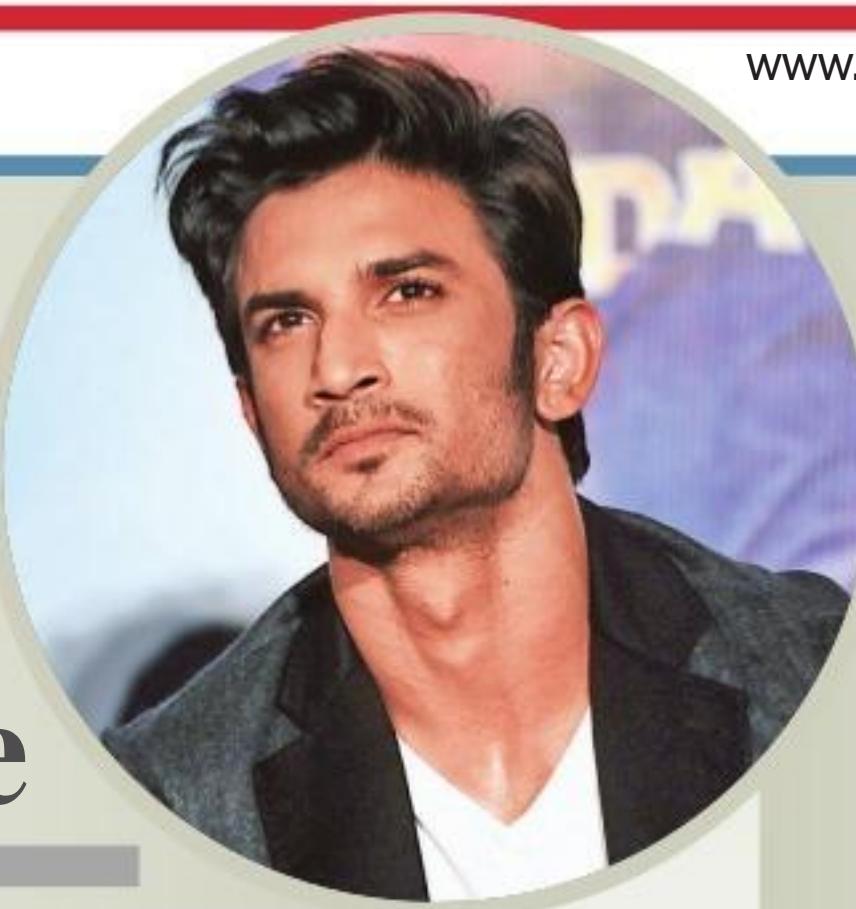


Sushant was bipolar, claims Mumbai Police



■ Filmstar Sushant Singh Rajput was undergoing treatment for bipolar disorder, Mumbai Police chief Parambir Singh said.

■ Sushant had Googled 'painless death, schizophrenia and bipolar disorder' hours before his death by suicide, cops claimed.

■ He was upset after his name was linked to his ex-manager Disha Salian's suicide, and was doing Internet searches to know what was being written about him in news articles, they said.

NITISH FUMES AS BMC QUARANTINES TOP COP

■ Patna SP Vinay Tiwari, leading the Sushant probe, quarantined in Goregaon by BMC with his hand stamped indicating the isolation period till August 15.



■ Bihar CM Nitish Kumar said this was inappropriate and the matter has been taken up with Maharashtra authorities. BMC has said Tiwari intimidated agencies at the airport, and that Bihar Police wasn't following protocols.

REPORTS ON PAGES 4-5

CAR STEALERS IN TOP GEAR AS DELHI UNLOCKS

■ With Metro shut & people preferring private vehicles in Covid time, theft cases spiral

■ Police mark key hotspots, tighten patrolling and widen CCTV surveillance in Capital

By Chayyanika Nigam in New Delhi

ON THURSDAY, a robber jumped inside a car and started driving it as a shocked woman, sitting at the back, screamed for help.

The incident in North-East Delhi's Gopalpur took place when the 34-year-old was waiting for her driver who had left the keys in the ignition while stepping out to buy water.

After a 2-km chase, cops got close and caught Prince Sharma who hadn't realised that there was somebody in the car when he tried to steal it.

On July 20, a Delhi Police officer was wounded while fighting off two men who attempted to rob his car at gunpoint in Outer Delhi's Alipur. He was hit on his head, nose and face before being rescued, along with his wife and toddler, by locals. The carjackers were arrested.

With Metro shut and people preferring to drive in Covid time, vehicle theft cases Turn to Page 2

REPORTS ON PAGES 2-3

GOVT WORKS OUT RULES FOR GYMS & YOGA CENTRES

Fitness hubs reopen in Delhi tomorrow

■ Symptomatic, elderly, kids, pregnant women and persons with comorbidities & oxygen saturation level below 95% are not allowed.

■ Social distancing, masks, Aarogya Setu app, sanitiser dispensers near all workout equipment and thermal screening made mandatory.

■ Use visor while exercising as far as possible. Spas, sauna, steam bath and pools will remain shut.

■ Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad is in self-isolation as he had met Home Minister Amit Shah who has tested positive and is in Medanta Hospital.



■ Cong MP Karti Chidambaram & Karnataka CM BS Yediyurappa's daughter BY Padmavati have tested positive.

PANKAJ NANGIA



A coronavirus patient ties rakhi to a doctor wearing PPE suit on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan, at CWG Covid care centre in New Delhi on Monday.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Initially, everyone hailed Kerala for good work in containing Covid-19. But we became complacent. That is why we reached the present situation.

— PINARAYI VIJAYAN, KERALA CM



President Ram Nath Kovind celebrated Raksha Bandhan with members of the nursing community at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Monday and described them as saviours who are risking their own lives in the line of duty to save others.

INDIA	DELHI
FRESH CASES	
52,972	805
TOTAL	
18,03,695	1,38,482
NEW DEATHS	
771	17
TOLL	
38,135	4,021

Raksha Bandhan celebrations remained subdued this year as the rampaging coronavirus pandemic cast a shadow over the festivities that celebrate the brother-sister bond, with people mostly preferring to stay at home. People relied on homemade sweets and some rituals moved online, with siblings ordering rakhis and e-gifts for each other and meeting through video calls. In this photo, a Covid-19 patient ties rakhi on the wrist of a doctor at CWG Covid Care Centre, in New Delhi, on Monday.



VEHICLE-LIFTERS IN FAST LANE

continued from page 1

are spiralling in Delhi, prompting cops to mark hotspots, tighten patrolling and widen CCTV surveillance, Mail Today has learnt.

Let's look at another case. Pramod Shukla, a Badarpur resident, went to South Delhi's Nehru Place for some work last week. He was forced by his children to drive and not book a cab due to Coronavirus fears. Before the pandemic, he used to commute via Delhi Metro.

When the 37-year-old returned to the parking lot, his car wasn't there. "I filed a complaint with the police. A few days later, CCTV footage showed someone driving my car away," he said.

SPIRAL 'UNLOCKED'

The country remained in lockdown from March 25 to May 30 to slow the coronavirus spread. But offices started opening from mid-May. And this is when car theft cases started rising.

The official announcement of the phase-wise 'Unlocks' was, however, announced from June onwards with the third phase starting August 1.

As per data shared by the Delhi Police, 14,656 motor vehicle thefts have been registered this year (till June).

But cases saw a jump during May, June and July, when a lot of Covid-19 curbs were gradually lifted.

Shopping malls and markets



PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATION

were reopened in non-containment zones during this period.

About 5,500 vehicles were stolen during this period, a steep spike from April's 728 when the full lockdown was in force and even offices were shut.

In two weeks between June 15 and June 30, as many as 1,526 vehicles were stolen. This roughly means 100 vehicles a day.

MODUS OPERANDI AND CRACKDOWN

Police sources said criminals are eyeing vehicles at parking lots, besides residential, commercial and institutional areas.

Car-jackers are targeting in-demand luxurious vehicles to be sent to West UP, Gujarat, Bihar and other parts of the country.

Recently, cops arrested three criminals who had stolen many vehicles. In late July, the Delhi Police busted an interstate gang, arrested three criminals and recovered 10 stolen cars from them.

Police sources said the accused had pooled their experience and resources to steal more than 500 luxury SUVs and sell them in dif-

We have identified many hotspots. The demand for stolen vehicles has slightly increased as the illegal trade choked during the lockdown and post Unlock. Now with interstate movements eased, the graph has gone up.

— RP Meena, DCP (South East)

ferent states. The accused came to Delhi by air, stole the cars before driving to India's North-East and West Bengal to sell them.

RP Meena, DCP (South East), said, "We have identified many hotspots. The demand for stolen vehicles has slightly increased as the illegal trade choked during the lockdown and post Unlock. Now with interstate movements

Wonder why our Home Minister, when ill, chose not to go to AIIMS but to a private hospital in a neighbouring state.

— SHASHI THAROOR, CONGRESS MP



921

Active Covid cases in Noida. 79 were reported on Monday.

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has given nod to the Serum Institute of India (SII) for conducting phase 2 and 3 human clinical trials of the Oxford University developed Covid-19 vaccine candidate in the country.



PANKAJ NANGIA

Dos and don'ts for gyms, Yoga centres are out

By Milan Sharma
in New Delhi

THE Health Ministry on Monday issued guidelines for yoga institutes and gyms to open from August 5, adding that only those outside containment zones will be allowed to open.

The guidelines mentioned that persons above 65 years of age, persons with co-morbidities, pregnant women and children below the age of 10 years are advised not to use gyms in closed spaces.

Organisations managing the yoga institutes and gyms shall have also been asked to advise all members, visitors and staff accordingly.

The generic preventive measures to reduce the risk of Covid-19 are as follows:

i. Individuals must maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet as far as feasible.

ii. Use of face covers/masks is mandatory at all times within the premises. However, during yoga exercise or exercising in gyms, as far as possible

only a visor may be used. Use of mask (in particular N-95 masks) during exercise may cause difficulty in breathing.

It asked people to frequently wash hands with soap (for at least 40-60 seconds) even when hands are not visibly dirty. Use of alcohol-based hand sanitiser (for at least 20 seconds) have been recommended wherever feasible.

Respiratory etiquettes are also to be strictly followed. This involves the strict practice of covering one's mouth and nose while coughing/sneezing with a tissue/handkerchief/flexed elbow and disposing of used tissues properly.

The ministry guidelines have advised for self-monitoring of health by all and reporting any illness at the earliest to state and district helpline.

Spitting has been strictly prohibited as it can lead to the spread of the virus. Installation and use of Aarogya Setu App shall be advised to all the people visiting gyms and Yoga centres.

CAPITAL 'CARNAMA'

■ 5,500 vehicles stolen in May, June and July, when a lot of Covid-19 curbs were gradually lifted.

■ This is a steep spike from April's 728 when the full lockdown was in force and offices were shut.

■ 1,526 cases between June 15 and June 30 alone, roughly 100 vehicles a day.



PANKAJ NANGIA

Cops are conducting meetings with residents of gated communities for extra vigilance. Another major challenge is masked men, whom locals are unable to identify.



— Atul Kumar Thakur,
DCP (South)

eased, the graph has gone up." DCP (South) Atul Kumar Thakur said cops are conducting meetings with residents of gated communities for extra vigilance. "Another major challenge is masked men, whom locals are unable to identify. Earlier, these auto lifters were more active at night, but now they take advantage of masks and operate during the day," he added.

Now, Karnataka CM's daughter tests positive

By Nolan Pinto
in Bengaluru

CHIEF MINISTER BS Yediyurappa along with his daughter and six others have tested positive for coronavirus.

BY Aruna Devi, the elder daughter of CM Yediyurappa speaking exclusively to India Today TV said that her father is absolutely fine and she had spoken to him on Monday morning. 'Doctors said there might be symptoms in the next few days and hence to please get him admitted,' she

told us. A CT scan was also done and according to the daughter, the CM's lungs are fine and clear. The CM has taken along with him 12 books to read whilst in being treated and 2 home cooked meals are being sent to him since he needs protein rich food.

The Manipal Hospital released a medical bulletin stating that the CM is clinically stable.

Sources in the CM residence, Kavari state that 6 others have been infected as well.



PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATION

2,300 in Lucknow give wrong personal info

By Nelanshu Shukla
in Lucknow

NEARLY 2,300 people who tested positive for coronavirus in Uttar Pradesh's Lucknow provided wrong contact information to health authorities. All of them had tested positive in the last week of July.

All of them had tested positive

Neither addresses nor contact numbers provided by those who tested positive were accurate, triggering fear among authorities who are now trying to identify and trace these individuals.

Authorities fear that these Covid positive individuals may come in contact with

more people, thus resulting in further spread of the novel coronavirus.

The integrated Covid-19 command and control centre of Lucknow police identified 1,171 such people who gave wrong information to the health department during testing. Of the 2,290 people, at least 1,119 are still untraceable.

The police are jointly working with the health department to identify them. The administration may also take action against them for violating the Covid-19 guidelines.

However, tracing such a large number of infected people is becoming a huge challenge for the district administration.

All the Covid hospitals and testing labs have been directed to verify the details of those being tested so people do not provide wrong information.

PFWs organises virtual musical concert in city

THE EXPERIENCE of Covid-19 for Delhi Police has been historic as well as experiential. Drawing a mileage based on its inherited capacity and exceptional leadership by S. N. Shrivastava, Commissioner of Police, Delhi, the Chief Patron of Police Families Welfare Society (PFWs), it has gone a notch above and set a new benchmark.

PFWs organised a virtual musical concert which was telecast live at 6 pm on August 2, which was enjoyed by the police organisations of the country including Delhi Police, apart from social viewing on popular digital media platforms. The programme captioned 'We Care' was graced by the Chief Guest Mrs

Sonal Shah, wife of Union Home Minister Amit Shah and wives of Lieutenant Governor of Delhi and National Security Advisor, Mrs Mala Baijal and Mrs Aruni Doval respectively apart a salutary message of Mrs Vandana Kumar wife of Director, IB.

A high point of the event was the launch of the PFWs song and release of e-Recipe Book by the Mrs Shah, which consists of selected and adjudged best recipes crafted by wives of policemen and winners of Khana Khazana competition.

The programme was conceived and executed under supervision of Pratima Shrivastava, President, PFWs assisted by her team.

— Mail Today Bureau

The event has set a benchmark for the future

'DISHA'S SUICIDE THEORIES UPSET SSR'

THE SUSHANT DEATH CASE

By Divyesh Singh in Mumbai

MUMBAI Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh spoke to the media in a press conference on Monday, where he shared details about their investigation on Sushant Singh Rajput's death, and clarified doubts regarding the accusation of ill-treatment of Bihar Police in Mumbai.

Singh said that Sushant was upset after his name was linked to the death of his ex-manager Disha Salian. Salian died five days before Sushant, and a case of accidental death was registered. In addition, it was revealed that Sushant would search for articles and his name on Google to find out what was being written about him.

He would also search for "painless death", "schizophrenia" and "bipolar disorder". "Sushant Singh Rajput was searching his name for around two hours the night before his death. A party was held the night before (her death) at Salian's fiancé's residence," the Mumbai Police Commissioner said on Monday.

"She committed suicide at 3 am, it was verified through CCTV clip that was analysed. Five persons were present at the party including Salian's fiancé. Four others were present, but no political leader," said Singh, clarifying rumours that were doing the rounds about the presence of a politician at the party.

Singh added, "Bihar Police has no jurisdiction to investigate this case, we are seeking legal opinion on that. We have not given a clean chit to anyone, but the complainant (referring to KK Singh's complaint) has not come to us."

Regarding accusations of "forcefully quarantining" Bihar IPS officer Vinay Tiwari, the Singh said, "We have no role in quarantining any officer, it is the BMC that has acted on it." Speaking about Sushant's family filing the FIR in Patna, the Mumbai Police Commissioner was quoted as saying, "In their signed statements on June 16, the family has said that there was no suspicion on anyone."

'RHEA LEFT SUSHANT'S HOUSE BECAUSE SHE WAS ALSO DEPRESSED'

Rhea Chakraborty, who was living with Sushant, left his home on June 8, six days before his death. Speaking about that, Singh said, "Rhea left Sushant on June 8 and left because she was also depressed, her mental condition was also not normal." Sushant's sister, who came to Sushant's place after Rhea left, left the house on June 13.

"Sushant's sister left on June 13 because her daughter was alone and she had her exams, which Sushant's sister said in her statement," Singh said. Rhea and Sushant's relationship has also been under scrutiny. Sharing details about their findings, the Mumbai Police Commissioner said on Monday,

Mumbai's top cop says Sushant was upset after his name was linked with his ex-manager, who died by suicide 5 days before him.

Actor Googled 'painless death, schizophrenia & bipolar disorder' before death, say Mumbai cops

By Divyesh Singh in Mumbai

THE Mumbai Police said on Monday that there was no politician present in a party held at Disha Salian's fiancé's house on the day of her death. In an exclusive talk with India Today TV on Monday, Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh said there was a party on June 8 at the residence of Salian's fiancé Rohan Roy.

Singh added that only friends were present at the party. "No political leader was present. We have checked CCTV footage and statements of all others were recorded," Singh said. Salian was upset and under pressure because two of her deals had not worked out. The 28-year-old died after jumping from her high-rise building in Malad on June 8.

During Unlock 1, four to five days before her death, Salian and Roy went to stay at

their Malad residence. A month before that, she was upset about not being able to celebrate her birthday with friends. On the night of her death, there was a party at their house. According to previous reports, Salian got a call from a UK-based friend. While talking to her on the phone, Salian went to another room and locked the door from inside.

The friend told the police that she spoke to Salian for over 20 minutes. It was a normal and casual call, she said. Salian told her that how lockdown is getting extended and that her work is pending. After a while, as Salian was still inside the locked room, other friends and her Roy, tried opening the door. When they finally opened the door, they found Salian lying in a pool of blood in the parking area at the back side of the building. She was later declared dead.



Disha Salian

'NO POLITICIAN AT HIS EX-MANAGER'S PARTY'

By Munish Pandey
in New Delhi

THE Enforcement Directorate (ED) has questioned the chartered account (CA) of Sushant Singh Rajput in connection with the money laundering case lodged against Rhea Chakraborty by Sushant's father KK Singh.

Sandeep Sridhar, the CA of Sushant, was earlier questioned by the Mumbai Police. India Today TV has learnt that the financial probe agency had summoned Sridhar for questioning.

During questioning, according to sources, Sridhar was asked about the transactions between Sushant and Rhea. Sridhar had earlier told the Mumbai Police that no major

Actress & her family accused of ₹15 cr fraud

transfer from Sushant's account, except a few thousand, took place in Rhea's account.

In the complaint filed in Patna, Sushant's father had accused Rhea and her family members of fraud of ₹15 crore. "In the coming days, Rhea, along with others (from her family), will be summoned for questioning," said a source.

In the complaint, Sushant's father had said, "In 2019, Sushant had ₹17 crore in his account but within months, ₹15 crore was transferred to the accounts not linked to him. It should be investigated as to how much of that money has been defrauded by Rhea and her associates."

ED sources have told India Today TV that their probe will

ED grills Sushant's CA in money fraud case against Rhea



File photo of Sushant Singh Rajput and Rhea Chakraborty.

be focused on the allegations of ₹15 crore defraud and others.

Bihar DGP Gupteswar Pandey had earlier requested Rhea to join the investigation of Sushant's death case.

He had also said that the actress has been missing. To which, Rhea's lawyer, Satish Manishinde said on Monday that Rhea is not missing. Her statement was recorded by the Mumbai Police and she has

cooperated with them.

However, she has not been officially summoned by Bihar Police. Meanwhile, Mumbai Police on Monday rejected the claim made by Sushant's father that the family had filed a written complaint on February 25 apprehending threat to the actor's life. KK Singh said the family had filed the complaint at the Bandra Police station. —With agency inputs

PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM & AGENCIES

File photo of Sushant Singh Rajput.



Sena slams ex-CM's wife on her tweets



File photo of (L) Amruta Fadnavis and ex-Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis.

By Kamlesh Damodar Sutar in Mumbai

THE politics over Sushant Singh Rajput investigation continues. In a latest development, Amruta, the wife of former chief minister Devendra Fadnavis, hit out at the state government in her tweet, saying that Mumbai is no longer safe to live. Shiv Sena was quick to hit back at Amruta.

Amruta, a banker by profession, in her tweet about the Sushant investigations, said, "The manner in which Sushant Singh Rajput death case is being handled I feel Mumbai has lost humanity and is no more

Priyanka Chaturvedi also slams Amruta over her singing.

safe to live — for innocent, self respecting citizens." Shiv Sena hit out at Amruta over her comments, and called the remarks "shameless".

Shiv Sena's Rajya Sabha MP Priyanka Chaturvedi said, "I challenge these state BJP leaders and their political aspiration bearing family accusing Mumbai Police and defaming them, to give up their police security (and) go for private agencies who can make them feel safe in the city. As wife of the former CM who was also (the) Home Minister to speak this way is shameful... Only audience forced to listen to her 'out of tune songs' is Mumbai Police."

All-out war as BMC quarantines Bihar cop until August 14



IPS officer Vinay Tiwari speaks to media after arriving in Mumbai on Sunday for investigating the actor's death case.

By Pankaj Upadhyay
in Mumbai

THE BMC (Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation) said that the Bihar Police officials who arrived in Mumbai a few days ago for the Sushant Singh Rajput death investigation misled and intimidated the agencies at the airport. Talking to India Today TV, a BMC source said that the Bihar team members assured that they were in the city for just two to three days.

The source said, "They were intimidating the staff and said they had arrived in official capacity to investigate the matter. Hence the staff at the airport couldn't pressurise them for the stamp. But they clearly misled the agencies and overstayed in the city." BMC officials said that they are not aware of the whereabouts of the Bihar Police team members in Mumbai. They ask them to come forward and volunteer to undergo quarantine.

"They could be having the symptoms as well and by roaming around they could be spreading the virus. So they should realise their responsibility and undergo quarantine," said the source. Patna SP Vinay Tiwari was put in quarantine late Sunday night. BMC says

IPS officer Vinay Tiwari says no one else from Bihar Police team was quarantined by BMC; top leaders slam isolation move.

they treated him just like any other domestic flyer as he did not have any exemption for the stay. However, speaking to India Today TV in an exclusive phone call on Monday, Tiwari narrated how he was not informed about the quarantine protocol, and even though he requested for an exemption, he was told that these guidelines need to be followed.

Tiwari then agreed, and he has been quarantined since. "Even at the airport I was not informed that I will be quarantined. The screening happened and then I was asked to leave. As is clear from the pictures, I had no quarantine stamp on my hand at the time. I reached my guest house and left for investigation. Later in the night, I got a call and I got back to the guest house around 11:30 pm. It was then that I was shown a document that stated that home quarantine is necessary... So I agreed to get stamped and inform to my senior officials," Tiwari said.

While the government is yet to come out with a statement on the issue the Opposition has hit out saying that putting the Bihar IPS officer in quarantine is an excuse and that Maharashtra government is scared of the investigation.

—www.indiatoday.in inputs



Instead of solving the mystery of Sushant Singh Rajput's death, such behaviour [putting a Bihar IPS officer in a quarantine facility] will only result into huge public outcry and disbelief amongst the people about the investigation.

—Devendra Fadnavis, Senior BJP leader

Whatever has been done to him is inappropriate. DGP Gupteshwar Pandey will himself speak to the authorities concerned. It is not a political matter. The issue at hand is a legal obligation of the Bihar police. We will make all possible efforts to fulfil the same.

