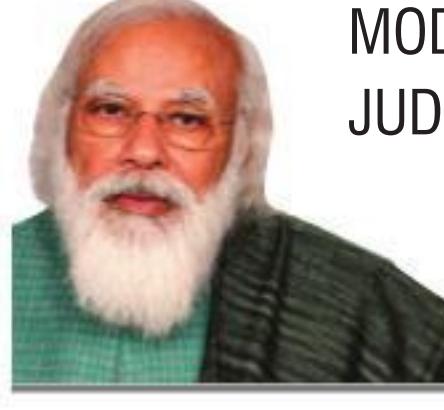


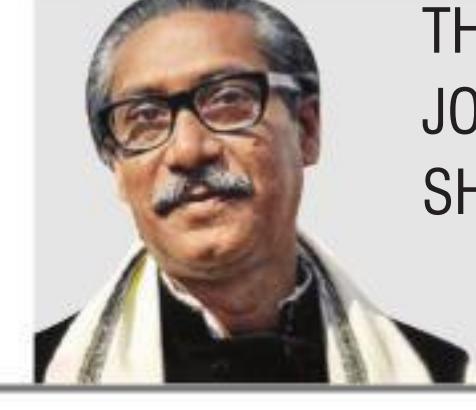


Pages 12 | ₹5 | LC

KOLKATA | NEW DELHI | SILIGURI | BHUBANESWAR



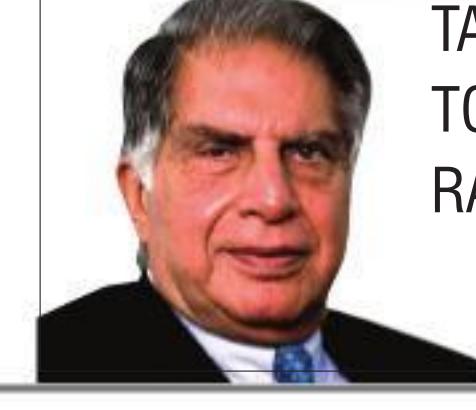
MODI HAILS
JUDICIARY



THE UNFINISHED
JOURNEY OF
SHEIKH MUJIB

P4

P7



TATA ASKS PEOPLE
TO STOP BHARAT
RATNA CAMPAIGN

P8



STOKES
LEADS PRAISE
OF ROOT

P12

PEOPLE'S PARLIAMENT, ALWAYS IN SESSION

WEATHER

Mainly clear sky. Mist/Shallow fog in the morning. The maximum and minimum temperatures would be around 23 and 08 degrees Celsius respectively.

RAINFALL: Nil

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

Max: 100% Min: 55%

TEMPERATURE

Max: 22.3°C (-1) Min: 07.4°C (-2)
SUN RISES 07:05 hrs MOON RISES 04:11 hrs

SUN SETS 18:05 hrs MOON SETS 13:43 hrs

THUMBNAILS



President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurates a museum at the erstwhile ancestral house of former Chief of Army Staff General Thimayya, at Madikeri, Karnataka on Saturday.

Chakka jam hits Punjab, Haryana, Raj

Scores of people detained in several states; farmer leader Rakesh Tikait declares protest on Delhi's outskirts will continue till 2 Oct



Hollywood veteran now backs farmers

Standing in solidarity with the #FarmersProtest in India. Read about who they are and why they're protesting below.

Thelma & Louise star Susan Sarandon is the latest international celebrity to back the protest. The 74-year-old actor took to Twitter and shared a news report by *The New York Times*, headlined, "Why Are Farmers Protesting in India?"

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At least 40 protesters, including senior Congress leader Prithviraj Chavan's wife Satwasheela Chavan, were detained for holding a protest on a busy road at Kolhapur Naka in Karad in western Maharashtra this afternoon, a police official said. In Telangana, police said several people were taken into preventive custody as leaders of Opposition parties joined the farmers in 'raasta roko' protests on various.

Farmers blocked highways in different parts of Karnataka to show their solidarity. A few pro-Kannada organisations too came in support of the agitators. Protests were also held in Chennai and other parts of Tamil Nadu.

Security was tightened and barricade set up while left-wing activists protest at Shaheed Park; (right) farmers protest over Centre's farm laws at Singhu border.

SUBRATA DUTTA

at Shaheedi Park in the national capital which was brought under a thick security blanket in light of the violence during the tractor parade on 26 January.

Protesters were also held briefly by police as they stalled traffic in parts of Maharashtra, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

The Congress and Left parties too joined the protests in some states in support of the 'chakkajam' called by the agitating farmer unions.

While Delhi along with Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand was kept out of Saturday's road blockade from 12 noon till 3 p.m. by agitating farmer unions, authorities suspended internet at the protest sites of Singhu, Ghazipur and Tikri as well as adjoining areas for 24 hours till Saturday night and closed entry and exit facilities at 10 prominent Delhi Metro stations for few hours.

Singhu border looked crowded than before as more tractors and farmers made their way to the protest sites, while drone cameras, multilayered barricades, nail-studded roads and barbed wires were in place as part of precautionary measures by the police.

Security forces, including anti-riot police, were deployed at important junctions across the national capital, including Red Fort and ITO, which had witnessed violence on 26 January.

The police also monitored content on social media, officials said.

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In Rajasthan, farmers at many places including Ganganagar, Hanumanagar, Dholpur and Jha-

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Capital's min temp rises: Delhi's minimum temperature increased slightly to 7.4 degrees Celsius and is likely to remain within comfortable levels for the next three to four days, the India Meteorological Department said. On Friday, the minimum and maximum temperatures had settled at 6.8 degrees Celsius and 23.2 degrees Celsius, respectively. The city recorded a minimum of 12.4 degrees Celsius on Thursday, 10.2 degrees Celsius on Wednesday and 6.2 degrees Celsius on Tuesday. The city's 24-hour average air quality index (AQI) stood at 310 on Saturday. An AQI between zero and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", and 401 and 500 "severe". The maximum wind speed was 15 kmph on Saturday, favourable for dispersion for pollutants.

JOBS & CLASSIFIEDS QUEST

LEGAL NOTICES

P.L.A. No. 187 of 2018
IN THE HIGH COURT
CALCUTTA
Testamentary and Intestate
Jurisdiction
President of the Union of India
Petition for Probate
in the goods of:
Rabindra Nath Chatterjee, son of late Surendra Nath Chatterjee, Late residing at No. 32C, Sankadana Road, P.S. Kalighat, Kolkata - 700026, a Hindu inhabitant deceased.
All persons claiming to have any interest in the estate of the abovementioned deceased are hereby cited to come within 2 (Two) weeks from the date of the publication and affixation of the citation and see the proceedings, if they think fit, before the grant of Probate in the above goods.
You are hereby informed that free legal services from the High Court Legal Services Committee are available to you and in case you are eligible and desire to avail of the free legal services, you may contact the above Legal Services Committee.
Witness Mr. Thottathil B. Radhakrishnan, Chief Justice at Calcutta attoressed, this 15th day of January, 2021.

