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NOTHING IS OPAQUE

WINDOWS



French fashion designer Pierre Cardin dies at 98

NEW DELHI: French designer Pierre Cardin, who upended fashion styles in the 1960s and 70s with futuristic looks, has died at the age of 98, France's Fine Arts Academy said in a statement on Twitter. Cardin was also known for overhauling the fashion industry by successfully licensing his brand name and making savvy business moves. Cardin founded his influential brand in 1950. The Italian-born designer is a contemporary of Christian Dior, who died in 1957. He was, along with Hubert de Givenchy, one of the last living members of the post-War fashion generation. He was one of the first to show a keen business sense by exploiting brand licenses - a strategy that was embraced by rivals too before many reversed the practise in recent year. The Pierre Cardin name ended up on everything from cheap boxer shorts to bottled water.

K'taka Council Dy Chief found dead on rail track

CHIKKAMAGALURU: Karnataka Legislative Council Deputy Chairman S L Dharma Gowda, who was seen being man-handled by the opposition Congress members inside the House -- being literally plucked from the chair in full view as images went viral, was on Tuesday found dead on a railway track near his hometown. He was 64. Sources close to him maintained that he committed suicide after his dead body was found around 2 a.m. on the railway track near Gunasagara and Kabli villages in Kaduru taluk in Chikkamagaluru. Kaduru is 235 km from tech hub Bengaluru. Police has confirmed Gowda's death, which is likely to kick up a storm in Karnataka politics, putting Congress in the dock. The sources said that Gowda left his farmhouse Sakharayapattana after 10 pm in a Santro car along with his driver.



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal distributes a mid-day meal dry kit to the mother of a student as Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia looks on, at a government school, in New Delhi on Tuesday

8 lakh children to get dry ration till schools reopen

PURNA SINGH NEW DELHI

SCHOOLS are not expected to reopen in Delhi in the next few months. Due to this, the Delhi government has decided to give dry ration to about 8 lakh children studying in the government schools under the mid-day meal scheme. The scheme will continue until the schools reopen. Currently, this type of dry ration will be given to children for 6 months. During this time, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "Delhi government schools still have the same teachers and children, but the atmosphere has changed. Now our children are getting admission in IITs and medical colleges. People from all over the world come to see Delhi's schools. It is a matter of pride for Delhiites. Even in the Corona era, 94 percent of our school children are still taking online classes."

10 DELHI SCHOOLS SELECTED FOR R-DAY CULTURAL PROGRAMMES

PURNA SINGH NEW DELHI

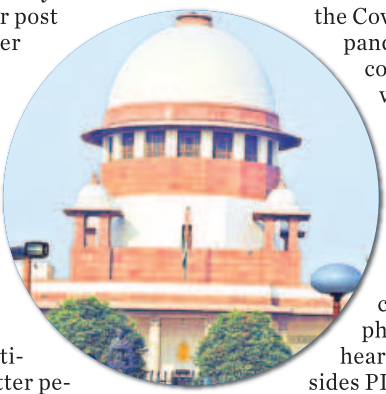
THE Ministry of Defence has selected 10 schools in Delhi for performing cultural programmes on the ensuing Republic Day. These schools will present the programmes on Rajpath. The Directorate of Education released the list of the schools, which include Government Girls Senior Secondary School at Yamuna Vihar, Mount Abu Public School at Rohini Sector-5, Vidya Bharati School at Rohini Sector-15 and all seven schools of Delhi Tamil Education Association. According to the Directorate of Education, students from all the selected schools will conduct rehearsals at Rajpath on January 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20 and 21 from 8.30 am every day. During this time, the transportation and refreshments for the students will be arranged by the Sports Branch of the Directorate of Education.