—Nitish Kumar, Bihar CM

The Mumbai Police is probing the matter in a very professional manner.

—Anil Deshmukh, Maharashtra Home Minister



SISTER REMEMBERS SSR ON RAKHI

By Jyoti Kanyal in Mumbai

SUSHANT Singh Rajput's sister Shweta Singh Kirti shared a collage of old pictures of herself with the late actor and his other sisters on Raksha Bandhan. Along with the photo, she penned an emotional note remembering her only brother. Sushant is the youngest and only son among five siblings.

In the pictures shared by Shweta, Sushant's sisters could be seen tying rakhi on his wrist.

You'll always be our pride, writes Shweta

In one of the photos, their mother could also be seen enjoying the moment with her children. Shweta wrote, "Happy Rakshabandhan mera sweet sa baby... Bahut pyara karte hain hum aapko jaan... Aur hamesha karte rahenge... You were, you are and you will always be our PRIDE! @sushantsinghrajput #happyrakshabandhan (sic)."

Earlier, Sushant's eldest sister, whom they call Rani di, penned a poem for him in Hindi. A few days ago, Shweta requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to look into the case of



Shweta Singh Kirti shared a collage of old pictures of her family with Sushant Singh Rajput on Raksha Bandhan.

Sushant's death. She wrote, "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 any-

one right now. My request to you is to immediately look into this case and make sure that everything is handled in a sanitised way and no evidences are tempered with. Expecting justice to prevail (sic)."

'People will lose faith if we don't fight for them'

Former J&K CM's daughter Iltija Mufti speaks on life after Art 370

By Kamaljit Kaur Sandhu in New Delhi

A FEW days before the first anniversary of abrogation of Article 370, Iltija Mufti, daughter of former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, said People Democratic Party (PDP) will not give up on the demand of Kashmir's special status, including Article 370 and 35A.

Iltija Mufti's remark came during an exclusive conversation with India Today TV. She also asked other political parties in Jammu and Kashmir to keep fighting for the rights of the people. "If political parties in Jammu and Kashmir don't fight for statehood, Article 370 and 35A, they will lose their legitimacy," said Iltija Mufti.

Mufti highlighted that things have got worse in Jammu and Kashmir since the central government abrogated Article 370, stripping Jammu and Kashmir of its special status.

"Since the past one year in Kashmir, there is only an increased paramilitary presence, more barricades. People's voices have been stifled. People have been slapped with UAPA even if they crack a joke," she said.

She further called upon all mainstream parties to fight against the current government on matters like abrogation of Article 370 and Article 35A. "If mainstream parties do not fight for this, they will lose credibility," Mufti said.

Iltija Mufti questioned why her mother Mehbooba Mufti has not been released from detention yet. She was detained along with many other Jammu and Kashmir leaders after Article 370 was abrogated on August 5, 2019.

While most of the leaders have been released from detention, Mufti and a few others continue to remain under house arrest.

ON AYODHYA TEMPLE EVENT

Iltija Mufti also spoke about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Ayodhya and said that it sends a wrong message. According to her, the move is a diversion tactic to avoid other issues like economic slowdown, rising inflation and unemployment.

Last but not the least, Iltija Mufti also wished Union Home Minister Amit Shah a speedy recovery after he tested positive for coronavirus on Sunday.

"Wish Amit Shah well. Even if wrong was done with us. I wish him a full recovery," she said.



ON HER MOTHER'S DETENTION

They [Govt] want to make an example out of her. They want to say that, if you speak on Article 370, we'll deprive you of all your rights.

ON KASHMIR NOW

In the past one year in Kashmir, there has only been an increase in the paramilitary presence and barricades. People's voices have been stifled.

ON MODI'S AYODHYA VISIT

The timing of the Ayodhya event [Bhoomi pujan on Aug 5] is deliberate. I don't think the PM should be going to a place where a mosque was demolished for a temple to be built.

—ILTJA MUFTI, daughter of former J&K CM Mehbooba Mufti

By Kamaljit Kaur Sandhu in Jammu

OVER 4 lakh people in Jammu and Kashmir have been issued domicile certificates — official documents used to prove whether a person is a resident of a particular state/Union Territory.

A total of 3,68,500 domicile certificates were issued in Jammu and 79,300 in Kashmir Valley.

Bhola Ram (57) in Jammu, who was among the 4 lakh people to receive the domicile certificate, expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah for giving them "justice and dignity". He further said that "champions of Dalit rights" like Mayawati never spoke about their plight.

The laws introduced eight months after the abrogation of Article 370 have led to anxiety and fear in the Valley among residents as they believe that this could trigger flood-

Concern rises as 4 lakh get domicile certificates in J&K

gates for outsiders to settle in Jammu and Kashmir and alter the Muslim majority character of the region.

With domicile certificates issued to people, over 20,000 West Pakistan refugees and safai karamcharis are now entitled to legitimate domicile, giving them rights in education and jobs.

As per the new rules that came into force in May this year, people who have been living in J&K for 15 years, those who have studied in the UT for 7 years, or appeared in Class 10/2 examination from an educational institution in the region, as well as their children, are eligible for domicile.



A file photo of Lal Chowk in Srinagar.

Locals fear this will change the demography

Territory is non-negotiable, India tells China



Army trucks move towards Ladakh amid LAC border tension, at Manali-Leh highway in Kullu, on Friday.

By Gaurav Sawant in New Delhi

INDIA has firmly told China that the Indian territory was not up for negotiation. During the fifth round of Corps Commander-level talks on Sunday, a senior Indian Army official told the Chinese counterpart that India wants a complete disengagement of Chinese troops at the earliest from Pangong Tso and a couple of other friction points in eastern Ladakh, sources have told India Today TV.

The fifth round of Corps Commander-level talks began at 11 AM on Sunday at a designated meeting point in Moldo on the Chinese side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and continued beyond 10 PM.

The Indian delegation was led by Lt Gen Harinder Singh, the commander of the Leh-based 14 Corps, while the Chinese side was headed by Major General Liu Lin, commander of the

Fifth Corps Commander-level talks were held on Sunday

South Xinjiang military region.

According to sources, India stood firm on its demand for restoration of status quo ante at LAC and conveyed that there was no chance for negotiations on the

Indian territory.

Sources said that there was a forward movement on disengagement at Pangong Tso. As per sources, the disengagement process had got held up due to confusion on the ground, which now has been cleared.

Both Corps Commanders have now taken the proposals to their respective higher authorities and the disengagement will commence once both sides confirm approval of the proposals, sources said.

The two sides have also agreed on schedule and the process for disengagement, they said. The previous round of Corps Commander-level talks had taken place on July 14.

Yogi takes stock, says all Covid-19 protocol will be strictly followed

UTTAR Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday said that the COVID-19 protocol will be strictly followed during the 'bhoomi pujan' ceremony for Ram temple and only those invited should come. The chief minister, who was here to oversee preparations for the August 5 event, said it was a historic and emotional moment which will lay the foundation of a new India.

He also hit out at the Congress, saying those who are making negative comments on the event had tried to create obstacles in the construction of the Ram temple and the people of the country know about them.

"It is not only a historic but also an emotional moment as after 500 years the Ram temple work will start. It will be the foundation of a new India.



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath takes stock of preparations for the ground breaking ceremony of the 'Ram Mandir' in Ayodhya on Monday.

ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR TEMPLE GALA TOMORROW

COVID-19 protocol will be strictly followed at the event."

"As the prime minister will be here representing 135 crore people, I appeal that only those who have been invited should visit Ayodhya. The rest should remain at their respective places," Adityanath said, adding no laxity will be allowed.

Nearly 200 people have been invited for the ceremony, according to the temple trust. The chief minister urged the people to light earthen lamps, decorate temples and recite Ramayana in memory of those who laid down their lives in the temple struggle.

"For those who are keen to visit Ayodhya, arrangements will be made to bring people from every district once the coronavirus pandemic is over," he said.

**Nearly
200 people
have been invited
for the mega
event**

'WILL GO FOR RAMLALA'S DARSHAN AFTER PM'

FORMER Union minister Uma Bharti on Monday said she will go for darshan of Lord Ram in Ayodhya after PM Narendra Modi and others leave the venue of the ground-breaking ceremony for Ram temple construction there, in the wake of the coronavirus outbreak.

The 61-year-old senior BJP leader's comments came a day after Union Home Minister Amit Shah said he tested positive for the coronavirus. Bharti was among the leaders of the Ram Janambhoomi agitation and is an accused in the Babri mosque demolition case.

The ground-breaking ceremony of the Ram temple is scheduled to be held on Wednesday in Ayodhya and is expected to be attended by



**File Photo of
Uma Bharti**

PM Modi. "I will leave Bhopal today and on the way I might come in contact with a coronavirus infected person. Taking this into account, I will keep a distance from the place where PM Modi and hundreds of others will be present," Bharti tweeted in Hindi.

"I will go for darshan of Ramlala after PM and others leave the venue," she said. "I have informed senior officer-bearers of Ram Janambhoomi Nyas at Ayodhya and @PMOIndia not to incorporate my name in the list of the people during PM's function," she said. Bharti in an earlier tweet said a senior office-bearer of Ram Janambhoomi Trust directed her to reach by August 4 and be present there till August 6. —PTI

The chief minister reached Ayodhya in the afternoon and visited the Ram Janmabhoomi site where the bhoomi pujan is to be held.

He also paid obeisance to Ramlalla (the idol of Lord Ram as an infant), visited Hanuman Garhi temple and gave directions to senior officers from the dais, where the main event is scheduled to be held. Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanish Kumar Awasthi, Ayodhya District Magistrate Anuj Kumar Jha and DIG Deepak Kumar also accompanied the chief minister, a senior official said here.

The CM was scheduled to visit Ayodhya on Sunday but it was cancelled due to the death of state minister Kamla Rani Varun, who had contracted COVID-19. —PTI

**By Kumar Kunal
in New Delhi**

IT WAS 1990 October, the story for a 22 year old Kar Sevak from East Delhi's posh Vivek Vihar started. Mahendra Gupta was just a young worker being attached to Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and a regular in Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) shakhas. His training started during his teenage and by the time he was 22, he got an opportunity to participate in Ram Janmabhumi Aandolan led by then BJP president Lal Krishna Advani.

When India Today TV visited Vivek Vihar, Mahendra Gupta went into a complete flashback of what all happened almost 30 years ago. It all started when a Rath Yatra started by L K Advani during National Front government led by V P Singh in 1990. Gupta took a train to Kanpur to par-

Recalling the 1992 'Mandir Andolan'

ticipate in the Kar Sewa. But, mid-way he was arrested at Muradabad and kept in a jail with his fellow 'kar sewaks'.

Mahendra Gupta was not lucky to reach Ayodhya in 1990, but his close friend Harish Kumar Goel reached the temple town. Harish explained how difficult it was then to reach Ayodhya as the state police force was present on every route which led to the town on the bank of Saryu river. "When we reached Saryu River, the police force was deployed in thousands there so we had no option but to travel by boat to Ayodhya at night," Harish added. Both Gupta and Harish told India Today TV that 1990 movement failed as the state government 'fired' on 'kar sewaks' and ultimately L K Advani was also arrested at in Bihar. But, failure of 1990 move-



Mahendra Gupta, Harish Kumar Goel and Manish Lau, the 'kar sevaks' who went to Ayodhya in 1992.

The Kar Sevaks of Delhi: A tale of three decades



An identity card of one of the 'kar sevaks' in 1992.

ment did not deter these 'kar sewaks' and when the Kalyan Singh government was formed in UP, the 'kar sewa' started once again. Gupta describes the 1992 Aandolan as a more organised one. Manish Lau is one of the participants in that movement from Delhi in 1992. Lau explained how the planning of the movement took place. "I

was given the task to make different teams. We had to keep in mind that a team consisted of a mix of young and experienced. My job was to prepare a list of 'kar sewaks' by visiting homes across Delhi. We also prepared Identity cards for all of them."

But planning was not the only part as after the failure of 1990 movement, it was a bigger task in hand this time. The mosque in Ayodhya was demolished on 6th December 1992 by 'kar sevaks'.

30 years later, all these Kar Sewaks are living a normal life in the Capital. Mahendra Gupta runs his Store in East Delhi while others are also busy in their routine chores. They are planning a grand celebration in Vivek Vihar by lighting up Diyas and distributing 500 kg of sweets.

DAY IN WORDS

'Tamil Nadu will never allow centre's three language policy. The Prime Minister should reconsider.'

— EDAPPADI K PALANISWAMI, Tamil Nadu CM, on the three-language formula in NEP

'I don't know if I'll ever be able to live with somebody again. I don't know if I'm going to be able to deal with that ever again. I'm too old for that.'

— CHARLIZE THERON, actor, saying she doesn't want to be in a live-in relationship

'I haven't seen many players challenge him one on one. If you attack him with the ball, he can struggle.'

— KOLO TOURÉ, football coach, on Liverpool player Virgil van Dijk

DAY IN NUMBERS

127 ₹180 cr

people booked by Indore police for cheating people online with fraudulent goods worth of works dedicated to the public by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation

AROUND THE WORLD

THE GUARDIAN
ON INTERNATIONAL UNITY

Time to stop the cold war against China

FROM the beginning of this pandemic, legitimate questions have been asked about what Chinese authorities have known, and when.

The Chinese government does have questions to answer. The first case of Covid-19, took place in Wuhan on 1 December. Why did it take a whole month for Chinese authorities to report the outbreak?

A pandemic is not the time to only point fingers

There are certainly questions China should answer, but to blame China for this pandemic is to rewrite the history of Covid-19 and to marginalise the failings of western nations.

At moments of geopolitical stress, it is surely better to intensify, not weaken, personal and institutional relationships. It is better to build better understanding between peoples.

The present wave of anti-China sentiment has evolved into an unpleasant, even racist, sinophobia, which threatens international peace and security. China's 1.4 billion people are not immune from the economic shocks that are enveloping the world. A pandemic is a moment for solidarity between peoples, not conflict between governments.

DAILY HUMOUR

“Don’t stay in bed, unless you can make money in bed.”

— George Burns



SO FUNNY

I’m at a place in my life when errands are starting to count as going out.

“My greatest dream is to save women from nature.”

— Christian Dior

WHEN LIFE INSPIRES ART

K ASIF



A municipal worker stands in front of a mural on Covid-19 awareness, painted on a wall along the roadside in Delhi on Monday.

Imran and the rise of ‘Islamofascism’



by Sushant Sareen

Two years after Imran Khan got ‘selected’ as Prime Minister of Pakistan, his biggest contribution to Pakistan’s political development has been the unveiling of the Oxonian version of Pakistani Islamofascism.

Recently a photoshopped image of Imran Khan has been doing the rounds on social media. This picture shows him dressed up as a Pakistani general and sporting a Hitler moustache, and pretty much sums up the sort of regime he represents – a military controlled fascistic government. In the last two years, Imran Khan has more or less functioned like a civilian version of the former military dictator Zia-ul-Haq.

Hurting democracy

Not surprisingly, in the two years he has been in office, Imran has caused more damage to Pakistan’s fledgling democracy than any of his predecessors.

Displaying fascist traits, he has crushed political dissent, victimised political opponents, muzzled the media, bludgeoned religious minorities, inserted the military in virtually every aspect of national life, unleashed a thought police which will decide what can be published and read in the country, neutered an already pliable and compromised judiciary, and of course moved to Islamise an already Islamised country through the obnoxious Tahafiz-e-buyaad-e-Islam law passed by the Punjab provincial assembly.

The signs of Imran Khan’s fascist worldview were all over the place even before he was manœuvred into the Prime Minister’s office by the military. That he was an intolerant and undemocratic person became clear during his dharna against the Nawaz Sharif government.

The street language he used against his political opponents and the vile and vul-

gar behaviour he has displayed, and which he has always encouraged and promoted among his cronies (including members of government) revealed his mindset.

Media as target

In opposition, his storm-troopers had physically assaulted and verbally attacked journalists and media houses which didn’t buy the snake oil he was selling or had the temerity to criticise his political stunts. But after he became Prime Minister, the media has been muzzled like it was during martial law.

In the last two years, journalists have been forced out of their jobs; newspaper owners have been jailed for refusing to sack inconvenient journalists; TV programmes are yanked off air during transmission; newspaper and TV channels distribution is prevented and nobody, not even the “independent” judiciary, can do anything about it; media houses have been financially strangled if they don’t sing paeans for Imran Khan and the military; TV panels and newsrooms are stacked with appointees of the ‘deep state’; media persons have been forced to self-censor; journalists and activists have been abducted, beaten, threatened, forced into exile, disappeared, even killed.

In the words of a Pakistani journalist, “we are being controlled by [intelligence] agencies, we get calls from ISPR [the armed forces spokesman] about what we can say and what we can’t”. Under the garb of fighting corruption, political opponents have been arrested and thrown into jail without a shred of evidence against them. A top opposition leader has been booked under patently fake charges like drug smuggling, a former Prime Minister had been kept in prison for months on alleged transgressions which even the investigators were not sure about.

A former planning minister was thrown behind bars without even a ref-

erence being filed. Any politician with the spunk to speak against the government has a case registered against him.

In a recent judgment granting bail to two opposition leaders the Supreme Court of Pakistan observed that the accountability laws were successfully employed as tools to change political loyalties, for splintering and fracturing political parties. Pygmies were selected, nurtured, promoted, and brought to prominence and power. People with notorious backgrounds and criminal credentials were thrust to rule us in various capacities with predictable results.

Similarly, those, who caused death, destruction and mayhem in our society were trained, financed, protected, promoted and eulogised, thus, turning them into Frankensteins.” The judges who rule in this case were however an exception. Normally under the current dispensation, judges kowtow to the demands of the ‘deep state’. Those who have an independent mind and don’t kowtow are humiliated, intimidated and sought to thrown off the bench.

Not content with emasculating the judiciary, en chaining the media, and reducing the legislature into a non-entity, now the executive branch of the government is also sought to be made subservient to the military and its foreign masters – China.

A new draft law to transform the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) authority into a virtual parallel government which will subordinate existing government departments and ministries is now sought to be rammed through the Parliament. If this happens, it will mean that instead of CPEC serving Pakistan, it will be Pakistan which will be serving CPEC.

A miserable failure

In the last two years, Imran Khan has proved to be a miserable failure who has in many ways turned the clock back for Pakistan. Frankly, India should send a Thank You card to his ‘selectors’ – Pakistan Army – for foisting him on Pakistan. India really couldn’t have asked for anything more.

The writer is Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation. The views expressed are personal



KOLKATA DIARIES

ROMITA DATTA

Mukul Roy's long absence makes him conspicuous

THIS is not the season of mango blossoms (*mukul*), but people are curious to know why senior BJP leader Mukul Roy is absent from the scene in Bengal.

These days he's seldom seen at the BJP's party office or in press conferences. The murmur in the air is that he's maintaining social distance with the party. Physically he's maintaining a good 10-12 km distance from BJP's party office at central Kolkata by operating from his home-cum-office at Salt Lake. Emotionally he's disconnected from current party echelons and *karyakartas*, who are controlling Bengal politics. But he's active in the national sphere. He's been to Delhi a couple of times even amid the Coronavirus situation. More than a month ago when Trinamool Congress defectors and Mukul Roy loyalists such as MPs Saumitra Khan and Arjun Singh made it to the list of BJP office bearers with key posts, Roy was conspicuously left out. Despite being in the party since 2017 and helping the Bengal BJP win in the 2019 Lok Sabha, Roy's presence in the party, without a post, was like an adjunct, to help facilitate a common purpose to which the party and the individual (read Roy) were committed and found it mutually conducive.

In the words of Home Minister Amit Shah, "Mukul Roy jo Mamata ko ukharke phenkne ko acaye hain," Mukul Roy is the one who has come to BJP to uproot CM Mamata Banerjee.

The introductory foreword, Shah uses for Roy in all public rallies means that Roy's purpose of being in the party is synonymous and intrinsic with the reason and motive behind his deserting the Trinamool Congress. So honouring him with a post is irrelevant. His job is cut out for him and he's at it—irrespective of whether posts and

These days Roy is seldom seen at the BJP's party office or press conferences or other such gatherings



BJP president Dilip Ghosh

trappings are bestowed on him. So when there were rumours that Roy was exploring a return to his old party and revisiting his old contacts, Roy neither refuted nor confirmed them. Political observers kept a watch on the signs. One day it was circulated that Roy, miffed over not being given any portfolio in the party or in the cabinet expansion, left the party's meeting with Shah and BJP president JP Nadda midway and headed to Kolkata from Delhi. State BJP president Dilip Ghosh had to explain: "Mukul da is suffering from an eye problem and he had to come back for an urgent injection."

Meanwhile, words of him being wooed by the Trinamool Congress made frequent rounds as Rajya Sabha MP, now with Trinamool—Kunal Ghosh,



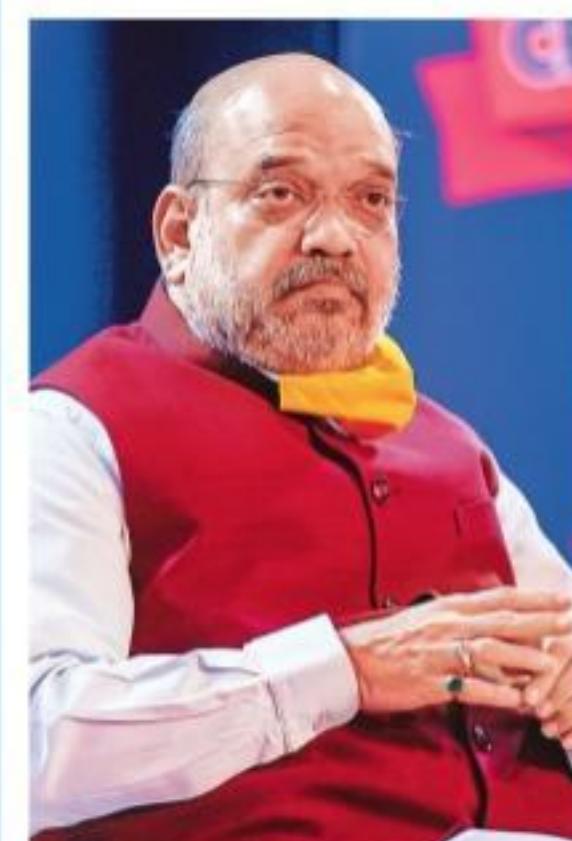
Mukul Roy is credited with the BJP's rise in West Bengal in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

dropped in at Roy's residence in Kolkata for long chats. Roy, invisible from the BJP podium and programmes, hit the news as curiosity sought an explanation for his all-on-a-sudden low-key profile. Egged on by Roy's absence, stories kept floating from the rival camp that the leader's son was preparing to cross-over and he will help in making that road smooth.

Many of Roy's followers chose to remain passive which at this juncture was affecting the party the most. So Roy emerged to announce that he was very much in the BJP and there was no question of going back to his old party. He's steadfast on his mission. As for the BJP, it is also thinking of honouring him with a post and a responsibility which will give him a new josh on his mission.

The writer is Associate Editor, India Today.

Didi's message to Shah



Home Minister Amit Shah

WHEN it comes to showing courtesy, no one can do it better than Mamata. When she heard Amit Shah was Covid struck, she quickly sent him 'Get well soon' messages.