Sd/-
For Registrar
81/2021
Sandersons & Morgans,
Advocates,
5, Netaji Subhas Road,
Kolkata - 70001

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that our client Sh. Krishan Chand Bansal, S/o, Late Sh. Mange Ram, R/o. BE-369, Hari Nagar, Delhi-110064 is a lawful owner of Property Bearing No. B-52 (adjoining to plot No. B-51), area 51.12 sq. yds. out of total area admeasuring 103 sq. yds. part of Khasra No. 38/9, comprising of still parking, upper ground floor, first floor, second floor, third floor & terrace, situated in the area of village Khyla, now colony known as Vishnu Garden, New Delhi. Our client hereby cautions that any person who has any claim or interest in the above said property in any manner whatsoever, as one Mrs. Kavita Bansal, W/o, Sanjay Kumar Bansal, R/o. G-43, G-Block, Shyam Nagar, New Delhi-110018 in connivance with her husband Sh. Sanjay Kumar Bansal, S/o, Sh. Krishan Chand Bansal, D/o, Sh. Narendra Kumar, R/o. N-93, Shyam Nagar, Near Tinku Nagar, New Delhi-110018 has illegally created third party rights with respect to First Floor of the said property, in favor of Mrs. Nisha @Nisha Yadav, D/o, Sh. Narendra Kumar, R/o. N-93, Shyam Nagar, Near Tinku Nagar, New Delhi-110018. The same was fabricated sale dated 03.11.2020. The said sale deed has been done on the basis of some alleged fraudulent agreement to sell and general power of attorney, which documents have never been executed by our client. It is therefore cautioned that any party or person dealing with the above said property shall do so at his / her own risk, cost & consequences and our client shall not be responsible for the same for all or any legal consequences to be initiated.

For R. A. LAW CO.
Ankit Gupta (Advocate)
908, P. Towers,
Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampura,
New Delhi-110034
Tel.: +91-91-27356678
E-mail: rawaco@gmail.com
Dated: 06.02.2021

GENERAL Notice — I, Tapas Das, of 79/18, Raja Ram Mohan Roy Road, P.S.: Behala, Kolkata-700008, do hereby declare that one Deed being Deed No. 321 for the year 1987, registered in the office of the A.D.S.R. Behala, is lost and/or misplaced from my custody. The said Deed is neither been seized by Police nor deposited in any Court of law or before any Bank against mortgage. If anybody gets the said Deed kindly inform me or please delivered the same to my address.

ELECTRICAL & MACHINERY BAZAR



The Sunday Statesman

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Near Jodha Nivas
The Mall Shimla-171001, H.P.

AIR-SURCHARGE: Kathmandu - Rs. 2, Eastern Region - Re. 1
All other stations in India - Re. 1

...it is now time that the people offer them a 'Ta-ta'

JP NADDHA, NATIONAL PRESIDENT, BJP

ON HOW HE SEES HOARDINGS OF MAMATA AND ABHISEKH BANERJEE OFFERING A 'NAMASKAR'



More than 1L people given Covid shots in Delhi so far

They are mostly health workers, even as vaccination begins for frontline workers who include police, civil defence, DJB & electricity personnel; Delhi's corona positivity rate dips to 0.19 pc

PTI
NEW DELHI, 6 FEBRUARY

The number of people vaccinated against Covid-19 in Delhi has crossed the one lakh-mark so far and the majority of them are healthcare workers, officials said today.

Yesterday, over 9,200 healthcare workers had received Covid shots in the city during the third week of the inoculation drive, registering a turnout of more than 50 per cent.

"The total number of people vaccinated against Covid-19 so far has crossed 1,00,000-mark," a senior official said.

The Covid vaccination of frontline workers has also started, he said.

District Magistrates of several districts have come forward to get themselves vaccinated, such as DMs of southwest, north, northwest, east and west districts, officials said. Several police personnel have also come forward to get vaccinated.

The district administrators have thus sought to inspire confidence in the general public regarding the safety and efficacy of the Covid vaccine, a senior offi-



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

cials said.

It was said yesterday that the vaccination would begin for frontline workers too from 6 February. Frontline workers include police, civil defence staff, DJB and electricity department employees among others.

After the arrival of the vaccine, its first doses were administered to healthcare workers on priority. The number of scheduled days for it, which were initially four days per week, have now

been extended to six days a week - from Monday to Saturday.

After a sluggish start

from 16 January, this inoculation drive in the national capital seemed to have picked up momentum over the last several days, at least in terms of absolute numbers.

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The peaceful satyagraha of annadatas is in national interest -- these three laws are not just harmful for farmers-labourers, but also for the people and the country. Full support!

RAHUL GANDHI
CONGRESS LEADER

The Sunday Statesman
NEW DELHI, 07 FEBRUARY 2021

03

'Chakka jam': Capital put under massive security

It was turned into a fortress with heavy police and paramilitary deployment even as farmers had declared there won't be any road blockade in Delhi; 10 Metro stations were shut and later reopened

SNS & PTI

NEW DELHI, 6 FEBRUARY

The three-hour-long nationwide 'chakka jam' by protesting farmers was held today amid tight security, even as there was no such road blockade in the national capital which was turned into a fortress with heavy security deployment by Delhi Police, paramilitary and reserve forces personnel to prevent any untoward incident.

Farmer unions protesting against the Centre's controversial farm laws had announced a countrywide 'chakka jam' on 6 February during which they would block national and state highways between 12 noon and 3 pm to protest the internet ban in areas near their agitation sites, 'harassment' meted out to them by authorities and police, and other issues.

However, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha - the umbrella body of 40 farmer unions - had said yesterday that the protesters will not block roads in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand during the 'chakka jam'.

Delhi Police used drone cameras to keep a tight vigil at protest sites. It deployed over 40,000 police personnel in and around the national capital today to avoid any untoward incident.

Police had taken few left leaders in preventive custody. About 50 people were detained near Shaheed Park in central Delhi for holding a protest in support of farmers' 'chakka jam'.

In view of the Republic Day violence that had left 500 security personnel injured and one protester dead in Delhi, the city police made



additional measures, including tightening security and intensifying vigil across the national capital and its border points.

Security forces were deployed at important junctions across Delhi, including Red Fort and ITO, which had witnessed violence during the 26 January tractor rally organised by the protesting farmers.

Multilayered barricades, barbed wires and nail-studded roads at the protest sites were also part of the precautionary measures taken by the police force.

The police also monitored content on social media to keep a watch on those spreading rumours against the force,

officials said.

Delhi Police commissioner S N Srivastava today visited the Red Fort to take stock of security arrangements there. Besides Delhi police personnel, sixty companies of para-military forces were also on stand-by near the Red Fort.

Ten Delhi Metro stations, including Mandi House and ITO stations, were closed today

for the duration of the 'chakka jam' and reopened after this protest ended at 3 pm.

Earlier in the day, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC), in a series of tweets, informed commuters that multiple stations have been closed. "Security Update

Entry/exit gates of Mandi House, ITO and Delhi Gate are closed," it tweeted.

The DMRC later tweeted that entry and exit gates of Vishwavidyalaya station were also closed. "Entry/exit gates of Lal Quila, Jama Masjid, Jampath and Central Secretariat are closed. Interchange facility is available. Entry/exit gates of Khan Market and Nehru Place are closed," it tweeted.

In the evening, the Delhi Metro stated that entry and exit gates of all 10 metro stations closed in view of 'chakka jam' had been re-opened, and normal services had resumed.

At all the three main protest sites on Delhi's borders, protesting farmers camping there for over 70 days were busy with their routine affairs.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (East) Deepak Yadav had said although the protesters had maintained that they would not enter the national capital, adequate security measures had been made as a precautionary measure to maintain law and order.

"There are additional deployment of pickets at all the border points. All vehicles are being checked thoroughly at the entry and exit points of pickets and borders. Additional buses had been taken and extra barricades put up at the protest points across the city," he said.

Haryana Police cautions public against Covid vaccine registration fraud

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, 6 FEBRUARY



In view of the ongoing mass vaccination drive for Covid-19, Haryana Police on Saturday cautioned against fraudsters who dupe on the pretext of registration for Covid-19 vaccine.

Issuing an advisory today, additional director general of police (law and order), Navdeep Singh Virk said cyber criminals never run out of new ideas to cash in on the situation.

Such scammers may defraud citizens through phone calls, emails or even by WhatsApp and other social

media applications asking them their details for getting themselves registered for the vaccine.

