhi

THE SECOND phase of serological survey in the country's capital started on Saturday. Special instructions have been given to all district officials to detect the spread of antibodies among Delhiites and to accurately assess the population of corona infection. Random sampling of people of all age groups will be done in the survey.

Last survey was done on June 27

The tests will have to be completed by August 7. There is a target of taking about 15 thousand samples from all 11 districts of Delhi. Random samples are being collected with the help of the medical team. This survey will include only those people who have not done any test of corona before or no symptoms of corona have ever been detected.

The number of samples will

depend on the population of the district in the sero survey. For sero survey, online training has also been given to young doctors, so that data can be prepared correctly. All districts have been allocated different laboratories to send their samples for tests.

Prior to this, a serological survey revealed that 23.48% of Delhi's people have been cured of being infected with corona. In this survey conducted by the NCDC (National Center for Disease Control) and the Government of Delhi, antibodies against covid were found in 23.48 percent people. A total of 21387 samples were taken in the sero survey which ran from 27 June to 10 July.

After this, Health Minister Satyendra Jain had announced that now a serological survey will be done every month in Delhi. The last sero survey was done by the National Center for Disease Control (NCDC) of the central government and the survey results were also released by the NCDC itself. But this time the Delhi government is conducting this survey at its level.

## A mother's sacrifice to ensure studies for kids

A poor woman and mother of four children, was forced to mortgage her mangalsutra to buy a television for her children to take study lessons from Doordarshan. The incident took place in Gadag district of Karnataka.

Kasturi Chalavadi from Radder Nagamur village in Nar-gund taluk of Gadag district, a mother of four, pledged

her 12-gram gold mangalsutra to get cash for purchasing a television set so that her children could

watch the classes being telecast on Doordarshan.

The money lender later realised the situation and agreed to give the mangalsutra back to the woman and asked the family to return the money whenever they can. However, few locals pooled in money for the family and some politicians also pitched in.

Congress MLA Zameer Ahmed sent Rs 50,000 and state minister CC Patil sent Rs 20,000.

—Nagarjun Dwarakanath

Mortaged her mangalsutra to buy a TV

# A TEMPLE COMES TO LIFE

By Kumar Abhishek in Ayodhya and  
Nelanshu Shukla in Lucknow

**L**EADERS of the Ram Janmabhoomi agitation, Lalkrishna Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi, are likely to attend the Ram Mandir bhumi pujan event at Ayodhya via videoconferencing.

The August 5 event at Ayodhya, which will mark the groundbreaking ceremony for construction of the Ram Mandir, is being eagerly awaited by followers across the country.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to attend the event while local authorities and the Uttar Pradesh government have made elaborate security arrangements for the bhumi pujan event. However, there has been no confirmation of the same from the Prime Minister's Office.

Lalkrishna Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi and other senior leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Hindutva movement will be attending the event through video conference over their ailing health and the coronavirus situation.

The administration has prepared a list of 10 top leaders who will be attending the bhumi pujan event through video conference.



File photo of LK Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi.

Sources say, during the bhumi pujan event on August 5, PM Modi may share the stage with four other leaders.

Apart from PM Narendra Modi, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat and Nritya Gopal Das, chief of Ramjanmabhoomi Nyas, will be present on the stage along with two other dignitaries.

No other leader or saint will be present on the stage for the ceremony.

Local authorities have said gatherings of five or more people will be banned in Ayodhya on August 5 to follow social distancing protocols during the event.

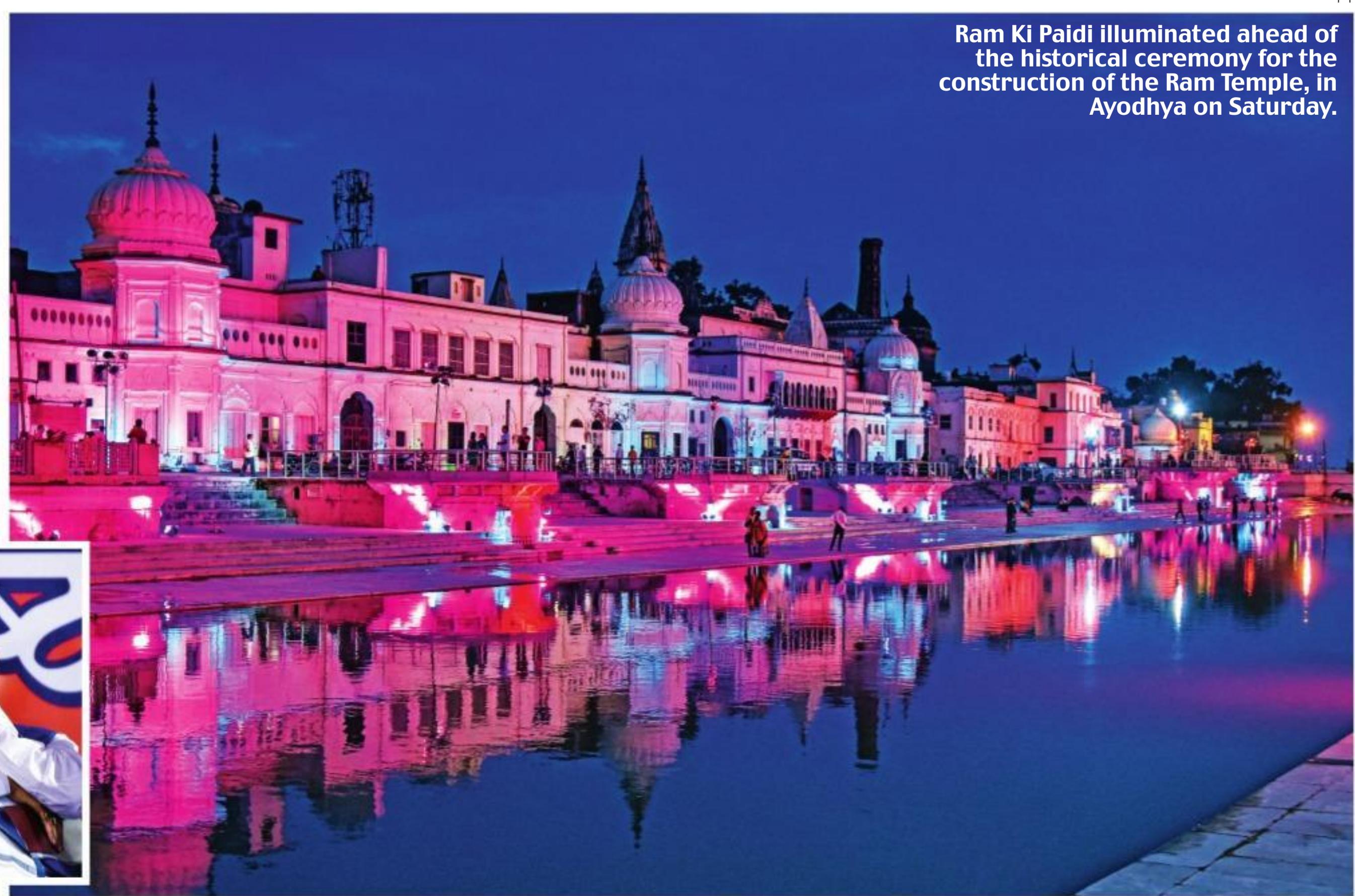
Huge police deployment will also be seen across the temple town of Ayodhya with the government planning to send an additional 3,500 police personnel for the security arrangements.

## YOUNG COPS DEPLOYED FOR PM'S SECURITY

Police personnel who have tested negative for coronavirus and are below the age of 45 years will be deployed for PM Modi's security and other arrangements in Ayodhya for the August 5 event.

A total of 40 companies of (provincial armed constabulary) PAC will be deployed in Ayodhya, including the 20 existing companies. The process of testing the police personnel who will

## Party veterans Advani, Joshi could attend Ayodhya Bhoomi Pujan event via video call



Ram Ki Paidi illuminated ahead of the historical ceremony for the construction of the Ram Temple, in Ayodhya on Saturday. PTI

## 'Ram temple coming up with everyone's consent'

A RAM temple is being constructed in Ayodhya with the consent of every Indian, Madhya Pradesh Congress chief Kamal Nath said on Saturday, four days ahead of the foundation laying ceremony. Nath's colleague Digvijaya Singh said former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi also wanted the temple to come up.

"I welcome the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya. People of the country were expecting

and wishing for this since long. The construction of the temple is being carried out with the consent of every Indian. It's possible only in India," Nath said in a video message.

Singh said Lord Ram is at the centre of everybody's faith.

"The centre of our faith is Lord Ram!

And today, the country is being run with trust in the Lord Ram. That's why we all wish that a grand temple should be built at the birthplace of Ram in

Congress leader Kamal Nath

Ayodhya. (Late PM) Rajiv Gandhi also wanted the same," he tweeted.

Singh, however, questioned the muhurt (auspicious time) for the ground breaking ceremony for the construction of temple, slated to be held on August, 5 in the likely presence of PM Narendra Modi.

"If we talk about 'muhurt', then more than 90 per cent of Hindus in this country will be those who believe in religious science... (sic)," he said. "I am neutral to the fact that there is no 'muhurt' for the foundation laying on August 5. This is playing with the religious beliefs (sic)," he said. —PTI

be deployed for security in Ayodhya is currently underway.

ADG law and order Prashant Kumar and ADG Lucknow zone Satya Narayan Sabat will lead the UP Police security arrangements in Ayodhya ahead of the

bhumi pujan for Ram Mandir.

Two DIG-level officers, including SSP Ayodhya, Deepak Kumar and 8 Superintendent of Police will be in the temple city to look after the security measures.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Secretary RK Tiwari will be chairing a meeting on the security arrangements in Ayodhya and ADG Lucknow zone Satya Narayan Sabat will leave for Ayodhya soon after the meeting.

**SHIV SENA LEADER AND MAHARASHTRA MINISTER EKNATH SHINDE** on Saturday said that the construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya was not a political issue, but a matter of pride and faith for lakhs of devotees. Shinde, who is scheduled to visit Gadchiroli district, of which he is the guardian minister, was talking to reporters at the Nagpur airport.

When asked about a Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) functionary's recent statement that those opposing the Ram temple and subjects linked to it were doing so to achieve their political goals, Shinde said, "Ram temple is not a political issue. It is a matter of pride and faith for lakhs of devotees of Lord Ram. Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray went to Ayodhya when he was not a CM and later when became the CM." —PTI

## Rajput's sister requests PM to look into death case

By Divyanshi Sharma and Sahil Joshi in Mumbai

SUSHANT Singh Rajput's sister, Shweta Singh Kirti, took to social media on Saturday and requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to look into her brother's death case and ensure that everything is handled in a sanitised way, without manipulation of evidence.

Rajput died by suicide on the morning of June 14. The reason behind the actor's death is being investigated by Mumbai and Bihar Police.

Sharing a note, Kirti wrote on Instagram, "I am sister of Sushant Singh Rajput and I request an urgent

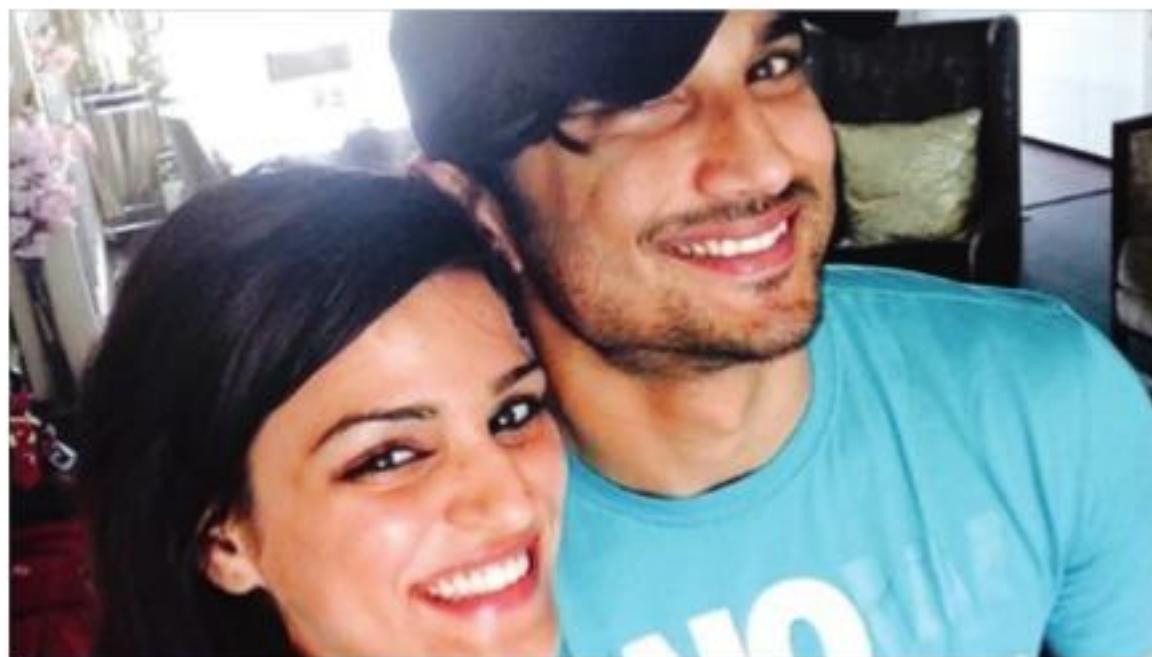
scan of the whole case. We believe in India's judicial system & expect justice at any cost. @narendramodi @PMOIndia #JusticeForSushant #SatyamevaJayate (sic)."

The note shared by her read, "Dear Sir, Somehow my heart says that you stand with and for the truth. We are from a very simple family. My brother had no Godfather when he was in Bollywood nor do we have anyone right now. My request to you is to immediately look into this case and make sure that everything is handled in a sanitized way and no evidences are tampered with. Expecting justice to prevail (sic)."

Kirti had shared a photo of Rajput's white board in which he was planning to start his workout and transcendental meditation from June 29.

## MUMBAI COPS SEEK LEGAL OPINION IN SUSHANT CASE

The Mumbai Police sought a legal opinion if they should assist Bihar Police with the ongoing investigation in Sushant Singh Rajput's death case, as per sources. As per Mumbai Police, the Bihar Police has no jurisdiction to investigate the case hence no official document will be given until the court asks.



File photo of late actor Sushant Singh Rajput with his sister Shweta Singh Kirti.

Bihar Police sought postmortem report of Rajput but could not obtain it

# India Today INDIA TOMORROW

## LJP founder Ram Vilas Paswan on politics in Bihar and ties with BJP

**M**ONTHS ahead of the Bihar assembly elections, Union Minister and founder of Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) Ram Vilas Paswan on Saturday said he would definitely like to see his son and LJP president Chirag Paswan become Bihar's chief minister one day. At present, the LJP is an alliance partner of the BJP and is part of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

Speaking in an exclusive interview with India Today TV's Consulting Editor Rajdeep Sardesai for the show 'India Today India Tomorrow', Paswan said he wants his son to be the chief minister of Bihar.

"I definitely want it... 100 per cent. When and how, we will see... it all depends on Chirag... maybe after two years, five

**'Refusing to join Nitish in 2005 was a mistake'**

years or in the future. I am forecasting it today that in 20-25 years from now, it is certain that Chirag will be counted among the country's top leaders," Ram Vilas Paswan said, adding that he doesn't talk of the present, but of the future.

Speaking about the past and his ties with the BJP, Ram Vilas Paswan said he had many opportunities to become chief minister and that he made a mistake in 2005 when Nitish Kumar approached him to join hands and form government in Bihar.

"Back then, I was stuck in ideology... I said I hold the key to government formation because I have 29 MLAs and I want that a Muslim should be made Bihar's chief minister. But the JD(U) was not ready back then, neither was the Lalu Prasad's RJD," he said. Ram Vilas

# 'Chirag can lead nation one day'

Paswan said he was made an offer even during the time of VP Singh but I suggested Ram Sundar Das's name instead.

Speaking about the politics in Bihar and its future, he said one thing that is clear today is that there is a gap between leaders of our generation (Paswan, Lalu Prasad, Nitish Kumar) and the upcoming generation.

"If someone has to come forward in Bihar, then it is the young generation and Chirag Paswan is among them. It is true that we are born in the weaker section, but Chirag has the qualities that he can go beyond caste politics and connect with all sections of society. There are leaders who are involved in caste politics, but Chirag is seeing Bihar's politics and the politics

of India and is working towards it. No one can stop his future. When will he become Bihar's future and later the nation's future, that time will tell."

### 'CM POST NOT MY FOCUS'

Meanwhile, speaking also in the show, Chirag Paswan, who is currently a Lok Sabha MP and heads the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP), said the chief minister's post is not his focus and he is rather concentrated on empowering youth in Bihar's politics.

Asked if he has had the advantage of being from an influential family and that other young people without such family background face great difficulties in making their name in politics,



**LJP chief Chirag Paswan**

Chirag said being born in an influential family does not guarantee political success.

"I have said this repeatedly that just by the virtue of coming from a big political background doesn't necessarily mean you will become a successful politician.

You won't be an established politician unless you have the potential. There are many examples where children of big politicians could not do anything.

**I am forecasting it today that in 20-25 years from now, it is certain that Chirag will be counted among the country's top leaders**

**If someone has to come forward in Bihar, then it is the young generation and Chirag is among them. He has the qualities to go beyond caste politics**

**- RAM VILAS PASWAN, UNION MINISTER**

Eventually, it's out and out on the basis of your abilities."

He said it is true that he had a "soft landing" in politics because of his family background, but after the landing, there is a "big struggle to remain there".

"There are many young leaders, even in our party, who have established themselves without having any political background," he said.

[www.indiatoday.in](http://www.indiatoday.in)

## Now, govt expands credit scheme to individuals



**File photo of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman**

**By Rahul Shrivastava in New Delhi**

IN A pragmatic mid-scheme assessment and switch, the government has expanded the eligibility criteria for the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme beyond the MSMEs to include "individuals who have loans for business purpose".

The emergency credit line guarantee scheme worth Rs 3 lakh crore was launched as part of Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman after a Cabinet clearance on May 20 to provide credit relief to MSMEs facing immense hardships due to Covid-19 driven lockdowns. The National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd (NCGTC) runs the ECLGS in which the government provides full loan guarantee to the incremental loans given to borrowers.

Individual entrepreneurs amount to a large chunk of the country's business community. With today's eligibility expansion, doctors running clinics or laboratories, chartered accountants, taxi-bus service operators and lawyers who

**Implementation of the ECLGS is a dynamic process. Already 40L**

**MSMEs have availed the scheme & ₹1.37 lakh crore has been sanctioned. — DEBASHISH PANDA, SPECIAL SECRETARY, DEPT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES**



their personal capacities. That used to make them ineligible for availing of the scheme.

Finance ministry sources say that it is estimated that guaranteed credit line individuals with business loans may use up nearly Rs 1 lakh crore worth of the total Rs 3 lakh crore scheme.

The department of financial services, part of the finance ministry has been monitoring and reassessing the implementation of the scheme since the launch. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has held several rounds of meetings with stakeholders and officials to review the implementation and take feedback on the eligibility criteria.

A senior ministry official said that as the scheme has gained traction, the government has more workable information to tweak the policy.

For example, on Saturday, the government announced the second set of changes in eligibility criteria of the scheme.

Earlier, business entities with Rs 25 crore outstanding loan and Rs 100 core annual turnover could avail the scheme.

## Police questions Umar Khalid in Delhi riots case

DELHI Police on Saturday questioned former Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) student and activist Umar Khalid in connection with the northeast Delhi riots that took place in February this year.

Umar Khalid was asked about his speeches that he delivered before the riots and about his meeting that took place in Shaheen Bagh with Khalid Saifi ahead of the communal violence.

His mobile phone has also been seized.

In June, Delhi Police

arrested Khalid Saifi, founder of United Against Hate, in connection with the riots and found during the investigation that he played a "crucial role" in arranging a meeting between suspended AAP Councillor Tahir Hussain and Umar Khalid.

Police chargesheet indicated that meeting between Umar Khalid and Tahir Hussain was facilitated by Khalid Saifi and the plan to organise protests in Delhi during US President Donald Trump's visit.

-Arvind Ojha

Government of Madhya Pradesh Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, Water Resources Department Jal Sansadhan Bhawan, Tulsi Nagar, Bhopal (M.P.) Email Id: cprocencrwd.bpl@nic.in Tel: 0755-2767635 Fax: 0755-2552406			
N.I.T. No. 741/2020-21/E-in-C/e-tendering/ Bhopal, Dated 25.07.2020			
Bids for following works are invited on website <a href="https://www.mptenders.gov.in">https://www.mptenders.gov.in</a> . Last Date of purchase/download of Bid Document and submission of bid is 25.08.2020, 17:30 hrs. Any amendment/modification can be seen only on the website. Detailed N.I.T. and other details can be viewed on above mentioned website.			
S. No.	Tender No.	Work	District Amount (Lakhs)
1.	2020-WRD-99403	On Turnkey Basis :- Construction of Prahlaid Oriya Tank Scheme (Head work and Canal), as per detailed scope of work but not limited to that.	Sagar 465.57
Sd/- Chief Engineer (Procurement)			
G-12849, Date-30.07.2020			

**कार्यालय, मुख्य चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी,**  
जगदलपुर, जिला बस्तर (छ.ग.)  
**शुद्धि पत्र**  
क्रमांक/निविदा/2020-21/4037 जगदलपुर, दिनांक 29/07/2020  
कार्यालयीन निविदा क्रमांक/निविदा/2020-21/3598, जगदलपुर, दिनांक 09.07.2020 द्वारा जारी की गई निविदा में कोविड महामारी के कारण जिले में दिनांक 06.08.2020 तक संपूर्ण लॉकडाउन के कारण निम्नानुसार तिथियों में संशोधन किया जाता है। शेष नियम व शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।  
मुहरबंद निविदा पंजीकृत डाक एवं स्पीड पोस्ट द्वारा कार्यालय को प्राप्त होने की अंतिम तिथि : 07 अगस्त 2020, अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक  
निविदा खोले जाने की तिथि : 07 अगस्त 2020 को अपराह्न 4.00 बजे  
हो/-  
मुख्य चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी,  
जगदलपुर, जिला-बस्तर (छ.ग.)

**GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH,  
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER  
MAHANADI PROJECT, RAIPUR (CHHATTISGARH)  
NATIONAL OPEN COMPETITIVE  
PROCUREMENT**  
(Two-Envelope Bidding Process with e-Procurement  
e-PROCUREMENT REQUEST FOR BIDS  
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>  
(Tender Cancel Notice)  
Bid System No. 65644, NIT No. 02/SAC/2020-21 Dated 27.07.2020, Epoxy treatment of masonry dam, repair of damaged glacis portion, repair of teeth floor and teeth etc. treatment in inspection gallery to minimize seepage, Protection work of masonry dam from RD. 0 m to RD 585 m., railing work on protection wall of left guide bank RD 0 m. to 215 m., Repairing of damaged bucket floor of Ravishankar Sagar Dam Gangrel. Vide publication No. G. No. 81999 is Cancelled due to unforeseen circumstance.  
Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Water Management Dn., Rudri  
Code No. 38  
For Chief Engineer,  
Mahanadi Project, Raipur (C.G.)

**SEARCH FOR SUSPECTS**  
The general public is hereby informed that two unknown suspects snatched a golden chain from the woman in front of Namdhari Chamber, DBG Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi. In this regard an FIR No. 179/2020, dated 08.07.2020 u/s 356/379/34 IPC has been registered at P.S. DBG Road, Delhi. During the investigation, the footage of CCTV cameras installed at nearby place has been obtained and analyzed. In which the two unknown suspects are seen on the motor bike. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the suspects but no clues have come to light so far.  
The description of the suspects are as under:  
Gender: Male-1, Age: 25-27 years, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Oval, Built: Medium, Wearing: White colour shirt.  
Gender: Male-2, Age: 24-26 years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Oval, Built: Medium, Wearing: Blue colour half-shirt.  
If anyone has any information regarding this suspected men, kindly inform SHO/ DBG Road, Delhi.  
E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in  
Ph. 011-24368638, 24368641  
Fax : 011-24368639  
DP/239/CD/2020



By Rahul Srivastava  
in New Delhi

IN March this year, a few hours after Delhi's active rumour mills had churned out that Rajya Sabha MP and former Samajwadi Party leader Amar Singh had passed away in Singapore, I received a video message on WhatsApp. It was from someone close to Amar Singh. He had recorded it from his hospital room and declared in true 'filmi style', "This is Amar Singh from Singapore. I am unwell, harassed, but not scared. My courage, passion and senses are intact. My well-wishers and friends (pun intended) had spread the rumour that Yamraj (God of death) has taken me away. This is not true. The same video was posted on his Twitter handle titled, "Tiger Abhi Zinda Hai".

Amar Singh passed away in a Singapore hospital on Saturday.

He was a networker like no other in the recent political history of India. At the zenith of his career, he hobnobbed among celebrities and connected businesses.

### He helped UPA-I win the trust vote

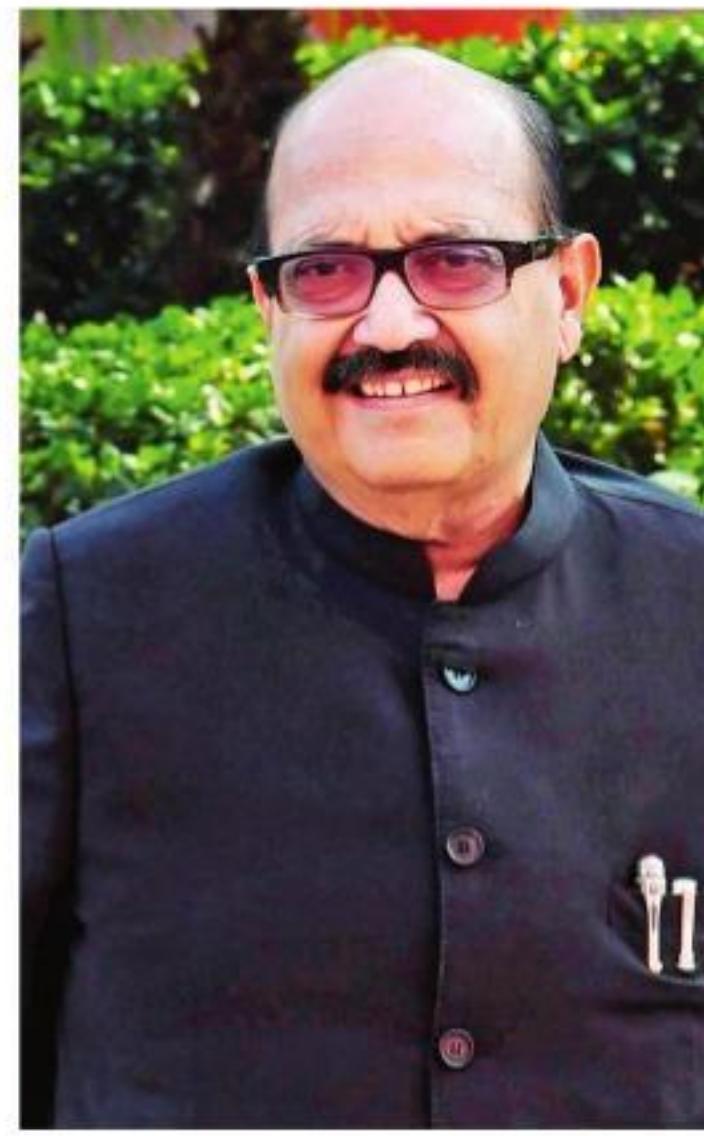
During conversations, he used to call himself a "Calcutta Boy lost in Delhi jungle".

Mulayam Singh Yadav gave him a Rajya Sabha seat in 1996 and almost allowed him to run UP's most influential political party at one point of time.

Writing about Amar Singh is difficult. Essaying his political impact is a treacherous road. He had once admitted to me of owning a vault of secrets-some voluntary deposited with him and some that he had acquired. He had once told me he had a large collection of CDs - recordings, which many in the country may like to consign to flames. A Samajwadi Party leader in fact used to call him "CD-uncle".

He saved the Manmohan Singh

# Go-getter who couldn't return



**AMAR SINGH  
1956-2020**

government by swinging the Samajwadi Party support in favour of UPA-I, after the over 60-MP strong Left Front abandoned it. The Left opposed the signing of the 123 Agreement part of the nuclear deal with the US.

On July 22, 2008 the UPA faced a trust vote in Lok Sabha. MPs convalescing in hospitals were asked to attend the House. Three BJP MPs rushed to the well of the House and for the first time deposited currency notes on the table in front of the Speaker Somnath Chatterjee as evidence. The charge was that people had paid them the money to vote for the government. The accused, Amar Singh, was later exonerated.

ated by a parliamentary probe panel.

Amar Singh always had friends at every place that mattered. He stood with megastar Amitabh Bachchan, who he had helped in moment of dire need. He was the link between the Bachchans and the Anil Dhirubhai Ambani family and Mulayam Singh Yadav. For Mulayam Singh Yadav he connected Samajwad or socialism to glitz, glamour and power, the business elite, social chic and even former US President Bill Clinton, who attended a banquet in Lucknow in 2005.

### In 2010 he was expelled from SP

During the early UPA-II years, Singh was a powerful man. Bureaucrats would admit that he used to land up with files in ministries and would walk out with a 'yes' on the business interests of his friends.

He was getting too powerful in the Samajwadi Party. He mediated between Mulayam and Kalyan Singh, who was out of the BJP. He reeled off another "dushmani-dosti" (enmity-friendship) song.

Meanwhile Mulayam's son Akhilesh Yadav was waiting to inherit the party. He felt threatened by Singh's grip over the party. In 2010 Singh was expelled. With no party or its MPs backing him Singh's power plummeted.

In one of his last posted videos from a Singapore hospital he had said, "I may be good or bad. I am yours. In my own inimitable style I have lived my life. I will be back." Unfortunately, he couldn't keep his promise to return.

# 11 killed as crane crashes at shipyard in Visakhapatnam

By Ashish Pandey  
in Visakhapatnam

IN A major accident at the Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) in Visakhapatnam, a heavy duty crashed, trapping many under the debris. As many as 11 people have been killed in the accident so far while one person is injured.

Of the 11 deceased, four were employees of HSL, including a supervisor, while the other seven were workers of three contracting agencies, Visakhapatnam District Collector Vinay Chand said.

Bodies of the victims have been retrieved in the rescue operations and sent for post-mortem. One victim is yet to be identified.

The new crane was erected at HSL about two years ago but was not yet commissioned for regular operations due to change in contractors. The mishap occurred when workers were engaged in erecting the crane, Police Commissioner RK Meena said. The massive crane suddenly crumbled and crashed to the ground.

Vinay Chand said: "A new crane was being commissioned. A trial run was being conducted to bring it into full-scale operation. We've also ordered inquiry both from within Hindustan Shipyard and also a high-level committee from the administration."



Rescue operations underway after a crane collapsed at the Hindustan Shipyard Limited in Visakhapatnam on Saturday.

Dramatic visuals of the crane toppling down have emerged as people at the shipyard stood watching in horror. DCP Suresh Babu had first confirmed the incident.

### COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ACCIDENT

While HSL constituted an internal committee, headed by its Director (Operations), the Collector formed an independent committee of engineers, comprising

heads of departments of civil, mechanical and electrical engineering of Andhra Engineering College, to investigate the cause of the crane accident.

"The committees will probe if there is any human negligence that caused the mishap," the Collector said. HSL also contracted Lead Engineers for maintenance and Squad7 for regular operation of the crane. "These contractors have commenced the full load trials now and the testing was being done when the tragedy occurred," Vinay Chand added.

The Andhra Pradesh CM has directed the police to take immediate action

# 'The govt has consulted all stakeholders for the NEP'

By Manjeet Negi in New Delhi

**A**FTER formulating one of the most awaited and acceptable education policies for the country, Union Education minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank said that the days of education policy implemented by British Viceroy Lord Macaulay are over and the country now has its own education policy in place.

Nishank said that even though there was expectation that the new policy would meet opposition, he had consulted more than 2.5 lakh stakeholders before finalising the new education policy.

"And we have given the country a new education policy after a long time. And this is the end of days of education policies formulated by the British and we are going to get a new education policy where children won't have report cards but will have progress cards. And it would depend upon students whatever subject they want to take and they can opt for music with engineering," Nishank told India Today TV in an exclusive interview.

He said the new education policy was formulated after consulting the highest number of people in the world. "We consulted all stakeholders including students, academicians and common people before drafting the education policy and putting it out in public domain," he said.

Nishank said that more than 2,50,000 people gave their suggestions and they were taken into due consideration in all aspects of education including school and higher education where "we have made big changes".

**H**e added that after the analysis done by experts, it was suggested that a child's brain develops the most between 3 to 6 years and if we can use that period, we can develop them comprehensively in all types of activities through the medium of games and education easily.

"We have now prepared a format of 5+3+3+4. We want an all-round development of a child through basic education and are also working to make it vocational," he said.

Nishank termed the decision to



Union Education minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'. (Inset) All India Democratic Students Organisation activists burn copies of the new National Education Policy 2020 during a protest outside Patna University on Friday.



## PM MODI: FOCUS NOW ON QUALITY OF EDUCATION

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the new education policy emphasises on making 'job creators' instead of 'job seekers' and is an attempt to transform the intent and the content of the country's education system.

Addressing the finale of the Smart India Hackathon, he said the National Education Policy-2020 facilitates inter-disciplinary study which will ensure that the focus is on what the students want to learn.

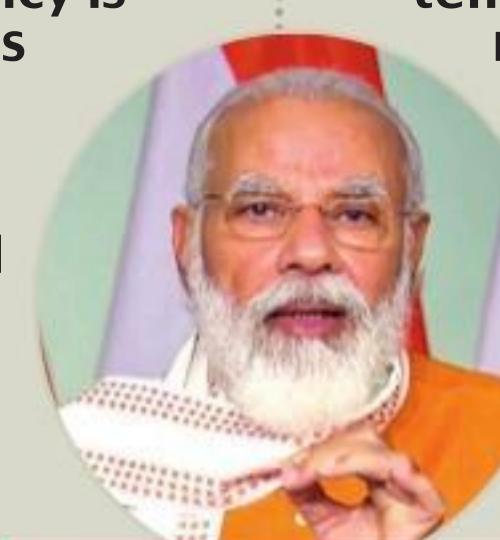
"It is not just a policy document but a reflection of the aspirations of over 130 crore people. A large section of students feel they are

judged on the basis of subjects in which they have no interest... often there is pressure from friends and families and they start studying a particular subject without interest," Modi said.

"The new education policy is an attempt to change this approach and bring systematic reforms in the education system by reforming the intent and content," he added.

"The 21st century is the era of knowledge. This is the time for increased focus on learning,

research, innovation. This is exactly what India's National Education Policy, 2020, does. We are focussing on the quality of education in India. Our attempts have been to make our education system the most advance and modern for students of our country. The policy is about the spirit which reflects that we are shifting from the burden of the school bag, to the boon of learning which helps for life, from simply memorising to critical thinking." - PTI



PM Narendra Modi

provide elementary education in mother tongue saying that India has 22 different languages and when the child studies in his own language of the language which he speaks at home he will be more comfortable.

"Up to Class 5, the children would learn in their mother tongue and from Class 6, they

will be diverted towards vocational education also where internships would be provided for between Class 6 to 12 and they would also get an opportunity to develop their skills," the minister said.

Nishank said online education also been stressed upon in the new policy on and would also

work on to prepare a new national curriculum framework under which everybody would be brought onto the same page.

The minister said the new policy aims to achieve 100% Gross Enrollment Ratio in school education by 2030.

"The initiatives that will be undertaken for this include pro-

vision of effective and sufficient infrastructure, alternative and innovative education centres to ensure that children who are dropping out of school are brought back into mainstream education, universal participation in school by carefully tracking students, as well as their learning levels," he said.

## Cow vigilantes beat man as cops watch

By Neeraj Vashistha in Gurugram

AN unarmed man was beaten up by a mob in Badshahpur village of Gurugram in Haryana on suspicion that he was transporting beef in his truck while police and dozens of people watched over the entire barbarity.

The incident happened on Friday morning at 9 am when a group of cow vigilantes managed to stop the pick-up truck in Badshahpur after chasing it for 8 km.

The driver, identified as Lukman, was pulled out of the truck and beaten up by

the mob on the suspicion that he was transporting beef. Even the presence of the police, which did little to stop the mob, did not deter the crowd from beat-

Gurugram police have arrested one person in this connection

ing the helpless man to a pulp.

Several videos of the incident have gone viral on social media. The video shows a helpless Lukman, with his head

bleeding, pleading the mob to let him go as the crowd continues to thrash him. In the video, the accused, all unmasked, are seen kicking, dragging, and assaulting the 25-year-old.

At one point, a man is seen rushing towards Lukman with a hammer and bashing him with it as Lukman pleaded him to stop. One more viral video shows Lukman sitting in the middle of a crowd when a man kicks him on his face ruthlessly. This is when the police tried to intervene and stop the mob.

One person was arrested for allegedly involved in the incident.



A video grab of the incident.

## DAY IN WORDS

**‘We have no quarrel. In a democracy, fights happen over ideology, policies and programmes.’**

— ASHOK GEHLOT, Rajasthan CM, saying he will forgive the rebels if the Congress High Command does

**‘I would be the first person to help them, but not before 14 or 15... Though I have wonderful baggage [from early years in acting] I would never let go of.’**



— DREW BARRYMORE, actor, and former child star, on not wanting her daughters to act too young

**‘There were questions on us today so we’ll go away pleased at picking up three points and getting a clean sheet.’**

— STEVEN GERRARD, Rangers manager, on the club’s triumph at Aberdeen after a late start

## DAY IN NUMBERS

**₹87 cr**

the amount GST collections have fallen to in July, says Finance Ministry report

**₹242 cr**

amount of collections from real estate activities in Mumbai

## AROUND THE WORLD

## THE INDEPENDENT ON THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

## Why Trump's successor may be even worse

PRESIDENT Donald Trump's suggestion that the US election be postponed shouldn't come as a surprise. This is still quite a leap given how volatile the outlook is and his previous defying of the odds. But enough people have taken his defeat as a certainty to start a debate over the future of the Republican Party.

## The Grand Old Party is now toast, with people divided

The Grand Old Party is now toast, with people divided in the middle. They have been steadily shifting. Whites, from whom the Trumpist Republicans draw almost all their support, will soon lose their majority. And if the Trumpists win the internal debate and find among the number a smarter, more competent front man? Trump's successor, whoever that is will probably be less self-obsessed, more skilled at avoiding pitfalls, better at reading the room, better at pushing the buttons necessary to further the sort of authoritarian project seen in parts of Europe.

That's a frightening prospect and it isn't just a problem for America. It's a problem for what we used to know as "the free world".

## DAILY HUMOUR

“I like long walks when they're taken by people who annoy me.”

— Fred Allen

## DANCE GOES DIGITAL

AFP



Classical dancer Anisha Srinivas performs 'Abhinaya', the Indian art of expression, as she takes online classes from her home in Hyderabad on Saturday.

# India-China ties, a blast from the past

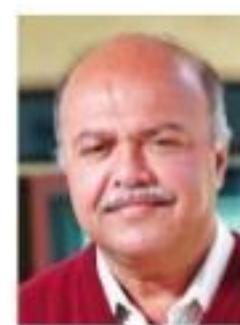
**O**NCE India attained independence and China her revolution, the perception of their borders with one another underwent a drastic change and the catalyst to that change was the Chinese move into Tibet in 1950.

The essential dispute until then rested on the possible negotiations around the Ardag-Johnson line in the Western Sector and the McMahon line in the Eastern Sector by India and China respectively. The Chinese occupation of Tibet, which entailed the imposition of a regime alien to the Tibetan culture led to the flight of the Dalai Lama in 1959. The Indian government accorded him the status of a Government in Exile. India by then had officially accepted the Chinese occupation of Tibet as de jure, without in an inexplicable manner insisting on the quid pro quo of the Chinese reciprocity in the NEFA sector. The beginning of the Sino-Indian border dispute is rooted in Chinese claims of sovereignty over Tibet and in areas which China considered historically belonging to Tibet, and hence to her. Within the Chinese imagination they include the NEFA sector (modern day Arunachal Pradesh), Ladakh and Aksai Chin.

## The Chinese offer

In 1960, Zhou Enlai made a take it or leave it offer to Prime Minister Nehru for settling the border dispute. The essential nature of the offer lay in the demands on India to make concessions to the Chinese in the Western Sector and the Chinese reciprocating the gesture in the Eastern Sector. This offer would have meant that India would have had to agree to the Chinese hold of territories in Aksai Chin and the Chinese agreeing and reciprocating the same in the NEFA Sector for India.

For an observer looking at the Line of Actual Control today, the Chinese proposal in 1960 was for China to drop its claim to the NEFA in exchange for India dropping its claim to Aksai Chin, with both sides making concessions over the middle sector. Such a settlement, as far as China was concerned would have been in consonance with the realities of administrative control as it deemed



by Ajay Vishwas Dandekar

existed on ground. The Chinese repeated this offer with similar connotations for the Line of Actual Control to the subsequent Indian governments as well. What is interesting is all the later Indian governments and rightly so, in consonance with India's first Prime Minister's stance, have rejected these offers. We need to understand the current standoff against the above historical background and in the light of the new realities that emerged since then.

## Caught by surprise?

Has any ground shifted further between the time when Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi made that breakthrough visit to China and the current intrusions and China's policy of salami slicing on the border? The status quo ante is decisively broken by China with respect to areas in and around Pangong Lake, Hot Springs and Galvan valley. Despite some disengagement the claims on these areas from the Chinese side remain and do get reiterated time and again. These, incidentally, are the very regions in Ladakh where India and China fought in 1962. It is interesting to note that the recent Chinese move has come at the time when US and China are locked in a confrontational relationship, and when the world, including China, is battling a pandemic.

What could be the reasons for China to pursue this aggressive stance on her south western border? In recent times and under successive governments, India has moved to strengthen infrastructure on the borders: joining the Quad initiative with United States and others that have implications for Chinese maritime security, augmented, substantially, the mobilisation and logistical capabilities of equipment, troops and critical assets including smart and intelligent systems and their integration in the War Doctrine; initiating a process of raising the Mountain Strike Corps that can strike across the Tibetan plateau, and is aggressively

pursuing a high economic growth path. Such actions may have possibly taken China by a strategic surprise. The Chinese response has patterned on the strategy that they have followed for 70 years. China even when "weak" pursued the policy of aggressive deterrence, which was manifest in the Korean War of the 1950s, when the poorly armed PLA forces fought the Americans on the 36th parallel. Aggressive deterrence would mean aggressive actions to prevent an adversary gaining long-term advantages. China, given her complete commitment to the One Belt One Road Initiative, would want India on the defensive and not pose a question to Chinese economic and political interests at any time. This would, therefore include for the near future, the possibility of thwarting the possibility of an Indian intervention in the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, and securing the link road between Tibet and Xingjian that goes through Aksai Chin. In the longer run, one may surmise that China would like to have an upper hand in border negotiations with India where the finality of the Chinese annexation of Tibet and the acceptance of *fait accompli* in the Western Sector would be a non-negotiable act. Would that non-negotiable position of China extend in the Eastern Sector as well?