The CM's expression of 'being with the family' at this hour of crisis sounded more like a parting speech. Someone in the BJP pointed out that she was shedding crocodile tears. In fact, she was effusive to know that Covid had finally got Shah. After all he's her bete noire and often gives her sleepless nights by his battle cry of Bengal expedition.

Constant changes in lockdown roster

Empty streets in Kolkata as the lockdown schedule is revised



THE CM's lockdown roster had to be changed at least four times within a span of 24 hours. The reason, best known to herself, was religion and to keep people of different religious beliefs, caste and creed happy. And in doing so she ended up irritating people. Changes popping up every half an hour left the masses confused. Is this a government or a merry-go-round?

No procession for Ayodhya bhoomi pujan

BENGAL, by clamping complete lockdown on August 5, has closed the door of a grand celebration in the state on the occasion of bhoomi-pujan in Ayodhya.

The saffron brigade is miffed as well as happy. After all they got an issue on the platter to trumpet their allegation of minority appeasement against Mamata.



CM Mamata Banerjee

A NOVEL RAKHI CELEBRATION

RAKSHA Bandhan in times of Covid has transformed itself to Mask Bandhan in Bengal. The Trinamool Congress is known for celebrating Rakhi by organising rakhi-tying events in every locality.

The CM loves tying rakhis. But it's everyone who gets her blessings and rakhis. Party leaders must assess their position in the party vis-a-vis Mamata through events like Raksha Bandhan and who gets invited to her house. Covid has now

changed it all. Mamata is not allowing anyone within one metre of her. But Raksha Bandhan cannot be missed, as the Trinamool

CM loves tying rakhis during the festival

Congress loves celebrating this festival of communal harmony, the way Tagore wanted. In the days of social distancing tying rakhis will be a risky propo-

sition, so Mamata thinks. To make the 2020 Raksha Bandhan festival unique, she has announced celebrating the festival by tying of masks on one another, not that it's something that can be practiced at an arm's length.

"Bangla Amar Ma" masks specially tailored by SHG groups have flooded the market and Mamata is distributing three crore of these masks free of cost.

Never mind, if there are takers or not.

EDUCATION

With institutions revisiting admission deadlines and switching to e-learning, students are facing a big dilemma

By Kuheli Sen

THE only thing certain in Covid-19 times is uncertainty. And if you are a student hoping to pursue your education in a foreign university or have already enrolled in one, this uncertainty is manifold — over admission, how classes will be conducted, visa, lodging, and more. The fallout of the contagion is affecting the estimated 10.9 lakh Indians studying abroad according to data by Ministry of External Affairs.

As of July 15, more than 6.87 lakh Indians, many of them students, had been repatriated via the Vande Bharat Mission. Sameeksha Nair, a student who returned home to Chennai in June, says, "I will remember this travel experience for the rest of my life, just like this pandemic. I was fearful of catching the virus but was more scared of missing my flight! I'm glad a lot of security screening and procedures have been put in place, which though tiring and time-consuming are for our safety after all." She now looks to go back to her university for the winter session as her classes have been shifted online.

FUTURE IMPERFECT

With Class XII results delayed, the hope of studying abroad in the fall semester has further dimmed for most aspirants at the graduate level. Also, changing visa regulations have made prospects more uncertain. The US, for instance, recently revoked the decision that would have forced foreign students to leave the US if their university courses went online in view of the pandemic. Adding further relief was news from Australia with five key changes in visa policy that accommodates Indian students looking to pursue higher education in the country.

A recent report by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) that rates global educational institutions, says more than 48 per cent Indian students aspiring to study abroad have been hit by the pandemic. Its *Indian*

There has been widespread confusion & terror among the university community from the moment Coronavirus was declared a pandemic.

—DARSAN RANJIT, Student



Students now have to complete their semesters over Zoom calls...not exactly the experience they signed up for. No one wants to go to Zoom university!

—SHRESHTA KHETAN, Co-founder, UniRely

I will remember this experience, just like this pandemic. I was fearful of catching the virus but was more scared of missing my flight!

—SAMEEKSHA NAIR, Student



TO STUDY, OR NOT TO STUDY ABROAD?

Students' Mobility Report 2020: Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education Choices says that a large number of "non-STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) students" have "reconsidered their decision to pursue higher education outside India".

"There has been widespread confusion and terror among the university community from the moment the Coronavirus was declared a pandemic," says Darsan Ranjit, an engineering student in one of Canada's premier universities. "This was followed by suspension of in-person classes and closure of campus residences so I returned to India this month."

"Currently, on-campus activities at university campuses abroad have been cancelled," concurs Aradhana Mahna, MD, Manya — The Princeton Review, a company that provides end-to-end solutions for overseas education requirements. "The coursework and research for various programmes are being delivered online. Several students are facing issues in obtaining good internships." While most colleges are deferring in-person classes, the winter session holds out hope for students. Online classes can be difficult for many though. Darsan rues the fees he continues to pay albeit for online classes now. "I grasp concepts in a classroom where I can interact with professors and my peers," he adds.

For years, US universities have been among the first choices for Indian students but today, the education sector in the US and

DATA ON INDIAN STUDENTS ABROAD

■ A report by Quacquarelli Symonds says more than 48% Indian students aspiring to study abroad have been hit by the pandemic.

■ As of July 15, more than 6.87 lakh Indians, many of them students, had been repatriated via the Vande

Bharat Mission.

■ Research by Manya — The Princeton Review estimated that about 73% of study abroad aspirants are determined to continue with their study abroad plans, unaffected by the virus outbreak.

even countries in Europe and South-East Asia have been severely affected. In a statement to the MAIL TODAY, the United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF) said the Coronavirus has had an "unprecedented impact on the global economy" but held out hope for the future. "Once a student commits to a US college or university, s/he can rely on that university to provide updated information and help him/her navigate through the current period of uncertainty," it said.

With well-known institutions revisiting admission deadlines even as e-learning is adapted across regions as the only available option, the dilemma is real. However, as college counselling platform UniRely's co-founder Shreshta Khetan says, "No one wants to go to Zoom university!" Foreign education comes at a premium, and with classes going online, whether it is prudent to pay the same price for online instructions as an in-per-

son experience is the question aspirants are faced with.

Outlining the options for 2020 aspirants, Mahna suggests two plans, "Pursue Fall 2020 programme online in case you have been accepted — students could save on living costs for a semester or so. Plan B could be to defer admission till the next intake or 2021. You must check whether a university is open to deferral though." Agreeing with Mahna, UniRely's co-founder Srishti Mittal adds, "They can take this time to learn by doing projects, internships and more. I feel that these challenging times are affecting students who are applying to colleges in India and abroad alike."

IS THERE HOPE?

Mittal is sure of it. "We are getting several questions about what the future would look like and if the students should consider applying abroad at all. I think the situation will be better in a few months, so the student will not lose

their entire college experience." "Studying online will not affect international students' visa eligibility status. A sense of normalcy will be restored sooner or later and by the time they graduate, there will be no dearth of employment opportunities," reassures Mahna. "As per our in-depth research and analysis," adds the Manya MD, "it is estimated that about 73 per cent of study abroad aspirants are determined to continue with their study abroad plans, unaffected by the virus outbreak. In the later stage, there is intense optimism about the situation normalising." While some countries might see a temporary lull, educational consultants are predicting higher interest in regions such as Japan, New Zealand and Australia even as the domestic market sees a considerable boost. As Mahna looks at it, "The primitive nature of humans is to stay optimistic. This is the best time for aspirants to look inwards and engage in high-level soul searching. Hang in there!"

An estimated 10.9L Indians are studying abroad

MAIL

IMAGE FOR REPRESENTATION



While most colleges are deferring in-person classes, the winter session holds out hope for Indian students pursuing education from foreign universities.

'It is time to help students put on their thinking caps'

COVID-19 has brought the world to its knees, changing the normal, unbalancing systems, and spreading chaos and fear in its path. Yet, there is one system, which is unwilling to yield to the change it demands.

Our education system, which wants to remain fossilised in the depths of time, is stubborn to hold the hands of progress that so desperately reach to save it. In a time when people shudder to step out of their homes, schools and colleges across our country are deciding how to evaluate a student's 'learning' for the year. The ever-constant dilemma of how to allot marks to students and classify their capabilities that in turn determine their success in life, is driving institutions over the edge.

'We must acclimatise to the situation and come up with alternatives'

I want to highlight an important opportunity this pandemic presents for the education that we impart to our youth. In light of the pandemic, we have to acclimatise to the situation and come up with alternatives that we didn't think were possible earlier. This is the perfect time for innovation and to create a new normal.

Our education system has seldom relied on hands-on learning concepts to battle real-time challenges. We have always relied on exams and evaluations as the experience that students need to wield what we teach them. We hardly bother giving them the opportunity to shape the world around them.

However, this Covid-19 crisis has provided a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to modify our

traditions and start training sessions.

Education, healthcare, transportation, social distancing, prevention, cure... these demand immediate attention. Most corporates now see an opportunity to test new business models. But why should only CEOs, who are aged above 40, get to shape our future? Why can't students across India use these as starting points to ideate, brainstorm, and offer a new perspective? Why can't we use this time to help students put on their thinking caps?

Yes, most of these students will fail. But they will also get up and charge at an age, which is best to pursue success. Why are we so worried about marks and exams at a time when we should harness our youth to unleash their [a student's] potential. Why not take this 'break' from studies to do something groundbreaking? Why not have ideating sessions to solve real-time issues and come up with new solutions that might surprise industry experts?

Even if we are able to harness 1 per cent of their potential, it could be game-changing in this battle against Coronavirus. But if you make them stick to the standard textbook studying, at a time when the world needs fresh ideas the most, we will hammer the final nail in the coffin.

Students don't necessarily need to build start-ups to bring their perspective to life. They can just have a vision, which people with the required skills and expertise can then work on. Textbooks and theories are important but a month of ideating can bring such visions to life. If even it is for a short duration, our system can incentivise and promote innovation in any and every form. With no limitations on what we can think and no barriers of a grade, we can revolutionise an entire generation of our youth!

—The writer Araz Sharma is pursuing B-Tech in Computer Science & Engineering at PES University, Bengaluru. The views expressed are personal.

■ ON THE SPOT ■ Valuable workers create a culture of responsibility

EDUCATION MAIL lines up some of the country's top hiring executives and finds out what they look for while selecting a candidate for a corporate role

■ Talent spotters now regard potential as one of the key employee attributes for hiring. How do you spot potential and passion during a job interview?

To spot potential, we generally look into their previous experiences, background and scope out areas that demonstrate their passion for the field. We also look into career goals to determine how ambitious the person is. We try to understand — Will they be able to step out of their comfort zone? What are some of their noteworthy achievements? How flexible are they? Will they be a team player? We conduct multiple rounds of interviews to understand all this and determine if they'd be well-suited for the role.

■ What are some of the other essential attributes you look for in a job applicant?

Firstly, a positive attitude towards work and the willingness to take up challenges are important. Besides that, pushing themselves to come out of their comfort zone, an interest in learning and showcasing high energy levels are a few other essential attributes we look out for in applicants.

■ What are some of the common issues, which you confront in graduates while hiring?

At Vuram, we consider graduates as the best hires; they are bursting with enthusiasm, extremely talented, and willing to learn. While we certainly value fresh talent out of college, one common issue we face is that some of them are not clear about what they want to do at the start. This lack of clarity leads to dissatisfaction with the work and eventually, it causes them to quit. It is advisable for candidates to be clear with what they want out of their career well ahead to save them the disappointment later and ensure that they're not wasting precious years of their professional life.

■ How crucial is a candidate's domain knowledge when it comes to hiring and what is your experience on this front from campuses?

Having domain knowledge helps them understand and learn



SURESH KUMAR C., Director of People Team — Vuram, a hyper-automation services company

things faster but it is certainly not highly crucial. More than domain knowledge, what we look for is an interest in learning. If the person is interested to learn, up-skilling and imparting domain knowledge becomes easy.

■ What is the transitional change, which a candidate has to be prepared for when he/she enters the job market from campus? Also, what's the role of social media in hiring candidates?

A few pointers to keep in mind are being prepared to come out of the comfort zone, taking ownership, learning from mistakes, being a team player, adopting new technology and respecting people, work and time. Today, almost every job seeker is active on social media. Leveraging social media should thus be an integral part of any organisation's recruitment strategy. Many potential candidates maintain an excellent social media presence, so it becomes easy for recruiters to identify and reach out. A lot of passive candidates with a good background and experience can be targeted with social media hiring. Organisations can also garner popularity among job seekers by featuring content and promoting it on major social media channels.

■ How can a candidate make himself/herself valuable in his line of work?

Taking ownership of any work and inculcating a culture of accountability makes a person valuable in his/her line of work.

AUGUST 5

IS the last date to apply for admissions for SCOR full-time online programme for a Post Graduation in Public Relations (PGPR). The institute is offering two fully paid fellowships, which will be taken care of by New Delhi-based PR firm Kaizen under Kaizen Fellowship — through which the firm will fully fund the tuition fee of two candidates belonging to financially weak backgrounds. In

addition, several scholarships for students are available too.

The 10-month PGPR programme, begins on August 14, and is ideal for graduates who are looking to build a strong foundation for a career in Public Relations and Corporate Communications. Any graduate who can commit to eight hours of learning per day may apply for this course. For more details, log on to www.scoreindia.org

■ DATE ALERT ■

WORLDLY WISE

Vietnam is in the midst of a 'decisive' fight against the coronavirus, its premier said on Monday, focusing on the city of Danang, where cases have appeared in four factories.



'The WHO team that travelled to China has now concluded their mission to lay the groundwork for further joint efforts to identify the virus origins...'

— TEDROS A GHEBREYESUS, WHO CHIEF

THE number of coronavirus cases recorded worldwide topped 18 million on Monday with the illness continuing its march, after Australia's second-largest city imposed a curfew to halt the spread.

Six months after the World Health Organization declared a global emergency, the virus has killed more than 687,000 people since it first emerged in China late last year, according to an AFP tally.

Fresh clusters have been reported in countries that had previously brought their outbreaks under control, forcing governments to reimpose lockdown measures despite worries over further economic fallout.

Australia's Victoria state imposed fresh, sweeping restrictions on Sunday, including a curfew in Melbourne for the next six weeks, a ban on wedding gatherings, and an order that schools and universities go back online in the coming days. Anything short of this will see it drag on for months and months and months, Victoria premier Daniel Andrews said of the outbreak.

Daily surge

Despite a lockdown, Melbourne has continued to report hundreds of new cases daily even as other states in Australia have reported zero or a small number. Many other parts of the world are struggling with much bigger outbreaks.

Health authorities in South Africa, where a surge in cases had been expected after the gradual loosening of a strict lockdown, reported that infections exceeded the half-million mark. The nation is by far the hardest-hit in Africa, accounting for more than half of diagnosed infections, although President Cyril Ramaphosa said the fatality rate is lower than the global average.

200K dead in Latin America

Latin America and the Caribbean passed another milestone on Sunday as fatalities in the region climbed to more than 200,000, with Brazil and Mexico accounting for nearly three-quarters. Iran — battling the Middle East's deadliest outbreak — reported its highest single-day infection count in nearly a month, warning that most of its provinces have been hit by a resurgence of the disease.

With infections and deaths soaring, the UN health agency has said the coronavirus pandemic is likely to be protracted and warned of possible response fatigue.

The WHO continues to assess the global risk level of COVID-19 to be very high, the agency said, adding that the effects of the pandemic will be felt for decades to come.

Mexico overtook Britain to become the third hardest-hit country in virus deaths — after Brazil and the United States — with more than 46,600 fatal cases. The US has now tallied more than 4.6 million cases and 154,793 deaths.

Fresh outbreak in Europe

In Europe, where many countries had hoped their outbreaks had been brought under control, Norway recorded its first virus death in two weeks and Switzer-

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

land reported its case numbers had crept up again. Despite the resurgence, Europe has seen demonstrations against coronavirus curbs. Thousands protested in Berlin over the weekend urging a day of freedom from the restrictions, with some demonstrators dubbing the pandemic the biggest conspiracy theory.

The protests, in which many demonstrators failed to wear masks or respect social distancing rules, triggered calls for tougher penalties against those who violate curbs.

The WHO's mission in China laying the groundwork for an investigation into the animal origins of the coronavirus pandemic has concluded, the UN health agency said on Monday.

"The WHO advance team that travelled to China has now concluded their mission to lay the groundwork for further joint efforts to identify the virus origins," the agency's chief Tedros Ghebreyesus told a virtual press conference.

—AFP

UK TO ROLL OUT MILLIONS OF 90-MINUTE COVID TESTS

MILLIONS of COVID-19 tests able to detect the virus within 90 minutes will be rolled out in Britain, the country's health minister said on Monday, after criticism there has not been enough testing especially in nursing homes.

Last week, one of Britain's largest care home providers CareUK said the government is unable to meet its promise to regularly test staff and residents in care homes after problems were discovered with the kits currently being used.

Capacity will be boosted at hospitals, care homes and laboratories starting from next week, the government said on Monday, comprising 5.8 million tests using DNA and 450,000 swab tests. Neither will need to be administered by a health professional.

"The fact these tests can

Over 46,000 people have died in Britain so far



A woman wearing a face mask walks past a store in Manchester, on Monday.

detect flu as well as COVID-19 will be hugely beneficial as we head into winter, so patients can follow the right advice to protect themselves and others," said health minister Matt Hancock. "We are on track to deliver half a million tests a day by the end of October but new technologies like these two will help us to accelerate that," he said.

Britain's healthcare system has come under severe strain during peaks in the country's COVID-19 outbreak, which has killed more than 46,000 people. —Reuters



Two women wearing face masks in front of St. Basil's Cathedral in downtown Moscow..

RUSSIA said Monday it aims to launch mass production of a coronavirus vaccine next month and turn out several million doses per month by next year.

The country is pushing ahead with several vaccine prototypes and one prepared at the Gamaleya institute in Moscow has reached advanced stages of development. "We are very

Experts compare it to Soviet era space race

much counting on starting mass production in September," industry minister Denis Manturov said in an interview published by TASS news agency.

"We will be able to ensure production volumes of several hundred thousand a month, with an eventual increase to

several million by the start of next year," he said.

Health Minister Mikhail Murashko on Saturday said the Gamaleya vaccine had completed clinical trials and that documents were being prepared to register it with the state.

"Another vaccine, developed by Siberia-based Vektor lab, is currently undergoing clinical trials and two more will begin human testing within the next two months," Murashko said.

Scientists have told AFP that Russia will struggle to adapt the vaccine to mass production because the country lacks raw materials, adequate facilities and experience. Some Russian officials have boasted that the country will be the first to come up with the vaccine, even comparing it to the space race to produce the first satellite in the Soviet era.

—AFP

GLOBAL CORONA CASES TOP 18MN

Strict curfew in Melbourne for six weeks



Pedestrians wearing face masks are seen outside Flinders Street Station as the city operates under lockdown restrictions to curb the spread of the coronavirus disease in Melbourne, Australia on Monday.

Russia aims to produce 'millions' of doses by '21



Two women wearing face masks in front of St. Basil's Cathedral in downtown Moscow..

Exposed! China actions before Ladakh standoff

Underground vaults hint at nuclear facilities at Kashgar, 500 kms from border

By Col Vinayak Bhat in New Delhi

AN UNDERGROUND vault construction in China's Kashgar airbase months before the India-China standoff started in Ladakh shows how People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) has been ramping up infrastructure for air power, satellite images analysed by India Today's OSINT team suggest.

The underground construction that could be used to conceal nuclear warheads is among the many strategies adopted by China taking an aggressive stand against India including the deployment of its H-6 bomber aircraft in Kashgar. The H-6

China has a 'No First Use' nuclear policy

bomber aircraft was recently part of war games in the South China Sea.

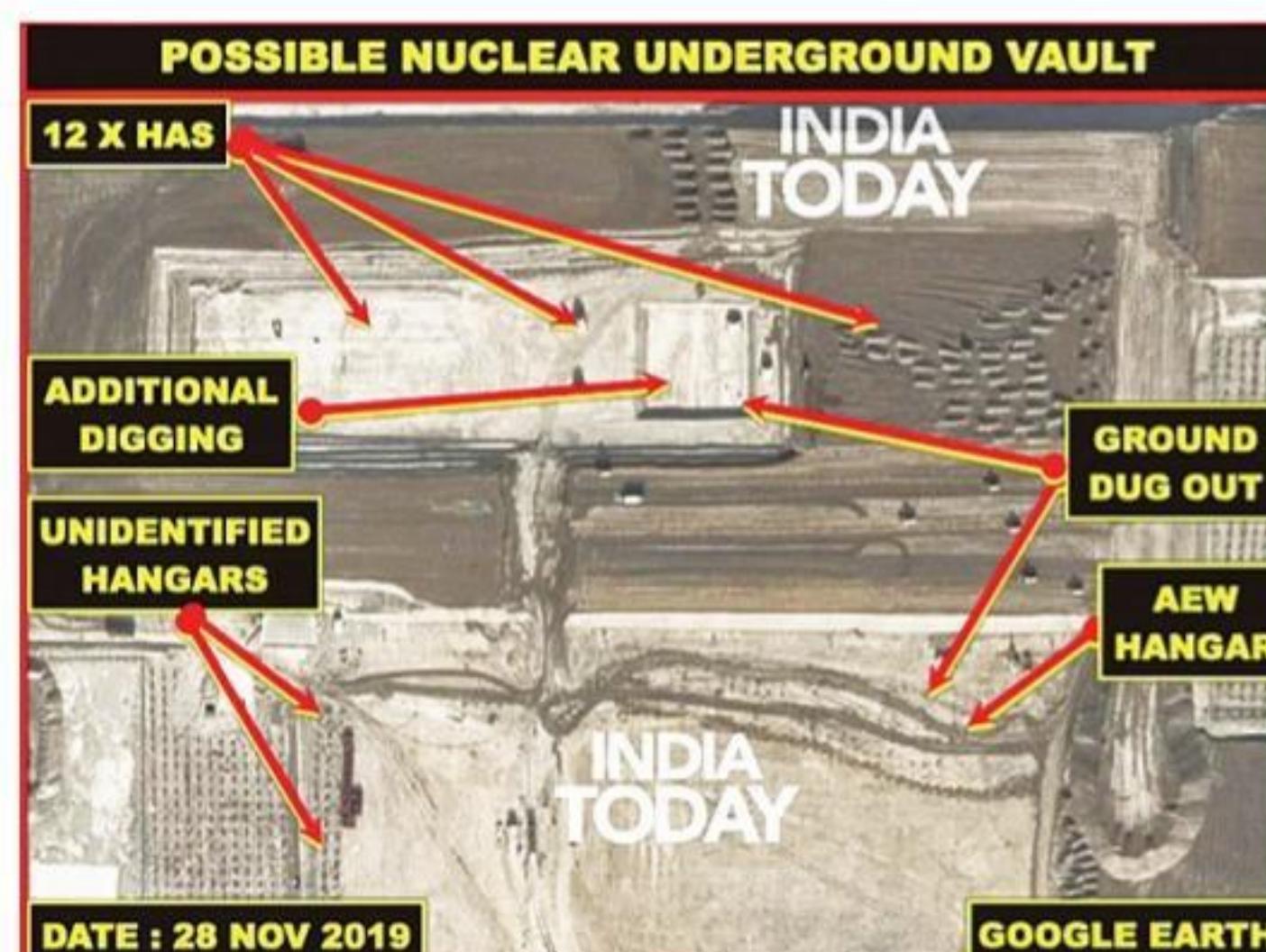
The Kashgar airbase is 475 km away from the Karakoram Pass and is seen as a direct deployment against India.