Referring to the modus operandi of fraudsters, he said that these are making phone calls to people offering to register their names for the vaccine.

With this, they are collecting sensitive personal information such as Aadhaar number, email in the name of Covid-19 vaccine registration. With these details, they also ask to authenticate Aadhaar by sharing an OTP. The moment OTP is given; money is siphoned off from the Aadhaar-linked bank account.

Virk advised the people to exercise caution and not to entertain any phone calls on the vaccine registration. Don't share your personal data with anyone and use only the government health department approved mobile application for Cobid-19 vaccination, he added.

Delhi Police warns action against travellers with ammunition at IGI

PTI
NEW DELHI, 6 FEBRUARY

duced his valid arms license issued in his name with area validity for Haryana, a senior police officer said.

In another instance, a woman travelling from Terminal-3 was also found in possession of one live ammunition during screening of her baggage and she could not produce valid documents for it, he said.

A total of 13 cases, where ammunition has been found in the baggage of passengers during security check, have already been registered this year at the IGI Airport police station under sections of Arms Act, officials said.

The advisory comes a day after a passenger at IGI's Terminal-3, who was travelling from Delhi to Maldives by a private airlines, was found carrying 11 cartridges of .32 bore in his check-in baggage, police said.

During questioning, the passenger had told the police that the recovered cartridges belonged to his licensed weapon and had also pro-

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI 4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001. OA NO. 368/2018 ICICI Bank Limited ...Applicant Versus Sh. Rohit Gurudeva & Ors. ...Defendants

To, 1. Sh. Rohit Gurudeva S/o. Sh. Devendra Kumar Gurudeva R/o: D-5/1401, Pranayam Society, Sector 82-B5, Faridabad-121001. Haryana And also: R/o: T-1/C-403, 4th Floor, Monarch, Plot No. GH-02/C, Sector-1, Greater Noida-201307.

2. Rajate Gurudeva Tiwari R/o: D-5/1401, Pranayam Society, Sector 82-B5, Faridabad-121001. Haryana And also at: R/o: T-1/C-403, 4th Floor, Monarch, Plot No. GH-02/C, Sector-1, Greater Noida-201307.

3. JSS Buildcon Private Limited Having its Registered Office At: 197-E, Picket-V, Mayur Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-110091. Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 59,70,013/- (Rupees Fifty Nine Lacs Seventy Thousand Thirteen Only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before Lt. Registrar on 17.04.2021 at 10:30 A.M. for further details kindly visit DRT website www.eitrbl.gov.in Phone Number: 011-23748473.

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence. Due to ongoing pandemic situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:-

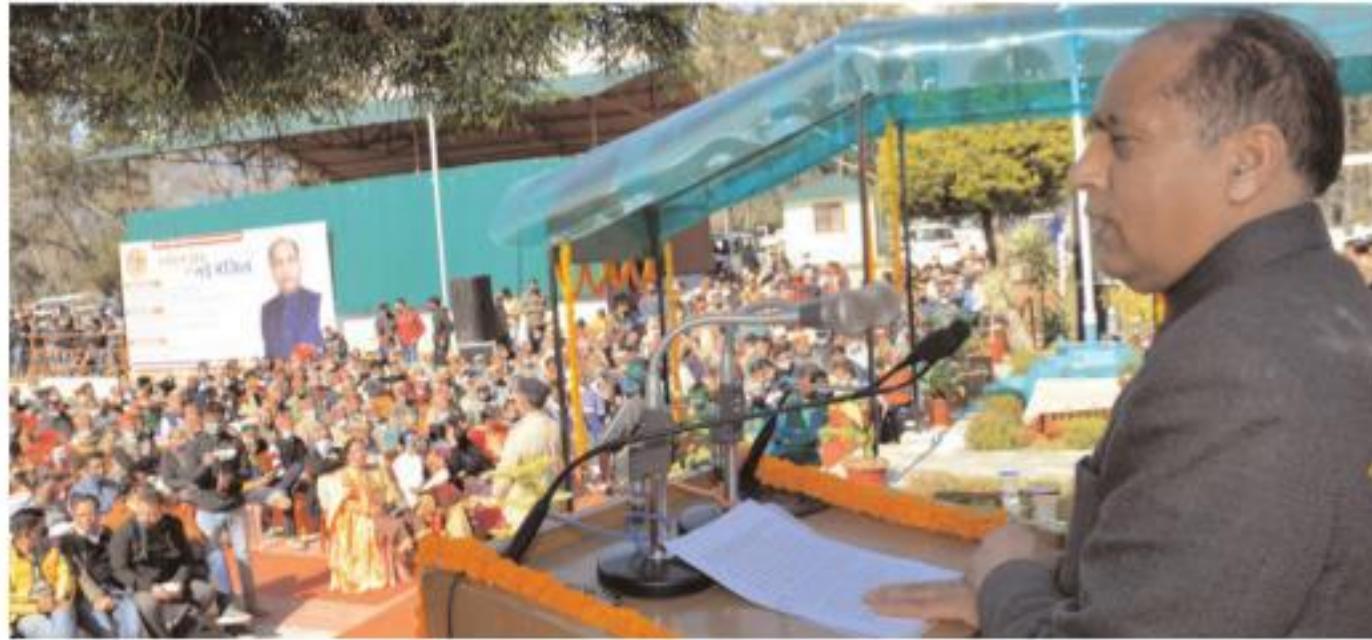
(i) All the Advocates/ Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application/ Software;

(ii) "Meeting ID" and "Password" for the next date of hearing quas cases to be taken by "Registrar/recovery Officer- II and Recovery Officer- II shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. "drt.gov.in" under the Public Notice Head.

(iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/ Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 011-23748473. Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 30th day of January 2021

By Order of this Tribunal For Registrar

HP government committed to welfare of Gaddi tribals: CM



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
SHIMLA, 6 FEBRUARY

The Himachal Pradesh government is committed to the welfare of Gaddi community and would initiate new schemes for making sheep rearing more profitable.

This was stated by Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur while addressing the Sheep Breeders Conference organized by HP Wool Federation at Banuri in Palampur area of Kangra district on Saturday after inaugurating the Tribal Community and Training Centre building constructed by spending an amount of Rs one crore.

The Chief Minister said that it was in the year 2000 during the tenure of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government at the Centre as well as in the state, when the Gaddi community was accorded tribal status. He said that the state government has directed Deputy Commissioners and Superintendents of Police to ensure strict action against the offenders involved in theft of sheep and goats of the Gaddi people.

He said that Gaddi would be provided Rams of good breed so as to get high quality wool.

Thakur said that the people of the state have given massive mandate to the present state government in the recently concluded elections of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies. He said that out of 63 Block Development Committee (BDC) results which were declared, the BJP supported candidates have won 57 BDC seats. He said that the people of the state have also

ensured that the BJP won all the elections held during the last three years including the Lok Sabha as well as the by-elections.

He said that people of the state were fully satisfied with the developmental and welfare oriented policies and programmes of the state government.

The Chief Minister said that the present state government during the last three years has initiated several welfare schemes for upliftment of the poor and downtrodden. He said the Himachal Grihini Sivistha Yojna has been launched to provide free gas connections to households devoid of the same.

He said that as many as 2.90 lakh free gas connections under this scheme have been provided, thereby making Himachal Pradesh a Smoke Free State of the country.

Thakur said that the Union Government has started Ayushman Bharat Yojna to provide health cover of Rs 5 lakh to every family. He said that to cover the families left out from Ayushman Bharat Yojna, the state government started HIM CARE scheme.

He said that till date as many as 1.50 lakh families have derived benefit of this scheme and an amount of Rs 150 crore have been spent on this. He said the state government has also started Sahara Yojana, under which the families with chronically ill patients are provided financial assistance of Rs 3000 per month. He said that as many as 15 thousand people have been

benefited under this scheme.