## The OBOR factor

One Belt One Road Initiative is perhaps the most critical strategic bid the Chinese leadership has made to assert her status as the dominant global power. The rise of India as the possible Asian Pivot is from that perspective a factor they would want respond to. While the response from the Chinese has been to turn to aggressive deterrence short of a conflict that seeks to divert Indian attention and her resources our response should be shaped by our long-term strategic interest as well. It does therefore beg a question from our side whether the original Chinese offer of Premier Zhou Enlai is still on the negotiating table or whether that ground has now shifted?

The writer is a Professor in the Department of History, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar University.

The views expressed are personal.



## SO FUNNY

Tomorrow is always the busiest day of the week.

“Accept who you are. Unless you're a serial killer.”

— Ellen DeGeneres



# QUANTUM LEAP

MG ARUNESH C SHARMA

# NEP must spell out 'ancient knowledge'



Union  
Education  
Minister  
Dr Ramesh  
Pokhriyal  
Nishank

**T**HE New Education Policy (NEP) has proposed a paradigm shift in the Indian education system at all levels – from early learning to higher education.

While most of the reforms suggested have been recommended by various expert committees in the past, several new elements have also been added.

NEP recognises that the purpose of the education system is to develop good human beings capable of rational thought and action, evidence-based thinking and possessing scientific temper and ethical values. At the same time, it envisions an education system “rooted in Indian ethos” for “transforming India, that is Bharat” into a knowledge society. NEP mentions contributions of ancient Indians to “mathematics, astronomy, metallurgy, medical science and surgery, civil engineering, architecture, shipbuilding and navigation, yoga, fine arts, chess, and more.” Such legacies, it says, should be “researched, enhanced, and put

**it envisions a system ‘rooted in Indian ethos’**

to new uses through our education system.”

In principle, there is no contradiction between scientific temper and promoting traditional knowledge and ancient science. For decades, science academies have researched into the work of ancient astronomers and mathematicians as well as texts like *Charak Samhita*. Study of traditional medical systems too is an established discipline. But introducing modules on ancient knowledge at different levels of education is altogether different. First, ‘ancient knowledge’ itself has become a contested territory in recent years, with everything from virtues of cow urine to herbal Covid cure claiming the title. If all such claims are considered ‘ancient knowledge’ and subjected to research, it will drain on our institutions that are already starved of research funds. Second, it will open flood gates

for mythological tales such as *Pushpak vimana* touted as an example of aerospace engineering to creep into text books. To think this knowledge can be useful in contemporary world, as NEP says, is farfetched. You can’t expect Indian Space Research Organisation to dip into ancient texts before developing next spaceship to Mars or a transplant surgeon to look for clues from Ganesh’s plastic surgery. If the definition of ancient knowledge is kept open-ended and undefined in NEP we are headed towards a dangerous whirl.

*The author is a journalist, columnist and author based in New Delhi.*

## SIGNS OF A FOOD CRISIS

THE Covid-19 pandemic is beginning to impact food security globally, scientists have warned. The pandemic has adversely hit food supply chains, which in turn has put food security at risk. The most direct impacts on food security arise from economic losses resulting from virus control steps like lockdowns, manifesting in loss of income of the poor and

their ability to buy food. In addition, there are disruptions in agricultural supply, production, and distribution of food due to labour shortages, industry closures, and restrictions on movement of people and goods. If these issues are not addressed in time, the situation turns into food crisis, experts have warned in scientific journal *Science* this week.

THE International Thermonuclear Energy Reactor (ITER) project, the world's largest science project currently underway, has reached a major milestone this week with the start of the machine assembly in France. It is an international collaborative project with France as the host country. The EU is funding 45 per cent of the cost of ITER, while other partners - U.S. China, Japan, Russia, India and Korea - are funding 9 per cent of the project in kind. In recent months, all the participating countries shipped to France components and parts - some of them weighing several hundred tons each and over 15 meters long. They have been fabricated in factories, universities

**The machine assembly has started in France**

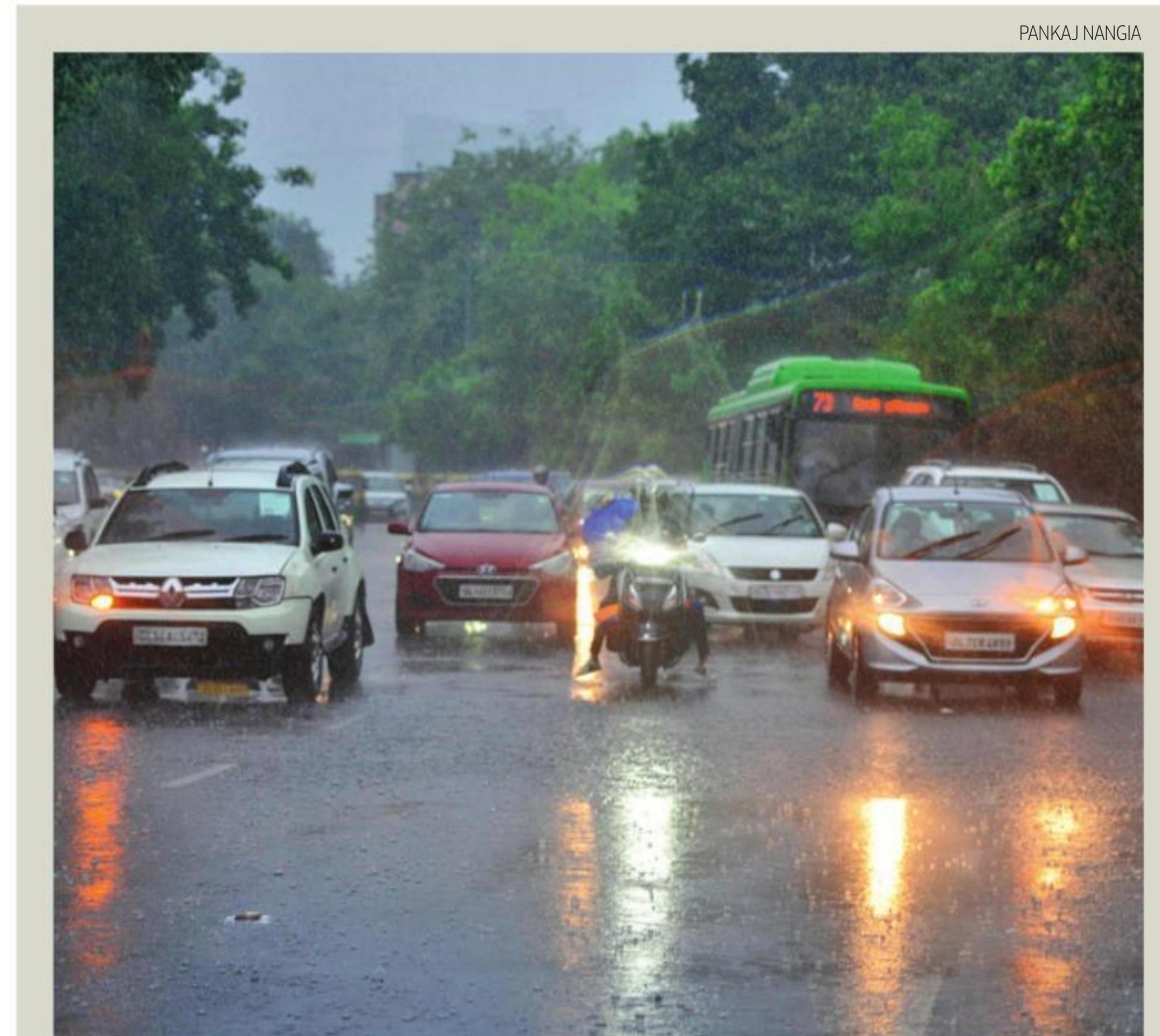
and national laboratories in different countries. India has supplied a giant outer shell measuring 30 meter in diameter and 30 meter high for the reactor, among other components. The assembly which began this week may take up to five years to complete by December 2025, scientists hope to launch ‘first plasma’ to demonstrate functionality of the machine.

The ITER machine would replicate fusion the Sun's power inside the reactor. Fusion power - as opposed to fission in nuclear power plants - is safe, uses minute amounts of fuel and has no possibility of accident or meltdown. The tokamak machine that will produce fusion power has one million components.

## MILESTONE FOR NEW SOURCE OF ENERGY



Giant reactor shell supplied by India for ITER



PANKAJ NANGIA

Even as heavy rains lash the Capital, the India Meteorological Department has launched an app which allows users to track the weather.

## Now, you can play weather-man

THE India Meteorological Department (IMD) has launched a mobile application, ‘Mausam’ for dissemination of weather-related information and forecast to the public. It lets users access observed weather, forecasts, radar images as well as warnings on weather events.

For current weather, one can access temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction for 200 cities. This information will be updated eight times a day. The feature called ‘now-

cast’ gives three hourly warnings of localised weather phenomena and their intensity issued, for about 800 stations and districts in India. In the case of severe weather, its impact is also included in the warning. Regular city weather for preceding 24 hours and 7-day forecast of weather conditions is also available for around 450 cities. Warnings are issued twice a day for all districts for five days in colour code (Red,

**It lets users access observed weather and forecasts**

Orange and Yellow) to warn citizens of approaching dangerous weather. Red stands for ‘the most severe category.’ Radar images will also be updated every ten minutes. The app has been developed by IMD, along with Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune and Digital Agriculture & Youth team of the International Crop Research Institute for Semi-arid Tropics (ICRISAT).

DOZENS of scientific groups across the world are developing different types of vaccines against novel coronavirus.

The Harvard Medical School has developed a vaccine candidate that made from adenovirus, which causes the common cold. The vaccine has been tested in rhesus macaques and initial findings show that it protects against SARS-CoV-2, according to results published in journal *Nature*. The vaccine is now being evaluated in clinical trials. Vector-based vaccines use viruses to express fragments to stimulate an immune response. Vaccines based on adenovirus have been found to induce immune responses to various pathogens in both animals and humans. Now scientists hope this works against the novel coronavirus as well.

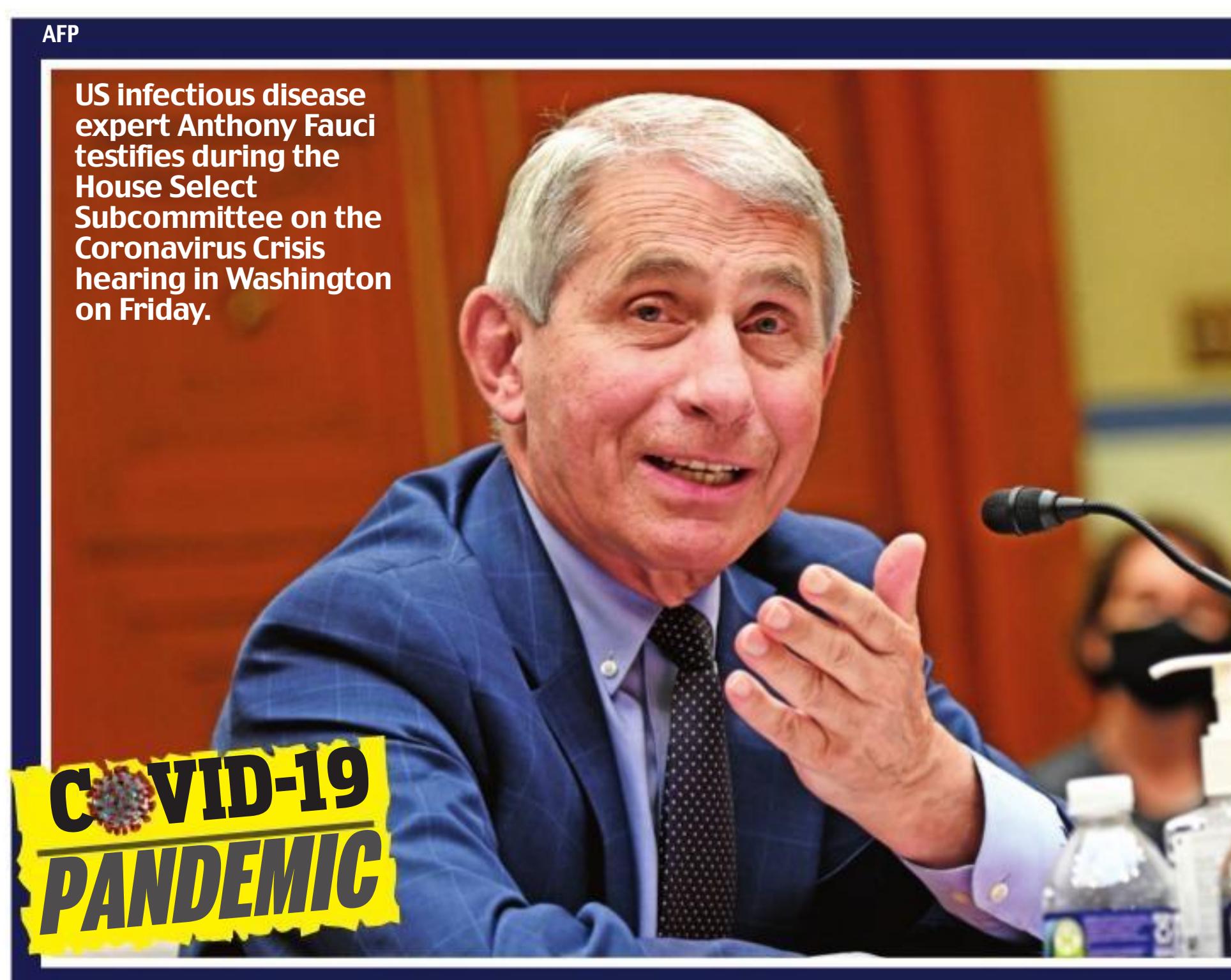
# WORLDLY WISE

Several Chinese companies are at the forefront of Covid research

**A**MERICA'S top infectious diseases official has raised concerns over the safety of Covid-19 vaccines being developed by China and Russia as the world scrambles for answers to a pandemic the WHO warned will be felt for decades.

Six months after the World Health Organization declared a global emergency, the coronavirus has killed at least 679,000 people and infected at least 17.9 million.

As countries across Western Europe announced new lockdowns and reported historic economic slumps,



Japan's capital Tokyo recorded 472 new coronavirus cases on Saturday, the third straight day of record numbers. Nationwide, the daily count of the coronavirus cases in Japan totalled a record 1,579 on Saturday.



The pandemic is a once-in-a-century health crisis, its effects will be felt for decades to come. Most people remain susceptible to the virus.

—TEDROS GHEBREYESUS, WHO CHIEF

## U.S. BUYS 100 MN DOSES OF 'POTENTIAL' VACCINE



TWO MAJOR drug companies will supply the US government with 100 million doses of an experimental coronavirus vaccine, the Trump administration said on Friday, as the nation's top health agency predicted that fatalities would rise in the coming weeks.

The agreement calls for the US government to pay French drug maker Sanofi and British pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline up to \$2.1 billion to supply it with enough vaccines for 50 million people, with the option to buy another 500 million doses. The purchase falls under the Trump administration's so-called 'Operation Warp Speed', intended to rush a Covid-19 vaccine to the market by the end of 2020.

—Reuters

# US MAY NOT USE VACCINES MADE IN CHINA OR RUSSIA

the UN health body said the pandemic was a once-in-a-century crisis and its fallout would be felt for decades.

Several Chinese companies are at the forefront of the race to develop an immunity to the disease and Russia has set a target date of September to roll out its own vaccine.

But US infectious disease expert Anthony Fauci said it was unlikely his country would use any vaccine developed in either

country, where regulatory systems are far more opaque than they are in the West.

"I do hope that the Chinese and the Russians are actually testing the vaccine before they are administering the vaccine to anyone," he told a US Congressional hearing on Friday.

"Claims of having a vaccine ready to distribute before you do testing, I think, is problematic, at best."

### NEW SPIKES

In east Asia, territories which saw success in tackling the early wave of the coronavirus are now confronting worrying new spikes.

Japan's Okinawa declared a state of emergency Saturday after a record jump in cases on the island — many linked to US military forces stationed there — while Hong Kong opened a new makeshift hospital to house Covid-19 patients.

### ECONOMIC MESS

France, Spain, Portugal and Italy all reported huge contractions in their economies for the April-June quarter, while Europe as a whole saw gross domestic product fall by 12.1 percent.

In a sign of the trade-offs being forced on European governments, Britain imposed new lockdowns Friday on millions of households in northern England. —AFP

## BOLSONARO CLAIMS COVID WILL INFECT EVERYBODY



A file photo of Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro.

day, from lots of things. That's life."

Bolsonaro has faced criticism for his handling of the pandemic as it has surged in Brazil.

Bolsonaro, who has compared the virus to a 'little flu', has fought stay-at-home measures to contain it and regularly flouted social distancing guidelines, hitting the streets of Brasilia to exchange handshakes and hugs with supporters.

He tested positive for the virus on July 7 after coming down with a fever, and spent 3 weeks in isolation at the presidential palace.

On Thursday, in his first public event since his illness, he greeted a crowd of supporters in the northeastern state of Piaui, removing his face mask to loud cheers. The same day, the president's office announced his wife had tested positive for the virus. —AFP

FRESH off a bout of Covid-19, President Jair Bolsonaro said Friday 'nearly everyone will probably end up catching the coronavirus', urging Brazilians to face up to it and saying there was nothing to fear.

The far-right leader's latest bid to downplay the pandemic came as Brazil closed in on the grim milestone of 100,000 people killed by the virus, the second-highest death toll in the world, after the United States.

Bolsonaro, who is just coming off three weeks in quarantine with a case of the virus, pointed to his own case as an example.

"I'm in the high-risk group," the 65-year-old president told journalists during a visit to the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul.

"I knew I was going to catch it someday, as I think unfortunately nearly everyone here is going to catch it eventually. What are you afraid of? Face up to it," he said.

"I regret the deaths. But people die every

He says there is nothing to fear about the virus.

## Mexico surpasses UK with 3rd highest virus death toll



People walk in Zocalo Square, Mexico City, on Friday.

MEXICO surpassed Britain as the country with the third-highest coronavirus death toll on Friday, as the pandemic reaches new milestones in Latin America and threatens to disrupt efforts to reopen the region's reeling economies.

The record places Mexico behind Brazil, Latin America's largest and most populous nation, and the United States. More than 91,000 people have died in Brazil, and the U.S. death toll has topped 152,000.

Mexico on Friday recorded 688 fatalities to bring its death toll to 46,688, with 424,637 confirmed cases.

The United Kingdom has recorded 46,204 deaths and

### The nation now has 46,688 corona deaths

304,793 cases, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University.

Mexican officials say the pandemic is likely far more extensive than official figures reflect.

The rising tolls have cemented Latin America's

status as one of the epicenters of the virus. Cases in the region have doubled over the past month to more than 4.7 million infections.

Colombia, where lockdowns are planned through the end of August, passed the 10,000 death benchmark on Friday, tallying 10,105 fatalities. The Andean country is expected to reach 300,000 total cases over the weekend.

While the United Kingdom appears to have put the brakes on the virus, the pandemic shows few signs of slowing in Mexico, which has

been trying to restart the economy since late May.

"We're opening when we're not yet ready to open," said Rosa Maria del Angel, head of Molecular Pathogenesis at Mexico's National Polytechnic Institute.

Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, who angered some health advocates by refusing to wear a mask in public, said on Friday that Mexico plans to go ahead with Independence Day celebrations in the capital's massive Zocalo Square.

—Reuters

# Beijing wants to cash in on India-Nepal 'rift'

# Xi asks for better China-Nepal ties

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Saturday said he wants to push for a continued advancement of ties with Nepal amidst Beijing's sustained forays to shore up pro-China Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli's grip on power in the backdrop of intra-party feud in the ruling communist party.

In an exchange of congratulatory messages with his Nepalese counterpart Bidhya Devi Bhandari on the 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, Xi asserted that he was ready to work to bring greater benefits to the two peoples of the two neighbouring countries.

The Chinese President said that he attaches great importance to the development of China-Nepal relations and is willing to work with his Nepali counterpart Bhandari to push for the continued advancement of the bilateral relationship.

Xi, also General Secretary of the ruling Communist Party of China, said that since the establishment of the diplomatic ties, the two countries have always respected each other treated each other as equals, enhanced political mutual trust and deepened mutually beneficial cooperation.

Noting that he and Bhandari exchanged visits last year and elevated the bilateral ties to a strategic partnership of cooperation featuring ever-lasting friendship for development and prosperity, Xi said the two sides have stood together through thick and thin in the fight against the Covid-19 and have written a new chapter of friendship between China and Nepal, state-run Xinhua reported.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and his Nepalese counterpart Oli too exchanged greetings.

## DEEP-ROOTED FRIENDSHIP

Highlighting the deep-rooted cordial friendship since ages, the Prime Minister (Oli) underlined that Nepal has consistently maintained the 'One China Policy' and China has always



A file photo of Chinese President Xi Jinping (C) and Nepal Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli.

## 'BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR'

■ On Saturday, Nepal and China celebrated their 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations — since August 1, 1955.

■ China's political profile in Nepal has been on the rise in the recent years with

billions of dollars of investments under Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

■ Besides the investments, China's ambassador to Kathmandu has made open efforts to garner support for Oli, who China attaches great importance to.

respected Nepal's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence, Nepal's Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Nepal's Minister for Foreign Affairs Pradeep Kumar Gyawali, in his message to China's State Councilor and Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi, appreciated Wang's role in strengthening the bilateral ties, it said.

Wang expressed his willingness to work together with Gyawali

to strengthen communication and cooperation, implement the important consensus reached between the leaders and make a positive contribution to the development of China-Nepal Strategic partnership of cooperation featuring ever-lasting friendship for development and prosperity, the statement said.

Nepal and China established their diplomatic relations on August 1, 1955.

—PTI

## MONEY POWER

China's political profile in Nepal has been on the rise in the recent years with billions of dollars of investments under Beijing's multi-billion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative, including the building of the Trans-Himalayan Multi-Dimensional Connectivity Network.