From the Finger 4 area of the Pangong Lake that has been the biggest flashpoint, Kashgar is 690 km. The distance of Daulat Beg Oldie, India's airfield in eastern Ladakh at more than 16,000 feet, the distance to Kashgar is 490 km.

India Today's OSINT team analysed satellite images from Google Earth over the last eight months to study the changes at



A file photo of the Chinese H-6 bomber that has been seen in Kashgar since early June.



A graphical representation of the nuclear vault at Kashgar.

the airbase.

The Kashgar airport has been a dual use airport put to civilian and military use like every other border airport.

These vaults being under the Hardened Aircraft Shelters (HAS) can provide protection from direct attack as well as deny

satellite/aerial observation during preparation for use of the weapons.

The construction of the underground vault started late last year, much before the India-China standoff in Ladakh, the satellite imagery indicates.

In an image of Nov 28, 2019

HIDDEN DRAGON

■ Construction of the possible underground vault in Kashgar started late last year, satellite imagery indicate, but there have been recent additions to it.

■ Sources said such underground vaults seems

to suggest the presence of secret weapons or nuclear heads.

■ The Kashgar airbase is 475 km away from the Karakoram Pass and is seen as a direct deployment against India.

some work at the air field with additional digging & 12 hardened aircraft shelters, can be seen.

HIDING SOMETHING?

A former Indian Air Force officer who has been in-charge of the western air command that is responsible for air operations in Ladakh as well, said earlier the aircraft were parked in the open at Kashgar.

"If shelters and underground facilities are there, then that has to be a recent development. If they need to cover the aircraft & have underground facilities one can sense they are trying to keep something secret," the officer who did not wish to be identified, said.

The underground vaults are weapons storage and security systems built under the floors of protective aircraft shelters.

These are built to avoid carriage of nuclear weapons from the weapon storage area to the aircraft which otherwise would require protection party during even the small movements.

Sources said such underground vault seems to suggest the presence of secret weapons or nuclear heads.

(Col Vinayak Bhat (Retd) is a consultant for India Today. A satellite imagery analyst, he served in the Indian Army for over 33 years)

Pak court: India can hire its lawyer in Jadhav case

By Geeta Mohan in New Delhi

ISLAMABAD High Court on Monday adjourned the Kulbhushan Jadhav case till September 3.

The court was to hear the plea submitted by the Pakistan government against Indian prisoner Kulbhushan Jadhav's sentence on Monday on the basis of the Presidential Ordinance that allows the review of a decision of the military court in a civilian court.

Speaking to the media in the court premises, Attorney General Khalid Javed Khan confirmed that the courts have allowed India to hire a lawyer, but it cannot be an Indian.

He said, "The court has said that if we want to change the lawyer or if the Indian govern-



Kulbhushan Jadhav

ment wants to engage a counsel themselves then they should be allowed to do that."

To a question on whether the Indian mission in Islamabad can engage an Indian lawyer or not, the Attorney General said, "Only Pakistani lawyers, those who are entitled to practice in Pakistan will be allowed. Indian legal representative is not an option for now. Let's see who they engage."

In a unilateral move, Pakistan filed the petition in the Islamabad High Court on July 22, seeking the appointment of a "legal representative" for Jadhav.

Microsoft says it will continue discussions to buy TikTok in US

TECHNOLOGY giant Microsoft has said it will continue talks to purchase the popular Chinese-owned video-sharing app TikTok's American business after its India-born CEO Satya Nadella and President Donald Trump had a conversation.

Trump had earlier warned of banning it

The statement from Microsoft came days after Trump said that he could use the emergency economic powers or an executive order to ban TikTok in the US over national security issues.

Redmond-headquartered Microsoft, in a statement on Sunday, said that following a conversation between Nadella and Trump, it is prepared to continue discussions to explore a purchase of TikTok in the US.

"Microsoft fully appreciates the importance of addressing the President's concerns. It is committed to acquiring TikTok sub-



A file photo of Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella who has spoken to US President Donald Trump on the matter.

ject to a complete security review and providing proper economic benefits to the United States, including the United States Treasury," the statement said.

Microsoft will move quickly to pursue discussions with TikTok's parent company ByteDance in a

matter of weeks and will complete these discussions in any event by September 15, it said.

During this process, Microsoft looks forward to continuing dialogue with the United States government, including with the President, the company said. —PTI

China suspends HK extradition treaty with NZ

Many Western powers halted such treaties with Hong Kong

CHINA suspended Hong Kong's extradition treaty with New Zealand on Monday amid a row with Western nations protesting against a tough new security law that Beijing imposed on the city. New Zealand is the latest to join a string of Western powers — including Canada, Britain, Australia and Germany — that have suspended extradition treaties with Hong Kong since the controversial law was introduced in late June, according to reports.

China has already hit back by suspending Hong Kong's extradition treaties with Canada, Britain and Australia. "New Zealand's practices... grossly interfere in China's internal affairs," Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said, announc-

ing Beijing's decision to suspend any judicial cooperation with Wellington.

Critics say the security law will erode civil liberties and human rights enjoyed by residents in the former British colony, which was returned to China in 1997.

New Zealand has also tightened restrictions on military and dual-use exports to Hong Kong. Its latest travel advice to Kiwi citizens in the territory said the security law had led to an increased



REUTERS

(Above) People walk past a giant screen showing a news footage of Chinese President Xi Jinping wearing a face mask, at a shopping area in Beijing in China.



(L) People supporting Hong Kong's pro-democracy movement attend the 'Delay No More, Democracy' march in Times Square New York City in US.

decided to rescind Hong Kong's special trading privileges after the new law was enacted. Meanwhile, France has decided not to ratify the extradition agreement with Hong Kong as China's central government in Beijing imposed a new national security law

on the city. The French Foreign Ministry's spokesperson said in a written statement on Monday that in light of the latest developments, France would not proceed with the ratification of the 2017 extradition deal with Hong Kong as it stands. —Agencies

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E-TENDER NOTICE
Tenders are invited from original manufacturer, authorized distributors/ stockists/ dealers and reputed firms for purchase of seed sampling equipments for Nine Co-Op Sugar mills in Punjab.
Part-A:- 1. Cocopeat Bricks, 2. Seedling Trays 42 and 60 Cups.

TERMS & CONDITIONS :- The detailed NIT forms can be collected from mills office on any working day. Tender will be opened on dated 10.08.2020, at 10:00 AM and negotiations will be held if required on the same day at 11:00 AM. Corrigendum if any will be uploaded website only. The undersigned reserve the right to reject/ postpone any/all tenders without assigning any reason.
(Shivraj Pal Singh Dhaliwal)
General Manager M: 98726-00033

ਦੀ ਅਜਨਲਾ ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਖੱਡ ਮਿਲਸ਼ ਲਿਮਿਟਡ ਭੁੱਲ ਪਿੰਡ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਅਜਨਲਾ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ
ਫੋਨ ਨੰ: 01858-505454, 01858-505444 Email : ajnalacsm@gmail.com website : www.ajnalsugar.in
ਈ-ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ
ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਸਕਰੈਪ ਵੇਚਣ ਬਾਰੇ
ਮਿਲ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੋਲਿਆਂ ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਸਕਰੈਪ ਈ-ਟੈਂਡਰ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਵੇਚਿਆ ਜਾਣਾ ਹੈ। ਵੇਰਵਾ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਪੱਧਰ ਵਿੱਚ
ਐਮ.ਐਸ. ਸਕਰੈਪ, ਗਾਇਲਰ ਟੀਅਨਾਂ ਟਿਊਬਾਂ, ਬਰਾਸ ਟਿਊਬਾਂ, ਸਥਾਨਸੀਬਲ ਪੈਪ, ਲੋਹੇ ਦੇ ਭਰੀਂ, ਪਲਾਸਟਿਕ ਕੇਲ, ਨਿਕਲ ਸਕਰੀਨ, ਬ੍ਰਾਸ ਲਈਨ, ਐਸ.ਐਸ ਸਕਰੀਨ, ਜੀ.ਐਸ.ਸੀ.ਟ, ਲਾਈਨ, ਏ.ਸੀ.ਸਪਲੀਟ, ਪੱਲੀਥ ਸੀਟ, ਪੀ.ਈ.ਸੀ. ਪੱਟੀ, ਐਸ.ਐਸ. ਪੱਟੀ, ਬੈਰਿੰਗ, ਇਲੈਕਟਰੀਕਲ ਮੋਟਰ, ਕੰਪਿਊਟਰ, ਮੋਬਾਈਲ 15% ਅਤੇ ਪੁਰਾਣੀ ਟੀ.ਈ. 29%。
ਉਪਰਾਂ ਕੇਂਦਰੀ ਕੰਡੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੋਲਿਆਂ ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਆਖਰੀ ਮਿਤੀ 19.08.2020 ਨੂੰ ਸਵੇਰੇ 11.00 ਵਜੇ ਤੱਕ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ ਅਤੇ
ਗਲਬਾਤ ਦੀ ਦਿਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੋਵੇਂ ਵਾਲੀ ਪਾਰਦੀ ਨਾਲ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਇਸ ਦੀ E/M Rs. 100000/- ਰੁਪਏ
ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਜੇਕਰ ਇਸ ਵਿੱਚ ਕੋਈ ਸੋਧ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ ਉਹ ਮਿਲ ਦੀ ਵੈਬਸਾਈਟ ਤੇ ਪਾਸੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਨਿਮਨ
ਹਸਤਾਖਸ਼ੀ ਨੂੰ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ। ਸਿਵਰਨਾਪਾਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਯਾਲੀਵਾਲ, 98726-00033, ਜਨਰਲ ਮੈਨੈਜਰ



New Zealand interferes in Chinese affairs, says Foreign Ministry.

'Political titan'
John Hume, a Nobel laureate, passes away

JOHN HUME, the Roman Catholic architect of Northern Ireland's 1998 Good Friday peace agreement, who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in ending 30 years of sectarian violence, died on Monday at the age of 83. World leaders and former leaders praised him as a "political titan", visionary and hero for the Irish people.

A veteran civil rights campaigner credited with kick-starting peace negotiations in a British region convulsed by bloodshed in the early 1990s, Hume shared the Peace Prize

AFP



with Northern Ireland's then-first minister, David Trimble of the Protestant Ulster Unionist Party. He died in a care home in his native Londonderry in the early hours of Monday, his family said in a statement.

"John Hume was a political titan; a visionary who refused to believe the future had to be the same as the past. His contribution to peace in Northern Ireland was epic," former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, in office at the time of the Good Friday accord, said. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson also called Hume a "political giant". —Reuters

Landslides due to rain kill 10 in Nepal, toll 177

HEAVY rain in Nepal triggered landslides on Monday that killed eight labourers at a construction site and two members of a family, taking the toll in floods and landslides to 177 since late May. Elsewhere in South Asia, the rainy season brought more misery with at least 135 people killed in Bangladesh since late June in the longest-running floods there in more than two decades.

Nepali government official Murari Wasti said the labourers were sleeping in a tin-roofed shelter near the capital, Kathmandu, when the landslide hit. "Rescuers dug through the mud and took out all eight bodies," Wasti said. One injured labourer had been taken to hospital. A second landslide nearby killed a woman and her husband. Wasti said 57 people were missing and 111 injured in floods or landslides caused by the May-September monsoon rains.

The Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan

has also been hit with four soldiers killed there last month while rescuing villagers trapped in floods, officials said. The conditions have complicated the poor region's efforts to fight the coronavirus, especially in densely populated Bangladesh, which has reported 240,746 infections with 3,154 deaths.

57 people are missing and 111 others injured

More than 1 million people are marooned in Bangladesh and thousands of hectares of land have been submerged, forcing more than 60,000 into crowded shelters, said Enamur Rahman, junior minister of the Disaster Management and Relief Ministry. "This is really challenging," he said, while adding that efforts were being made to maintain social distancing. —Reuters

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Name:** Bablu, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, **Age:** about 48-50 years, **Height:** 5' 6", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** White colour T-Shirt and grey colour pant, who was found at Basement parking, Rajendra Bhawan, Rajendra Place, Prasad Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a case **DD No. 25-A Dated 28.07.2020 has been registered at P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi.**

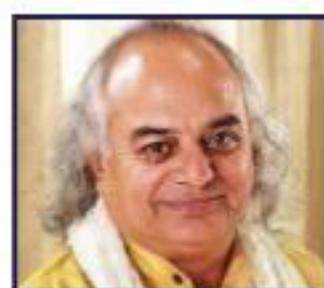
Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.



DP/244/CD/2020

P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi
Tel.: 011-25751048

TWO PAGES OF ASTROLOGY, PUZZLES AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE



By Dr Ajai Bhambi

ARIES Apr 14-May 14

Self searching is definitely going to help you in getting to the bottom of what is wrong. Anxiety about your relationship is causing a lot of stress.

TAURUS May 15-June 15

You are likely to be keen to tie the knot. You are doing much better professionally with an added financial incentive to help and you want a stable life.

GEMINI June 16-July 15

A third person is likely to try and interfere in your romance. This can create problems between you both so it would be better to deal with it as soon as you can.



Love Horoscope

*Dates based on Vedic Sun Signs

CANCER July 16-Aug 15

The bond you share with your love partner is going to get stronger and you will spend happy time together. You may even want to tie the knot as soon as possible.

LEO Aus 16-Sep 15

On the whole, it could be a rather troublesome day for you. You will remain on the defensive as your mate who is displeased finds fault with you and begins an argument.

VIRGO Sep 16-Oct 15

Some misunderstanding can create a little anxiety between you both but you will patch up very quickly realising that it is too small a matter to fight about.

LIBRA Oct 16-Nov 15

Be prepared for a rocky encounter as you enter into a secret romance, spurred on by the charms of someone who has just entered your life. This is likely to be a thrilling experience.

SCORPIO Nov 16-Dec 15

It is going to be a happy day, full of lively moments. You will draw many towards you and your peppiness will bring in a lot of compliments and maybe even love too.

SAGITTARIUS

Dec 16-Jan 13 Betterment on the money front is indicated which will let you enjoy a fabulous lifestyle. There will be no shortage of friends too, you will spend an unusual and happy day.

CAPRICORN Jan 14-Feb 11

You will probably be footloose and fancy free until your roving eye spots an unusual person who you get smitten by. Then it will be time to think of settling down.

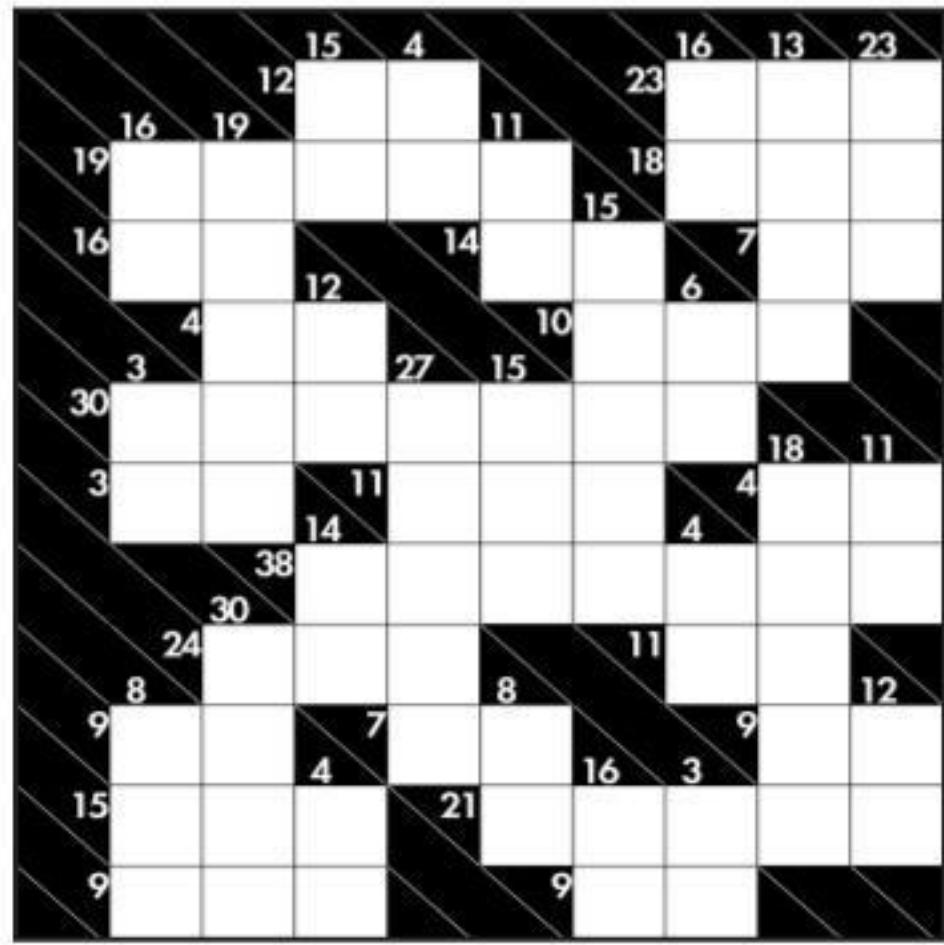
AQUARIUS Feb 12-March 13

You need to be very gentle in your speech and actions if you plan to broach a negative aspect of your feelings. Be considerate and it will be taken well.

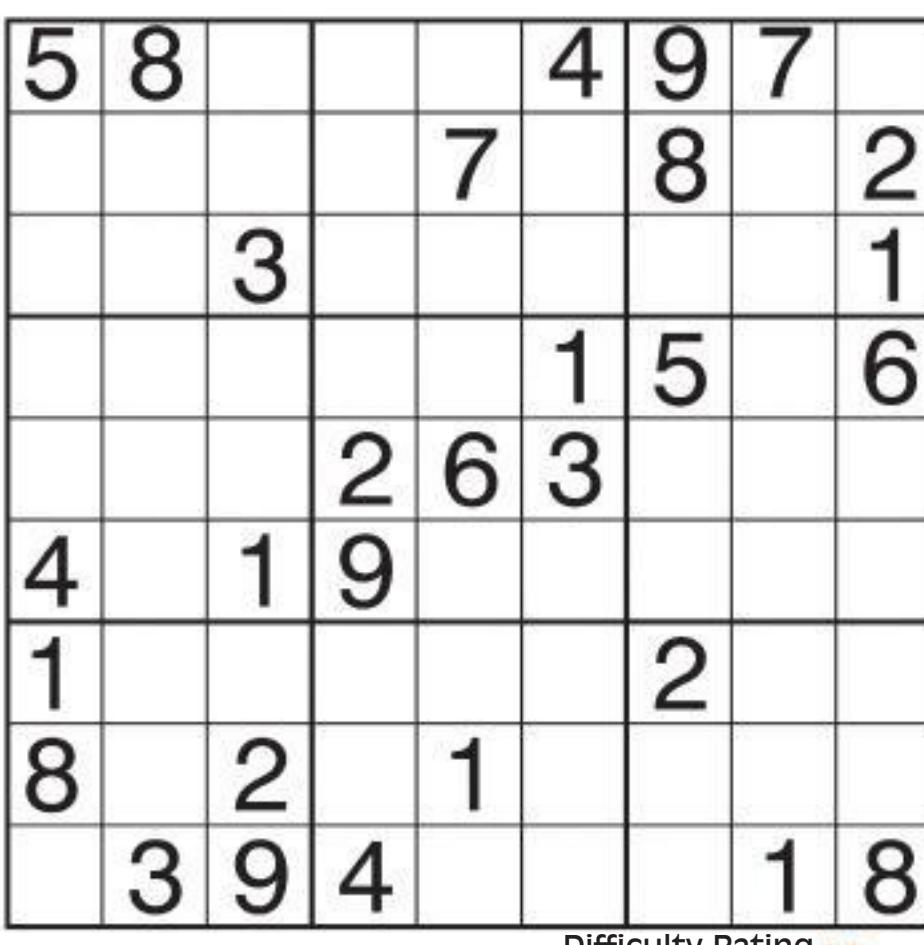
PISCES Mar 14-Apr 13

You will be very charming and at your social best, an irresistible combination. You will enjoy the company of a new person and get serious very soon.

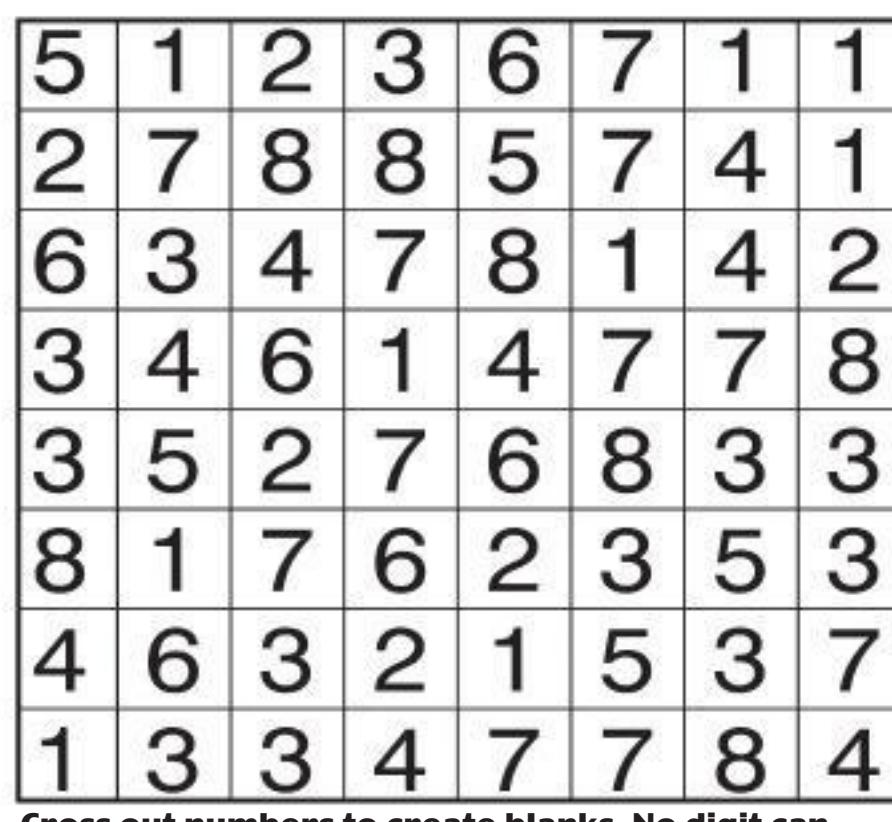
KAKURO



SUDOKU CLASSIC



HITORI



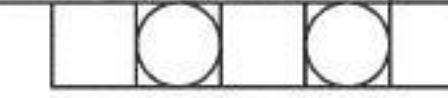
Cross out numbers to create blanks. No digit can appear in a row or column more than once. No two adjacent squares can be blacked out. All the squares left unblacked must be connected — vertically or horizontally — to form a single shape.