The chief minister said that under the Mukhyamantri Swavalamban Yojana the state government is providing a loan of Rs 40 lakh to the youth to start self employment ventures.

He said that 25 percent subsidy is being provided to the youth under this scheme, whereas women and girls were being provided 30 percent subsidy.

He said that thousands of youth have come forward to avail the benefit of this scheme and have become job providers instead of job seekers.

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- JANAKPURI B-1/2, Main Najafgarh Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 543
- NOIDA, Nirula's Sec-2, Near Metro Station, Sec-15, Noida, UP
- LAJPAT NAGAR, 49, Main Ring Road, Adj. Haldi Ram, Near Moolchand Crossing

KUCH CHEEZEIN SAATH KARNE SE AUR BHI BEHTAR HO JAATI HAI.

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NORTH ZONE

LICAB/19-2013ENG



If we (the BJP govt) had the powers of Hanuman, we would have split our hearts open to show what lies there for farmers

UTTARAKHAND CHIEF MINISTER TRIVENDRA SINGH RAWAT

APPRECIATING THE FARMERS OF UTTARAKHAND WHO HAVE STAYED AWAY FROM 'CHAKKA JAM'

i
ndia

THUMBNAILS



Rachakonda Commissioner of Police Mahesh Bhagwat receives his first Covid-19 vaccine shot on Saturday.

IANS

Southern Zonal Council meet on 4 March: Union HM Amit Shah will chair the 29th Southern Zonal Council meet in Tirupati on 4 March. CMs, Lieutenant Governors of 8 States/UTs in the Southern Zone will participate along with their respective chief secretaries, advisers and other senior officers. About 90 to 100 dignitaries and officers are expected.

PTI

Manager booked for misbehaving: A case has been registered against a manager of a private airline's baggage handling company for allegedly misbehaving with a 30-year-old woman job aspirant, police said on Saturday. The woman, who had applied for job in the company around two months ago, was reportedly told by the manager to meet him alone in his room where he allegedly misbehaved with her recently.

PTI

Comedian Munawar Faruqui yet to be released

INDORE, 6 FEBRUARY

A day after he was granted interim bail by the Supreme Court in a case for allegedly hurting religious sentiments by passing objectionable remarks about Hindu deities during a show, comedian Munawar Faruqui was not released from the central jail here on Saturday with officials citing execution of a warrant issued by a Prayagraj court.

The top court had also stayed the Madhya Pradesh High Court order of January 28, which had refused to grant Faruqui the bail noting that to "promote harmony" is one of the constitutional duties.

It also stayed the production warrant issued against Faruqui by a trial court in Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh in connection with the FIR lodged in the state. Counsel of the comedian Saturday submitted the order of the apex court in the Indore court, which directed that comedian be released on a bond of Rs 50,000 and the similar amount of security.

Asked why Faruqui was not released from the jail, an officer of the Indore Central Jail said a court in Prayagraj had ordered Faruqui's production in a similar case on 18 February.

PTI

PM Modi hails judiciary for safeguarding people's rights

PM said SC has conducted the highest number of hearings via video-conferencing during pandemic

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
AHMEDABAD, 6 FEBRUARY

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday praised the country's judiciary, saying that it has performed its duty well in safeguarding people's rights and upholding personal freedom, and added that it has also strengthened the Constitution.

He said the Supreme Court in India has conducted the highest number of hearings via video-conferencing from among the top courts of all the countries in the world during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Modi also said that in order to make the country's justice system future-ready, the possibility of using Artificial Intelligence (AI) was being explored. He was speaking after virtually releasing a commemorative postage stamp on the Gujarat High Court for 60 years of its establishment.

"Every countryman can say that our judiciary has worked with firmness to uphold our Constitution. Our judiciary has strengthened the Constitution by its positive interpretation," Modi said.

"Whether it is to safeguard the rights of citizens, question of personal freedom, or a situation wherein the interest of the country is to be given top-most priority, the judiciary has both understood and fulfilled its responsibilities," he said. He said the root of good governance is in law, as has been held in the ancient Indian scriptures, he said.

"This idea has been a part of our 'samskar' since ancient times. This mantra gave moral strength to our freedom struggle, and the makers of our Constitution also gave it top priority," he said.

This trust towards the judiciary has given confidence to the common man, given him the strength to stand for truth,



Modi said. Modi said that "the proud structure of justice stands on the pillar of Bar".

"Since decades, bar and judiciary have together been fulfilling the basic purpose of justice in our country," he said. Modo also highlighted that the Gujarat High Court became the first court in India to start live streaming of proceedings during the pandemic.

"For us, it is a matter of satisfaction that the digital infrastructure created by the justice department under its e-court integrated mission mode has in such a short span of time

helped our courts work in virtual mode," he said.

"Digital India mission is rapidly modernising the justice system. Today, more than 18,000 courts have been computerised in the country. With video-conferencing and teleconferencing getting legal sanctity from the Supreme Court, e-proceedings have gained pace across all courts."

"We feel proud to hear that our Supreme Court has become the top among the apex courts in terms of conducting hearings through video conferencing," he said.

Facilities like e-filing of cases, unique ID and QR codes to access case details, have given a new dimension to ease of justice, he said.

Talking about the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), Modi said that the system will help lawyers and litigants see cases and orders with a click of mouse.

"This ease of justice is not

only improving the ease of living of our people, but has also helped in ease of doing business. This has given confidence among foreigners that their judicial rights will be safe in India. In its 2018 ease of doing business report, the World Bank has also praised the NJDG," he said.

The PM said that a Supreme Court committee and National Informatics Centre (NIC) are working together to further ease the justice system in India.

Modi said that e-seva kendras are also being opened in the high courts and district courts to bridge the digital divide. He said e-Adalat has become "timely and convenient means of justice".

During the pandemic, online e-Lok Adalat has become a new normal, he said.

Modi added that the first Lok Adalat was held in Junagadh in Gujarat around four decades back and it was the first state to begin evening courts.

being stoked by US-based outfits like Justice for Sikhs and around 300 Twitter handles in Pakistan because they don't want farmers in India to grow under the prime minister's leadership of Narendra Modi," Rawat said.

Criticising the New York Times for allegedly describing Narendra Modi as a "dangerous patriot", the CM asked how being patriotic can be dangerous.

Appreciating the farmers of Uttarakhand who have stayed away from the day's 'chakra jam', Rawat said he wants to thank them for refusing to submit to the forces that want to "instigate" them to serve their own interests.

Reassuring farmers that the Modi government cannot ever think of harming them as empowering them monetarily to increase their buying capacity is integral to the BJP's ideology, Rawat said the Prime Minister should be credited for implementing the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission for farmers.

Radical Sikh outfits, Pak-based Twitter handles fomenting trouble: Rawat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DEHRADUN, 6 FEBRUARY

Uttarakhand chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat on Saturday said that the US-based outfits such as Justice for Sikhs and around 300 Pakistani-based Twitter handles are stoking anger among farmers as he challenged those protesting the three new agricultural laws to prove how they are harmful to farmers.

Those behind the farmers' agitation want to break the nation, he said, claiming the new farm laws have brought real freedom to farmers to sell their produce anywhere they want, apart from in the traditional mandis.

"I am sure those agitating against the new farm laws will be at a loss if challenged to prove how they are harmful to farmers," Rawat said.

Modi added that the first Lok Adalat was held in Junagadh in Gujarat around four decades back and it was the first state to begin evening courts.

"Anger among farmers is

Saamana edit indicates disquiet in alliance over Patole replacing Thorat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI, 6 FEBRUARY



The Shiv Sena on Saturday appeared to disfavour ally Congress's decision to replace state Congress chief Balasaheb Thorat with Nana Patole and the latter's resignation as Maharashtra Assembly Speaker.