Besides the investments, China's ambassador to Kathmandu Hou Yanqi has made open efforts to garner support for Oli, who faced a massive rebellion in his party headed by co-chair of the NCP, Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'.

Hou met Prachanda and other leaders seeking their backing for Oli but the rebellion against the prime minister has not subsided.

China attaches high importance to Oli continuing in power as during his tenure in 2016, he widened China-Nepal ties by signing the transit trade treaty with Beijing to reduce the dependence of his land-locked country on India.

—Daily Mail

## 19-year-old charged with Twitter hack

A BRITISH teenager has been charged with hacking Twitter and stealing thousands of dollars worth of Bitcoin by taking over the accounts of celebrities and top businessmen.

The US Department of Justice charged Mason Sheppard, 19, of Bognor Regis, with conspiracy to commit wire fraud, conspiracy to commit money laundering, and the intentional access of a protected computer.

Mr Sheppard was one of three people charged with the hack, which took place earlier this month and saw accounts belonging to Bill Gates, Elon Musk and Barack Obama hijacked and used to post links to Bitcoin wallets along with false claims that payments would be matched.

—Daily Mail

## Now, Trump decides to ban TikTok

PRESIDENT Donald Trump announced on Friday he will ban Chinese-owned social media app TikTok from operating in the United States.

Trump said the popular video-sharing platform could be barred as soon as Saturday by executive order or through use of emergency economic powers.

### Microsoft is in talks to buy the Chinese app

"As far as TikTok is concerned, we're banning them from the United States," he told reporters on Air Force One as he returned from Florida.

"Well, I have that authority. I can do it with an executive order or that [emergency economic powers]."

The president also made clear he did not support an American company to purchase TikTok's U.S. operations after an earlier report claimed Microsoft was 'in talks' to acquire the platform.

Sources told The New York



Times on Friday that a deal was in the works, but it was unclear where the two firms stood.

At the same time, reports had claimed Trump was planning to order TikTok's Chinese parent company, ByteDance to give up ownership of the platform.

Sources familiar with the matter said the White House,

ByteDance and potential buyers of TikTok, including Microsoft failed to produce a deal that would result in the Chinese company shedding the app's U.S. operations.

The talks are expected to continue in the coming days.

While Microsoft already owns professional social media net-

## Murdoch scion quits board of News Corp

JAMES Murdoch has quit the board of News Corp as he blames 'disagreements over certain editorial content published by the company's news outlets'.

The 47-year-old, who is the younger son of media mogul Rupert, had been on the board of directors since 2013 and was the CEO of 21st Century Fox.

He said: "My resignation is due to disagreements over certain editorial content published by the Company's news outlets and certain other strategic decisions."

He did not go into detail about his differences with the company, but has been publicly critical of its news platforms in the past.

It means the board will now consist of ten members, headed by Rupert and his oldest son Lachlan.



James Murdoch

James has spoken out against his father's company on a number of occasions, with him and his wife Kathryn slamming the family business for promoting climate change 'denials' during the Australian bushfire crisis in January.

The pair released a statement saying they were 'disappointed' by the coverage of the fires by Fox News and other News Corp outlets.

"Kathryn and James's views on climate are well established and their frustration with some of the News Corp and Fox coverage of the topic is also well known."

"They are particularly disappointed with the ongoing denial among the news outlets in Australia given obvious evidence to the contrary," their statement read.

The 'denials' were in reference to allegations arsonists and not climate change were to blame for the destructive wildfires.

—Daily Mail

As far as TikTok is concerned, we're banning them from the US. Well, I have that authority. I can do it with an executive order.

— DONALD TRUMP,  
US President

work LinkedIn, it would face fewer regulatory hurdles in acquiring TikTok than its more direct competitors, such as FaceBook Inc, one of the sources said.

But ByteDance's valuation expectations for TikTok of more than \$50 billion, and its insistence on retaining a minority stake in the app complicated deal talks, another source said.

TikTok has some 800 million users around the globe.

—Daily Mail

# Sibling Revelry

**W**HEN it comes to seeking inspiration, there is none better to turn to than your own family. It is through familial ties that you often discover, which skill-set to rely on and how you intend to use it professionally. Sibling duos who work together, predominantly, create powerhouse teams. But even those who work independently in the same profession are often inspired by principles and ethics that their brother or sister adopts. We speak to three versatile and successful sibling duos on how their creative processes differ from the others and what they admire in each other's working styles.

**Do famous brothers and sisters in the same profession inspire each other or are they competitors? Three celebrated siblings continue the debate.**

**By Simi Kuriakose**



**RAHUL BANERJEE AND DOLA BANERJEE**

**ARCHERS**

**S**PORTSPERSONS Dola Banerjee and Rahul Banerjee have aced archery, which is evident from the awards they have picked up. Dola says "When a family member supports you during a tournament, which you need, it is an advantage. If there are mistakes, we can discuss them. Many from the same family make it in sports. But participating on a national level from the same family is different. It's good for us, as we represented India." Rahul admits that Dola is his support system. At the shooting line during tournaments, he could always hear Dola encouraging him from the stand shouting, in Bengali, *bhaalo kore kor* [do well]. He adds, "That always boosted my confidence. The same goes for her as well. She has always been a mentor to me. And the competition was always, only, on the field."

**SUMEET VYAS AND SHRUTI VYAS**

**ACTORS**

"I THINK Shruti is a genuinely gifted actor. I, on the other hand, am more street-smart. I don't think I have the gift she does," says Sumeet Vyas about his sister Shruti Vyas. The two actors have their own trajectory and have excelled in their own way. Their creative processes though, Shruti admits, are completely different. "Sumeet's creative expression comes with the intention of ease and fun as that is how he is as a person. I am very intense and fiery as a person so my creative process is full of intensity and fire in it," she adds. Both Sumeet and Shruti maintain that they love acting and so the competition isn't unhealthy. Sumeet says, "We are both in love with what we do, so the competition is more craft-oriented than result-orientated, which is better." Shruti agrees, "The fact that we do it [acting] makes us happy and that is reason enough for both of us to not fall into the trap of comparison. Hence happiness comes first, then the job and the idea of self-satisfaction follows automatically."



(L-R) Anushka Manchanda and Shikhar Manchanda.

**ANUSHKA MANCHANDA AND SHIKHAR MANCHANDA**

**MUSICIANS**

WHILE Anushka Manchanda has a spontaneous approach to work, her brother Shikhar Manchanda is "systematic". She adds, "I admire that. He makes plans and functions accordingly. I like to make plans too, but mine generally never work out." The duo also have the same taste in music and that helps, given their profession. Anushka adds, "Even though we come from different musical backgrounds, we complement each other creatively, often filling each other's gaps. While we were at each other's throats in our childhood, we grew close to each other as adults." Shikhar says, "My background is centred on metal. It is from there that I get my edginess when it comes to the sonic field. My sister's sound has an edge too, but it is her lighter side that I dig." Ask him if the two have been subject to healthy competition and he laughs, "What competition? We are in sync with each other when it comes to sound. We support each other because we have genuine love, and that is truly the healthy way of being."



**RAHUL BANERJEE AND DOLA BANERJEE**

**ARCHERS**

**S**PORTSPERSONS Dola Banerjee and Rahul Banerjee have aced archery, which is evident from the awards they have picked up. Dola says "When a family member supports you during a tournament, which you need, it is an advantage. If there are mistakes, we can discuss them. Many from the same family make it in sports. But participating on a national level from the same family is different. It's good for us, as we represented India." Rahul admits that Dola is his support system. At the shooting line during tournaments, he could always hear Dola encouraging him from the stand shouting, in Bengali, *bhaalo kore kor* [do well]. He adds, "That always boosted my confidence. The same goes for her as well. She has always been a mentor to me. And the competition was always, only, on the field."

**SUMEET VYAS AND SHRUTI VYAS**

**ACTORS**

"I THINK Shruti is a genuinely gifted actor. I, on the other hand, am more street-smart. I don't think I have the gift she does," says Sumeet Vyas about his sister Shruti Vyas. The two actors have their own trajectory and have excelled in their own way. Their creative processes though, Shruti admits, are completely different. "Sumeet's creative expression comes with the intention of ease and fun as that is how he is as a person. I am very intense and fiery as a person so my creative process is full of intensity and fire in it," she adds. Both Sumeet and Shruti maintain that they love acting and so the competition isn't unhealthy. Sumeet says, "We are both in love with what we do, so the competition is more craft-oriented than result-orientated, which is better." Shruti agrees, "The fact that we do it [acting] makes us happy and that is reason enough for both of us to not fall into the trap of comparison. Hence happiness comes first, then the job and the idea of self-satisfaction follows automatically."

## THREADING A SUSTAINABLE IDEA

**By Saimi Sattar**

**CREATORS** are finding new ways to go the eco-friendly route on Raksha Bandhan

**ART AT THE GRASSROOT**

It did not start with *rakhis*, rather it was an attempt to bring about a change in the region. Artists, social workers, based in and around Nagpur, realised that Vidarbha region, which was notorious for farmer suicides, was also the site of mono cropping of BT cotton, which had environmental and health implications. They started Gram Art Project five years back. "We decided to revive indigenous cotton and grow it organically," recalls Vedant Bhakkad. They started The cotton was spun on *charkhas* by weavers from Wardha and naturally dyed. A few days before Raksha Bandhan the group got 100 women from the village on board to work the threads through different techniques like macrom, and crochet to make *rakhis*. The first year 8,000 *rakhis* were made without giving a thought to the profits. "We broke even and sold about 6,000," says Bhakkad. This year, they 30,000 in 14 different designs were made. The Paradsinga, Madhya Pradesh-based

group sells the *rakhis* through 25-30 bulk buyers and also through retail.

**IN NATURAL COLOURS**  
Vritt Designs has a plethora of sustainable products. The raw materials that go into their *rakhis* are sustainable and handmade. "The fresh *tulsi* beads are from Vrindavan and strung by hand by a 70-year-old man on hand spun thread which is organic and dyed in natural colours," says Vivek Singh who handles marketing.



(Right): Gram Art Project uses indigenous cotton. (Above): Vritt Designs makes *rakhis* with *tulsi* beads. (Below): Desi Drama Queen creates *rakhi* fridge magnets.

**CUSTOMISED SURPRISES**

"Last year, someone asked me to make 25 *rakhis*. I thought the embroidery of my *karigars* should not go waste and attached a small magnet to each," says Krishna Bhagat, who used to make customised gifts till that time. With the pandemic this year, the Khan market store has shifted shop online. A collaboration with a graphic designer this year has seen *rakhi* fridge magnets with funky messages.



## BONDING IN THE TIME OF CORONA



**ADITYA JASSI, SINGER AND PALLAVI KHULLAR**

"I'm usually chill about most festivals. I get to spend all the festivals with my wife, parents and son. The one festival I miss my sister the most is, of course, Rakhi, because it's about 'us'. We've always had a very strong bond. I was always the protective brother forever looking out for Pallavi. I'm super thankful to technology for it sort of brought the entire world closer. Despite her living abroad, we still stay connected and she still ties me rakhi, albeit virtually. Sure the physical proximity is amiss, but our hearts are never distant."

**DR MANOJ GOVAL, DIRECTOR & HEAD, PULMONOLOGY, CRITICAL CARE & SLEEP MEDICINE, FORTIS MEMORIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, GURGAON AND SISTER NEERU GUPTA**

Since both of them live in Delhi they usually celebrate the festival together where they sing, dance and eat a lot. This year is different as they have gone to their hometown, Bokaro. "I usually gift her a surprise which is not disclosed till it is opened. This year too will be the same" says Nishant. While Akansha has decided to cook a special traditional sweet from Jharkhand. She says, "My younger brother is here too as well as cousins and extended family. This time around it seems to be back to childhood kind of Raksha Bandhan."

**DJ & MUSICIAN SARTHAK SARDANA AKA SARTEK WITH SISTER OJAISVITA SARDANA**

The doctor and his sisters usually assembled at one house to celebrate the festival. But with Covid turning things topsy turvy and him being on duty in the ward, this year is bound to be different. "I have received the *rakhis* online and will be tying them myself during a WhatsApp video call. I will offer my sisters sweets the same way. We will remember this year when we celebrated it with video calls," says the doctor. The sister, who is elder to him says, "Our best wishes are with my brother. We keep praying for him that he does well."



"Rakhi holds a lot of significance in my life. I share a very special and fun bond with my brother. I am elder to him, yet we both share each of our secrets. While every year Rakhi is about going out and enjoying our time in our favourite restaurants, movies etc, this year I am cooking a special lunch for him with his favourites. He is making cus-

"Rakhi this year will actually almost be the same as before, since we both stay in the same house. Fortunately or unfortunately this time we are doing home-made desserts. I will dearly miss my *boondi ka ladoo* but she promised to make it up with a good chocolate pudding! Also seeing the current situation, there is no rebate from my sister on the gift amount, it might just increase only. Although a brother should protect his sisters 365 days a year, this special day helps to bring back the oneness of the family, binding the brother-sisters together in an emotional bond of love."

**LAURENT SAMANDARI, CO-FOUNDER AND MD OF L'OPERA**



**JEWELLERY DESIGNER MUSKAN AGARWAL AND VINAYAK AGARWAL**

Since both of them live in Delhi they usually celebrate the festival together where they sing, dance and eat a lot. This year is different as they have gone to their hometown, Bokaro. "I usually gift her a surprise which is not disclosed till it is opened. This year too will be the same" says Nishant. While Akansha has decided to cook a special traditional sweet from Jharkhand. She says, "My younger brother is here too as well as cousins and extended family. This time around it seems to be back to childhood kind of Raksha Bandhan."

"One of the enduring lessons of the Covid-19 pandemic will be that love, and affection are not bound by material means and that they can be transmitted spiritually without physical contact, as far and as separated one may be from his or her siblings. My sister Caroline and I always had the example of our mother and her brother, our father and his sister whose love for and mutual dedication to each other constantly inspired us for decades."

This year it will not be possible for my beloved sister to personally come and physically tie the *rakhi* around my wrist but I feel the warmth of her smile and gentle movement of her hands around my wrist.

Caroline, my elder sister, has invited me for several weeks to her vacation home, without being present there herself. I shall remember her and feel her love and kindness not for a few hours or a day but for weeks if not months."

—Compiled by Rewati Rau, Antara Raghavan and Saimi Sattar

## IT'S TIME TO TELL A STORY

**By Antara Raghavan**

**FAMILY** is one of the oldest themes that is written about in the world. The relationships between parents and children, and those between siblings have been written on extensively. There have been major successes such as *A Suitable Boy*, where the protagonist Lata, Savita, and their brother Arun, are one of the major sibling relationships in the book.

For this time of the year, the Hachette book *Celebrate: Rakhi and Bhai Duj*, is a fun, and must-time read for any youngster, and is apt for the occasion. For other readers at this time there are titles which deal with sibling themes such as Deepa Agarwal's *Blessed*. Deepa Agarwal is known for titles such as *Caravan to Tibet*. *Blessed* is about Selentia, who discovers she has the extraordinary gift the Ancients spoke of. Her complex relationship with her brother Dumor is one of the most prominent themes in the novel. Agarwal remarks, "It's always wonderful to celebrate close family bonds, even though no relationship is perfect."

mailtoday.epaper.in

# INSIDE STORY

# Libraries in the lockdown

*Affected by Covid-19, many city libraries have either closed on a temporary basis or gone digital to stay in touch with their avid readers online*



PARVEEN NEGI

The British Council library has been a haven for book lovers and students. Though partially shut, the library continues its services online.

by Antara Raghavan

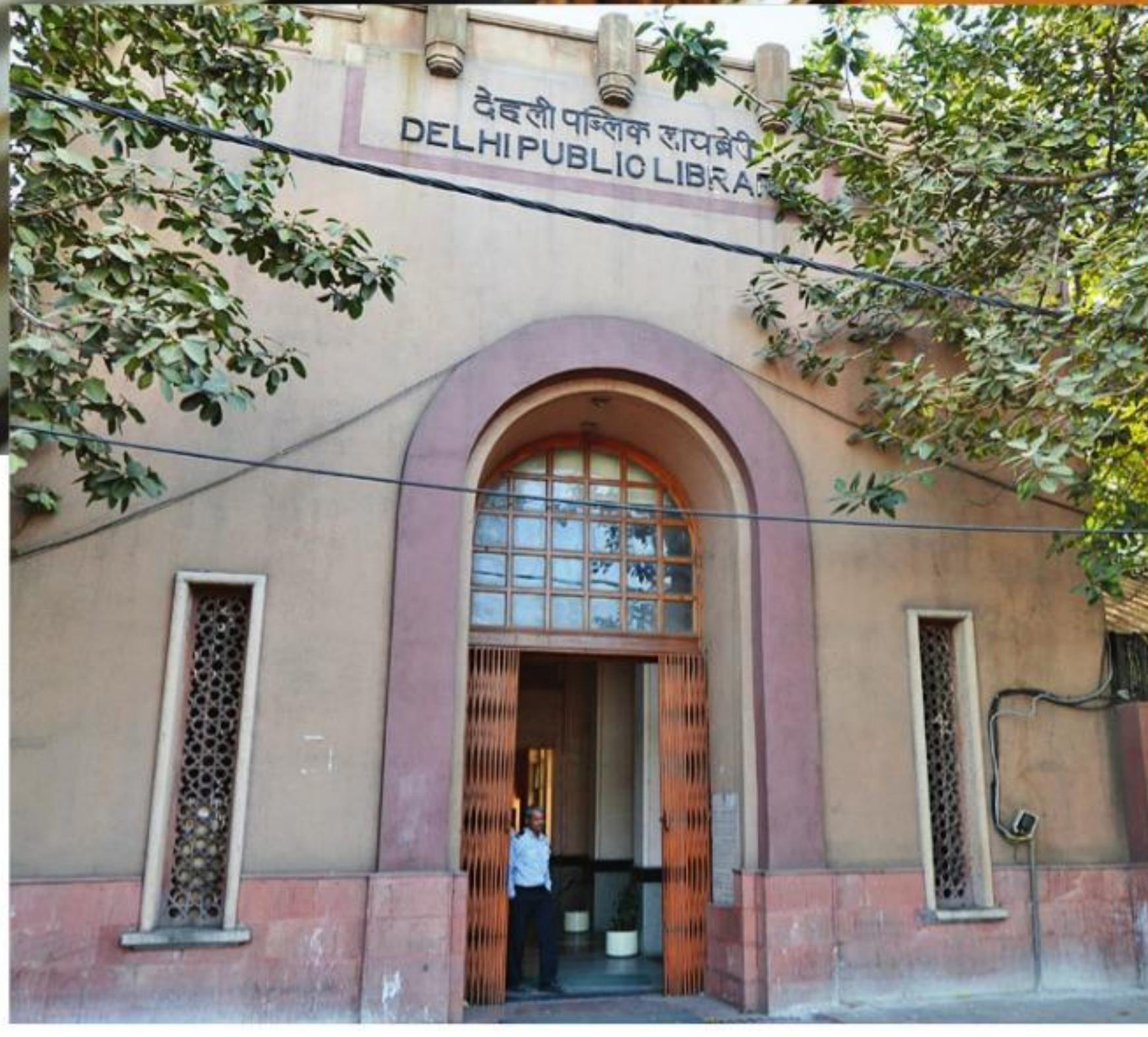
**L**IBRARIES, those sanctuaries of silence where book lovers could browse and borrow titles at leisure and students could peacefully prepare for exams away from their hectic home and school lives, are now feeling the impact of the lockdown triggered by Coronavirus.

Many libraries in the National Capital Region have temporarily closed while some have reopened taking the requisite precautions. In a world where people can't immediately pick the same book or newspaper that other hands have touched or be in crowded areas, many libraries are now taking baby steps to adapt to the new normal.

#### Public treasures

Many treasure troves for bibliophiles across the city, such as the Hazrat Shah Waliullah Public Library in Old Delhi and the century-old Hardayal Municipal Heritage Public Library (HMHPL) in Chandni Chowk have closed. Rekha Sinha, honorary secretary of HMHPL, explains, "We've been shut ever since the first days of the lockdown. It is too much of a risk to open it [the library] these days. All we can do is to wait for things to settle down."

The sentiment is shared even by neighbourhood libraries. While



The Delhi Public Library has been a busy readers' hub for decades. Now, only four to six visitors are allowed to enter one branch at a given time.

centres such as Street Light Library in Kalkaji are open with restrictions, others such as the Manana Devabhuti Damodar Library in Greater Kailash are shut, with no certainty about reopening. Anshu Dogra, executive director of Manana Devabhuti Damodar Library, says, "Most of our members are students. We have decided to keep the library shut until universities and col-

leges reopen."

The Delhi Public Library, on the other hand, has reopened. Established in 1951, it has always been a students' hub. As Mahesh Kumar Arora, Deputy Director (Administration) and the Library Information Officer explains, "18 of its 33 branches have been open since May 5, albeit only for issuing and returning books." The days of visitors casually strolling in, picking

A few of the libraries in the city are open with the mandatory restrictions

up and discarding books according to their whims, are over for the time being. All browsing is curtailed. Kavya Joshi, a 20-year-old Delhi University student, remarks, "At times it is a real pain. I used to go to the Ashok Vihar library most weekends and spend the day there. Now I can only go occasionally, and I can never stay for long, or browse like I used to do."

#### Members keen to return

Other major libraries, which are membership-based and are not

always open to the public, are also proceeding with caution. The Habitat Library and Resource Centre at India Habitat Centre is shut, although, as the library's Senior Manager Ainul Abedin says, "Many members are habitually enquiring and requesting if the library can re-open. For our part, we are just waiting for government guidelines."