DAILY JUMBLE

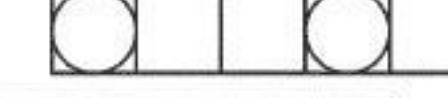
JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

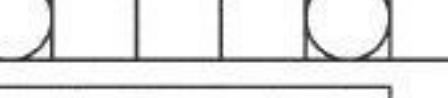
VIDLI



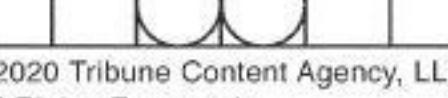
NFTOR



SOPMIE

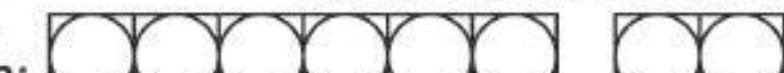


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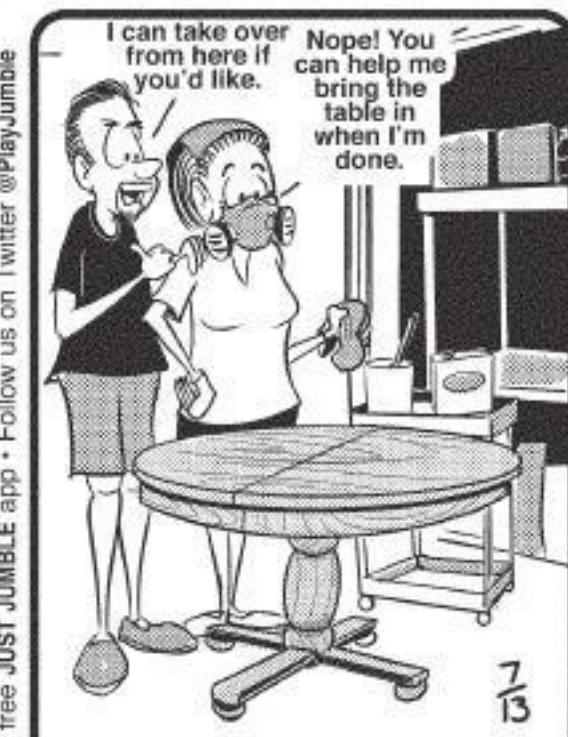


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Print your answer here:



THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



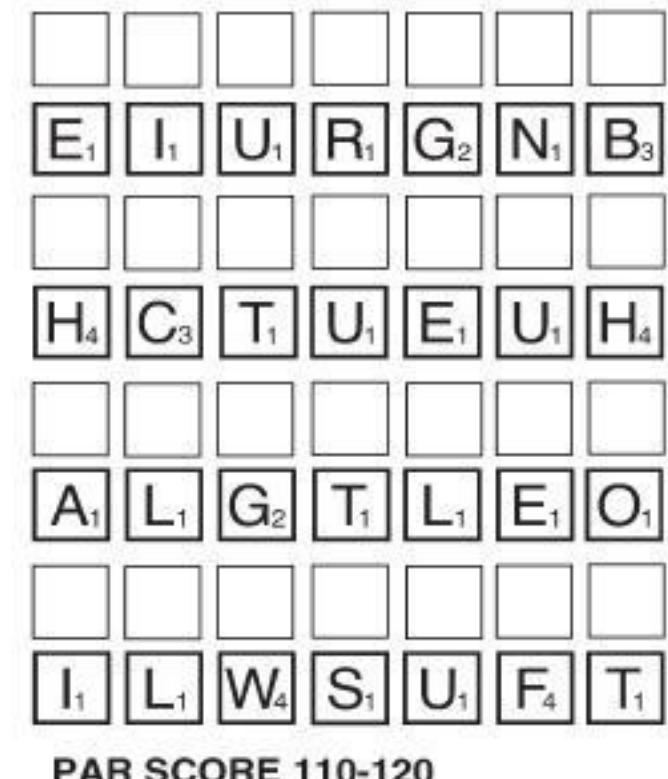
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble
SHE HAD EVERYTHING SHE NEEDED TO APPLY A COAT OF LACQUER TO THE TABLE AND WOULD ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

SCRABBLE GRAMS

SCRABBLE® BRAND

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1st Letter Double

RACK 1

Triple Word Score

RACK 2

RACK 3

RACK 4

PAR SCORE 110-120

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary.

MINI SUDOKU



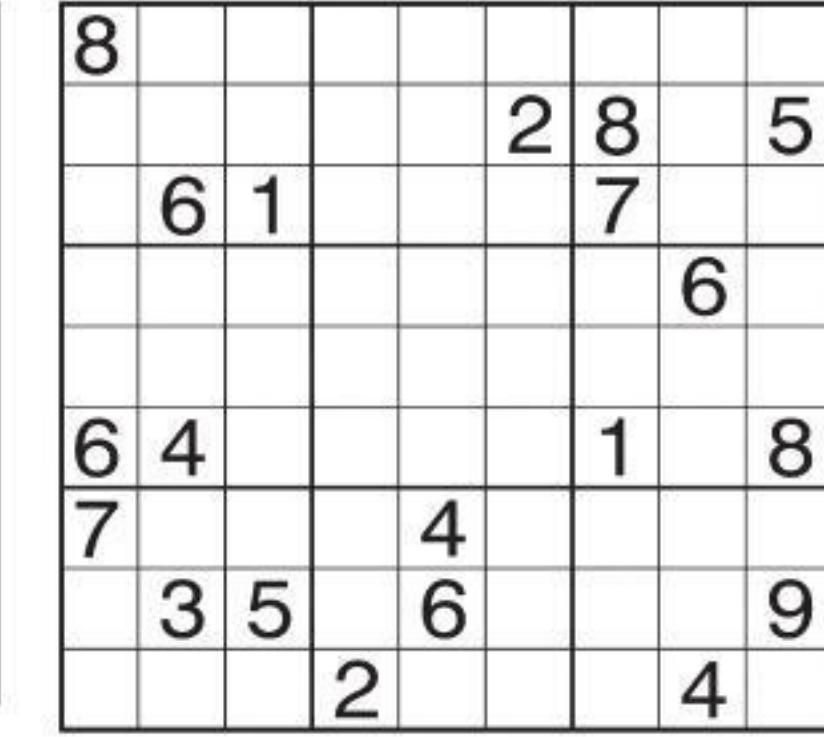
Difficulty Rating ★

SUDOKU



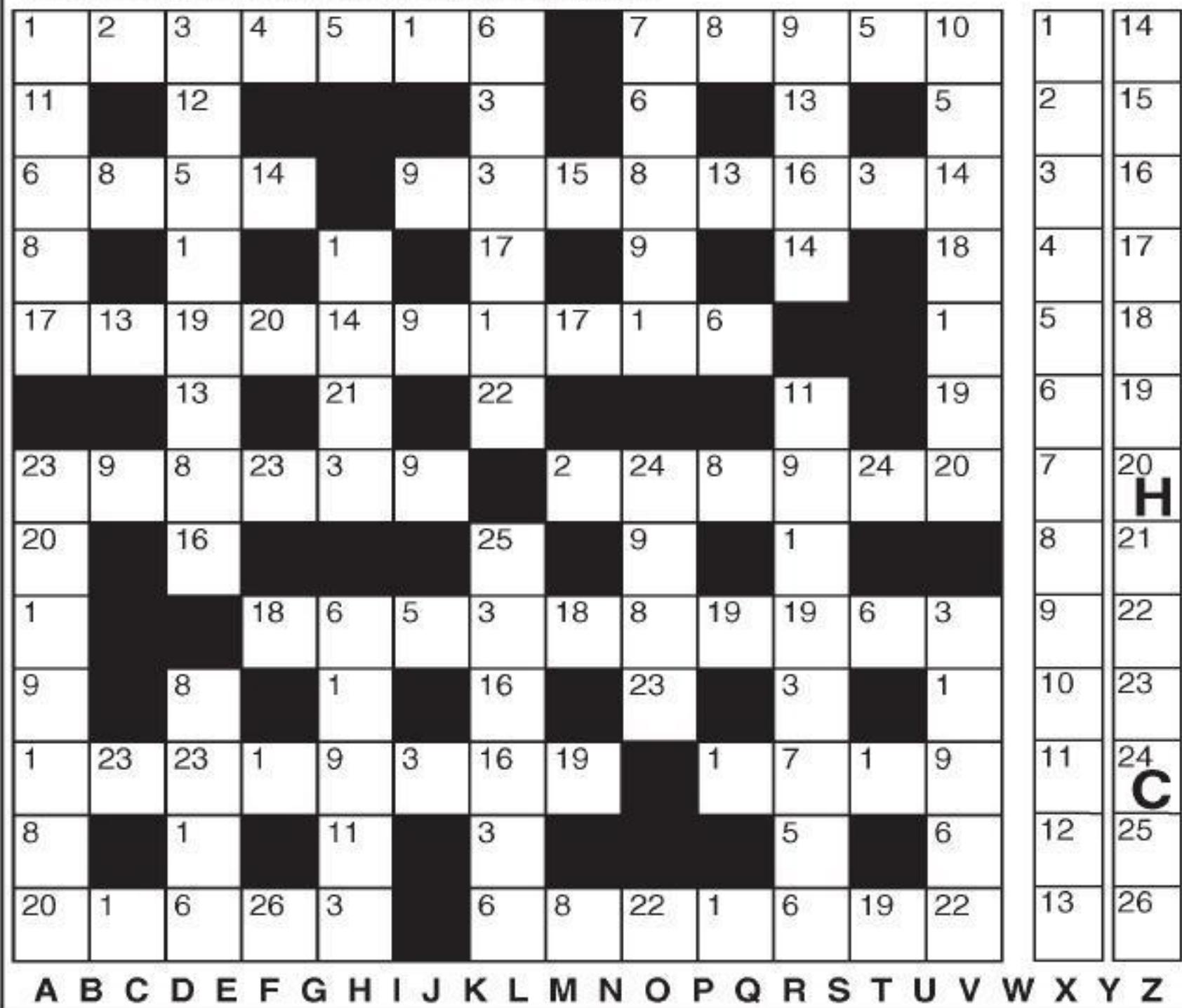
Difficulty Rating ★

SUDOKU X



CODEWORD

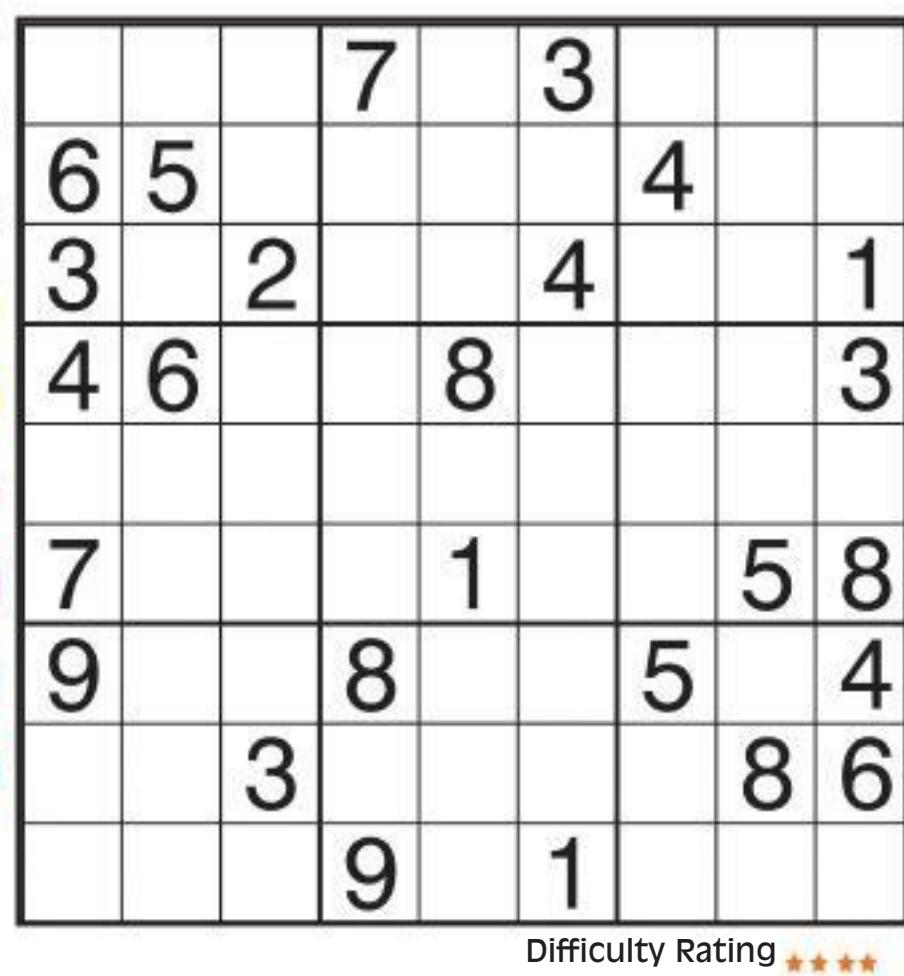
EACH number in our Codeword grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 20 represents H so fill in H every time the figure 20 appears. You have two letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the list of alphabetical letters as you identify them.



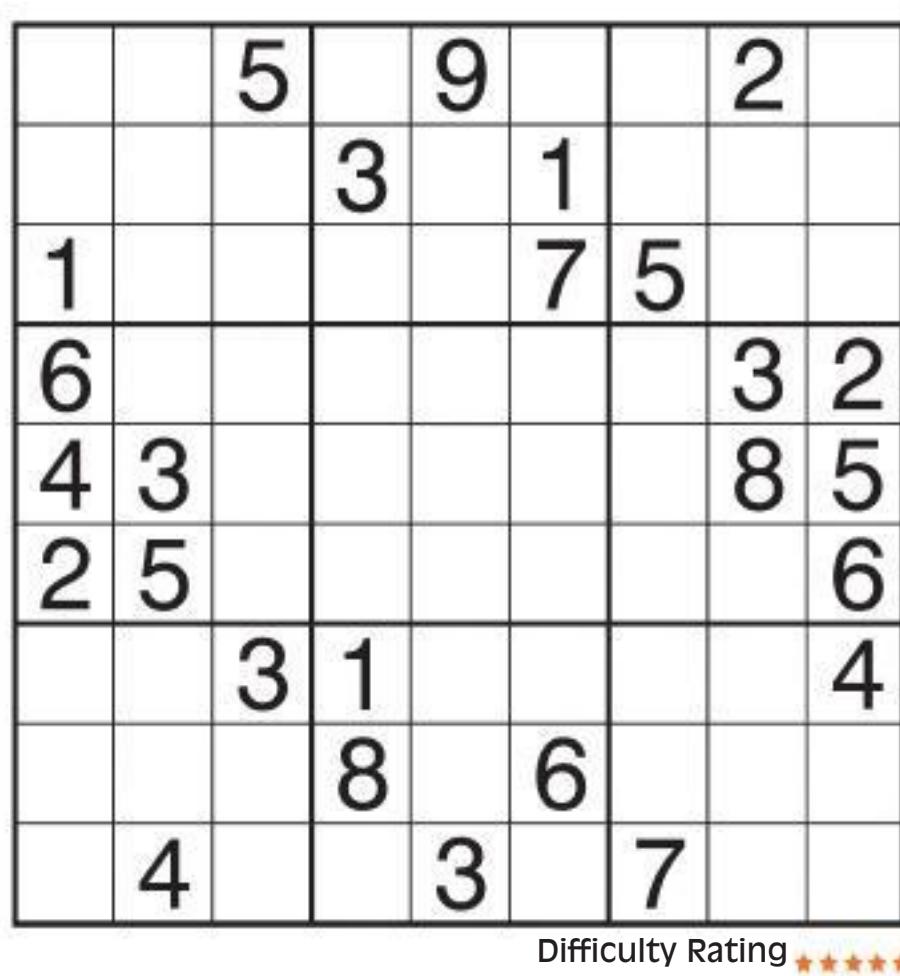
TOP SECRET

SUDOKU

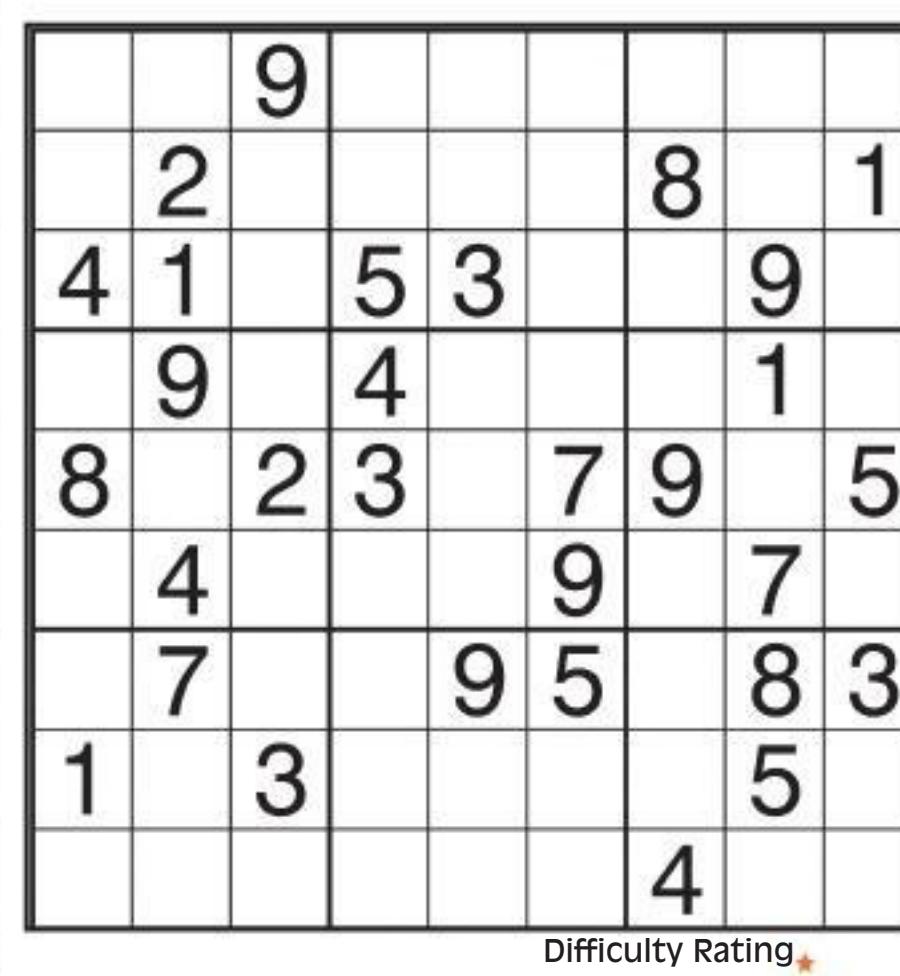
Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 3x3 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9. Solutions are below.



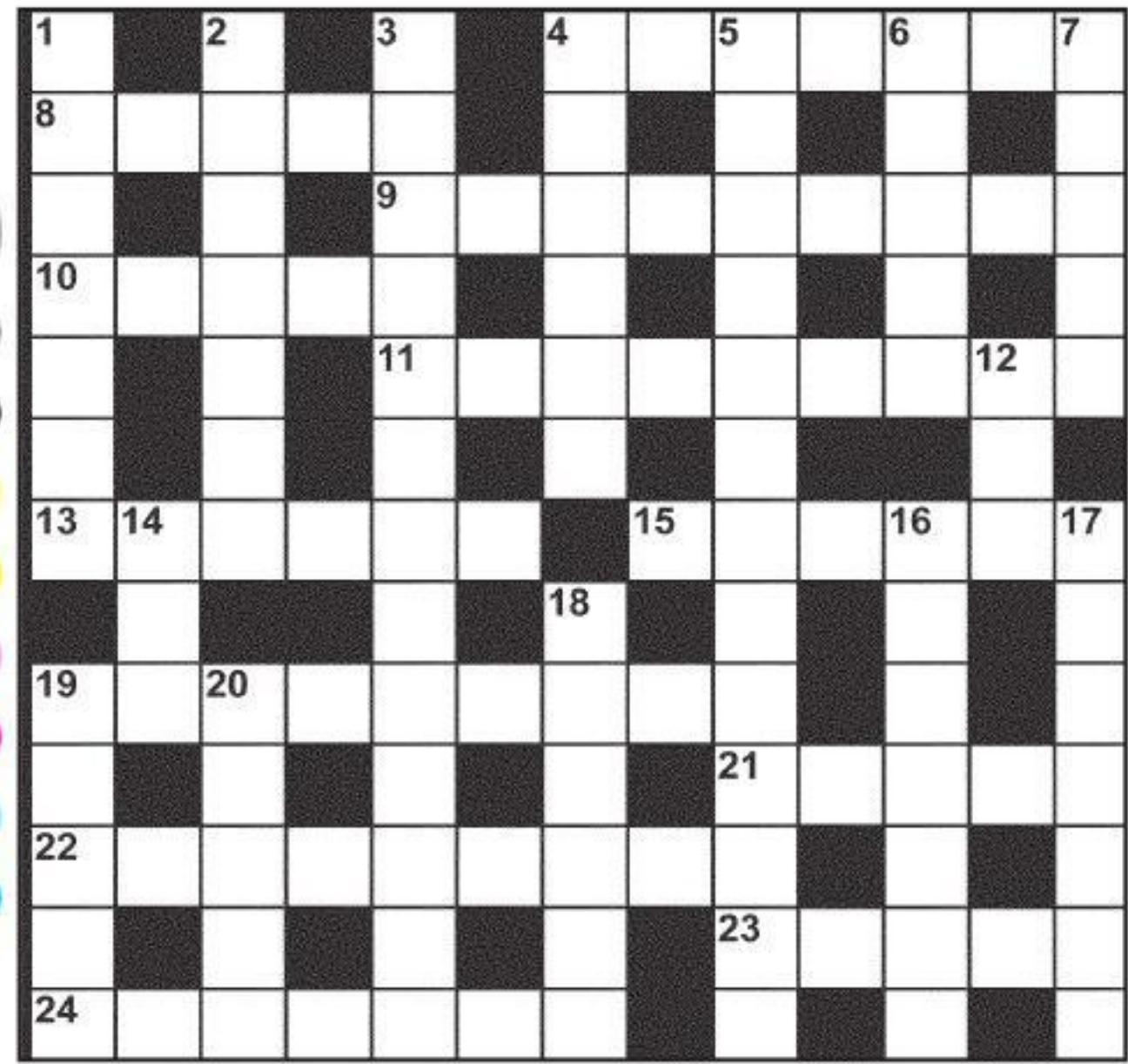
Difficulty Rating ★★★★



Difficulty Rating ★★★★



Difficulty Rating ★

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD**ACROSS**

- 4 Be merciful when you speak of the late Mr Atlee (7)
 8 How to get a loner to register (5)
 9 Stop! A seat is reserved for renegades only (9)
 10 They're good plain clothes, if out around the tum (5)
 11 Normally, I add a run to the tally (9)
 13 Here's one snare which can almost catch a panther (6)
 15 He can lead the singing or can't, whichever way you look at it (6)
 19 There's no stopping them at this plant! (9)
 21 Worn by a bishop at the right time (5)
 22 I rave about this poet being efficacious (9)
 23 Be sure to point to her in hospital (5)
 24 Beseech the ten to shed a tear (7)