An editorial in the Sena mouthpiece *Saamana* also said there was substance in NCP chief Sharad Pawar's reported view that the three coalition partners will take decision on the Speaker's post through negotiations now.

Patole resigned as Speaker earlier this week to take over as state Congress chief even

as the Budget session is to start from 1 March. The Congress shares power in the state with the Sena and the NCP.

The *Saamana* editorial said the Congress had been given the post of Speaker for five years, and not for forcing an election for the post midway through which should

have been avoided.

"NCP chief Sharad Pawar said the three parties will sit together and decide what is to be done about the Speaker's post. One thing is certain, there is substance in Pawar's view," the Sena said.

Though organizational changes was an internal matter of the Congress, extra caution is required to ensure the decision does not impact the government, it said.

"Two years ago, the situation was such that no leader was ready to take the mantle of the state Congress chief. Thorat took up the responsibility and the party got more seats than expected in Assembly polls," the Sena said.

"In a time of crisis, Thorat

took up the responsibility. In Nagpur the Congress won two seats in the assembly polls. If the Gandhis (apparent reference to Congress president Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi) had addressed some rallies, the Congress tally in Vidarbha could have increased," it said.

In Patole, the Congress seemed to have favored a more aggressive face, but "excessive aggression is also not good", the Sena said.

The editorial praised Patole as a "straight-forward and aggressive leader who works for farmers and labourers", but also preferred advise that "restraint" was key to smooth functioning of the three-party government.

POLITICAL OUTCRY



Left-wing activists during a protest to support the ongoing farmers agitation against the Centre's farm reform laws, at Shaheed Park, in the Capital on Saturday.

SUBRATA DUTTA

TDP MLA Ganta Srinivasa Rao resigns over Vizag Steel Plant privatisation

HYDERABAD, 6 FEBRUARY

TDP MLA from Vizag, Ganta Srinivas Rao has tendered his resignation letter to the Speaker of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly over privatisation of Rashmachi Ispat Nigam Limited, more popularly known as Vizag Steel Plant.

The minister had urged public representatives to quit if needed to save the plant. He had also called for the formation of a non-political joint action committee to spearhead the movement.

The largest PSU in the state of Andhra Pradesh's decision to privatise the steel plant through 100 per cent disinvestment has not gone down well with the employees, worker and people in general.

SNS

Arrogance of power has gone to your head, ex-BJP MP tells 'Narendra' on social media

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BHOJPAL, 6 FEBRUARY

Former BJP Rajya Sabha member from Madhya Pradesh, Raghunandan Sharma has recently written a scathing social media post, which starts with, "Dear Narendra Ji, You are a part and parcel of the government," and also reads, "the arrogance of power has gone to your head."

Political circles are abuzz trying to decipher whether Sharma's post, written in Hindi, is simply a snub to union agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar over the controversial farm laws or has a deeper veiled message to the other senior 'Narendra' too.

Sharma, a seasoned ide-

ntended merely for Narendra Singh Tomar.

"Why are you losing the mandate?" Sharma has questioned and further averred in the post, "We are endorsing all rotten policies of the Congress, which is not in the interest of our ideology," raising eyebrows over whom it is meant for.

Sharma has also written, "Your intention might be of helping the farmers, but if someone does not want to be helped then what is the use?"

"Employ all your might to strengthen nationalism or we will have to regret. I think you would have understood the indication to preserve the ideology," the post read.

Both these sentences have further suggested that Sharma's message might not be

In a major move to woo the devotees of Sabarimala Sri Ayyappa temple ahead of Assembly polls, Congress-led UDF on Saturday stated that if the UDF comes to power, it will bring in legislation to protect the interests of Sabarimala devotees and safeguard the rituals and traditions.

Senior Congress leader and former home minister Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan has released a draft of the legislation in Kottayam on Saturday.

Releasing the draft, Thiruvanchoor said that the draft proposes imprisonment for a

period of two years to those who enter the Sabarimala shrine violating the customs, rituals and traditions.

Thiruvanchoor said the LDF government is doing nothing to protect the interest of the devotees, they claim that they cannot do anything since the matter is before the Supreme Court.

However, in reality, the state government can definitely intervene, since this comes under the concurrent list, said Thiruvanchoor.

He said that the state government can override the Supreme Court verdict on women entry in Sabarimala temple by bringing in a new legislation.

According to traditions and customs, women in the

age group between 10 and 50 are not allowed to enter the hill shrine as deity of the temple - Lord Ayyappa is considered a "Brahmachari".

The Sabarimala women entry issue has helped the Congress-led UDF to win 19 out of the 20 seats in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, taking advantage of the ire of the Hindu devotees against the Pinarayi Vijayan government, which allowed women of the banned age-group to enter the hill shrine.

Congress and UDF leadership expect by promising to enact a law to protect the rituals of the hill shrine, they can gather support of the devotees and romp home in the upcoming Kerala Assembly elections.

At Plot No. 75, 1st Floor, Sector-10, Gurgaon-122015
And also at:
R/o: Flat No. B/316, 3rd Floor, Tower-T-1 Monarch, Plot No. GH-02/C, Sector-1, Greater Noida Uttar Pradesh-201307.
2. Sh. Rahul Alfred
R/o: A-1/179, Lawrence Road, New Delhi-110035.
And also at:
Impact Associates Consulting Pvt.
At Plot No. 75, 1st Floor, Sector-10, Gurgaon-122015
And also at:
R/o: Flat No. B/316, 3rd Floor, Tower-T-1 Monarch, Plot No. GH-02/C, Sector-1, Greater Noida Uttar Pradesh-201307.

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(iii) In any exigency qua, the Advocates/ Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 011-23748473.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 30th day of January 2021
By Order of this Tribunal
For Registrar

FM distributes ₹3,000 each for 7,46,667 Assam tea workers

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
GUWAHATI, 6 FEBRUARY

Nearly 7.5 lakh tea plantation families of Assam today received financial benefits from the government as Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman arrived in the city to launch the third phase of *Chah Bagicha Dhan Puraskar Mela*.

She ceremonially distributed third tranche of financial assistance to tea garden area beneficiaries who opened their bank accounts where an amount of ₹3,000 was transferred



A view of ITO in the Capital on Saturday. SNS

Priest murdered in UP: A 50-year-old temple priest, Jaipal Singh, was murdered at a village under the Islam Nagar police station area in Budauli on Saturday morning, police said. Police said according to village head Manish Kumar, the accused was a drug addict and apparently upset as his wife had left him, for which he held the priest responsible. PTI

Maoist killed in encounter: A Maoist was killed in an encounter with security forces in Chhattisgarh's Dantewada district on Saturday, a police official said. Masa, who was active as a Janmilitia commander, was involved in a number of incidents in the area and carried a reward of Rs 1 lakh on his head. PTI

Biz man kills self & kids: A 35-year-old businessman allegedly shot dead his two children in the early hours of Saturday and injured his wife before shooting himself at his home in Punjab's Faridkot district, police said. The businessman, Karan Kataria, succumbed to injuries at a hospital in Ludhiana, they said. PTI

Sharma's mother dies: Senior Congress leader and former Union minister Anand Sharma's mother Prabha Rani (89) Sharma passed away late Friday night in Delhi. She will be cremated at the Lodhi crematorium on Saturday. She was suffering from age-related ailments. PTI

Opp Congress to lose one RS seat from Gujarat

The Election Commission has announced pollings for the two RS seats on 1 March

AHMEDABAD, 6 FEBRUARY

The Opposition Congress is set to lose one Rajya Sabha seat from Gujarat as the Election Commission has declared separate polling for the two vacancies caused due to death of two members of the Upper House.