The India International Centre (IIC) Library, on the other hand, has been open since July 4. But only around six people are allowed in the library at a time. The library, especially books which have been returned, is sanitised twice a day. IIC librarian Kanchan Nagpal explains, "We now have a window open for those who want to return books. People put their books in a box. After sanitising the box, we keep the box closed for a week. There is limited browsing and books that are to be issued are also sanitised."

Another popular centre, the British Council Library (BCL) is partially open in Delhi, although many other of its branches in India have been shut. Antonius Raghubansie, Director, Learning Services of BCL India, says, "As of now, our physical centres remain closed. When we do resume face-to-face operations, we will take all necessary precautions." However, like many other libraries, the BCL is also open digitally.



## Festive Feasts

Page 16



## In the wellness of things

Page 17



The India International Centre is still a place where members can browse through journals and papers provided they maintain social distancing and take all necessary precautions.

### Digital respite

Many libraries such as HMHPL and Manana don't have digital avenues. For other centres, online spaces have become the new hub for study as well as leisure purposes during the lockdown. Raghubansie says, "Our online library membership and usage have seen a steady growth. Our

members enjoy a wide range of online collections, from newspapers and magazines to best-selling graphic novels, self-help online tutorials, academic journals, research publications, novels and audio books." Avenues for examinations are also open in the BCL. Suresh Chauhan, a 21-year-old student, says, "I was afraid there

would be no access at all, but this way I can continue studying for the IELTS." Both the IIC as well as Habitat are providing digital resources. The Delhi Public Library has held 11 webinars during the lockdown. In the ultimate analysis, avid readers are satiating their thirst for knowledge by dipping into digital reservoir.



# He reached out to help kin of Covid victims



At the height of the pandemic, Hemant Gulati was receiving anywhere between 100 to 120 calls every day, some of them way past midnight.

**Lawyer Hemant Gulati stepped in when hospitals turned away patients during the pandemic**

By **Saimi Sattar**  
in New Delhi

WHEN the pandemic broke out, it caught everyone including hospitals, doctors and the government by surprise. "Given the scale and the stigma associated with the disease, I often read reports about patients being turned away. This was despite the fact that the Delhi government app indicated that beds were available. I wondered how I could help the people?" says Hemant Gulati, advocate, Delhi High Court. Gulati started small, initially, by circulating his phone number on social media pages, adding that if there was a Covid patient being refused a bed in any private or government hospital, they could approach him to file a writ petition on his/her behalf in the Delhi High Court.

Word got around and slowly and steadily, people started contacting Gulati. "There was a lacuna between what

**Gulati is now helping people get plasma**

## Q&A

### Have things improved over time?

There were lacunae, which the government has improved slowly. Earlier, the data was two days old. I was maintaining parallel data along with the numbers of doctors on duty and CMOs, as sometimes you can't file the writ petition immediately.

### With the number of people being infected coming down every day in Delhi, have the calls dropped?

Nowadays, the calls that I get are for plasma because now the beds are available. I am coordinating for it with the Delhi Government nodal officers. The Delhi government has approved the ILBS Hospital to provide plasma but only if you have a donor available.

### What about extending help to those outside Delhi?

Whenever lawyers have called, I have helped them file petitions. In one case, a family reached out to say they were having problems getting a patient admitted in AIIMS, Bihar. I called the CMO and facilitated it.

the Delhi government was claiming and the ground situation. I started getting somewhere around 100 to 120 calls a day even at odd hours. I have filed a writ petition at midnight, sometimes early morning, and got the orders within seven to eight hours to get the patient admitted."

Besides taking the legal route, he also put together data such as the contact numbers of Chief Medical Officers, doctors present at different hospitals, and maintained it 24X7. He recalls receiving a call at 3:30 in the morning. "There was a lady at the other end crying profusely. She was accompanying her father in an ambulance parked outside Safdarjung, which did not

have beds. The oxygen levels in the ambulance were plummeting." Gulati swung into action and called the doctor on duty at AIIMS, which is across the road, and got the patient admitted — all within a span of 50 minutes.

In another case where a South Delhi hospital had thrown out a girl with 85 per cent disability, he had to take the court's help. The girl was immediately admitted to a hospital in Saket while an inquiry was initiated against the errant hospital.

# EAT, PRAY & LOVE



By Rewati Rau

**K**HOYA MITHAI's co-founder and director Sid Mathur says their sales this July have seen a 40 per cent growth compared to July 2019. Perhaps because, as he says, people crave good old traditional *mithai*. He says, "Rakhi is one of our busiest periods, with numbers increasing quite significantly year on year."

In the monsoon season, the mention of Rakshabandhan sweets brings to mind one of the most loved sweets — *ghewar*. Agrees Chef Ashish Juyal, executive chef, The Westin Sohna Resort and Spa and says, "When you say Rakshabandhan, the first thing that comes to my mind is Ghewar. A traditional sweet from Rajasthan and made especially during the monsoon season, it was something my whole family would devour together on Rakhi."

Things of course have been changing over the years with siblings beginning to gift each other chocolates and other baked sweets. Says Chef Amit Wadhera, Executive Chef, THE Park New Delhi, "Traditionally, sweets such as kala gulabjamun, kaju katli, besan ke ladoo, were gifted to brothers but with changing times, it is their choice of gift hampers with fine confectionery that has gained in popularity these days."



(Left) Raw turmeric and jaggery halwa by The Westin Sohna Resort and Spa's Chef Ashish Juyal; Khoya's Ghewar

## ALMOND AND ROSE KHEER

BY CHEF MANISH MEHROTRA

### INGREDIENTS

- Full fat milk: 2ltr
- Gobindobhog rice: 120 gm (Or any other rice available)
- Grain sugar: 40 gm
- Rose water: 3-4 drops
- Dried rose petals: 10 gm
- Almonds: 100 gm
- Almond Slivers: 25 gms

### METHOD

- Soak the rice in water for about 20 mins.
- Heat milk in a heavy bottom pan, after a boil, reduce the heat and simmer till milk is reduced to half the original volume.
- Add the soaked rice, after draining the water and cook on low heat till rice is cooked well and the mix thickens.
- Add chopped almonds and cook for further 15 mins on low heat till the kheer is thick and creamy, add sugar.
- Once cool add rose water and mix. Refrigerate till serving
- Roast some almond slivers in an oven for 180 deg for 5 mins, until golden brown. Garnish with slivers and dried rose petals before serving.



# FESTIVE FEASTS

We share recipes to indulge your sweet tooth this Rakshabandhan



## MANGO WALNUT SHEERA

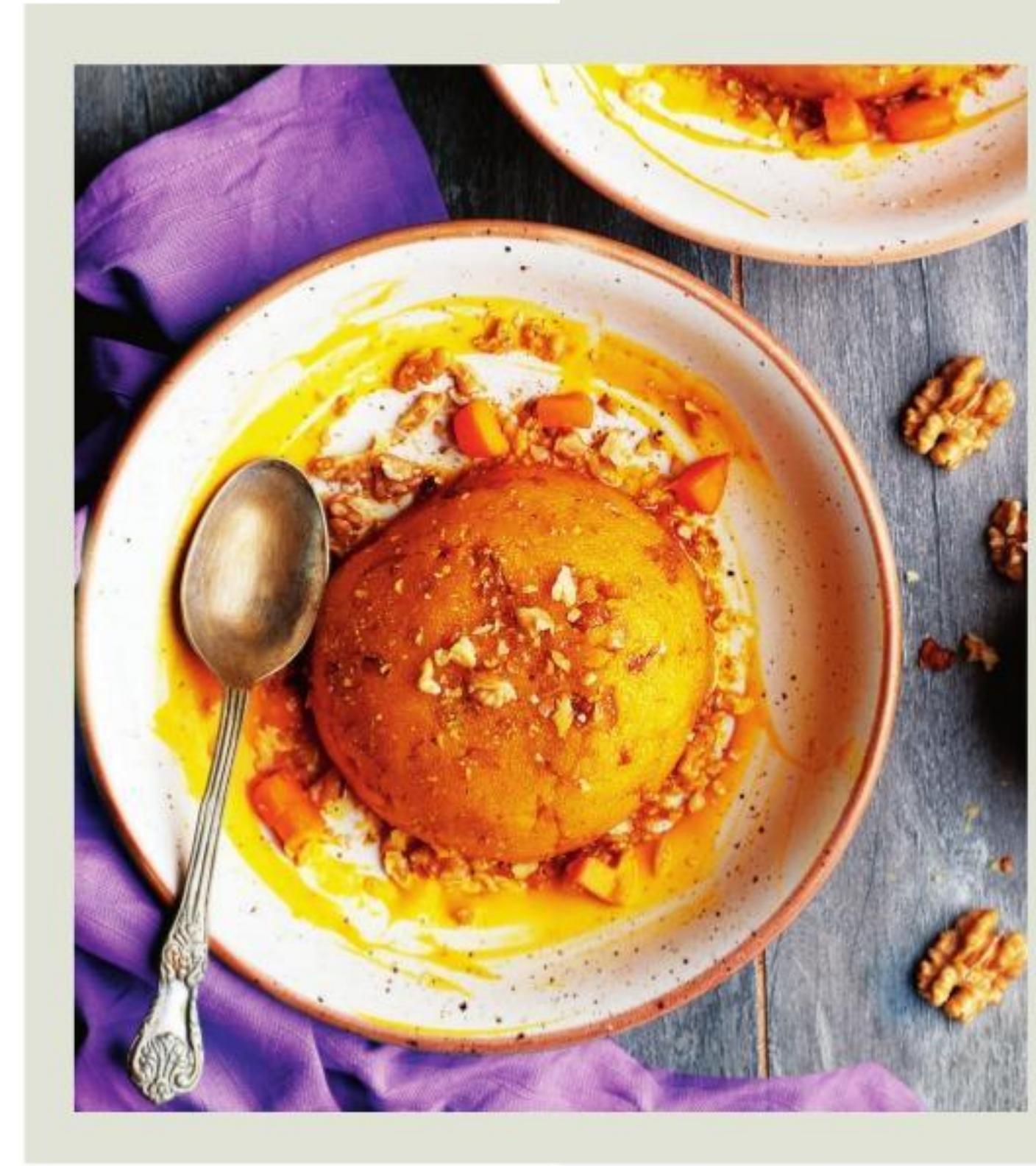
BY CHEF SANJYOT KEER

### INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 cup ghee
- 3/4 cup semolina
- 1/4 cup wheat flour
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup Mango puree
- 2 cups water (you can add more if the sheera is too dry)
- 1/2 cup walnuts

### METHOD

- Toast walnuts
- Make mango pulp
- Roast ghee, semolina and wheat flour on medium flame till the colour changes.
- Add sugar and mango pulp and stir quickly. While mixing add water
- Keep stirring to avoid lumps and add toasted California Walnuts.
- Cool until the ghee separates.



# Travel Mail

# IN THE WELLNESS OF THINGS

By Purnima Sharma

**D**URING the Covid era, stepping out even for a leisurely stroll is not likely to happen soon. And holidays at one's dream destinations could remain a distant dream.

In such a scenario, domestic travel will be the first to recover and when travellers will be raring to take off, it'll be the wellness-industry travel that could lure them in. "In these times, what tops the list are good health and immunity — things that, when clubbed with scenic environs, make for a perfect substitute for even stunning international destinations," says Manoj Khetan, co-founder of Naad Retreat that nestles in a sprawling green belt near Sonipat.

An 'escape experience' in serene surroundings tackling issues of health is what wellness tourism has been touted to be all about. Although health retreats have been around for decades, they were looked at — in the pre-Covid days — as getaways mostly for those with health problems. But now, with leisure tourism options struck off their travel list, people are looking at health retreats as the answer for a relaxed holiday.

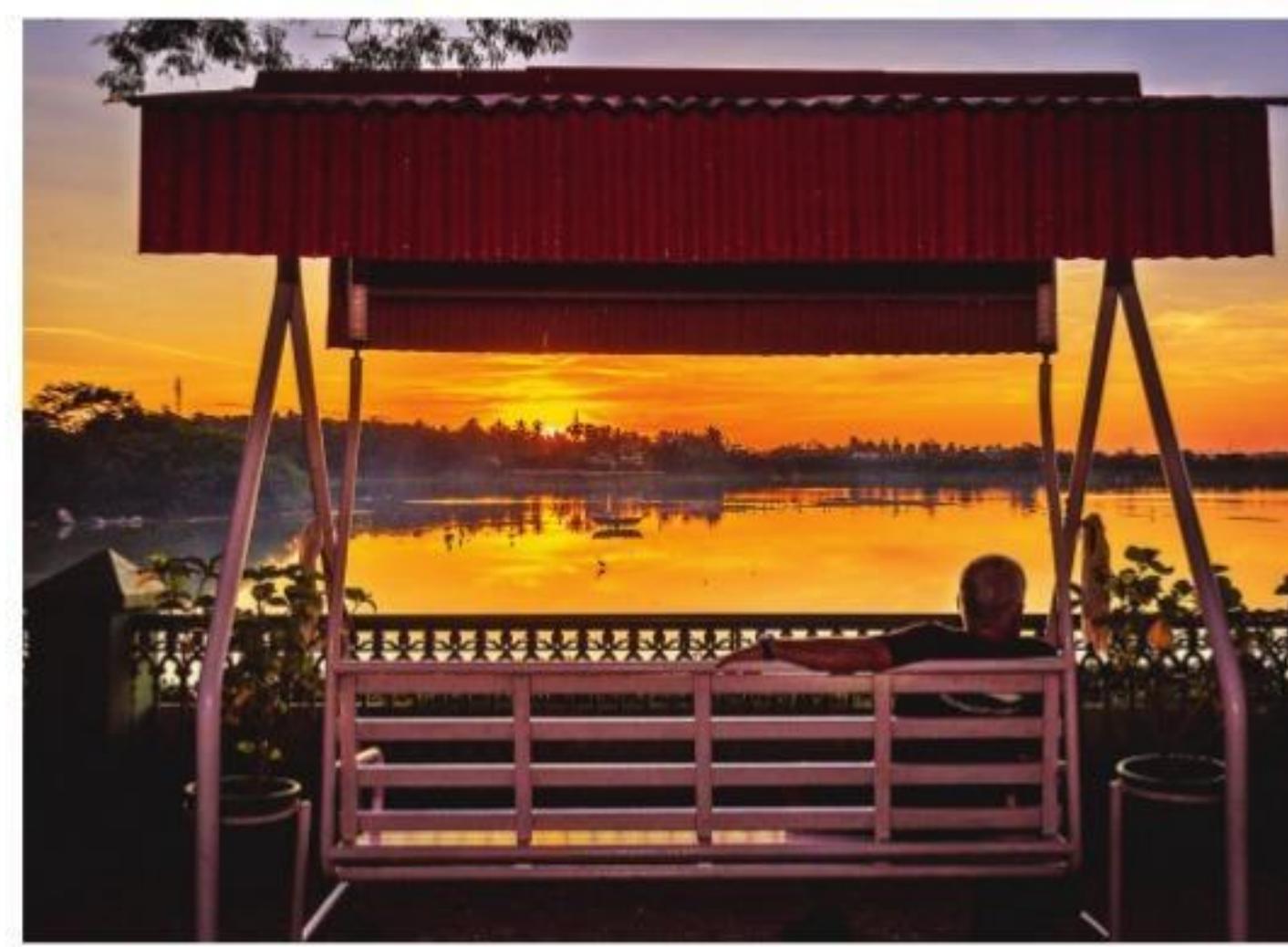
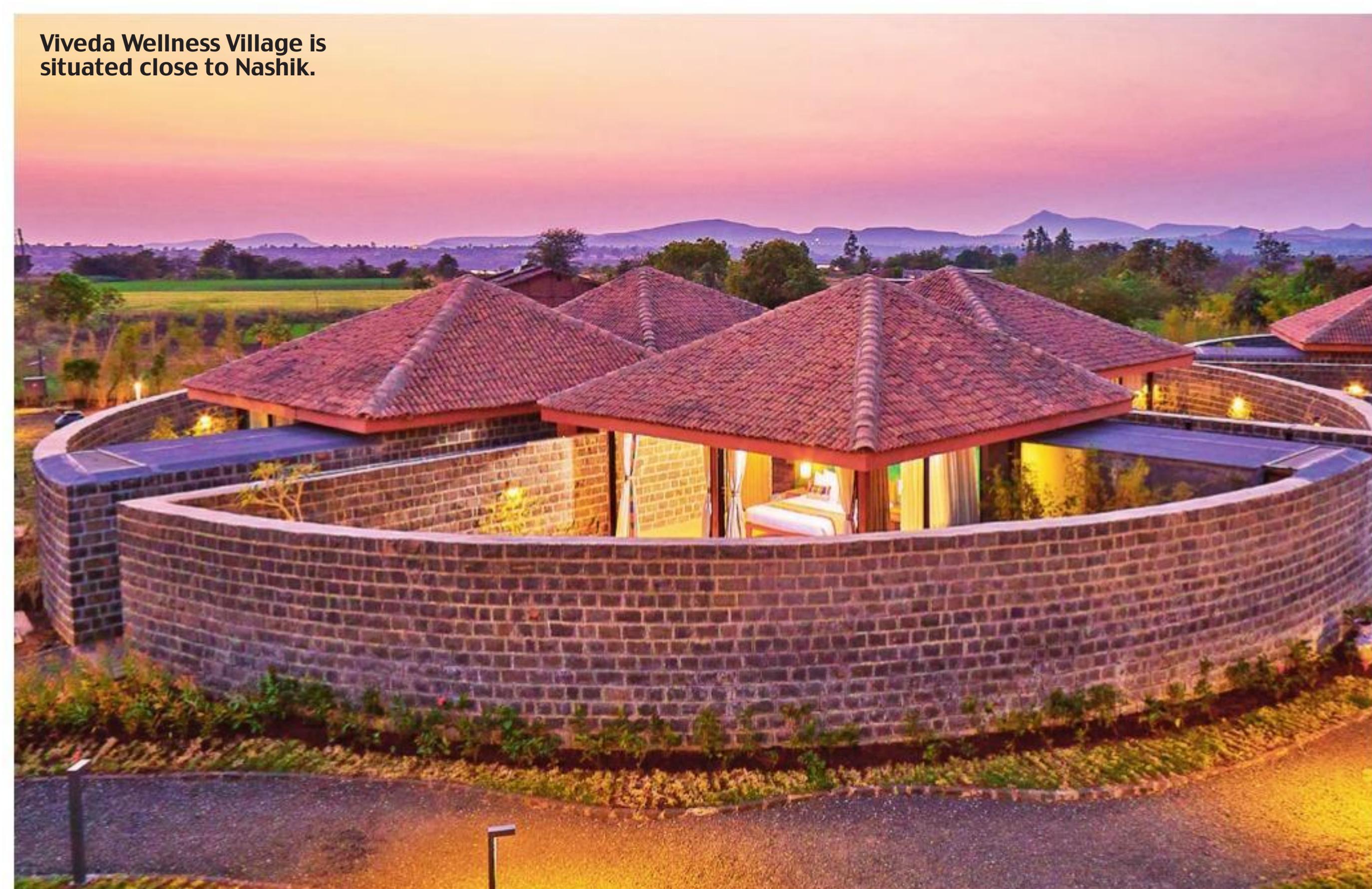
"People seem to accept that issues like social distancing, which people worry about even in the poshest of hotels can be done away with here," asserts Rucha Sukhramani of the Shreyas Retreat in Karnataka that is all set to reopen in the coming week with all dos mandatory for a safe environment well in place. And one of the reasons for this is that the 16-year-old, 25-acre centre has always believed in social distancing. "We have just 12 cottages that stand far apart from each other and hence are much in line with Covid-related guidelines," says Sukhramani, one of the founding members of Shreyas. Geared up with a staff that believes in the benefits of yoga, "guests see us not just as a very healthy lot but also as people who inspire trust from the moment they walk in," she smiles.

**I**NDEED, after being confined to their homes 24X7 for weeks at a stretch, many travellers are looking to seek refuge in an outdoorsy space. "With the lockdown slowly being eased, they'll be looking to seek refuge amidst nature that has a calming effect," says Khetan whose staff stayed on at Naad through the lockdown "further ensuring the place remained Corona-free". And now, with the three-acre property having begun their operation, that is the kind of security and sanitisation it will be offering to guests. With peace of mind, immunity and flexibility being the buzzwords, Naad's guests appreciate its health-related schedule that include simple practices like oil mouth-wash, gargles and early sleep time that lets the body self-heal.