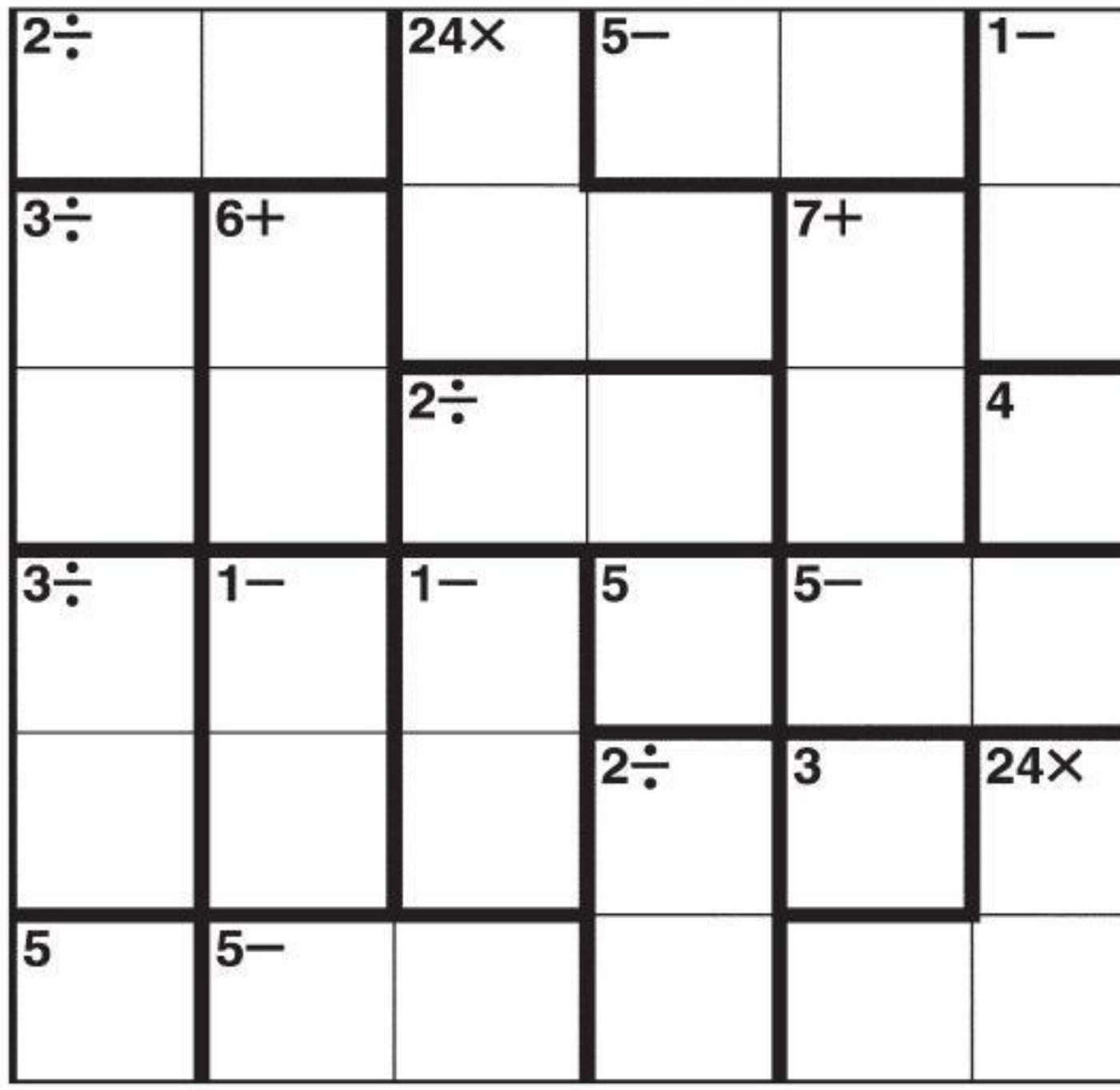
DOWN

- 1 Planted a fern and met with

- excitement from them (7)
 2 The golfers cry out 'Take a nap!', but it's forbidden (7)
 3 I'll give it to you straight! I'm not pretty but I hold my tongue! (5,8)
 4 They're the sort of people who make actors (6)
 5 Ten to remain in the tent? How amusing! (13)
 6 My former wife gets the lot and I praise her for it (5)
 7 Examine it? Why? You make me so irritable! (5)
 12 It's a sign you're in trouble, Oscar! (3)
 14 How a minister gets things to speed up (3)
 16 It's true! When it contains rot it causes suffering (7)
 17 In December, the seen goes back (7)
 18 How to get Ted and his little sister to leave off (6)
 19 Or Dee is apt to wear one down (5)
 20 It's happening at seven tonight (5)

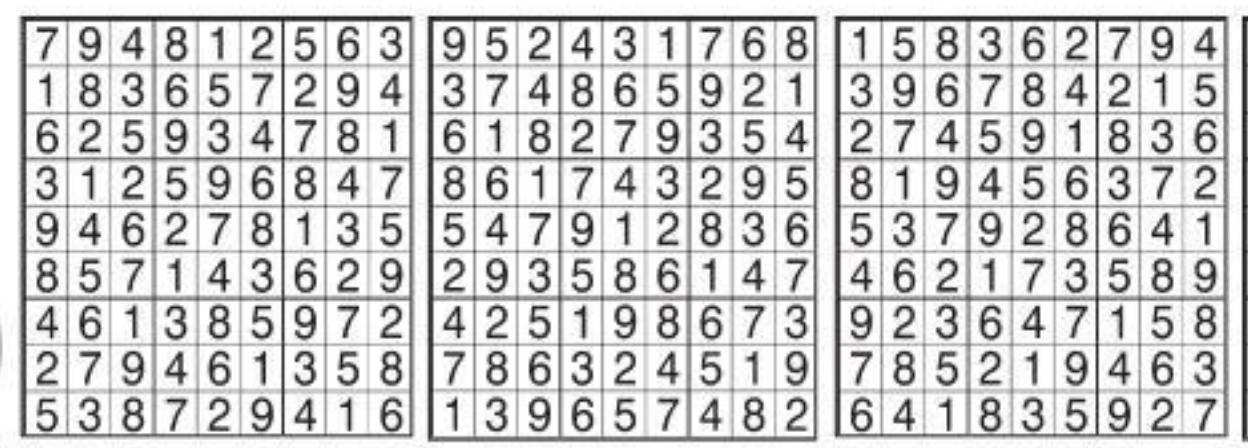
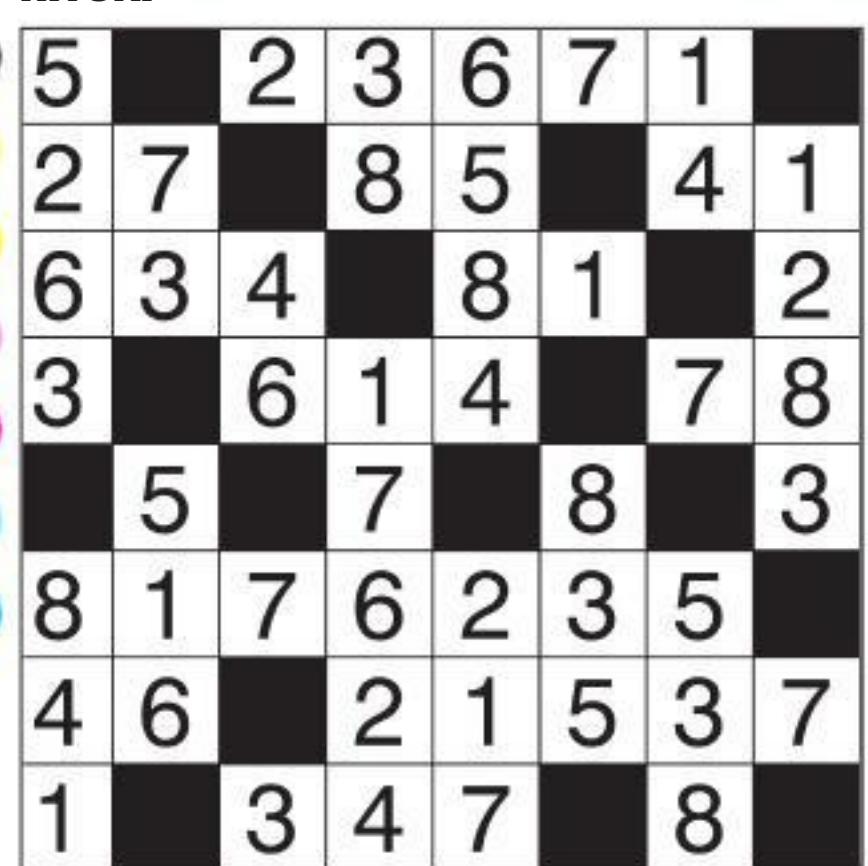
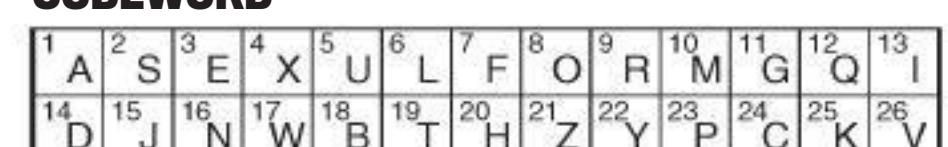
KEN-KEN

Each row & column must contain numbers 1 to 4 (easy) or 1 to 6 (difficult). The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes must combine to produce the numbers in the top-left corner.

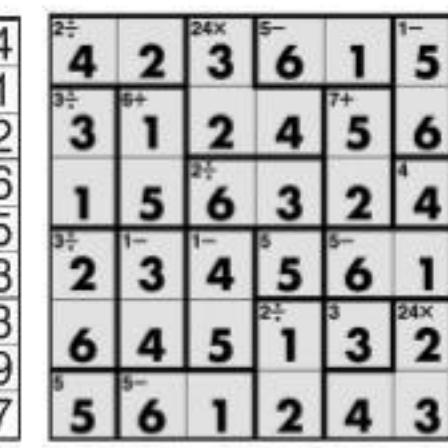
**QUICK QUIZ**

Barack Obama was born on August 4, 1961.

1. He served as the 44th President of the United States from 2009 till which year?
 2. He previously served in the U.S. Senate representing Illinois from 2005 to 2008 and in the Illinois State Senate from 1997 to which year?
 3. Obama was born in 1961 in which Hawaiian city?
 4. Raised largely in Hawaii,
- Obama also spent one year of his childhood in which other American state?
5. After graduating from Columbia University in 1983, he worked as a community organizer in which place?
 6. In 1988 Obama enrolled in Harvard Law School, where he was the first black president of the Harvard Law Review. After graduation, he became a civil rights attorney and professor, and taught constitutional law at which university?
 7. Obama was named the Nobel Peace Prize laureate in which year?

SUDOKU**HITORI****KAKRO****CODEWORD****CRYPTIC CROSSWORD****JUMBLES**

LIVID FRONT IMPOSE WITHIN
 Answer: She had everything she needed to apply a coat of lacquer to the table and would — FINISH IT

KEN-KEN**MINI SUDOKU****SUDOKU CLASSIC****SCRABBLE GRAMS**

SCRABBLE® BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION BY JUDD	
© 2019 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication	
B	I N G E R
C	H E T H
T	O L L A G E
W	I S T F U L
PAR SCORE 110-120	
JUDD'S TOTAL 172	

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QUICK QUIZ: 1. 2017; 2. 2004; 3. Honolulu; 4. Washington; 5. Chicago; 6. University of Chicago Law School; 7. 2009

**ASTRO FOCUS**

by Manisha Koushik

ARIES Mar 21-Apr 20

Money will not be a problem as you are earning well and spending wisely. Your work will receive appreciation. It is possible to get rid of minor health problems.

TAURUS Apr 21-May 20

New work has started generating profit. You can get an opportunity to work with a reputed institution. Care should be taken in the matter of health.

GEMINI May 21-June 21

Financial worries are baseless, you will be able to earn well. It is a day to step forward in your career. After getting rid of the disease, one will lead a disciplined life.

CANCER June 22-July 22

Planning to buy a new vehicle or a house. For this reason, you will be engaged in the struggle to save money. You will showcase your abilities in the professional front.

LEO July 23-Aug 23

Your analytical abilities are your strength. Windfall is expected for those associated with import-export. You will feel fit and energetic. Go out on the drive to enjoy the weather.

VIRGO Aug 24-Sep 23

You will spend on the means of happiness. Promotions are promised for those working in a government sector. Home remedies can work to get rid of diseases.

LIBRA Sep 24-Oct 23

It is possible to receive expensive gifts. You will have to work diplomatically at workplace to get your work done. You will experience peace in life.

SCORPIO Oct 24-Nov 22

The money invested will increase manifold. You will get rid of mental stress. It is possible to help someone in progressing with his or her career.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 23-Dec 21

Money matters are secure, there will be no shortage of funds. Everyone will be impressed by your ability. Career will provide golden opportunities.

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 21

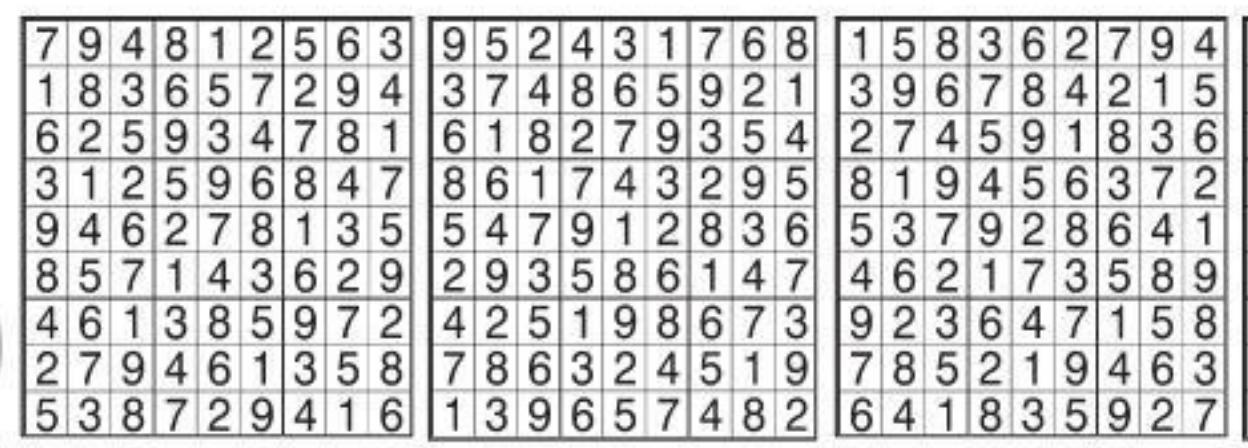
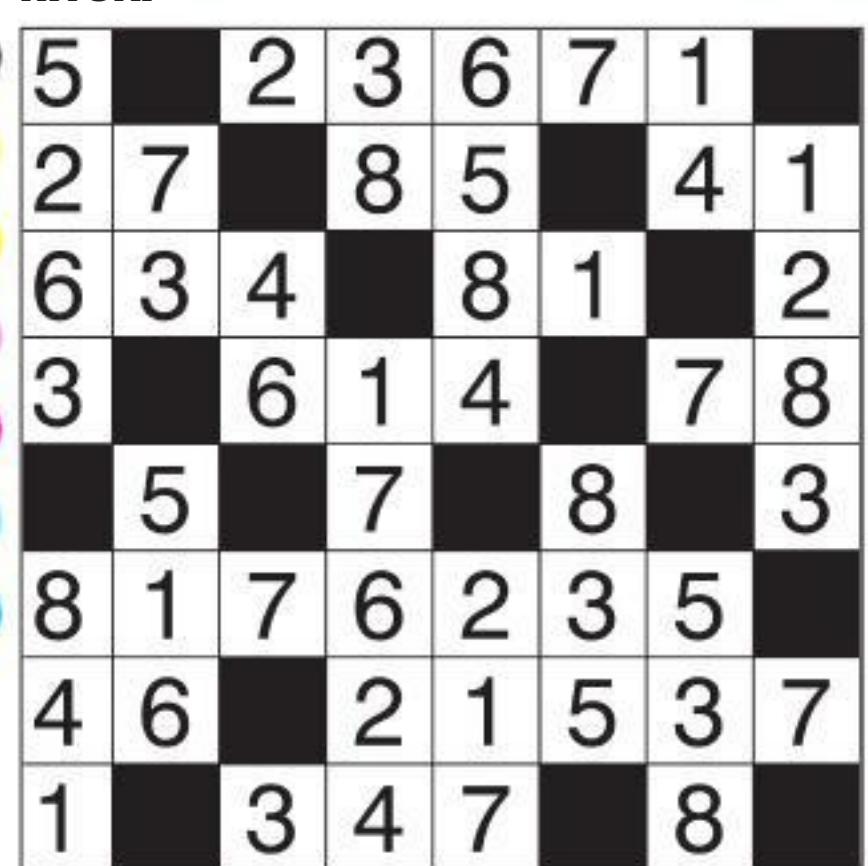
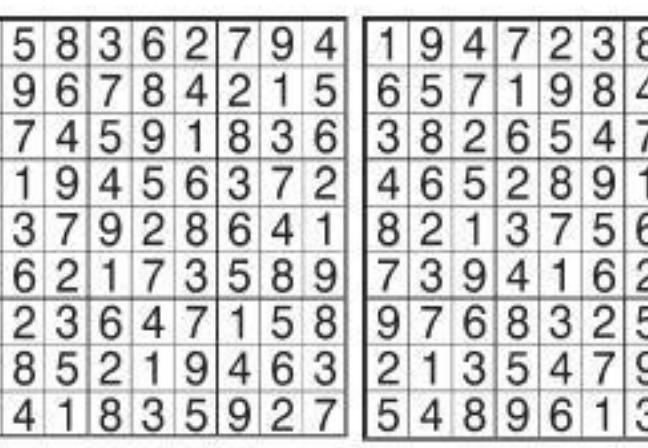
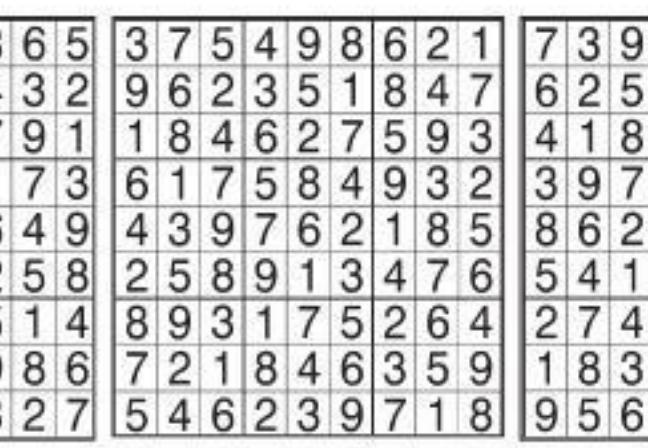
You will realize that the world runs with money. The success of body builders, boxers, wrestlers will be at peak. Sick natives will be well cared for.

AQUARIUS Jan 22-Feb 19

The completion of the instalments will bring relief particularly to the employed people. You will achieve success without any hindrance.

PISCES Feb 20-Mar 20

Favourable time for people connected with transportation work. Investments made today will benefit in the future. Health will remain satisfactory, achieving total fitness is your goal.

TODAY'S SOLUTIONS**SUDOKU****HITORI****KAKRO****CODEWORD****CRYPTIC CROSSWORD****SUDOKU X****SCRABBLE GRAMS**

SCRABBLE® BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION BY JUDD	
© 2019 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication	
B	I N G E R
C	H E T H
T	O L L A G E
W	I S T F U L
PAR SCORE 110-120	
JUDD'S TOTAL 172	

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QUICK QUIZ: 1. 2017; 2. 2004; 3. Honolulu; 4. Washington; 5. Chicago; 6. University of Chicago Law School; 7. 2009



FESTIVE MOOD

People from the fishing community dressed in traditional Koli attire take part in Narli Purnima celebrations at Nerul in Navi Mumbai on Monday.

YOUTUBE ► trends

- 1) GHUMSHUDA (OFFICIAL VIDEO)
SHARRY MANN | INDER DHAMMU | GOLD MEDIA



Singer: Sharry Maan;
Lyrics: Jagdeep; Music:
Inder Dhammu

- 2) EMIWAY X PRZNT – LONELY (PROD BY VODLI) (OFFICIAL MUSIC VIDEO)

Artist & Lyrics: Prznt & Emiway Bantai; Prod by Vodli; Mix/Master: Prznt & Emiway; Visuals by: Happy; Edited by: Emiway and Happy

- 3) DIL TUNE TODA HAI (FULL VIDEO) DANISH, SHADAB, SANA & MUSKANI DINESHI | ROOTS MUSIC



A love story full of betrayal and a sense of melancholy, featuring Danish Alfaaz and Sana Eslam Khan with Being Shadab Khan and Muskan Sharma.

- 4) BADSHAH – SHURU (OFFICIAL MUSIC VIDEO) | THE POWER OF DREAMS OF A KID

Shuru is a lyrical piece introducing the album and Badshah's story of a relentless pursuit of his dreams since the first time he wrote his first rap

LETTERS

Ram Mandir construction is the greatest event

THE Construction of Ram Mandir is one of the greatest historical events. It is an awaited happening since over 591 years. I am a 21 year old and feeling delighted to witness such a glorifying occurrence. One of the great souls who must be remembered today as Ram Mandir becomes a tangible reality is the "Pyaare Aatma" of Devraha Baba. His initiation at the 1989 Kumbh was instrumental in the RJB movement taking off as a mass expression of Hindu awakening. Also, do not ever forget or belittle the contribution of Ramanand Sagar and his Ramayan on Doordarshan, for he reminded an entire generation of Indians their duty towards Ram Lalla in Ayodhya. The part played by LK Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi should also be never obliterated.

—RAVI TEJA KATHURIPALLI,
Hyderabad

Narasimha Rao was tactful in tough situations

PV NARASIMHA RAO should be remembered for being the tactful Prime Minister for handling the peculiar situation developed when an uncontrolled gathering successfully pulled down the disputed structure at Ayodhya on 06.12.1992 paving way for ultimate foundation-stone laying ceremony for grand temple at birth-place of Lord Rama on 05.08.2020. PV Narasimha Rao will also be remembered for successfully running a minority government for full five-year term and paving way a new era of economic reforms. It is indeed regretting that like many other Congress veterans, he was also not only side-lined by his own party but even insulted by the dynastic party after his death when his dead body was neither allowed to enter party-headquarters in New Delhi nor his cremation was allowed in national cap-

QUESTION

of the day

Mail Today poll



QAMAR SIBTAIN

There seems to be a battle, between AAP and the BJP, to take credit for successfully curbing Covid-19 cases in the National Capital. Do you think this kind of politics is necessary in the time of crisis?

YESTERDAY'S QUESTION

After the Delhi government had given a 'go ahead' for the opening of hotels and weekly markets in Unlock 3.0, Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal struck it down. Do you think this will cause more uncertainty?

YESTERDAY'S RESPONSE

YES	80%
NO	20%

ital of India. Present central government has duly honoured several such forgotten national heroes by their own party. It will be real tribute to a well-deserving veteran politician if he is honoured with highest civilian award of Bharat Ratna on the glorious occasion on 05.08.2020.

—MADHU AGRAWAL, Delhi

PMO has again come to people's rescue on time

TIMELY intervention of the PMO has come once again to help the common man and this time especially for passengers boarding and alighting flights at the Kochi International airport. The snacks and beverages sold at food outlets in the airport burnt a hole in the passengers' pocket as heavy amount was charged. Any passenger visiting the airport would have his eyes pop out looking at the price tags of the food and drink items sold — a cup of tea cost Rs 100 and snacks were sold for Rs 200! The list of pricey items doesn't stop here, for passengers who wanted to have a cup of cool butter milk normally sweated taking it as they had to pay Rs 200! The "pick pocketing" of the common man was brought to the notice of the PMO by a native of Thrissur. The PMO immediately came forward to protect the consumer rights of the common man and has strictly directed that tea/coffee and snacks have to be sold at a reasonable rate at airports.