Congress stalwart Ahmed Patel, who was member of the Rajya Sabha for nearly three decades, died due to Covid while BJP's newly elected RS member Abhay Bhardwaj died.

The Election Commission has announced pollings for the two RS seats on 1 March but the by-elections are being treated separately, giving the ruling BJP a clear advantage to bag both the seats comfortably.

If the polling for the two Rajya Sabha seats are held together, both the BJP and Congress can win one seat each on the basis of their respective strengths in the 182-member State Assembly.

The by-elections for the two RS seats are being held separately because terms of the two vacancies caused end at different times.

The term of RS seat held by Ahmed Patel, who was re-elected to the Upper House in August 2017, was to run till August 2023 while term of BJP's newly elected RS member Abhay Bhardwaj would have ended in June 2026. Thus, both being by-elections in the middle of their full terms, the polling would be held separately.

The ruling BJP is yet to announce its nominees for the two Rajya Sabha seats for which the party is likely to get a cakewalk. SNS

If Rihanna and others supporting the farmers agitation was interference in India's internal matters, PM's slogan in support of Donald Trump too was problematic

MNS CHIEF RAJ THACKERAY

AFTER MEDIA TROLLS SACHIN, LATA OVER FARMER ISSUE TWEETS

The Sunday Statesman
NEW DELHI, 07 FEBRUARY 2021

05

Protest songs, Tricolour rules 'Chakka Jam'

Food distributed among protesting farmers, commuters were politely requested to go back; people with health emergency, were allowed to pass

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, 6 FEBRUARY

Loud rustic protest songs blared from speakers, the Tricolour fluttered atop trucks and tractors, and commuters mostly waited patiently as farmers blocked the KMP Expressway Saturday as part of their three-hour 'chakka jam' to press their demand of repealing the three new agricultural laws. The call for the nationwide 'chakka jam' between 12-3 pm was given by the farmer unions protesting at the Delhi borders the Centre's agricultural laws.

"I came to the stretch at 11 am. There were very few people then, but the number swelled in no time. The purpose is to peacefully do just what is instructed to us by our leaders - block the road till 3 pm," said Mukesh Sharma, a local farmer supporting the movement.

Biscuits and fruits were distributed among the protesting farmers sitting on the road. Those coming to the stretch with their vehicles were politely informed about the protest and requested to turn back.

Some vehicles, carrying people with emergency health conditions, were allowed to pass without any delay.

The 136-km Kundli-Manesar-Palwal (KMP) Expressway or the western peripheral expressway was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2018. It provides high-speed link between northern Haryana and southern districts and gives uninterrupted high-speed link for traffic, especially commercial traffic, from Haryana to neighbouring states. The commuters, mostly waiting patiently, said they knew about the 'chakka-jam' but had to be out due to social and professional engagements.

Several highways, including the Chandigarh-Zirakpur, Amritsar-Pathankot, Tarn Taran-Kapurthala, Ferozepur-



going for his cousin's weeding. "We are farmers ourselves, and support the farmers' movement completely. I have gone to the Singhu border many a times for the protest. And even today, had it not been my cousin's wedding, you would have seen me here standing and protesting with my farmer brothers," said 36-year-old Ahuja.

Thousands of farmers have been protesting since late November at the Delhi borders with Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, demanding a rollback of the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020; Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020; and Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020.

The protesting farmers have expressed apprehension that these laws would pave the way for the dismantling of the minimum support price (MSP) system, leaving them at the 'mercy' of big corporations. However, the government has maintained that the new laws will bring better opportunities to farmers and introduce new technologies in agriculture.

The three-hour-long agitation was announced to register protest against the internet ban in areas near their agitation sites, alleged harassment meted out to farmers by the authorities and other issues.

Several highways, including the Chandigarh-Zirakpur, Amritsar-Pathankot, Tarn Taran-Kapurthala, Ferozepur-

Fazilka, Muktsar-Kotkapura, Bathinda-Chandigarh, Ludhiana-Jalandhar, Panchkula-Pinjore, Patiala-Kaithal, Jind-Karnal, Karnal-Kaithal, Ambala-Chandigarh Highway, Ambala-Hisar and Mansa-Sirsra were also blocked by the protesting farmers.

Cong activists block J&KH: Congress activists led by the UT party chief GA Mir on Saturday blocked the Jammu-Srinagar highway in support of the nationwide strike call of protesting farmers.

Congress supporters under the leadership of JKPPC President Mir held a peaceful demonstration at the Rajiv Chowk.

Mir said Congress party fully backs the agitation of farmers who have rejected the three "black laws" and are protesting over past more than two months. Mir also condemned the illegal detention of farmers and media persons at Delhi by police and urged the government to immediately release them.

Many farmers detained in Maha: 'Rasta rokos' were staged in Karad and Kolhapur cities in Maharashtra as part of the 'chakka jam' protest called by farmer bodies agitating at borders of New Delhi.

At least 40 protesters, including senior Congress leader Prithviraj Chavan's wife Satavashela Chavan and farmers, were detained by the police for holding the protest on a busy road at Kolhapur Naka in Karad in western Maharashtra this afternoon, a police official said.

Congress' district President Ali was also given the same reason for denial of permission. Ali said that officials have claimed that the force is not

COMBAT PREP



US Army soldiers on their arrival in Suratgarh, Rajasthan on Saturday to participate in the 16th edition of annual bilateral joint exercise 'Yudh Abhyas', to be held from 8 February. IANS

'Persons in illegal occupation of panchayat land cannot claim regularisation as matter of right'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, 6 FEBRUARY

Persons in illegal occupation of government or panchayat land cannot claim regularisation as a matter of right, the Supreme Court has said.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and M R Shah said regularisation of the illegal occupation of government or panchayat land can only be as per the policy of the state government and the conditions stipulated in the rules. The top court was hear-

ing a plea filed by residents of Sarsad village in Tehsil Gohana in Haryana's Sonipat district who encroached upon panchayat land and constructed houses.

The Haryana government in 2000 framed a policy regarding sale of panchayat land in unauthorised possession outside 'Abadi Deh' (the residential area of a revenue estate). Haryana also amended the Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulation) Rules, 1964 and issued a notification in 2008. Thereafter, in 2008, Rule

12(4) was incorporated in the 1964 Rules in terms of the notification dated January 3, 2008, which authorises Gram Panchayat to sell its non-cultivable land in Shamlat Deh (vacant land) to the inhabitants of the village who have constructed their houses on or before March 31, 2000.

The petitioners in this case,

who were in illegal possession of the land belonging to Gram Panchayat, made an application under Rule 12(4) of the Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulation) Rules, 1964.

High-speed mobile internet services were restored last midnight in 18 districts.

The services were there in two districts - Ganderbal and Udhampur - since August last year. "It is better late than never. The government has realised it now, the impact of non-availability of high-speed internet will last long. It will last until the government realises how to boost them, to provide them sops or cushion for running their businesses," he said.

Asif Burza, a hotelier and president of Pahalgam Hotel and Restaurant Owners Association.

cially declined 40-50 per cent due to its non-availability. The low speed 2G services did not serve the purpose," he said.

Restoration of high-speed mobile internet would especially help the young budding entrepreneurs who are dependent on social media, he said. "Though the government has realised it now, the impact of non-availability of high-speed internet will last long. It will last until the government realises how to boost them, to provide them sops or cushion for running their businesses," he said.

Ashiq said education was one of the most important sectors which suffered a great deal

UP govt denies Priyanka's 'Kisan Samvaad' proposal

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
MEERUT, 6 FEBRUARY

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi's proposed 'Kisan Samvaad' programme on 8 February at Gandhi Park in Saharanpur has been denied permission by district administrative officials claiming insufficient force as a reason behind it.