SC ANNOUNCES NEW ROSTER

CJI, 7 senior judges to hear PILs from Jan 4

NEW DELHI

THE Supreme Court came out with a new roster on Monday determining allocation of cases to its different benches, which would come into effect from January 4 next year post the winter break. According to the new roster, public interest litigation (PIL) petitions, letter petitions and social justice matters would now be heard by Chief Justice of India (CJI) S A Bobde and seven senior judges. Besides the CJI, the senior-most judge, Justice N V Ramana, and justices R F Nariman, U U Lalit, A M Khanwilkar, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and L Nageswara Rao would deal with the PILs and social justice matters, usually involving the Centre and the states, and their instrumentalities as opposite parties. Usually, six to seven benches of the apex court assemble through video-conferencing due to the situation triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic, in contrast with the normal times when 14-15 benches used to take up cases in physical hearings. Besides PIL matters, the CJI has kept with him the matters of contempt, habeas corpus, social justice, direct and indirect tax cases, among others. He would also be dealing with election matters, cases pertaining to the appointments of constitutional functionaries and those that are specially assigned to him.



Ahead of talks with farmers...

TOMAR, GOYAL MEET SHAH TO FIRM UP GOVT STAND

NEW DELHI

A DAY before the next round of talks are held between the Centre and the farmers protesting the three new agri laws, Union ministers Narendra Singh Tomar and Piyush Goyal met senior BJP leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday. Sources said they discussed and finalised the government's position for the Wednesday meeting. Agriculture Minister Tomar, Railway Minister Goyal and MoS Commerce and Industry Som Parkash have been representing the Centre in dialogues with the farmers. It has been over a month now that thousands of farmers from Punjab, Haryana and parts of Uttar Pradesh, have been camping at Delhi's borders seeking repeal of the three farm laws enacted in September. They have threatened to intensify their stir in the coming days if their demands are not fulfilled. The government has invited 40 protesting farm unions on December 30 for the next round of talks to discuss all relevant issues to find a "logical solution" to the current impasse over the three laws. The government's invite followed a proposal made by the unions last week to hold the talks on Tuesday. So far, five rounds of formal talks have been held between the two sides.



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Farmers burn copies of farm reform bills during their ongoing agitation

Massive farmers showdown in Patna

PATNA: Hundreds of farmers reached Patna on Tuesday and assembled near the Gandhi Maidan before they took out a mega march to the Bihar Raj Bhawan. District administration had placed barricades at Gandhi Maidan to prevent those already camping there for the last few days. Now with the added reinforcement more barricades were set up to block the farmers march from the historic ground.

Delhi shivers under cold wave

NEW DELHI

DELHI reeled under a cold wave on Tuesday as icy winds sweeping through the city brought the minimum temperature down to 3.6 degrees Celsius, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said. The Safdarjung Observatory, which provides representative data for the city, recorded a low of 3.6 degrees Celsius as against 5.6 degrees Celsius on Monday. The weather stations at Ayanagar and Lodhi Road recorded a low of 2.6 degrees Celsius and 2.7 degrees Celsius respectively, it added. Continued on Page 5

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE DIPS TO 3.6° CELSIUS



Moderate snowfall across Kashmir

Gulmarg coldest at minus 7.5 deg Celsius

SRINAGAR: There was a moderate snowfall at most places in Kashmir on Tuesday, bringing cheer to those associated with tourism and trade as they expect business to pick up on the New Year's Eve. Continued on Page 5

TiHAN set to achieve Aatmanirbhar Bharat

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE TiHAN (Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation) Foundation established in IIT-Hyderabad is a great step for achieving the objective of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', 'Skill India', and 'Digital India', said Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'. After laying the foundation stone for TiHAN, the minister said, "TiHAN Foundation at IIT Hyderabad is a multi-department initiative, including researchers from electrical, computer science, mechanical and aerospace, civil, mathematics and design with collaboration and support from reputed institutions and industry." Continued on Page 5



'WARNING FROM GOD'

Rajinikanth drops political plans

CHENNAI

SUPERSTAR Rajinikanth, who finally appeared ready to launch his political party with a "now or never" announcement earlier this month, has now decided to opt for the latter course, citing health concerns. "With extreme sadness I say that I can't enter politics. I alone know the pain I went through while announcing this decision," he said in a statement on Tuesday -- two days after his discharge from hospital where he was admitted over the weekend with blood pressure fluctuations. "Without entering electoral politics, I will serve the people. This decision of mine will disappoint my fans and people but please forgive me," read the statement of the actor, who set up the Rajini Makkal Mandram two years ago with a promise to practice "spiritual politics". "My hospitalisation was a warning given by God. My campaign will impact health amid the pandemic," he added, explaining the reason for his decision. 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