—M PRADYU, Kannur

BLOGS *of the day*

KATY REVEALS FAVOURITE SONGS

KATY Perry has penned a song about how women are so "versatile and adaptable and incredible" for her new album. The 35-year-old singer is releasing her new album, 'Smile', later this month and she has been sharing some of her favourites with her fans. And Katy also opened up about the "thoughtful and empowering" songs on her album, but confessed 'Cry About It Later' isn't one of those. contactmusic.com



'LILA MOSS WAS LIKE A KID'

MARC Jacobs says Lila Moss and the other models who appeared in his new perfume campaign were like "kids in a candy store" when they were shown the wardrobe. The 57-year-old American fashion designer recruited 17-year-old Lila — the daughter of supermodel Kate Moss — Alek Wek and Mei Kawajiri to star in the advertising campaign for his latest scent Perfect and he loved standing back and watching the trio pick their own outfits from the huge array of garments on offer. contactmusic.com

WRITE TO THE EDITOR

You can now email your opinion to letters@mailtoday.in

MY BIZ

Stocks crash for fourth day in a row

By Mail Today Bureau
in Mumbai

THE STOCK markets fell for the fourth consecutive session on Monday as blue chip heavy-weight Reliance Industries (RIL) and financial stocks tumbled with investors turning cautious in the run-up to the RBI's monetary policy review this week. The surge in COVID-19 cases also hurt consumer sentiments.

A depreciating rupee, which sank 20 paise to settle below the 75 mark vis-a-vis the US dollar, and grim macroeconomic data further sapped risk appetite, traders said.

The Sensex crashed 667 points to close at 36,939.60 or 1.77 per cent. Similarly, the NSE Nifty tumbled 181.85 points or 1.64 per cent to end at 10,891.60. The Sensex has now lost 1,553.35 points in four days, while the Nifty has shed 408.95 points. Kotak Bank was the top loser in the Sensex pack.

UPI clocks new record in transactions

By Mail Today Bureau
in New Delhi

THE number of payments transacted on Unified Payments Interface (UPI) hit an all-time high of Rs 149 crore in July this year, with the value of transactions reaching Rs 2.91 lakh crore, according to data compiled by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

The previous high was 134 crore transactions in the preceding month of June, while the value of transactions was Rs 2.61 lakh crore. This reflects an increasing number of digital transactions taking place in the economy.

In July 2019, the number of UPI transactions stood at 82.23 crore, with cumulative value of Rs 1.46 lakh crore. During the April-July period of 2020-21, the cumulative transactions on UPI reached 631 crore. The value transacted stood at Rs 6.31 lakh crore.

NPCI was incorporated in 2008 as an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India.

A CORRECTION

A report headlined 'Cipla calls back drug from US' published in Mail Today on August 3 mistakenly mentions Cipla, while it should have been Lupin. The error is inadvertent and deeply regretted.
— Editor

IT firm Tech Mahindra said it has started a coronavirus screening service 'Mhealthy' to detect COVID-19 antibodies. It comprises over 32 screening tests on a single platform and detects antibodies with 96% accuracy, the company claims.

NUMBER OF THE DAY

₹1.3 L cr deposited in 40 lakh Jan Dhan bank accounts opened by the govt.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

‘Tata Motors anticipates a tremendous deal of transformation stemming from COVID-19. The move to slow travel and personal transport may shape future demand for passenger vehicles.’

— N CHANDRASEKARAN, TATA MOTORS CHAIRMAN



Poonawallas in last lap of vaccine race

By Mail Today Bureau
in New Delhi

THE DRUGS Controller General of India (DCGI) has permitted Pune-based vaccine maker Serum Institute to hold phase 2 and 3 clinical trials of Oxford University-AstraZeneca's Covid-19 vaccine candidate Covishield, a front-runner in the race against the deadly coronavirus.

“The DCGI has given approval to SII, Pune, to conduct Phase II+III clinical trials of Oxford University-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine (COVISHIELD) in India and this will hasten the development of the COVID-19 vaccine,” said a statement from the health ministry.

Serum Institute, the world’s largest vaccine maker by number of doses sold, will test Covishield on 1,600 adults across 17 selected sites. Each person subject will be administered two doses four weeks apart (first dose on day one and second dose on day 28), following which the safety and immunogenicity will be assessed at predefined intervals, according to officials.

The firm has to submit safety data evaluated by the Data Safety Monitoring Board to the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation before proceeding to phase 3 clinical trials, a senior official said.

The 17 centres include AIIMS-Delhi, B J Medical College in Pune, Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences (RMRMIS) in Patna, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research in

Way clear for phase 2 & 3 trials

Chandigarh, AIIMS-Jodhpur, Nehru Hospital in Gorakhpur, Andhra Medical College in Visakhapatnam and JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research in Mysore.

The vaccine developed jointly by Oxford University and British-Swiss pharma major AstraZeneca is undergoing phase 2 and 3 clinical trials in the United Kingdom, phase 3 clinical trial in Brazil and phase 1 and 2 clinical trials in South Africa.

More than 150 vaccine candidates are undergoing clinical trials globally, with human trials of more than two dozen of these underway. Last week, medical journal The Lancet published

WOCKHARDT TOO INKS UK VACCINE DEAL

DRUGMAKER Wockhardt will supply millions of doses of multiple COVID-19 vaccines, including that being developed by AstraZeneca and Oxford University, under a deal with the UK government announced on Monday.

The company has reserved fill-and-finish capacity - the final manufacturing step of putting vaccines into vials or syringes and packaging them - as part of the agreement, it said.

AstraZeneca has indicated it would need 30 million fill-and-finish doses of their vac-

interim data from a clinical study showing that the Covishield was safe and provided dual immunity against the fatal respiratory disease.

The vaccine increased levels of both protective neutralising antibodies and immune T-cells that target the virus, according

cine candidate, which the company intends to supply in the next few months, Wockhardt Chairman Habil Khorakiwala said during a virtual press briefing.

The company has a fill-and-finish manufacturing capacity of 400 million doses in the UK and 600 million in India, for a combined capacity of 1 billion, Khorakiwala said.

This is the latest step by the UK to secure supplies and production of COVID-19 vaccines after striking four deals with drugmakers to buy their potential shots.

to the study organisers. “Our hope is that we can actually start delivering a vaccine before the end of the year,” Bloomberg quoted AstraZeneca CEO Pascal Soriot as saying.

A single dose of the vaccine elicited an increase in antibodies specifically against the spike

protein by the first 28 days.

In June, Serum Institute has signed a pact with AstraZeneca to supply an additional 1 billion doses, principally for low- and middle-income countries.

Serum Institute plans to price the vaccine at less than Rs 1,000 per dose, Serum Institute CEO Adar Poonawalla has said. He also said the firm would reserve around half the vaccines it produces for India.

In vaccine trials, the first step is to conduct pre-clinical toxicity studies on laboratory animals. Next, the vaccine candidate is moved to phase-1 human trials, where checks are conducted for any direct toxicity or abnormal immune response to the vaccine. If the vaccine clears phase one, it is moved to the next phase where the vaccine is given to those who have characteristics (such as age and physical health) similar to those for whom the new vaccine is intended and studied for antibodies and side effects.

In the third phase a large number of people are given the vaccine and monitored over time for efficacy and safety.



FRONT-RUNNERS: Serum Institute's Cyrus Poonawalla and his son Adar

Gadkari seeks curbs on margarine sales

By Mail Today Bureau in New Delhi

UNION Minister Nitin Gadkari has red-flagged the increasing use of margarine for cooking in hotels and restaurants as it is loaded with trans fats which are harmful for human health.

According to an official statement, the minister has raised the issue with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and suggested that the government needs to have control over the sale of margarine as it is harming the health of the people and causing financial losses to dairy farmers.

Taking immediate cognisance of the demand, the Prime Minister's Office has directed food regulator FSSAI to look into the issue. The FSSAI has now issued a clarification, directives and a future course of

action to control the use of margarine in edible items, according to the official release.

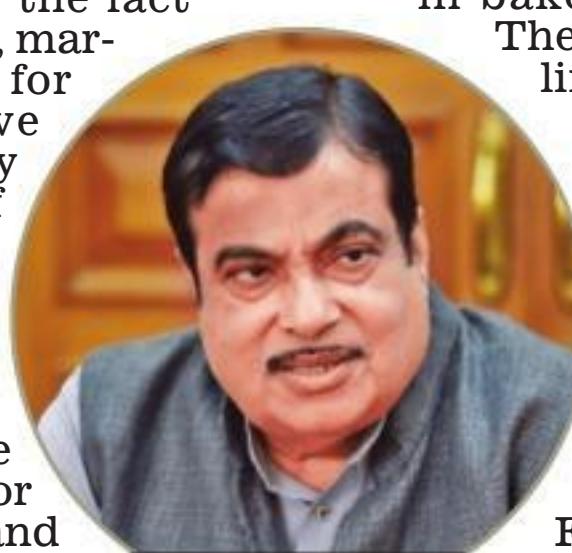
The minister has highlighted the fact that being a cheaper alternative, margarine is used as a substitute for butter, which has a negative impact on the income of dairy farmers. The increased use of margarine is affecting adversely the health of the people and the sale of butter made from the cow milk, causing a financial loss to farmers. The government needs to have control over the sale of margarine, the Minister for Road Transport and Highways and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) said.

FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards

Authority of India) has clarified that limit of trans fats is fixed at not more than 5 per cent in bakery and industrial margarine.

The process is on for reducing the limit of trans fats in edible oils and fats to not more than 3 per cent by 2021 and not more than 2 per cent by 2022, the release said.

Moreover, it has been made mandatory to declare the quantity of trans fats and saturated fats on the labels of products in which margarine is used. FSSAI is amending the FSS Regulations, 2011 by including a specific definition for dairy analogue as margarine is also a dairy analogue.



Nitin Gadkari

By Sankalp Phartiyal &
Heekyong Yang
in New Delhi/Seoul

SAMSUNG Electronics Co Ltd is forging a comeback in India's smartphone market with a new range of budget devices and a ramped-up online presence, aiming to recoup ground ceded to Chinese rivals such as Xiaomi Corp.

Samsung, the only major non-Chinese player in the country, has already begun to gain ground, and a surge in anti-China sentiment in India following a border clash in June is expected to provide a fresh boost.

Samsung jumped to the No. 2 spot with 26% market share in the second quarter behind Xiaomi's 29%, according to tech researcher Counterpoint, as the South Korean company's diverse and in-house supply chain helped it avoid product delays suffered by rivals during coronavirus lockdowns.

It was in third position with a 16% share in the previous quarter.

Samsung share in smartphone pie up 10%

Once the unrivalled leader in the world's second-biggest smartphone market, Samsung has over the past three years lost Indian customers to Chinese brands, whose devices are perceived as better value.

But India still accounts for some \$7.5 billion in annual retail smartphone revenues for Samsung, according to Counterpoint, making it the company's biggest market outside the United States.

It has built what it has described as the world's largest mobile phone manufacturing plant at Noida on the outskirts of New Delhi, where it tests new devices and often assembles them for export.

That manufacturing power, and Samsung's ability to source many components internally, is helping it gain ground amid the pandemic. Chinese smartphone brands Xiaomi and Oppo suffered local production hiccups and product delays due to COVID-19, but Samsung was able to keep delivering phones smoothly.

Now it is building on the momentum. Samsung

Samsung is now No.2 brand after Xiaomi

Samsung rides anti-China wave to bounce back



File photo of a Samsung showroom in New Delhi

has launched seven new smartphones since June, three of them under Rs 10,000 rupees including its cheapest Android offering at around Rs 5,600.

"The COVID crisis has pushed people to use smartphones for everything from online education to digital payments to even connecting with friends on video calls. That's why these budget phones are focused on the mass market," said a source familiar with Samsung's strategy in India.

In May, Samsung partnered with Facebook to train some 200,000 brick and mortar stores selling its phones to use social media for sales and marketing. It has also launched instalment-payment plans for customers and new incentive schemes, includ-

ing one that gives student discounts on select devices.

A spokesman for Samsung said the company was seeing high demand for its devices in India and expected its revenues to increase from last year. The company does not provide a breakdown of revenues from individual countries.

TOUGH COMPETITION

Competition from rivals such as Xiaomi, which is banking on a 'Made in India' image to beat the anti-China sentiment, remains stiff. A deal between India's Reliance Industries Ltd and Google to make a cheap Android phone could also pose a threat to Samsung's sales of lower-end devices. Samsung, despite a better brand reputation, has struggled to woo price-sensitive Indian customers.

TURNING TIDE

■ Samsung, the only major non-Chinese player in the Indian smartphone market.

■ It had lost customers to cheaper Chinese brands over the past three years.

■ Samsung's manufacturing power and ability to source many components internally, is also helping it gain ground amid the pandemic.

Google's Pixel 4a to hit Indian market in October

By Mail Today Bureau
in New Delhi

TECH GIANT Google on Monday said it will introduce its latest Pixel 4a smartphone in the Indian market in October this year.

The company will, however, not bring its new 5G-enabled Pixel 5 and Pixel 4a (5G) to India and Singapore markets.

The Google 4a will feature a 5.8-inch display, Qualcomm Snapdragon 730G Mobile Platform, 6GB RAM and 128 GB storage. While the firm said it will announce the price closer to the launch, its first 5G-enabled phones, Pixel 4a (5G) and Pixel 5, will sell at a starting price of \$499 in the United States. It will also be available in Canada, UK, Ireland, France, Germany, Japan, Taiwan and Australia.

In October last year, Google had skipped the launch of Pixel 4 and 4XL in India. Last year, Pixel 3a gave people a chance to get the helpful features of Pixel at a more affordable price. This year, Pixel 4a which launches in India in October will

able price.

The premium smartphone market (Rs 30,000 and above) in India, which is among the biggest smartphone markets globally, is witnessing strong growth and is dominated by players like OnePlus, Samsung and Apple.

A number of Chinese companies like Vivo and Xiaomi are trying to make inroads into the premium segment that saw shipment of over 1 million devices in June 2020 quarter, as per Counterpoint Research.

While the segment saw over 32 per cent decline in shipment in June 2020 quarter on account of COVID-19-related lockdown, it was one of the least affected segments and reached its highest ever share in the overall India smartphone market, contributing more than 4 per cent in total smartphone shipments.

Rules out 5G smartphones for India

continue to bring features like the incredible camera and feature drops that make your phone better over time, Google said in a blogpost.

While pricing of the device will be announced closer to the launch, Google said it will be available at a more afford-

Chinese firm sues Apple for \$1.4 billion

CHINESE artificial intelligence company Shanghai Zhizhen Intelligent Network Technology Co., Ltd., also known as Xiao-i, has filed a lawsuit against Apple Inc, alleging it has infringed on its patents.

The company is calling for 10 billion yuan (\$1.43 billion) in damages and demands that Apple cease "manufacturing, using, promising to sell, selling, and importing" products that infringe on the patent, it said in a social media post.

Xiao-i argued that Apple's voice-recognition technology Siri infringes on a patent that it applied for in 2004 and was granted in 2009.

Apple did not respond to a request for comment. Reuters was not immediately available to find a copy of the court filing.

The lawsuit marks the continuation of a row that has been ongoing for nearly a decade. Shanghai Zhizhen first sued Apple for patent infringement in 2012.

Suzuki profit takes big hit on Maruti setback

SUZUKI Motor Corp on Monday saw its operating profit nearly wiped out during the first quarter because of plunging car demand in India, its biggest market which has one of the world's highest novel coronavirus infection rates.

Japan's No. 4 automaker posted an operating profit of 1.3 billion yen (\$12.29 million), its worst quarterly performance on record.

Suzuki said it booked an extraordinary loss of 15.4 billion yen during the quarter from virus-related factory shutdowns. It had secured 400 billion yen in financing from its lenders to help it get through the pandemic, the company said.

The company declined to offer forecasts for full-year profit and dividends.

"In India, infections continue to rise significantly by the day," managing officer Masahiko Nagao told a briefing.

Tri put riders on Voda Idea & Airtel premium plans

TRAI HAS granted additional time to Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea to submit detailed responses on fresh set of questions on their premium plans, where queries range from what happens when a non-priority customer is surrounded by priority users during congestion, to limit of throughput configured for the two sets of subscribers, according to a source.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) source said that both the companies have been given time till August 10 to file their responses. The regulator had sent nearly two dozen questions to Airtel and Vodafone Idea over the contentious premium plans on Friday evening (July 31), and had asked them to explain their stand on August 4, backed by data and presentations.

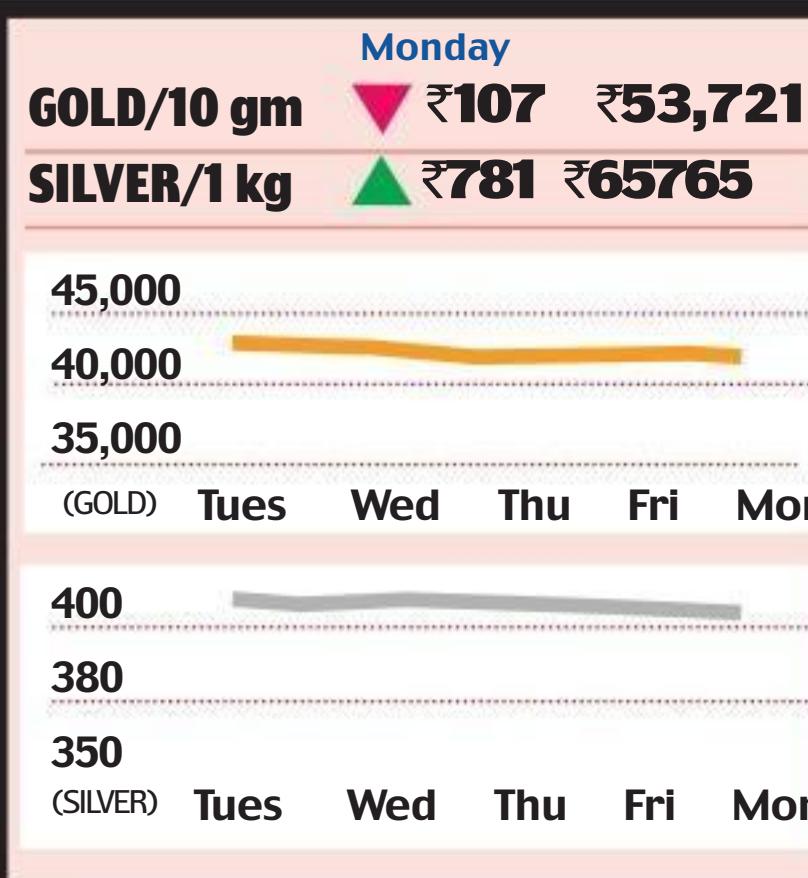
— MT Bureau & Agencies

SENSEX	37,606.89	-667.29
FRIDAY'S CLOSE		
36,939.60	H: 37,596.02	L: 36,911.23
MONDAY'S CLOSE		
NIFTY	11,073.45	-181.85
FRIDAY'S CLOSE		
10,891.60	H: 11,058.05	L: 10,882.25
MONDAY'S CLOSE		

TOP GAINERS		
% change		Price ₹
1 TITAN	3.15	1,076.15
2 TATA STEEL	1.87	373.25
3 SBI	0.34	192.10
4 LARSEN	0.27	915.80
5 HCLTECH	0.09	706.05

TOP LOSERS		
% change		Price ₹
1 KOTAKM	-4.41	1,307.20
2 INDUSINDBNK	-3.90	503.20
3 AXISBNK	-3.30	417.35
4 ONGC	-3.13	75.95
5 HDFCBNK	-2.97	1,001.95

BULLION



EXCHANGE RATE

	Friday	Monday
Dollar	₹74.80	₹75.22
Euro	₹88.65	₹88.23
Pound	₹98.43	₹98.04
Yen (100)	₹71.33	₹70.86
76	100	
72	90	
68	80	
64	70	
60	60	
DOLLAR YEN	\$	€
Fri	Mon	Thu
YEN		€

Powercracy

Haryana emerges as a strong performer with respect to managing covid cases

By Mail Today Bureau in New Delhi

Haryana has emerged as one of the few states which have been able to abate the spread of the highly contagious coronavirus while not affecting the trade and industry. The indefatigable efforts of the state government have even caught the eyes of Niti Aayog which had recently tweeted on its Twitter handle that 'Haryana has emerged as one of the strong performers among states in India with respect to the management of Covid-19 pandemic in India'.

The Niti Aayog also took a detailed presentation recently on the various methods adopted by the state government in its fight against the pandemic. In last four months the state has recorded 32,876 corona positive cases of which 25,758 patients recovered and the virus proved fatal for 406 patients.

Sharing details of the joint efforts of all the departments and health officers of the state government, Rajeev Arora, additional chief secretary, health, said, "Even the districts like Gurugram and Faridabad which share geographical proximity with New Delhi have an excellent recovery rate of 87.09 per cent and 78.5 per cent respectively."

Elaborating on the reasons which has pushed the state among the frontrunners in the covid-crisis

In the last four months the state of Haryana has recorded 32,876 corona positive cases of which 25,758 patients recovered and the virus proved fatal for 406 patients.



"A policy for containment zone management was specially formulated as a part of which senior officers were appointed for strict monitoring of containment zone, around 5.5 lakh immunity boosters Ayush medicines were distributed in containment zones alongwith active search for ILI/SARI/co-morbidity cases in the containment area through door to door survey was done."

"Even the districts like Gurugram and Faridabad which share geographical proximity with New Delhi have an excellent recovery rate of 87.09 per cent and 78.5 per cent respectively."

"We have been on toes since the beginning. From the early stages we had kept a close vigil on the foreign returns with the state police. The mechanism for contact tracing to tap the spread of the communicable virus was formulated on time and played a major role in containing its spread."

RAJEEV ARORA, Additional Chief Secretary, Health, Haryana

returns with the state police. The mechanism for contact tracing to tap the spread of the communicable virus was formulated on time and played a major role in containing its spread."

The state ensured optimum utilisation of health infrastructure and covid-care centres (CCCs) were setup for patients with moderate symptoms. The persons who came in contact with foreign returnees were sent to the CCCs while strictly adhering to the covid protocol.

Among other key factors was fatality management, asserted Arora. "The

death audit of each covid positive patient was done in a systematic manner and corrective measures were taken in view of death audits to reduce fatalities," added Arora. Besides, preferring hospitalisation for co-morbid or elderly patients, timely referrals on escalation of symptoms and improving clinical practices via centres of excellence were some of the practices which lend a hand during the crisis management.

Strict preventive measures were an active part of the covid management strategies followed by the state. Among the preventive strategies were challenging in case of violation of mask wearing and social distancing, feedback mechanism was developed through unit teams to

identify high risk cases or travelers, etc., dissemination of information for public through web portal regarding availability of beds and testing facilities, engagement of community and resident welfare associations (RWAs) in contact tracing etc., maximum contract tracing was done within 72 hours through special cell constituted in districts.

"A policy for containment zone management was specially formulated as a part of which senior officers were appointed for strict monitoring of containment zone, around 5.5 lakh immunity boosters Ayush medicines were distributed in containment zones alongwith active search for ILI/SARI/co-morbidity cases in the containment area through door to door survey was done," specified Arora.