Now it has to be seen that the congress would hold this 'Kisan Samvaad' with farmers in Saharanpur like the Shamli Mahapanchayat which was organised inspite of the denial of permission or will it look for an alternative.

The word is that Priyanka Gandhi might visit famous Shakumbhari Devi temple in Saharanpur district and might meet some farmers there on the designated day.

Congress wanted to make an attempt to connect with the masses in western UP particularly farmers through this program that could help the party to build up its lost base in western UP.

An application asking permission for the program on 8 February at Gandhi Park of the city was moved by Muzaffar Ali, District president of Congress in Saharanpur. But the district administration denied permission for it on Saturday.

Confirming, City magistrate of Saharanpur Suresh Kumar Soni said that the permission could not be given because a program like this with huge mass participation would require a lot of force to maintain law and order. But presently there is a shortage of force in the district, he added.

Congress' district President Ali was also given the same reason for denial of permission. Ali said that officials have claimed that the force is not

'Peaceful satyagraha of farmers in Nat'l interest'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, 6 FEBRUARY

Ahead of the nationwide 'chakka jam' called by the farmer unions protesting the Centre's new agrilaws, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said the peaceful 'satyagraha' of the 'annadatas' is in national interest as the farm laws are "harmful" for the country.

The peaceful satyagraha of annadatas is in national interest - these three laws are not just harmful for farmers-labourers, but also for the people and the country. Full support!" Gandhi said in a tweet in Hindi.

The Congress had on Friday extended support to the countrywide 'chakka jam' called by the farmer unions, saying party workers will stand shoulder to shoulder with farmers in their protest.

available in the district as it has been sent to other places due to farmers movement.

It may be noted that in Shamli also the district administration had denied permission to the Mahapanchayat of farmers in Bhaini village on Friday. But inspite of this denial the farmers held the Mahapanchayat there that was attended by thousands of farmers and RLD leader Jayant Chaudhary.

It is believed that Priyanka Gandhi is looking to form a base for the party in western UP.

Nadda cries change in Bengal

BISWABRATA GOSWAMI
NABADWIP, 6 FEBRUARY

A top category terrorist Hayatullah Malik was on Saturday arrested in a smooth operation by the J&K Police here on the Jammu-Srinagar highway near a military station. A pistol and grenade were recovered from his possession in the vehicle he was driving.

Confirming arrest of the top terrorist, the IGP (Jammu) Mukesh Singh said that the categorised terrorist belonging to south Kashmir's Shopian has been caught in a joint operation by a team of Jammu and Anantnag districts police.

Malik is the chief of Lashkar-e-Mustafa terror outfit, a front organization of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) in Kashmir valley. His arrest is being considered a major achievement by security forces.

His arrest is believed to have come on the basis of inputs during interrogation of some terrorists recently nabbed in Kashmir by security forces. A photo of Malik carrying a US made M4 assault rifle had recently gone viral in the valley.

Meanwhile, a CRPF jawan of the 29 Battalion was injured when terrorists opened fire in the Chanapora area of Srinagar. He was shifted to the hospital.

over the last year-and-a-half.

He hoped that the security situation remains good so that these services continue without any interruption.

The valley's tourism industry termed it a big confidence building measure for tourism and allied sectors.

"The tourism fraternity and all the stakeholders thank the government for the restoration of 4G services in J-K. It is a welcome step and a big confidence building measure for tourism and allied sectors," said Asif Burza, a hotelier and president of Pahalgam Hotel and Restaurant Owners Association.

"Why does she hate Jai Shri Ram slogan so much? Is it wrong to connect with the culture of one's own country? They (the TMC) want to negate the country's culture for the sake of vote-bank politics," he said. Nadda also slammed Mamata for "disrespecting" the culture of Bengal.

FIGHT FOR RIGHT



Farmers during their protest over Centre's farm reform laws at Singhu Border, in the Capital on Saturday. SNS

» **NFR to run Kisan Special trains from Agartala to Howrah & Sealdah:** The North East Frontier Railway (NFR) has decided to run Kisan Special trains from Agartala at 1915 hours once a week on Thursday and will reach Sealdah on Saturday. The train will have stoppages at Dharmanagar, Badarpur, Lumding, Guwahati, Kamakhya, Goalpara, New Bongaigaon, New Alipurduar, New Coochbehar, New Jalpaiguri, Malda Town, Khatlipur, Bardhaman and Bandel for loading/unloading, a statement issued by NF Railway said.

» **Bihar Cong to launch farmers stir:** The Congress in Bihar on Saturday blamed the NDA government in the state for deplorable condition of farmers due to low procurement of paddy and wheat besides denying them fair price for their produce. Bihar Congress in-charge Bhakta Charan Das, who undertook padyatra in 14 districts and met party workers and common men, asserted that the party would launch a big farmers movement in the state in days to come to tell them about the ill impact of the new farm laws.

Congress-Left Front seat-sharing talks face snag as untested Indian Secular Front seeks 44 seats

TIRTHANKAR MITRA
KOLKATA, 6 JANUARY

easier for the Congress and the Left owing to the demand of RSP and Forward Bloc for seats for their nominees in Murshidabad.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-1, DELHI
4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001.
O.A. NO. 126/2018
ICICI BANK Limited ..Applicant
VS
Sh. Vivekanand Mallick & Ors.
..Defendants

To,
1. Sh. Vivekanand Mallick (Defendant No. 01)
R/o: F-51, 3rd Floor, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi-110016.
And also at:
R/o: Flat No. B/618, 18th Floor, Tower-T-1 Monarch, Plot No. GH-02/C, Sector-1, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201307.

2. Sh. Shamsita Mallick (Defendant No. 02)
S/o. Sh. Vivekanand Mallick R/o: F-51, 3rd Floor, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi-110016.
And also at:
R/o: Flat No. B/618, 18th Floor, Tower-T-1 Monarch, Plot No. GH-02/C, Sector-1, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201307.

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 47,85,90/- (Rupees Forty Seven

Revolutionary Change

Quite the most striking feature of President Joe Biden's foreign policy, as unveiled on Friday, is his decision to suspend all American assistance to offensive operations in Yemen, a move aimed directly at Saudi Arabia and its leaders, who had developed close ties with Donald Trump. "This war has to end," said the 46th President of the United States of America in a dramatic departure from the praxis of Trump and his support for his allies. Yemen since 2015 has been a critical storm-centre of the Arab world in the context of the war seemingly without end. All in all, Biden's foreign policy is a revolutionary change from the Trump era. And that precisely is the highlight of his diplomatic power-play. The comity of nations must now look up to him for a positive essay towards the restoration of democracy in Myanmar. In a span of two weeks since he stepped into the Oval Office, the outline of the United States' foreign policy has emerged with a measure of grandstanding, specifically a powerful speech at the State Department, sweeping executive orders, phone calls to leaders on every continent, and a series of press conferences. Just as Biden's economic, domestic and Covid agendas are a reversal of Trump's policies, so too is his diplomatic agenda. Well and truly has he jettisoned the policies of Trump. The contours are clear with his statement: "America is back, diplomacy is back at the center of our foreign policy." He called on diplomats to include a few core tenets, notably "integrity in all you do, transparency and accountability to rebuild trust in America around the world." This represents a dramatic break with his predecessor, who had sought to dismantle any efforts at maintaining a coherent, democratic presence of America on the world stage.

On closer reflection, there are five key pillars of Biden's foreign and defence policies. These range from "re-engaging key institutions and agreements" to "reasserting our values," as well as "compete more effectively with our competitors across the board." First, America will end support for the five-year Saudi-led military offensive in Yemen. Second, Biden has eventually stopped the planned withdrawal of US troops from Germany. Third, he has made it clear to Vladimir Putin that the days of the United States "rolling over in the face of Russia's aggressive actions" such as the expansionist designs in the Ukraine and "interference in our elections" are over. Biden mentioned the predicament of Alexei Navalny and the Kremlin's effort to suppress the freedom of expression.