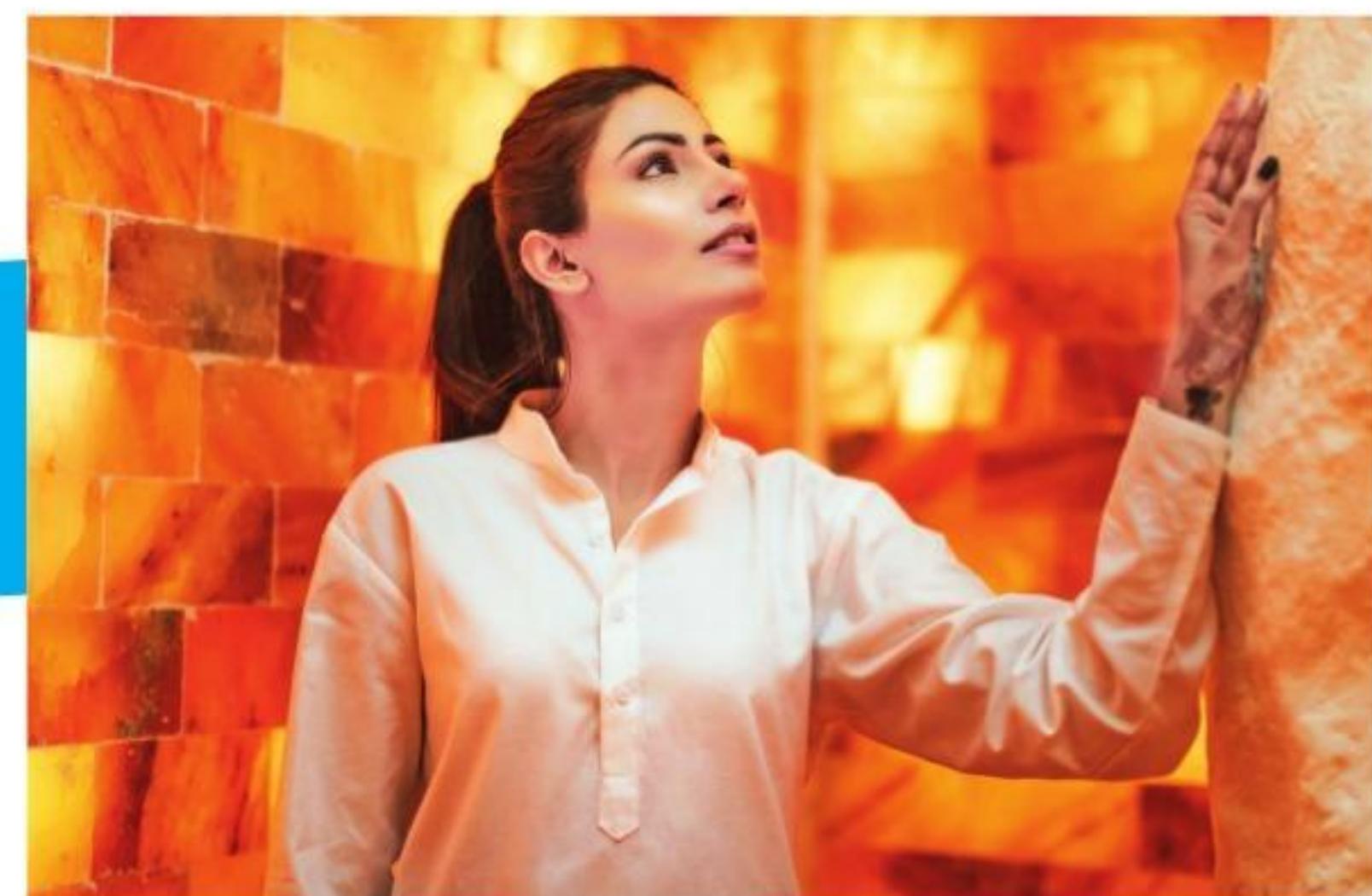
Adding to the experience is not just the Turkish hamam, Swedish and Balinese massages and salt-cave treatments but also the sanitised 'resort uniform' that guests are required to wear during their stay here. Khetan mentions how a guest got his parents here saying, 'a health holiday in such environs is far better for them rather than one in London or Paris.'

Agrees Dr Govinda Kumar Trivedi, CMO at Balaji Nirogdam

Viveda Wellness Village is situated close to Nashik.



(Left to right) The Jindal Naturecure Institute is a vast 120-acre space situated in Bengaluru; Naad Retreat nestles in a sprawling green belt near Sonipat.



With leisure tourism options struck off their travel list, people are considering centres such as the Naad Retreat Institute for a holiday.



— that opened for stay-in patients from June 15 — as he says, "People have come to realise that it's not enough to visit a place like you do on a holiday but also to gain something out of it." But wellness holidays, adds Trivedi, are not just about spas and massages in a sanitised environment but a combination of interesting programmes. He smiles talking about Bharatnatyam yoga, kathak yoga and Zumba yoga that are big hits with guests "as also are our *bhajan sandhyas*". Happy that the onset of Covid-19 has let people become conscious about their health and well-being, he says, "However healthy we may be otherwise, we need to guard ourselves against this virus." That's why Trivedi and his team insist on offering "a holistic experience

that lets guests move onto the path of physical and spiritual health."

Incidentally, as with most retreats, direct walk-in arrivals are no longer acceptable. Only online admissions are allowed and these are done after a complete screening of details about the guests' medical, family and travel histories. What's more, one therapist to one guest is the new norm and there too, besides PPE kits, curtains, etc., only minimum interaction will be allowed between the two. This is being done to lower any risk of virus transmission. "The two can communicate before and after the treatment sessions over the phone," adds Trivedi.

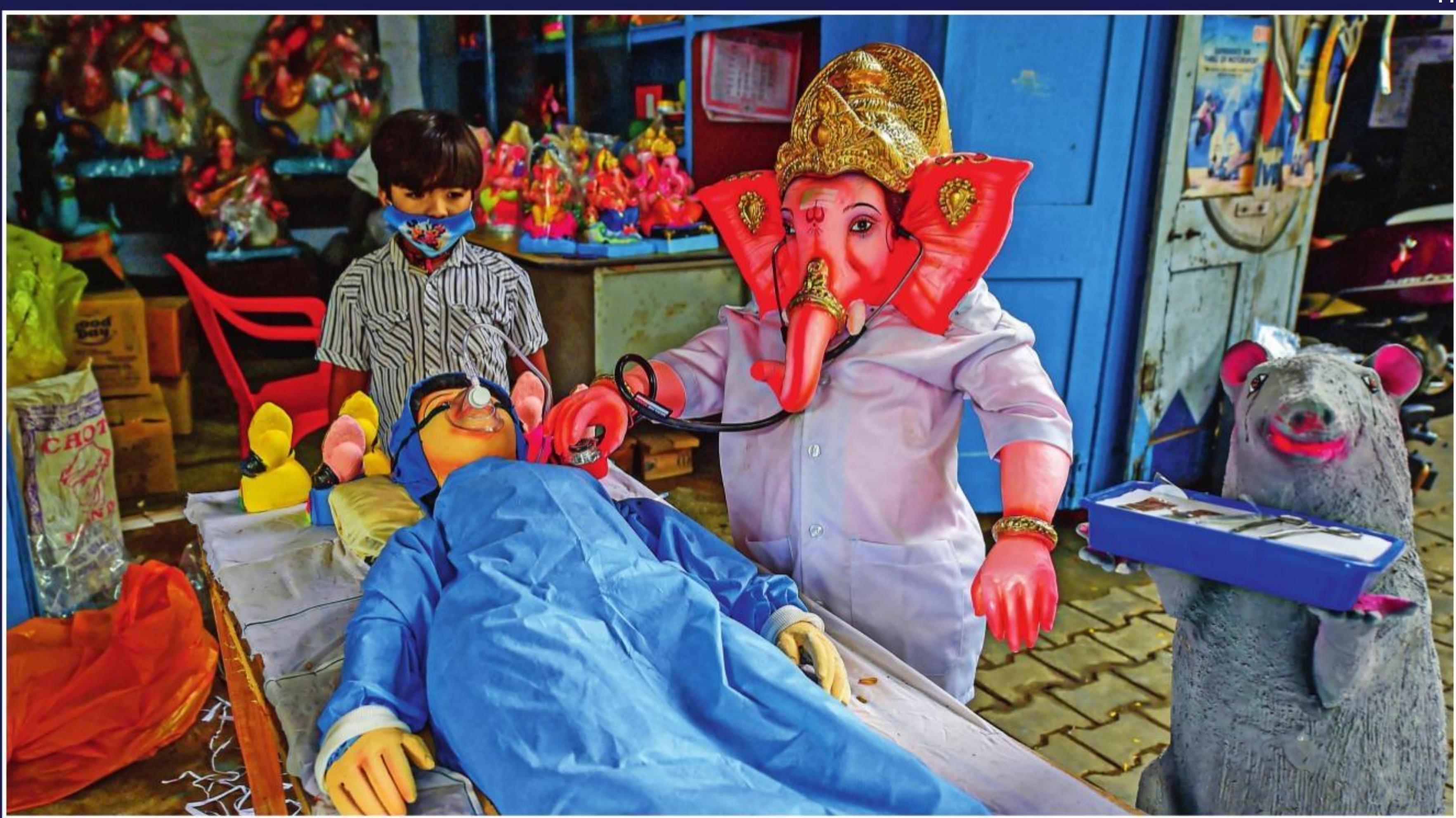
**Direct walk-ins into retreats are no more acceptable**

Envisaging a spurt in wellness tourism, Rejith Daniel, general manager of the Viveda Wellness Village that lies close to Nashik says, "People have come to realise that health is of utmost importance." Viveda opened in the first week of July with special offers and programmes connected with Naturopathy, Ayurveda, Yoga, homeopathy and spa treatments "it offers what all 'smart tourists' want in these times," smiles Daniel. With just about 16 cottages on their premises that give

you a lot of me-time, Viveda's special facilities including aqua yoga and holistic experiences all promise a Covid-free stay.

With Corona having a deep psychological impact on

the people's psyche, wellness tourism is sure to be top priority, feels KR Raghunath of the Jindal Naturecure Institute. "Preventive care has become the need of the hour. And everyone seems to be yearning for a robust immune system that can fight infectious diseases better and prevent the onset of non-communicable diseases that are currently responsible for 61 per cent of the deaths in India," adds the senior chairman of the vast 42-year-old, 120-acre institute in Bengaluru. "What gives me joy is that millennials who are already health-conscious will be even more so after the pandemic — arming themselves with not just with indigenous systems of treatment but also lifestyle strategies to promote the body's self-healing powers," he adds.



## JUST CHECKING

A boy stands near Covid warrior themed idols for Puja festivities at a workshop, in Bengaluru, on Saturday.

### YOUTUBE ► trends

#### 1) DOCTOR (TEASER) SIDHU MOOSE WALA



Singer/Lyrics/Composer/Concept : Sidhu Moose Wala; Music : The Kidd; Mix Master : Dense

2) TABAAH - OFFICIAL MUSIC VIDEO | GURNAZAR FT KHAN SAAB | SARA GURPAL | INDIE MUSIC LABEL Singer & Lyrics - Gurnazar; Composer : Gurnazar & GoldBoy; Music Production : GoldBoy; Qawaali : Khan Saab

3) TSP'S YOUTUBERS ON NEPOTISM



Creative Director: Anandeshwar Dwivedi; Channel Producer: Shreyansh Pandey; Written by: Vaibhav Shukla, Pratish Mehta; Directed by: Pratish Mehta

4) RICH VS NORMAL RAKSHABANDHAN | SANJHALIKA VLOG Shoot by: Sanjhalika Shokeen; Edit by: Vibhu Varshney; Script by: Kundan

### LETTERS

#### ■ Shocking to see a man thrashed with a hammer

IT IS extremely shocking that with impunity and a hammer, an unarmed man is savagely beaten and kicked to pulp while the police and dozens of people do little more than watch, shows the video, demonstrating the horrific collapse of law near the country's capital. Around 9 am on Friday, a group of cow vigilante chasing a pick-up truck for about 8 km managed to flag it down. The driver, identified as Lukman, was pulled out and brutally assaulted on the suspicion that he was smuggling cow meat in an incident with chilling echoes of the 2015 Dadri mob lynching in Noida, also very close to Delhi. The victim was beaten brutally while the owner of the vehicles said that the meat was buffalo and he has been in the business for 50 years. After being beating to an inch of his life, Lukman was bundled into the pick-up truck and taken back to Gurgaon's Badshahpur village where the men started thrashing him again. Surely it is condemnable that the police did not try to save the victim while he has reached the spot on the time. But what is more worse is that the police filed a complaint against "unidentified individuals". Let me know why did the police not save the victim from accused? Are the public judge to punish the criminal by their own? Why did the police not arrest the accused when they were committing the horrific collapse of law, even they had to file cases against unidentified people?

—B O CHANGA,  
West Bengal

#### ■ Govt has been unable to help people amid floods

THE flood situation in north Bihar has gone from bad to worse day today. Floodwater entered areas, which were so far unaf-

### QUESTION

#### *of the day*

Mail Today poll



There has been a fierce debate among politicians and educationists over the New Education Policy 2020 introduced by the government. Do you think that there was a need to change the education policy?

#### YESTERDAY'S QUESTION

Important festivals like Eid and Rakshabandhan, which people generally celebrate with their families, are happening during the pandemic this year. Do you think social distancing should still be maintained?

#### YESTERDAY'S RESPONSE

YES	75%
NO	25%

the first time that the different parts of Bihar have been affected by floods. But the people of these areas are affected by such floods every year.

—NOOR AHMAD, Hyderabad

#### ■ Children are most vulnerable during the Covid crisis

THE United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has warned that the global epidemic of Covid-19 has severely reduced the supply of nutritious food, leaving children under the age of five thinner. It can be pinned. Such children have an increased risk of developing a debilitating mental condition, a weak educational tendency, a weakened immune system and a number of other diseases, and some of these diseases can even lead to death. However, various United Nations agencies said that the incidence of childhood malnutrition could increase manifold if immediate steps are not taken to address it, urging national and state governments to provide food to such vulnerable children. They must act immediately, so that their future is ruined.

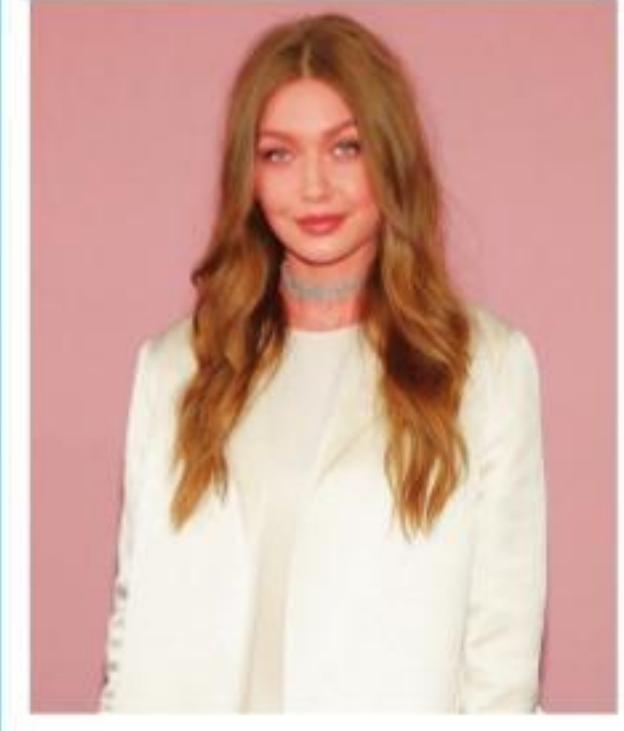
—ABDUSALAM, Mumbai

### BLOGS *of the day*

#### GIGI HADID GUSHES OVER ZAYN MALIK

PREGNANT Gigi Hadid gushed over her "baby daddy" Zayn Malik in a sweet Instagram post and shared a picture of them kissing. Gigi Hadid gushed over her "baby daddy" Zayn Malik in a sweet Instagram post. The 25-year-old model - who revealed in April that she is pregnant with her first child - shared a new snap of her and Zayn, 27, kissing and captioned it "baby daddy".

[contactmusic.com](http://contactmusic.com)



#### IS J. COLE TRAINING FOR THE NBA?

SETH J. Cole is training for the NBA, according to fellow rapper Master P. The 35-year-old star recently joined forces with Master P for a Puma commercial, where it is hinted that J is in training for a National Basketball Association tryout and veteran rapper Master P claims J is serious about basketball. "I said to get one of these NBA jerseys, it's not gonna be easy. It's gonna be a lot of work, it's gonna be a lot of people not believing in you but you know J. Cole - he got the right size, he in the gym!"

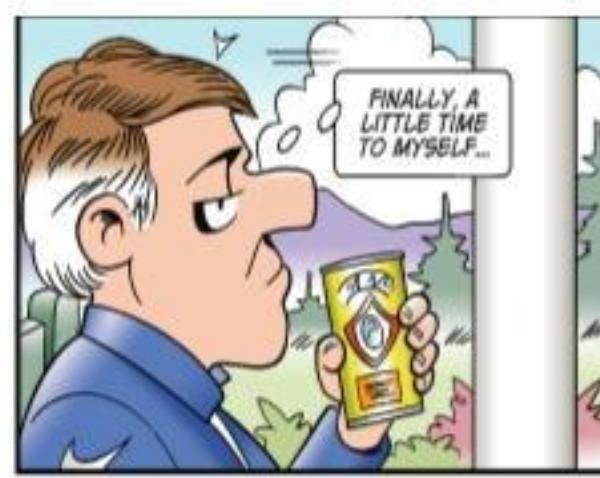
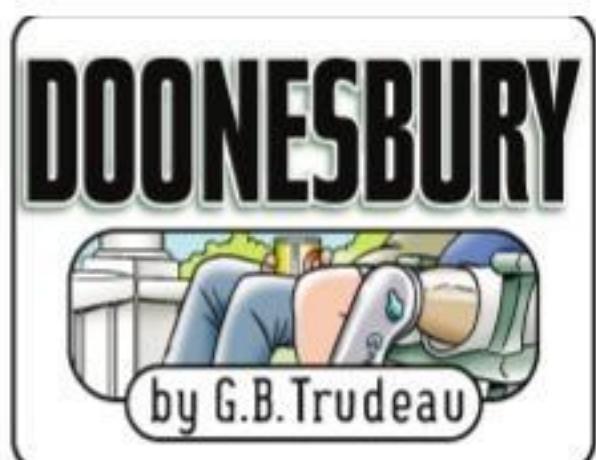
[contactmusic.com](http://contactmusic.com)

### WRITE TO THE EDITOR

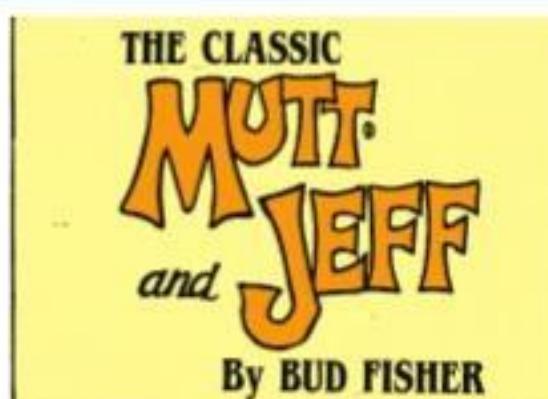
You can now email your opinion to [letters@mailtoday.in](mailto:letters@mailtoday.in)