TOURISM MINISTERS COME TOGETHER AT FICCI TOURISM E-CONCLAVE

The FICCI Tourism E-Conclave recently concluded on a high note when six tourism ministers from Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Karnataka and Odisha came together on a single platform and graced the valedictory session along with the ministry of tourism, Govt. of India. Rupinder Brar, add'l director general, ministry of tourism, said, "Infusing confidence among tourists is crucial for the revival of the tourism sector with additional measures for training on safety and hygiene, which may be provided through web-based platforms before international travel picks up." Addressing the webinar 'Tourism E-Conclave: Travel & Hospitality: What's Next?', organised by FICCI, Brar said, "Safety and hygiene will be the priorities for tourists as they will travel to destinations only if they find them safe."

WORLD NATURE CONSERVATION DAY CELEBRATED IN RABINDRA BHAVAN

On the World Nature Conservation Day (July 28), Minister of Culture Prahlad Singh Patel planted pipal, ashoka, amla, neem and bargad trees in Rabindra Bhavan Complex, New Delhi. Secretary culture) Anand Kumar and Joint Secretary, MoC, Nirupama Kotru also contributed to this purpose. On the occasion, Secretary (I/C) Lalit Kala Akademi Ravindra K. Khanduja, Secretary Sahitya Akademi, K. Sreenivas Rao and Secretary Sangeet Natak Akademi Rita Swamy Chaudhary were also present.



SHORT TAKES

NORTHERN RAILWAYS' CONTINUOUS EFFORTS TOWARDS ALL ROUND DEVELOPMENT OF AYODHYA RAILWAY STN.

Northern Railways is in the direction of providing high class infrastructural facilities, passenger amenities, cleanliness, beauty and various desired facilities with high quality standards in Ayodhya railway station. It is noteworthy that the construction work of a well-equipped building with the latest and modern passenger facilities of Ayodhya station is in progress, for this building ₹104.77 crore has been approved. This station building is being constructed



by the RITES an enterprises of Railways. The construction of this building will be in two phases. In the first phase, platform nos. 1 and 2/3, the current circulating area and the holding area will be developed.

SKILL MINISTRY OBSERVES SWACHHTA PAKHWADA TO FIGHT COVID EPIDEMIC

In line with PM Modi's vision of 'Swach Bharat Abhiyan', the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), and its administrative units such as NSDC, DGT and JSS observed Swachhta Pakhwada 2020 with a thematic campaign #SkillSeSwachhta from July 15 - 31. The pakhwada aimed at raising awareness about the importance of cleanliness and good hygiene in our daily lives. Stressing upon hygiene at this covid times, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), in collaboration with Healthcare Sector Skill Council (HSSC) organised a webinar 'Role of Hygiene in Fighting Covid-19 Epidemic' and 'Review of Preparations for Reopening of Training Centres'.

LIC OF INDIA ANNOUNCES THE FINANCIAL RESULTS 2019-2020

LIC of India has announced its audited figures for the year ended March 2020. New business performance by the corporation for the year has shown a growth of 25.17 % in its first year premium by posting a highest ever figure of ₹1,77,977.07 cr. Pension & Group Superannuation Business created history, crossing one lakh cr. and collected ₹1,26,696.21 cr. as new business premium income as against ₹90848.86 cr. in the previ-

ous year showing a growth of 39.46%. The corporation as at March end 2020 collected ₹3,79,062.56 cr. of total premium income as compared to ₹3,37,185.40 cr. collected during the corresponding period last year showing a very robust growth of 12.42%. Total policy payouts amounted to ₹2,54,222.27 cr. for the period ending 31.3.2020 as compared to ₹2,50,936.23 cr. for the corresponding period last year, showing an increase of 1.31%.

Sports Mail



Not committed to any league, says Irfan Pathan

READY IN 45 DAYS

By Rohit Paniker in New Delhi

ALOT REMAINS at stake for India during the upcoming FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, slated to be held in the country next year.

After being postponed to February, 2021 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the event has once again raised frenzied hopes to improve the standard of football in the country, much like the preceding men's version back in 2017.

If reports are to be believed, the national team is scheduled to assemble in Goa soon with coach Thomas Dennerby expected to join at a later date.

And it is not just the players who are running against time in a bid to be ready for the big event. The stadiums are also being prepared with a mission to organise games without hiccups.

One such, Udit Sheth, MD and CEO of The Arena by TransStadia is oozing confidence that the stadium in Ahmedabad requires

The stadium is planning
to host test football
events in September

just 45 days to be ready to play hosts for the World Cup.

Sheth agrees that pandemic has dealt him with a huge financial challenge as business has been on the low due to the lockdown, but TransStadia is looking forward to a successful tournament.

"Officials from FIFA, who had come to visit the stadium last year liked the facility. They have recommended some small things which we have almost finished. Of course, the mandatory practice grounds they have indicated will be worked upon by the Sports Authority of Gujarat. All things are on track and we just looking forward to the event," Sheth told MAIL TODAY.

Sheth added that he is in talks with the All India Football Federation (AIFF) to hold test events in September as lockdown norms ease in the city. He believes the football matches will lift up the morale of the players while also providing status of the condition of the facility.

It is worth mentioning that TransStadia hosted the Inter-Continental Cup between India, Tajikistan, Syria and North Korea in 2019 and has also served as a home ground for both Chennaiyin FC and Chennai City FC in their AFC Cup matches.

NO SPECTATORS

As has been the case since the resumption of sport worldwide, fans have been restricted to the Television and players are now

TransStadia gears up for U-17 Women's World Cup as CEO Udit Sheth confident of finishing work on time



The Arena by TransStadia is one of the hosts for U-17 Women's World Cup.

The U-17 WC is bitter-sweet now due to the pandemic. But more than financial challenge, we need to support the image of India.

— Udit Sheth, MD & CEO, TransStadia

slowly adapting the empty stadium. A similar scenario is expected to be at play during the Junior World Cup in 2021.

Explaining the financial and physical changes for the event, Sheth said, "This changes the dynamics now. If there are no fans, we don't need many of the facilities in the stadium as spectator management is out of the box. The biggest thing during hosting of an event is to manage the crowd. Even though it is a U-17 tournament, we were expecting a huge crowd to attend the games.

"In terms of revenue, the rights holders and tournaments holders get the revenue from tickets, broadcast and all such things. We offer the facility on rental basis, so ticket sales doesn't affect us.

"Yes, we will negotiate or offer discount on the rent if it is discussed given the pandemic situation we all are facing. But, I believe in the end, it is the image of India that we need to support by focussing on how to make the tournament successful. The rest will come later," he summed up.



Stadium may not see spectators in the stands due to COVID-19.

MY COACH RAJESH DESERVES DRONACHARYA: MANOJ

By Chetan Sharma in New Delhi

FORMER Commonwealth Games gold medallist boxer Manoj Kumar has requested the Sports ministry to recommend his coach Rajesh Kumar for the prestigious Dronacharya award.

"In boxing, coaches' achievements get sidelined mostly and they don't get their due recognition. I have a career of 23 glorious years and the credit goes to my coach Rajesh Kumar Rajound."

"For the last five years, my coach has been sending his name for the award but nobody listens. I request the ministry (sports awards committee) to please consider his name this time," Manoj told Mail Today.

Manoj was awarded the Arjuna Award by the Government of India in 2014. Earning the award for his legendary performance should have been natural and easy but he

had to struggle and fight a legal petition against the selection committee. Later, Delhi High Court looked into the facts and directed the government to honor him with the award.

"Nothing came easy to me. I had faced a lot of struggle in my life. Whatever happened to me, I don't want the same to happen with anybody. I have started training young kids with the help of my coach Rajesh. I want to give India the future champions, who will make the nation proud in the Olympics," the Indian boxer said.

Last week, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports constituted committees for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, Dronacharya Awards, Arjuna Awards, Dhyan Chand Awards, Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar Award and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA)

Trophy for the year 2020.

The Members include eminent names from the field of Indian Sports, including Virender Sehwag (Cricket), Sardar Singh (Hockey), Monalisa Baruah Mehta (Table Tennis), Deepa Malik (Para-athletics), Venkatesan Devarajan (Boxing) as well as well-known media persons including Sports Commentator Manish Batavia.

Officials from the Sports Ministry on the committee include, Director General, SAI, Sandip Pradhan, LS Singh, Joint Secretary (Sports Development) and Commander Rajesh Rajagopal, CEO, Target Olympic Podium Scheme. Two additional members who have been Dronacharya awardees may be invited by the chairperson while considering the nomination for Dronacharya Award.



Coach Rajesh Kumar (extreme left)

The boxer urges Sports Min to help in the matter

DATTU TURNS TO FARMING

Army rower enjoys ploughing field to remain fit with no training resumption in sight

By Aditya K Halder in New Delhi

WITH the 2021 Tokyo Olympics-bound and probable athletes training hard at their respective camps throughout India, elite rowers and

swimmers are still in a quarantine mode as they wait for the government to lift the COVID-19 induced restrictions on all water-based sports.

While scores of swimmers and rowers are yearning for training to begin with less than a year to go for the Tokyo Games, rower Dattu Baban Bhokanal has once again find a way to amaze everyone.

The 29-year-old armyman, who earlier caught everyone's attention by sanitising an entire village in his bid to stop the pandemic, has now turned to farming at his ancestral home in Talegaon Ruhim village (near Nashik, Maharashtra) in order to stay fit.

Shows concern
about his 2021
Olympic ambition

Dattu, who was recently home on leave for one and a half month, told MAIL TODAY that he has slugged the entire period at his family's farm field before reporting back to Army Sports Institute in Pune last weekend.

"Since there is no means to train on water in my village, I thought farming would be a good way to keep myself fit and I will be also able to help out my family during this non-training period," he said from Pune on Monday.

When asked if he found it difficult slugging it day in day out during the scorching heat of the merciless summer, Dattu proudly said he enjoyed every moment of it.

"I only felt satisfaction and joy as I have done this since my childhood. Feeling tired after the end of a hardworking day felt equivalent to my efforts while rowing. Also, spending time with my younger brothers on the field felt like old days. We grew Bajra

Dattu Bhokanal has helped his brothers plough the field for the last one and a half month.



MAIL TODAY
EXCLUSIVE

(millet), corn, soya and peanut and it was really satisfying to see our efforts bear fruit," said the 2018 Asian Games gold medallist.

Back to his professional off-the-water training schedule, Dattu admitted it won't be same as spending time on the field but he is happy to be back with his army brothers.

However, uncertainty over training resumption and competitive action in the immediate future means Dattu and his fel-

low rowers have to endure further more frustration.

To make things worse, nation's lone rower at 2016 Rio Olympics is yet to confirm his Tokyo berth due to postponement of Olympic qualifiers.

Not to forget that he hasn't competed since 2018 Asian Games when he was banned for two years for tanking a race.

"It is really difficult at the moment as far as my Olympics ambitions are concerned. Ideally we should be training harder with just a year to go for the Olympics but we have nothing to aim for at the moment, it's all blank. Qualifying for the Olympics is my first objective but how will I do that if I don't get to train and compete," said Dattu.



ON THE occasion of Delhi Football Day, Football Delhi, the governing body of football in Delhi organised a day-long E-Summit involving six different sessions with industry experts from across the globe talking on the common theme of "Making Delhi a Vibrant Football City".

Football Delhi inaugural E-Summit plenary session was participated

by Shri Kiren Rijiju, Hon'ble Sports Minister (Chief Guest), Mr. Praful Patel President All India Football Federation, Dato' Windsor John General Secretary Asian Football Confederation, Mr Jagdish Mitra Chief Strategy Officer Tech Mahindra, Padma Shri Sunil Chhetri Captain Indian National Football Team and Shaji Prabhakaran President Football Delhi.

—Mail Today



Since there is no means to train on water in my village, I thought farming would be a good way to keep myself fit.

— DATTU BHOKANAL

THE Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), in its governing council meeting on Indian Premier League (IPL) on Sunday, decided to continue with the Chinese smartphone company Vivo for title sponsor of the IPL and the decision didn't sit well with many quarters. The decision has been taken amid heated debate on India-China ties after a clash last month in Galwan valley and has drawn ire of the RSS-affiliate Swadeshi Jagran Manch. "At a time when the

BCCI faces flak for retaining Chinese sponsors for IPL

country is striving hard to make our economy free from Chinese dominance in the markets, the government is making all efforts to keep China out of our markets, this act of the IPL Governing Council is an aberration to the nation's mood," SJM's co-convener Ashwani Mahajan said. He

added that people should consider boycotting the cricket league.

Former J&K CM Omar Abdullah also slammed the decision. "I feel bad for those idiots who threw their Chinese made TVs off their balconies only to see this happen," he said.

—Mail Today

Chawrasia remains upbeat despite +ve test



SSP Chawrasia tested COVID-19 positive on Sunday.

By V Krishnaswamy
in New Delhi

THE HUGELY popular golfer SSP Chawrasia continues to be upbeat despite having tested positive for Covid-19. The 42-year-old six-times Asian Tour winner with four wins on European Tour, is currently in home quarantine at his Kolkata residence.

"I am feeling perfectly fine and don't seem to have any symptoms. There is no weakness, no fever and I am feeling active. But on doctor's advice I have quarantined myself in my house in a separate room from my wife. We are both inside the house and are not stepping out since the positive results," said Chawrasia.

The golfer plans to have another test in a day or two to be sure, but is going through all the safety measures like quarantine and taking medicines.

He said, "I actually went for a test on my own after taking a doctor's advice, since I was planning to go to UK for the European Tour events."

He added, "I was not feeling any discomfort. It was just a precaution before travelling as I have a lot of events coming in the UK."

Speaking from his home, Chawrasia said, "I did not have symptoms. All was normal but I had to have a test because that is needed to fly out. The test turned out to be positive and I have been advised home quarantine." His wife, SImantini will also be going for a test.

He has been prescribed multi-vitamins and will be in home quarantine for two

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

weeks. "I have informed all those who may have been in contact with me before the tests," said Chawrasia.

Through the pandemic, Chawrasia said he was most careful about stepping out and wore masks at all times when going out. "But now that I have it, I want to ensure the safety of all those in contact with me in the past few days."

He was upbeat saying, "It is about two weeks and after having spent so much time at home during lockdown, this is just another step."

SHOOTING CAMP DELAY IS BAFFLING

By S.Kannan in New Delhi

THERE is an air of uncertainty over holding a full-fledged national camp for the elite shooters preparing for the postponed Tokyo Olympics.

After much deliberation, the Sports Authority of India decided to throw open the Karni Singh ranges for the elite shooters to train last month. However, by not allowing the coaches to be part of the process, a wrong signal is being sent.

It is well known many shooters returned to the ranges on their own. SOP (standard operating procedure) was laid down, yet there is no explanation why a camp has not been sanctioned.

Last week, one lady coach tested positive for COVID-19. She had been visiting the Karni Singh ranges, though the SAI release said she did



The moot point is if shooters are going to the ranges, why are coaches not kept in the loop.

not come in contact with any shooters.

The moot point is if shooters like Manu Bhaker, Mairaj Khan and company are going to the ranges, why are coaches not kept in the loop. As it is, after the 57 National Sports Federations were

derecognised, most of the work pertaining to national camps is being handled by the SAI.

From athletics to boxing and weightlifting to hockey, camps will be on in full swing soon. The hockey camps will start in a fortnight's time

after the players complete their quarantine period at the SAI Kengeri centre in Bengaluru. They land in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

Clearly, there seems to be a lack of communication between the SAI and the NRAI on camps. NRAI presi-

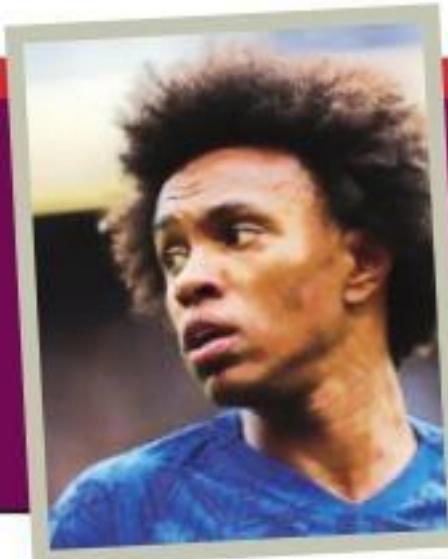
dent Raninder Singh had talked of a camp starting in mid-July. However, there is no clarity now and the SAI is also mum.

If the reason for delay is one coach testing positive, why is the SAI spending so much money on shooting coaches, including foreigners, when they are not being put to use.

MAIL TODAY spoke to some of the leading coaches who would have been part of the camps. They expressed surprise at the silence.

"What we know is the SAI is directly in contact with shooters and sanctions their ammunition. We are in the dark and have no idea why we are not being allowed to be part of the camp," said three coaches.

At a time when the SAI is responsible for Olympic training, the step-motherly treatment for shooting is surprising.



Willian rejects two-year contract from Chelsea



Lewis Hamilton (pictured below) along with 13 other drivers takes a knee for the Black Lives Matter movement.

LEWIS Hamilton stressed the importance of following through with Formula One's 'End Racism' message after drivers showed a more united front at the British Grand Prix.

Although there was no universal taking of the knee for a fourth round this season - the world champion was joined by 12 others, while seven elected to stand - all drivers contributed to an anti-racism video that was aired ahead of the race.

As with previous rounds, Hamilton wore a 'Black Lives Matter' T-shirt, while the other drivers wore tops sporting the 'End Racism' message.

Hamilton went on to win in dramatic circumstances, limping over the line following a puncture, and reflected positively on the progress made with regard to the pre-race gathering at the front of the grid.

"In terms of the start, I've been really, really happy with what F1 organisers have done," said Hamilton.

"Last week I had really great Zoom conversations with Chase (Carey) and Ross (Brawn) about what we could do better and how we could solidify our approach and show more unity together."

"I don't know how it looked on TV but it felt a lot more organised and it didn't take a lot for us to have that extra 10 minutes. What is really important is to keep that up because we have this incredible platform with so many people watching."

"Every single one of us needs to be reminded every now and then of how serious things can

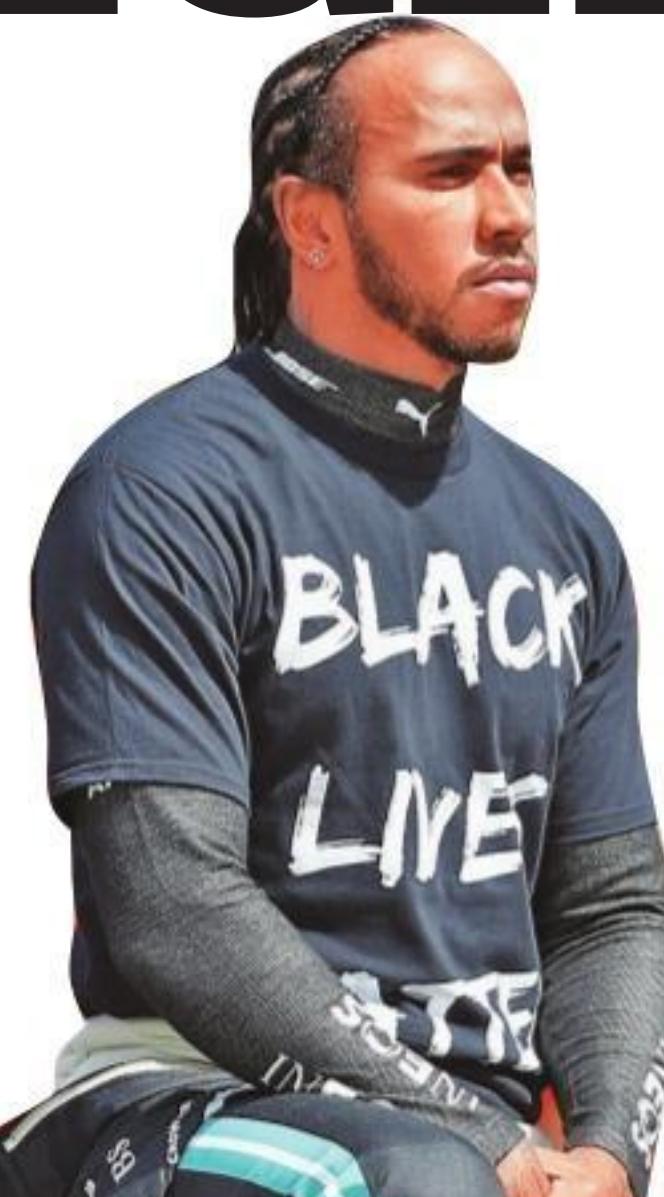
LOT MORE ORGANISED

Hamilton praises F1's handling of anti-racism protest

be, so that people are aware.

"And what is more important is that F1 follows through and how they said they are going to try to attack these things within our industry."

"That is an ongoing discussion, but I feel really confident to see everyone's view and moving



Every single one of us needs to be reminded every now and then of how serious things can be, so that people are aware.

— LEWIS HAMILTON, MERCEDES DRIVER

towards it."

Lewis Hamilton was drawn into an Extinction Rebellion campaign that resulted in four activists being arrested at Silverstone on Sunday.

The environmental activists broke into the circuit hours before the British Grand Prix.

As the cars took off for the formation lap, the protesters unveiled a pink banner, reading 'Act Now', behind the start line.

Later, they emerged on the pit straight disguised as marshals.

Extinction Rebellion issued a statement on Sunday night in which they quoted Hamilton as having said: "Climate change is a serious threat. Every one of us has the responsibility to protect our future and the future of the next generation."

Hamilton has often voiced concern over the environment, and last month chided people for wearing disposable face masks because they 'end up on the ocean floor'.

— Daily Mail

PCB chief Mani urges England to plan tour of Pakistan



England haven't visited Pakistan since 2005 amid concerns regarding safety.

EHSAN Mani has been around for too long to fall into the trap of suggesting that Pakistan's tour of Covid-19-hit England is the precursor to a return favour. But that doesn't mean he isn't crossing his fingers.

The 75-year-old is chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board, and has previously served as ICC president, so he knows the contours of cricket politics. But he is, by his own admission, not one to hang around. He is adamant his country is ready to host England — and is determined to make it happen.

A lot has changed since they last toured Pakistan, in October 2005. Tony Blair was Prime Minister. England had just beaten Australia for the first time in 18 years. Some of the players might still have been tipsy from

Says the country is safe to host cricket series

the partying. Little did Michael Vaughan's team know, it would be their last visit for many years.

In March 2009, terrorists in Lahore attacked the buses carrying the Sri Lankan team and match officials, leaving six police officers and two civilians dead — and Pakistan a no-go zone.

Now, Mani, who in August 2018 was nominated as board chairman by Imran Khan, the country's Prime Min-

ister and greatest cricketer — feels the time is right for the so-called western Test teams to lay their fears aside and see Pakistan for the safe haven he believes it now is.

"We've not linked anything with this tour," Mani tells Sportsmail. "But cricket needs to get together. I've been in discussions with England since I became chairman. We've had ECB chief executive Tom Harrison out here. He enjoyed his time and we wanted to make him feel comfortable."

"I'm confident the levels of security will be good. My wife, Frances, drives herself around Islamabad, and I don't feel the need for any security or guards. No place in the world is risk-free, but all things being equal, I don't see why England can't visit Pakistan."

— Daily Mail