# LAUGHLINE

DOONESBURY



## MUTT & JEFF

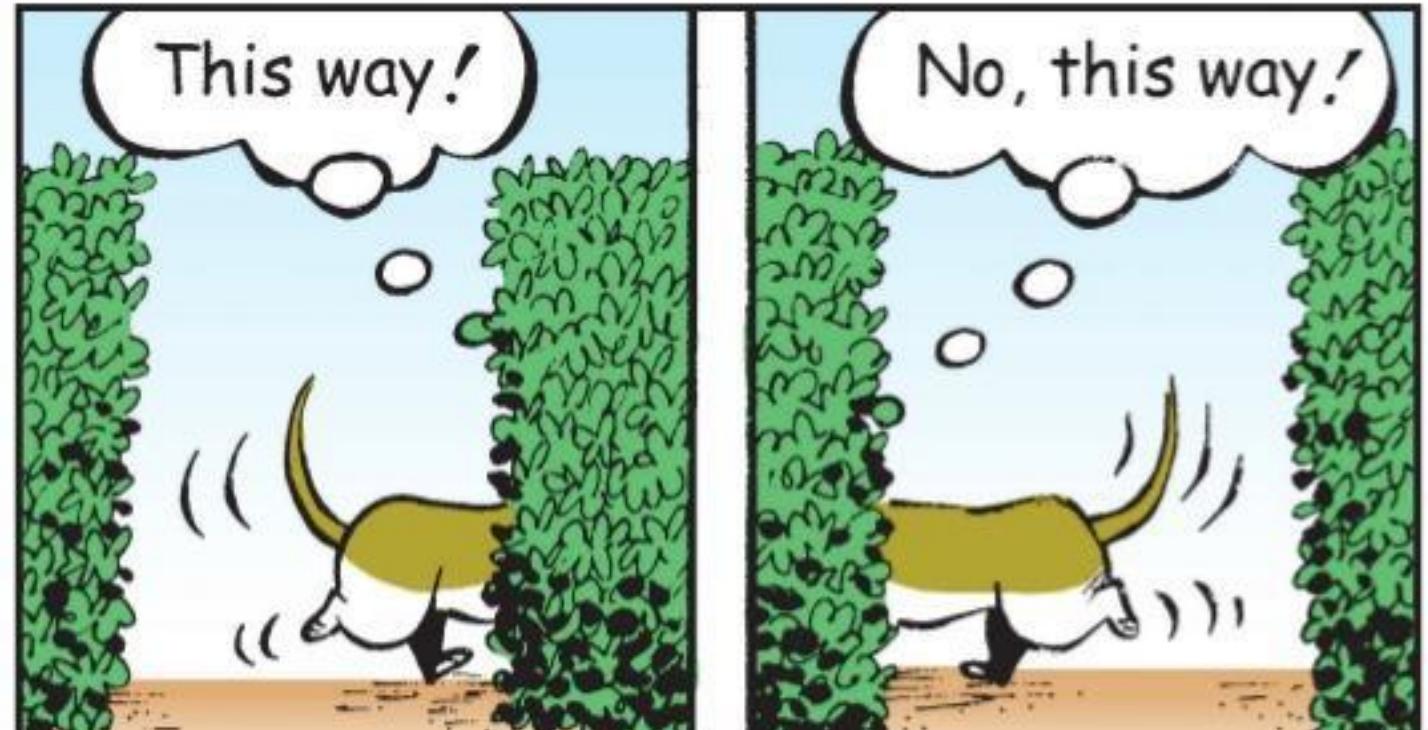


THATABABY

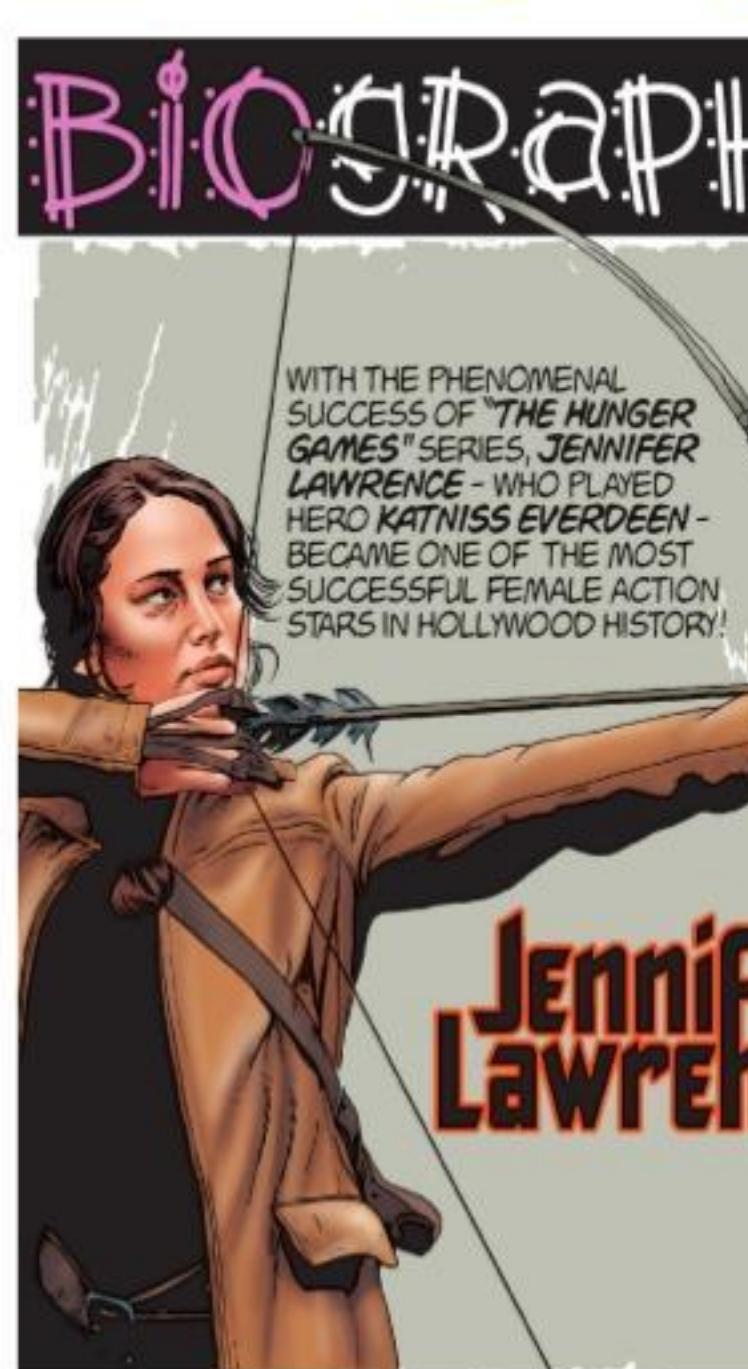
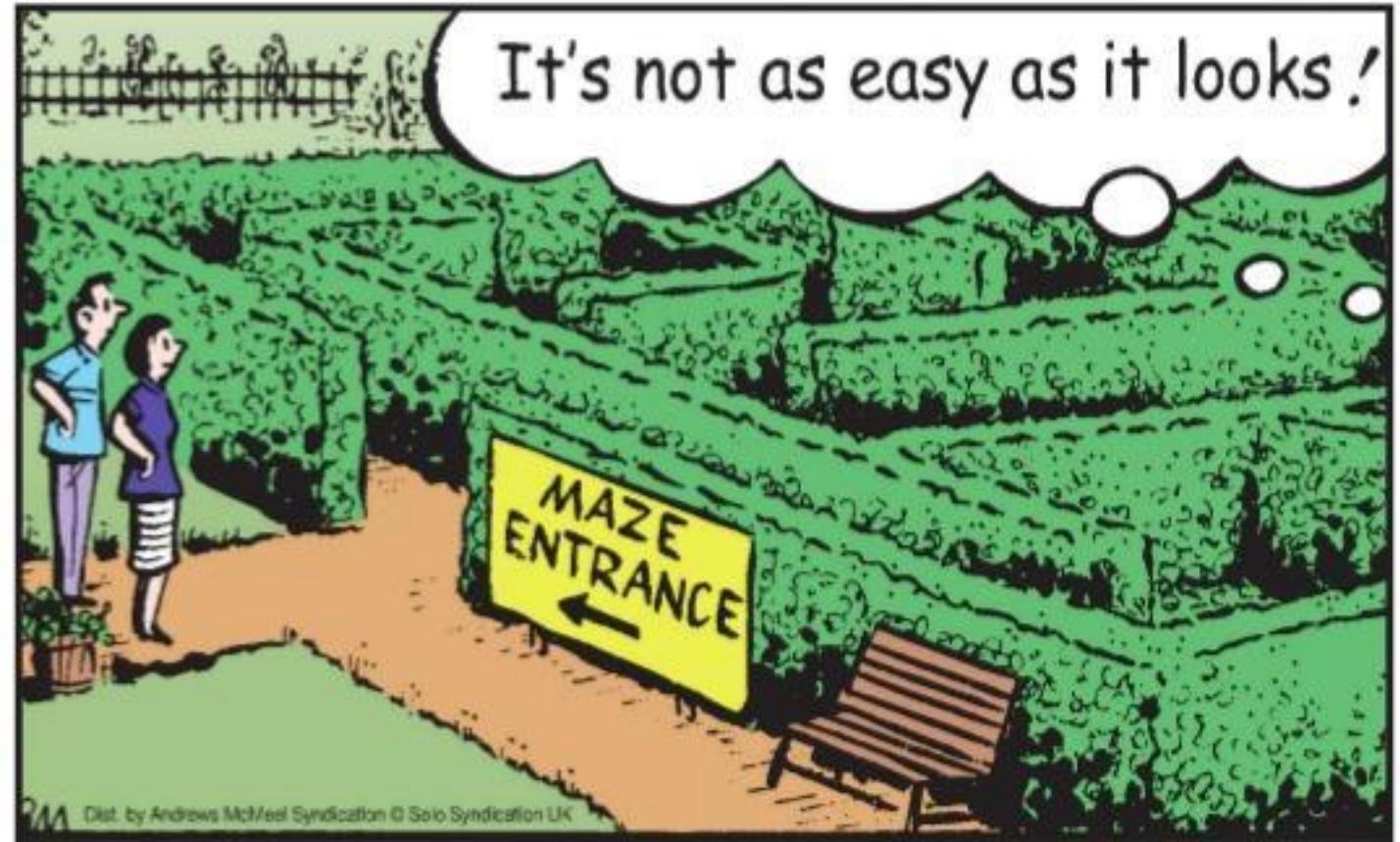


BY PAUL TRAP

## FRED BASSET



THATABABY



## MOVIES TODAY

**SONY PIX**  
**RAMPAGE**

**1 p.m. And 9 p.m.**  
Davis Okoye, a former US Army Special Forces soldier and member of an anti-poaching unit, works at the San Diego Wildlife Sanctuary. He has befriended a rare albino western lowland gorilla named George, having saved it from the poachers who killed his mother, and communicates with George using sign language. One of the canisters crash-lands in George's habitat, and George is exposed to the pathogen. As George grows considerably larger and more aggressive, Davis is contacted by genetic engineer Dr. Kate Caldwell, who explains that the pathogen was developed by Energene to rewrite genes on a massive scale. She had hoped to advance CRISPR research as a potential cure for diseases, but discovered Energene's plans to use it as a biological weapon, and was fired and falsely sent to prison, resulting in the death of her terminally ill brother. George escapes from captivity and goes on a rampage at the preserve. He is calmed, but George is captured by a government team led by Agent Harvey Russell and put on an airplane.

**HBO**

**KUNG FU PANDA 2**  
**7:15 p.m.**

Thirty years later, Po is living his dream as the Dragon Warrior, protecting the Valley of Peace alongside his friends and fellow kung fu masters, the Furious Five. However, his teacher Shifu tells him that he has yet to achieve inner peace. While defending a village from wolf bandits who have been stealing metal for Shen, Po is distracted by a symbol on their leader's armor, which causes him to have a flashback of his mother and allows the wolves to escape. Po asks his goose father, Mr. Ping, about his origins; Ping reveals that he found Po as an infant in a radish crate and adopted him, but Po remains unsatisfied, wondering how and why he ended up in the valley. Shifu learns that Shen has returned to Gongmen City and killed Thundering Rhino, the leader of the kung fu council protecting the City, and is plotting to conquer China with his newly developed cannon that was forged with the stolen metal.

**WB**  
**BEVERLY HILLS COP II**  
**1:50 p.m.**

Beverly Hills Police Captain Andrew Bogomil (Ronny Cox), Detective Billy Rosewood (Judge Reinhold), and Sergeant John Taggart (John Ashton) are trying to figure out who is behind the "Alphabet Crimes," a series of mostly high-end-store robberies distinguished by their monogrammed envelopes with an alphabetical sequence the assailants leave behind. Complicating matters is the new "political" state of the Beverly Hills Police Department, headed by incompetent and verbally abusive new police chief Harold Lutz (Allen Garfield), who is doing everything he can to stay on Mayor Ted Egan's (Robert Ridgely) good side. Unimpressed when Rosewood calls the FBI to help solve the case, Lutz holds Bogomil responsible as commanding officer and suspends him, despite Bogomil's efforts to convince the chief that Rosewood was only following a hunch. Lutz also punishes Taggart and Rosewood by placing them on traffic duty. On the way home, Bogomil is shot and injured by Karla Fry (Brigitte Nielsen), the chief enforcer of Maxwell Dent (Jürgen Prochnow), who is secretly the mastermind behind the Alphabet Crimes.

**STAR MOVIES**  
**ANT-MAN AND THE WASP**  
**1:45 p.m.**

Two years after Scott Lang was placed under house arrest due to his involvement with the Avengers, in violation of the Sokovia Accords, [N 1] Hank Pym and his daughter Hope van Dyne briefly manage to open a tunnel to the quantum realm. They believe Pym's wife Janet van Dyne might be trapped there after shrinking to sub-atomic levels in 1987. When he had previously visited the quantum realm, Lang had unknowingly become quantumly entangled with Janet, and now he receives an apparent message from her. With only days left of house arrest, Lang contacts Pym about Janet, despite the strained relationship they have because of Lang's actions with the Avengers. Hope and Pym kidnap Lang, leaving a large ant with Lang's ankle-monitor on as a decoy so as not to arouse the suspicions of FBI agent Jimmy Woo. Believing the message from Janet is confirmation that she is alive, the trio work to build a stable quantum tunnel so they can take a vehicle to the quantum realm and retrieve her.

**ZEE CINEMA**

**PARMANU**

**11:50 p.m.**

In 1995, Ashwat Raina, an IAS officer from the Research and analysis Wing, suggests the ministers to perform a retaliatory nuclear test in response to the recent nuclear missile tests by China. However, he is ridiculed and the PMO secretary Suresh Yadav tells him to keep the file of his plan brief. Ashwat submits the file along with a floppy containing the details, but Yadav submits a half-baked plan to the Prime Minister and ignores the floppy. The test is hastily conducted without Ashwat's involvement, who then becomes the scapegoat when an American Lacrosse Satellite photographs the test preparations and the United States warn India not to continue with the tests. Ashwat loses his job and three years later, in 1998, when a new Prime Minister is sworn in, he is approached by the new PMO secretary Himanshu Shukla who questions the failure of the tests. Ashwat explains the most integral part of the mission was to keep it confidential but it couldn't happen since no one viewed the floppy.



BY Manisha Koushik

# Astro Focus



### ARIES March 21-April 19

The dream of becoming rich through real estate may come true. Circumstances seem to be in your favour at workplace. It is possible to get rid of chronic disease with the help of home remedies. The changing circumstances at home front will be pleasing. Business related travel will make you aware of new opportunities. Students have to prepare for the competition. It is time to get inner peace by connecting with spirituality.

**LUCKY COLOUR:** Yellow; **LUCKY NO:** 15



### TAURUS April 20-May 20

Financial health keeps you happy and confident. There are chances of getting desired progress in professional matters. Precaution in eating and drinking has shown positive effects on health. Homemakers will not experience the lack of money and all their work will be completed without hassles. You may get an opportunity of long travel with your loved ones.

**LUCKY COLOUR:** Peach; **LUCKY NO:** 1



### GEMINI May 21-June 20

Investments made with prudence will benefit. Your financial situation seems to be favourable. High officials will know your ability through your performance. The health of sick person is improving. You will encourage the whole family for a common cause. The wishes of those who plan to travel will be fulfilled. The house will go up on rent as desired. The hard work of the students will bring them success.

**LUCKY C :** Lavender; **L NO.** NO: 2



### CANCER June 21-July 22

Your sense of justice will be appreciated by family. It is possible for businessmen to make profits from new work. Happiness and satisfaction will remain in romantic life. The family will breathe a sigh of relief as their health improves. The journey will be entertaining and exciting. The sum of the profits from the property will make you rich. A boom in real estate profits is possible.

**LUCKY COLOUR:** Silver; **LUCKY NO:** 11



### LEO July 23-August 22

You can remain worried about any new investment. There are chances of getting increments. Enjoy healthy workouts and thereby life. You will get full support from your spouse. The journey done with a particular aim will be successful. Favourable chances of buying property are present. Students will be able to make their mark in the eyes of seniors.

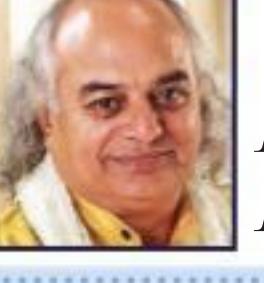
**LUCKY COLOUR:** Dark Blue; **LUCKY NO:** 12



### VIRGO August 23-September 22

Adding to your skills and knowledge will increase both income and reputation. Workbench conditions may remain unsatisfactory. The positive impact of active lifestyle is visible on health. Family will help in household chores. Property related paperwork will be completed. Scholarships are being made available for bright students. If you want to buy a house, then decide after considering all the options.

**LUCKY COLOUR:** WHITE; **LUCKY NO:** 9



By Dr Ajai Bhambi

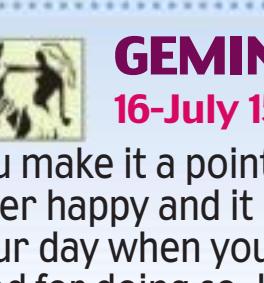
### ARIES Apr 14-May 14

In the course of meeting people, you are likely to come across someone who begins to interest you a lot. This could be the start of a romance.



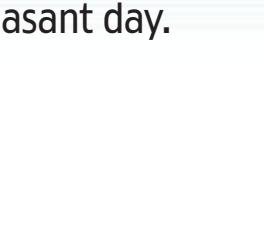
### TAURUS May 15-June 15

You will have an exciting day. Your lover can spring a surprise on you - maybe a surprise party that will be fun. There will be love and joy all around.



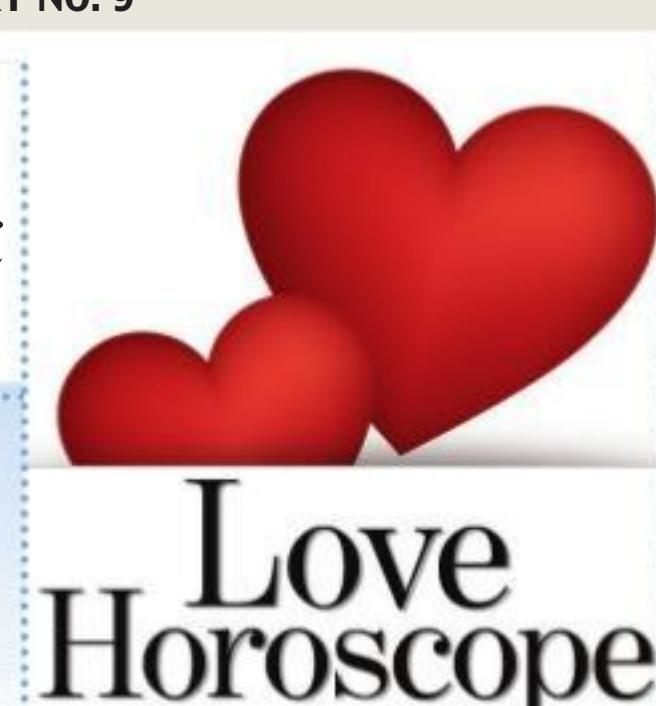
### GEMINI June 16-July 15

You make it a point to keep your lover happy and it really makes your day when you are appreciated for doing so. It will be a pleasant day.



### CANCER July 16-Aug 15

You and your lover can plan out your course of action for some future activities. Discussions and plans can keep you very busy and take up most of your time.



\*Dates based on Vedic Sun Signs



### LEO Aus 16-Sep 15

The chance to make the relationship progress will come along. Your love partner is going to give you some good news which is going to make the day very happy.



### VIRGO Sep 16-Oct 15

There could be panic for a while. You want to be the one who wears the pants in this relationship and can make this clear in an aggressive way.



### LIBRA Oct 16-Nov 15

You like to move ahead and so you will continue to innovate and encourage your lover to do so also. These new steps will help your romance reach dizzy heights.



### SCORPIO Nov 16-Dec 15

You radiate charm and energy and this is the time to take advantage of it. You might consider dating someone new and will be very taken up with the thrill of it.



### LIBRA September 23-October 22

Your foresight will prove to be a boon in financial matters. Your reputation through networking will add value to it. You will feel fit and energetic. The family will be proud of your achievements. Stars are pointing towards the new property. Winning the competition is sure to happen for students. Changes in routine are possible. Love relationship is reaching a stage of maturity.

**LUCKY COLOUR:** Turquoise; **LUCKY NO:** 5



### SCORPIO October 23-November 21

Investing in a planned manner will add to your wealth. You will earn respect at workplace and will be a source of inspiration for juniors. Your serious attitude at work will keep you focused and help wind up a task quickly. Health concerns will be removed. Close proximity with spouse will increase during window shopping. You will plan exciting activities. Students will get rid of confusion.

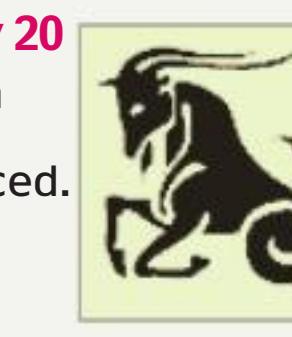
**LUCKY COLOUR:** Gray; **LUCKY NO:** 2



### SAGITTARIUS November 22-December 21

Good investment opportunities materialize, but vet them closely before investing your hard-earned money. The day will be full of achievements at your workplace. Healthy eating habits are showing effects on health. You will take care of the issues related to home trouble. The hard work of the students is paying off. The natives active in sports will have to work harder, increase their dedication.

**LUCKY C. VIOLET;** **L. NO:** 17



### CAPRICORN December 22-January 20

Financially, you cherish a secure environment. Past savings are likely to be enhanced. It will be almost impossible to beat you in the area of your expertise. It is not possible to compete with your reasoning ability. You will be motivated to live healthy life. You will enjoy the long drive. Property papers may be finalised in your name. You will get your recognition at the level of education. Close proximity with love partner is possible.

**LUCKY COLOUR:** Cream; **LUCKY NO:** 9



### AQUARIUS January 21-February 18

The fun of life doubles while being fit. Family will be filled with happiness. You will get the idea of taking a short break from the routine. You will lead juniors in professional life, cheering them on. It will be possible to buy the property at the desired price. At the level of education, circumstances seem to be beneficial. Old love can take firearms again.

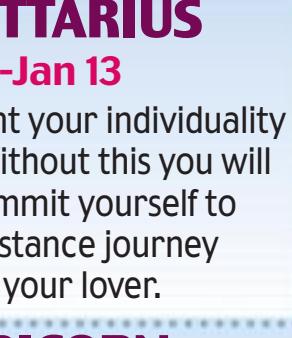
**LUCKY COLOUR:** LEMON; **LUCKY NO:** 3



### PISCES February 19-March 20

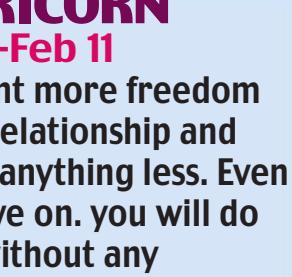
It is possible to improve the financial situation. The responsibility of the important project in the field will be handed over. It is possible to get rid of physical problems. There will be a sigh of relief as necessary help in domestic work is available. There are chances of buying property in a posh area. You will be ready to pay the desired price of this property. Trip with love partner can be planned.

**LUCKY COLOUR:** Navy Blue; **LUCKY NO:** 4



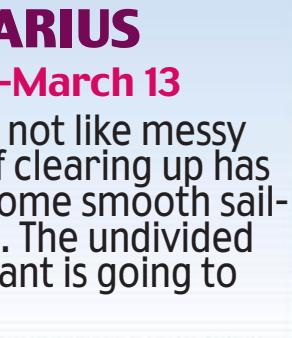
### SAGITTARIUS Dec 16-Jan 13

You want your individuality to be accepted. Without this you will not be keen to commit yourself to anyone. A short distance journey can be made with your lover.



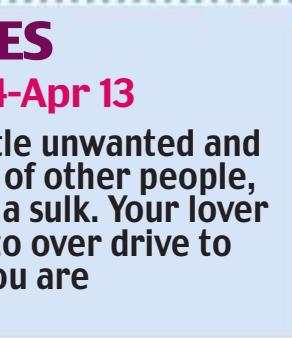
### CAPRICORN Jan 14-Feb 11

You want more freedom in this relationship and will not settle for anything less. Even if you have to move on, you will do so and that also without any regrets.



### AQUARIUS Feb 12-March 13

You do not like messy affairs so a lot of clearing up has to be done for some smooth sailing in the future. The undivided attention you want is going to come to you.



### PISCES Mar 14-Apr 13

Likely to feel a little unwanted and even a bit jealous of other people, you could go into a sulk. Your lover will have to go into over drive to assure you that you are the only one.

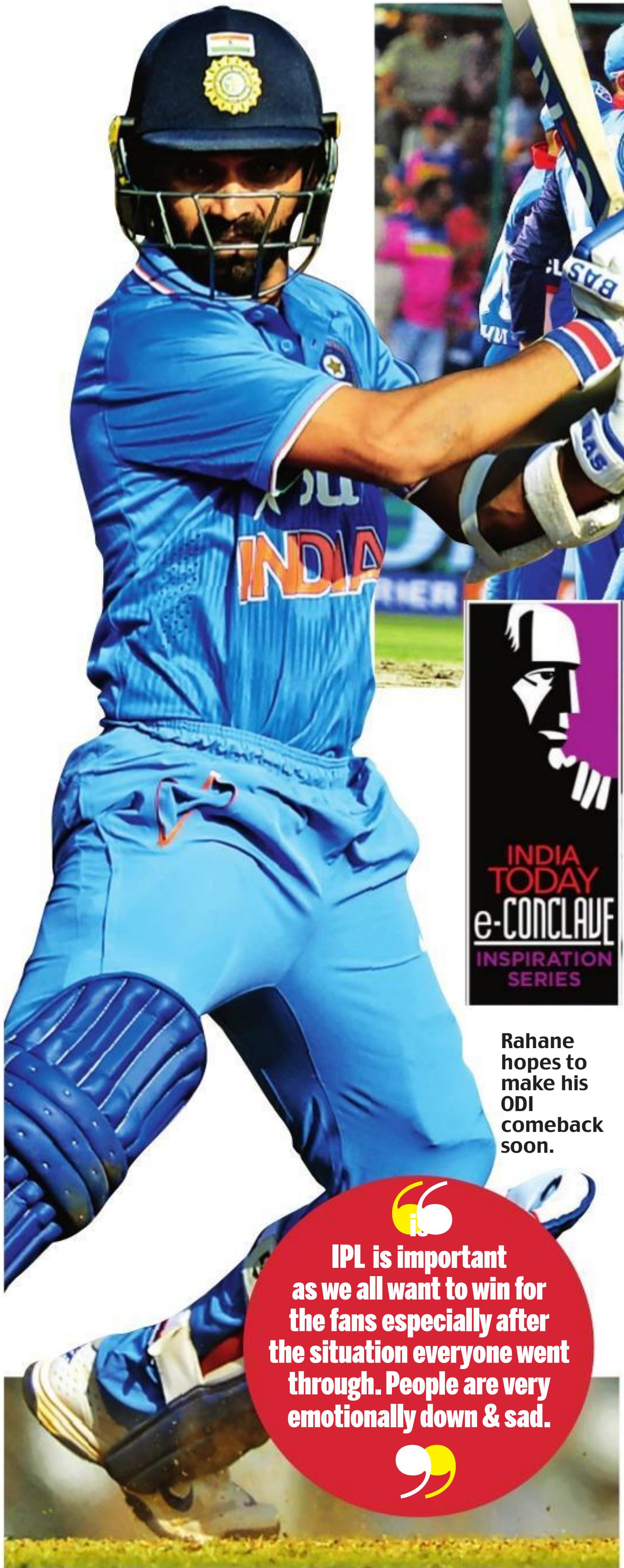
# Sports Mail



## Going to give another try for World Cup in 2021: Mithali

# EXCITED TO PLAY IPL IN DUBAI

Rahane aims good season with Delhi Capitals but says family's safe travelling is paramount in COVID-19 times



Rahane  
hopes to  
make his  
ODI  
comeback  
soon.

IPL is important  
as we all want to win for  
the fans especially after  
the situation everyone went  
through. People are very  
emotionally down & sad.



# CAPITAL TO HOST CYCLING CAMP

Cyclists to stay in quarantine before resumption of training at the IG stadium

By Aditya K Halder in New Delhi

**I**NDIAN sprint cyclists will resume training at a national camp for the first time since March at the familiar Yamuna Velodrome in the Capital later this month. The proposal has been cleared by the Sports Authority of India.

With the Cycling Federation of India (CFI), along with 56 National Sports Federations de-recognised by the sports ministry, the SAI directly got in touch with the 12 sprinters.

They have been asked to join the IG stadium campus from this month at the earliest. Their travel arrangements are also being taken care of by SAI.

The list includes five sprinters from Manipur (namely Jemsh Singh, Ronaldo Singh, Rahul, Rojit Singh and Rejia), two from Andaman (Esow Alben and David Beckham), Tiyasha Paul from West Bengal and four others from Punjab.

Athletes will be tested for the COVID-19 on arrival and will stay quarantined for seven days at the hostel facilities inside the campus before hitting the velodrome.

So far the two cyclists from Andaman have already reached the camp while five cyclists from Manipur are scheduled to reach the capital on Monday.

"Sprint cyclists have already started coming in from their respective hometowns. Hostel facilities and the track is already sanitised while cyclists are asked to strictly follow safety guidelines."

**Sprint cyclists have already started coming in from their respective hometowns. Hostel facilities and the track is already sanitised while cyclists are asked to strictly follow safety guidelines.**

—ONKAR SINGH,  
Cycling Federation of India chief



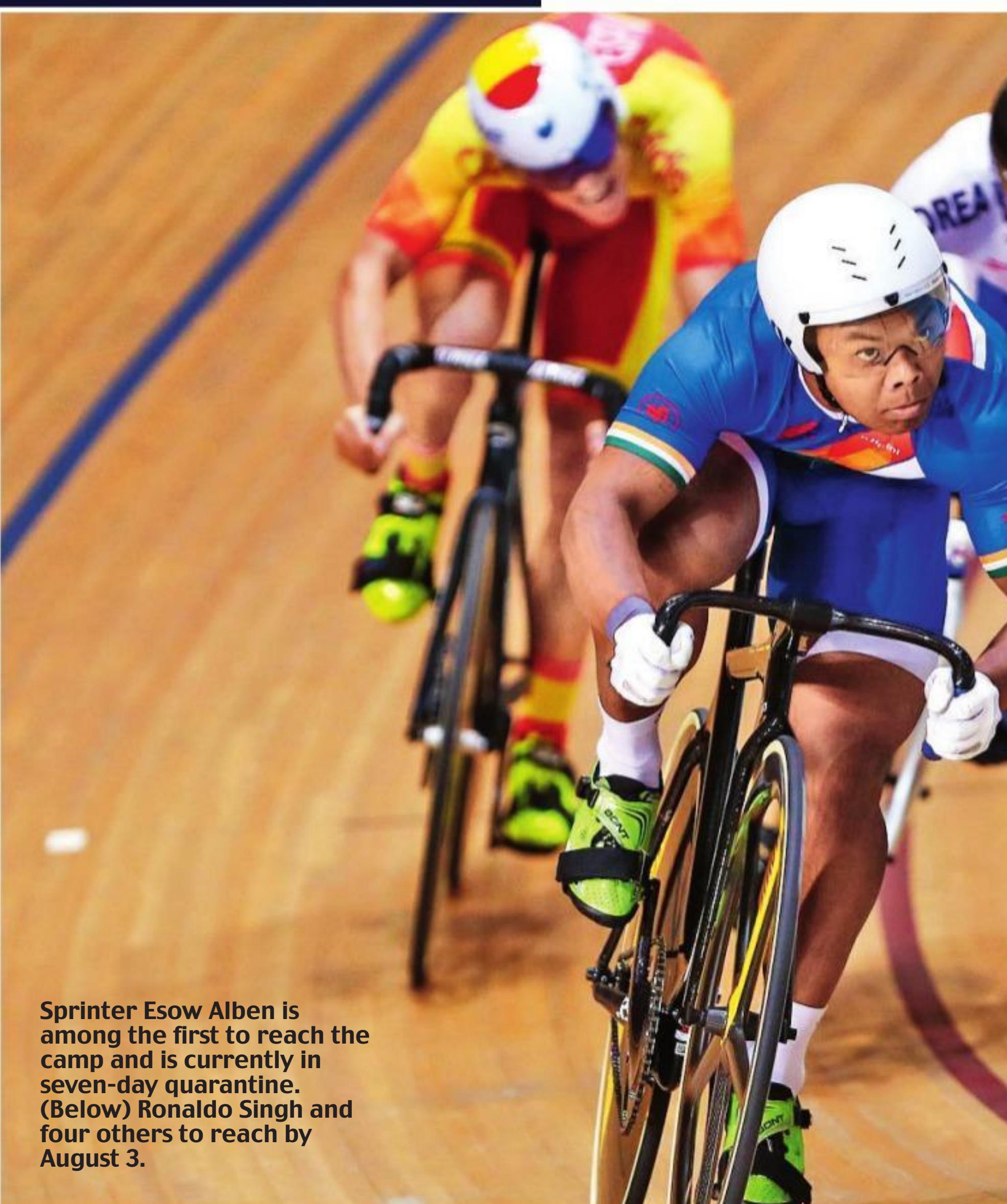
camps in Imphal (for sprinters) and Patiala (for endurance racers) but the plans always hit a roadblock as local authorities seemed reluctant with rising COVID-19 cases in the cities.

Five local bikers were later allowed to train alone in Imphal's Khuman Lampak Stadium after weeks of convincing while the rest remained indoors.

Most of the cyclists seem happy with the camp being held in Delhi and are eager to train

again. "It has been months since I have trained and I am really eager to hit the track.

Officials and coaches have also ensured us of the sanitisation of the track and hostel facilities and have asked us to strictly adhere to the SOPs and social distancing norms. Facility wise Delhi is much better and safer than anywhere else in the country, so I don't really feel worried," said a sprint cyclist.



Sprinter Esow Alben is among the first to reach the camp and is currently in seven-day quarantine. (Below) Ronaldo Singh and four others to reach by August 3.

By S.Kannan in New Delhi

THE Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has filed an urgent application in the Delhi High Court seeking modification of an order given in February this year so that it can discharge its functions freely.

As per the application made in the matter connected with petitioner Rahul Mehra vs Union of India, the ministry wants to deal with the National Sports Federations without any hindrance. The February 7 order had said that both the Indian Olympic Association and the sports ministry have to take permission from the court before taking any decision on recognition given to NSFs.

Last month, following arguments in the court, recognition of 57 NSFs was withdrawn. It has left all important federations without any power to deal with day to day matters.

"It is most respectfully submit-

**MYAS wants to  
deal with NSFs  
sans hindrance**

**SOUTH Africa's director of cricket Graeme Smith does not expect the national team to be back in action until November at the earliest and confirmed the scheduled tour of West Indies has been postponed indefinitely.**

West Indies said last week they were hopeful of hosting South Africa in September for either two tests or five T20 internationals but Smith disagreed.

"The West Indies tour has been postponed indefinitely," he told reporters on Saturday. "We are struggling to find the time with the IPL, when our players are likely to be needed from the beginning of September," Smith said.

—Reuters

ted, at the very outset, the direction contained in Para 6 of the order dated February 7, 2020, virtually takes away the authority of the respondent No.1 (ministry of youth affairs and sport) to deal with NSFs and obstructs the functioning of the answering respondent and to such an extent is ex-facie erroneous and contrary to law," says the application filed by the sports ministry's lawyer.

The application talks about "frequent miscellaneous applications which are being moved by the petitioner from time to time (i) challenging elections to the NSFs, (ii) requesting the court to issue directions which are restricting the powers of the executive power of respondent No.1 (sports ministry)

Forced to look at other options, CFI top brass tried to organise



## Sports Ministry seeks to retain exec control



**Sports minister  
Kiren Rijiju**

vested upon it by the Constitution of India."

At a time when Indian athletes are preparing for the postponed Tokyo Olympics, the sports ministry is dealing with several issues. With NSFs having no power at present, the onus of holding camps now lies with the Sports Authority of India. The application says the respondent (sports ministry) has been disabled from discharging its executive powers. "It has virtually put the court in the shoes of the executive which is contrary to the very essence of the doctrine of separation of powers," adds the application.

The sports ministry is very emphatic when it says in the

application "policy making and its implementation is a core responsibility as well as prerogative of the executive and it should not be hampered from doing so."

The sports ministry also highlights the fact that to ensure good governance practice in the functioning of NSFs, it has issued the NSDC 2011 (national sports code), which is applicable to the IOA and all NSFs. "The power to take decisions with respect to all matters related to the NSFs and IOA, including grant of recognition or withdrawal or suspension of recognition falls under the ambit of the executive powers of respondent No.1 (sports ministry)."

**Says it is disabled from discharging its executive powers**

# OF INNOVATIONS AND KEEPING FANS HOOKED

## SPORTS VIEW

by S. Kannan

RESUMPTION of sport in post COVID-19 times has been a huge challenge for the fans. At a time when many big ticket events like Formula One, football leagues in Europe, international golf tour and cricket series, have resumed, the big difference is no fan presence.

Deprived of watching live sport for months, the return of images has been enchanting. Hardcore fans used to watching multiple sport at one time by flicking channels on the remote are a pampered lot.

The way sport is consumed today is very different. It is no longer reliant on TV commentary or reading newspaper reports the next morning. Thanks to the big digital imprint, the sporting fan gets to choose more of what he wants to consume.

Perhaps, that is why even as there is intense speculation over the Indian Premier League being played this time in Dubai, the news flow for fans has begun. Social media is a big driver in it and the way star players and teams create the hype is fun.

If you are an addict for interviews, quotes, what the superstar does, there is no limit. Whatever be the sport, there is an overload of info available. But there is still a big challenge to be met, the fan seeks more and more, and has the right to choose.

Eventually, when more sporting events will resume in coming months, with restrictions on entering the stadium, there will be an even bigger challenge for the package to be consumed well. Cricket does great packaging with experts talking non-stop.

You may not have been sitting in England to watch the England versus West Indies Test series, yet there was enough to see, hear and discuss. From 'Black Lives Matter' to taking a knee, these are intense topics. Reactions to this are so fast, the fan makes his choice, whether he wants to see it or not.

The IPL, if it happens in Dubai in September, will have a less problem in engaging with



**World Athletics survey reveals fans feel there has to be a sea change in the way events are packaged. (Below) World Athletics president Lord Sebastian Coe.**

the fans. However, in some sport, there is already a fear they will be left behind if they do not make radical changes.

Lord Sebastian Coe, president of World Athletics, had recently commissioned a survey where there were some startling revelations. Apparently, track and field fans feel there has to be a sea change in the way events are packaged. What it means is the promoter of athletics events has to make radical changes to grab the fans attention.

It could be while watching live or on mobile handsets, where the numbers are now in millions. Merely watching a race end in less than 10 seconds is not enough. The fan wants more info, and also be part of an interactive process.

Mind you, all this can be done virtually. The world's biggest marathon may be taking place in Europe and the fan in India would want to be part of it. Coe, while addressing an audience recently, spoke of how the whole packaging has to change as well as presentation from stadia or studios.

It is well known, compared to football or Formula One, viewership for athletics has dropped big. So if someone like Coe, who has been in the sport himself as a top athlete and is now a respected administrator is talking of challenges ahead, it applies to almost all sports.



As it is, one is not sure how many fans will be going to the Tokyo Olympics next year. There will be huge restrictions for fans and the superstar athlete may be even more distanced. Given the way the Olympics are packaged, it may not be tough for the host city and the broadcaster to keep fans enthralled.

The bigger challenge is for the lower rung sporting events, be it in athletics or hockey. Coe's message is not to create an alarm but warn how one cannot take the fan for granted. The choice of watching is huge and one does not have to be in front of a television necessarily.

With high speed internet available easily, the urge is to be part of the action in a bigger way. It may sound alarming how those who have been traditionally running sport did evolve. Who had known when the IPL began in 2008, cricket would be consumed so differently.

It is no secret the younger fan lot is most important. They have loyalties and follow their favourite teams and players. But if one is talking of track and field and other sports which have lesser presence, the time has come to make innovations.

After all, to lose the fan base would be disastrous when sport today encompasses the E version as well.

## Sam takes a shot lead at Hero Cup



**Sam Horsfield struggled at the back nine on Saturday.**

SAM Horsfield will take a one shot lead into the final round of the 2020 Hero Open after a topsy turvy third day at Forest of Arden Marriott Hotel & Country Club.

The Englishman entered day three in a share of the lead but took total control as he turned in 31 with a six shot lead.

Late on Friday, Shubhankar Sharma (73-71) missed the cut despite a heroic last seven holes which had four birdies.

However Horsfield ran into problems on the back nine. A three-putt bogey on 10th was followed by double bogey on 12th. Then came back-to-back bogeys on 16th and 17th and his back nine came in 40

for a round of 71. He finished at 14-under and one ahead of a trio comprising, Danish teen Rasmus Hojgaard (66), Welshman Oliver Farr (67) and Finn Mikko Korhonen (67). —Mail Today

**THE regional government of Madrid has recommended that the Madrid Open tennis tournament next month be cancelled due to new outbreaks of the coronavirus, the event organisers said Saturday. The clay-court tournament, originally set for May, has been rescheduled for September 12-20. "The organisers of the Mutua Madrid Open stated their concerns about being able to stage the tournament free from health complications that might affect the players, fans and staff," the organisers said in a statement.**

—AFP

# Sports Mail



## Ronaldinho to be released from house arrest in Paraguay



Red Bull's Max Verstappen qualifies in third position at the Silverstone track.



Mercedes racer Lewis Hamilton reacts after qualifying in pole position.

Lewis smashes Silverstone track record to start ahead of Mercedes team-mate Bottas

**L**EWIS Hamilton set himself up for a record-breaking seventh British Grand Prix victory by taking pole position at Silverstone. In the old airfield, bereft of fans, the world champion overcame a patchy qualifying hour to turn in the required – and customary – performance with the 91st pole of his illustrious career.

Mercedes were in another league from the rest. They have sped up since last year, the opposition have slowed down. So it was almost inevitable that Valtteri Bottas should be next best in the other 'Black Arrow', ahead of third-fastest

Max Verstappen in the Red Bull.

Hamilton was three-tenths of a second faster than Bottas. Verstappen was one second off the pace, a gulf that threatens to leave the season a two-car procession.

"I think the lap at the end of Q3 was actually pretty good but you could just see pretty early

on in qualifying they were just way too fast, as they have been in the last three races," said Verstappen.

Hamilton had earlier spun at Luffield in Q2. His car slid sideways sending out a fan of gravel that caused a red flag as the debris was cleared. He had been struggling for rhythm with Bottas on top in the first two sections of the qualifying session under partly cloudy skies and in a gusty wind.

But Hamilton then took control to make it his seventh

British Grand Prix pole. "I'm super-happy with that," said the champion.

Fellow Brit George Russell once again gave good account of himself by making it out of Q1 for the third consecutive race. That was in contrast to his fellow Williams man Nicholas Latifi, who spun out and will start last.

Russell, 22, has the unique distinction of having beaten his team-mate in every Formula One race he has competed in – 21 times last season alongside Robert Kubica and four times in rivalry with Latifi.

The young Englishman continues to impress in contrast to his

great pal, Alex Albon. The London-born Thai, who came up through the karting ranks with Russell, was only 12th best in qualifying, an age behind his team-mate Max Verstappen.

Albon, 24, is starting to feel the pressure he is under for his place. How he manages to hold his nerve under the scrutiny will determine his future with the team.

Charles Leclerc was fourth quickest with Lando Norris, of McLaren, fifth – another good display for the 20-year-old Brit in what is turning into a coming-of-age season.

—Daily Mail

### QUALIFYING

- |               |                        |
|---------------|------------------------|
| 1. Hamilton   | Mercedes, 1:24.303 sec |
| 2. Bottas     | Mercedes, 1:24.616     |
| 3. Verstappen | Red Bull, 1:25.325     |
| 4. Leclerc    | Ferrari, 1:25.427      |
| 5. Norris     | McLaren, 1:25.782      |
| 6. Stroll     | Racing Point, 1:25.839 |
| 7. Sainz Jr.  | McLaren, 1:25.965      |
| 8. Ricciardo  | Renault, 1:26.009      |
| 9. Ocon       | Renault, 1:26.209      |
| 10. Vettel    | Ferrari, 1:26.339      |

## PSG beat Lyon on penalties to win French League Cup



Paris Saint-Germain players pose with the French League Cup on Friday night.

PABLO Sarabia scored the winning penalty in a shoot-out as Paris Saint-Germain warmed up for their assault on the Champions League in Lisbon by defeating Lyon in Friday's French League Cup final to claim another domestic treble.

The Spaniard's successful kick came after Keylor Navas saved from Bertrand Traore and allowed PSG to win 6-5 on penalties after the game at the Stade de France finished 0-0 at the end of extra time.

The victory comes a week after they beat Saint-Etienne 1-0 in the French Cup final, the first competitive match on French soil since the coronavirus shutdown.

They had previously been awarded the Ligue 1 title by virtue of being top when the season was ended in April with 10 rounds of matches

unplayed because of the health crisis.

Before penalties, Thomas Tuchel's team had the better of a tense final

**The Paris club  
complete another  
domestic treble**

on a sweaty night, but they badly missed the injured Kylian Mbappe.

The masked France superstar watched from the stands as Lyon

kept PSG at bay for two hours before having Brazilian defender Rafael sent off for chopping down Angel Di Maria on the edge of the box late in extra time.

Mbappe was injured in last week's French Cup final, suffering a sprained ankle that looks likely to rule him out of the Champions League quarter-final against Atletico in Lisbon on August 12.

PSG are desperate for tangible success in Europe but on this evidence they still have some rust to shake off before being ready for that test.

"We suffered but it's beautiful to win at the end. We will celebrate this and then tomorrow we will start to think about another big match," the excellent Marco Verratti told France 2 television.

—AFP