Fourth, he has signalled his intent to increase the number of refugees admitted into the United States, yet another thorny issue over the past few years. Fifth, Biden mentioned that he is prepared to work with China "when it's in America's interest to do so." Incidentally, President Xi Jinping is the only major world leader Biden has not contacted personally. The world looks up to Joe Biden.

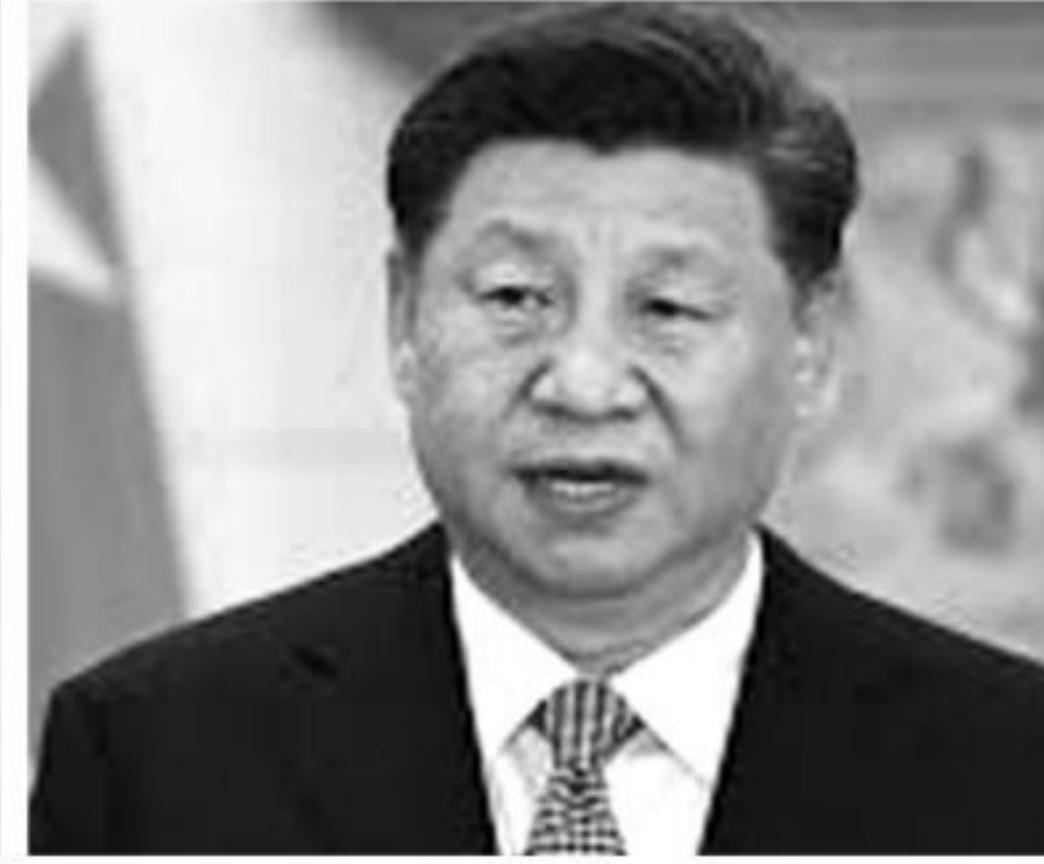
Rising, shining

Ajinkya Rahane having accomplished the considerably more difficult task of leading India to victory against Australia in Australia, it has now fallen to Virat Kohli, part of the horror story at Adelaide, to beat England in a home series by a two-Test margin for the team to make the final of the World Test Championship. So the four-match contest is said thus to have had new life infused into it, with England being tasked with winning three Tests to achieve the same objective. That could be easier said than done, given the hosts' current form and the visitors' rotational selection policy, which is aimed at preserving collective endurance through long, difficult and commercially important seasons but is known sometimes to wreck a team's combinatorial balance. This is when you think back to when the competition was being hawked, with the leading lights of cricket presumably persuaded to tell fans across the world that it would give Test matches the right kind of context. The coronavirus eventually proved a bigger one though: a singularly negative phenomenon with a numbing potential for decimation of human lives aplenty. How it played havoc with everything is duly recorded - the toll, the utter desperation, the fear - but cricket finding itself up against it was only a footnote in the elaborate narrative encompassing virtually the whole of the world. And, having waited and watched for some while, it decided that the business of making money could no longer be held over. England then thought up matches without spectators in a bio-secure bubble even as Covid-19 went on making its horrific presence felt. Many scheduled engagements were scuppered though, forcing the International Cricket Council to switch over to a percentage points system for the WTC, much to the initial consternation of India, who saw a threat in the revised calculations.

But as Chennai now witnesses the first Test, all that they perhaps think of is being New Zealand's rival in the summit showdown, to be held at Lord's in June. Should India win it, they will have taken revenge for their defeat by Test cricket's officially designated top current lot who made the most of their home conditions. Before that, however, is the England series, in which the hosts are the favourites, overwhelmingly so. Of particular interest will be India's choice of their bowling attack, now that they are back home. But the stalwarts of yesteryear who consider the two-three or three-two options, essentially trying to anticipate what spinners are being counted on to do, also acknowledge that India can pull it off with whatever experiment they decide on. That is the kind of optimism the two successive Test series triumphs has engendered. Which is why they should not call for pitches that will nullify the Jofra Archer threat. The Indian batsmen who have coped with the short stuff in Australia can be trusted not to curl up like carbon paper dealing with the England paceman.

Hitler and Xi

The world could have been in a happier situation had President Richard Nixon and his Secretary of State Henry Kissinger not shown haste to go to Beijing to pay their respects to Mao Zedong in 1972. Their reasoning was that the Soviet Iron Curtain was impenetrable whereas the Chinese Bamboo Curtain was easier to enter



Not so long ago, General Chi Haotian of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China said, "Only countries like the United States, Canada and Australia have the vast land to serve our need for MASS COLONIZATION". Evidently, he forgot to think of Siberia, which is comparably vast and scarcely populated, and more convenient to capture because of its neighbouring location. The general's words "for mass colonization" in the German language would be lebensraum or living space. Incidentally, a search for lebensraum was Adolf Hitler's excuse for conquering Europe. This was set out in detail by Hitler in his notorious autobiography *Mein Kampf*.

Xi Jinping, China's president for life, does not appear to have written his biography, but his will to dominate the world is nevertheless as eloquent as any spelt out in *Mein Kampf*. The question is that many a country is anxious to stop Xi from going ahead with feeding his greed, but how many are willing to actually act? All of Europe knew of the danger Hitler posed; but many wanted "peace in our time" in the words of then British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain. This was after he and French Prime Minister Édouard Daladier met Hitler at Munich in 1938, along with Italian Duce Benito Mussolini. Neither prime minister had a conscience about surrendering to Hitler one of the three regions of what is today the Czech Republic. They endorsed his gobbling up of Sudetenland, leaving behind only Moravia and Bohemia; which also were unilaterally gobbled up by the Nazis within six months.

Uncannily, Xinjiang as well as Tibet were grabbed by China with comparable lack of conscience on the morrow of Mao Zedong's successful revolution in 1949, ten years after Hitler's misappropriations. On both occasions, the rest of the world watched with cool indifference. How many more million kilometres does the yellow giant wish to trample upon?

Adolf Hitler came to power in 1933 and committed suicide in 1945, in all 12 years, whereas Xi Jinping, at age 67, may have a

good number of years to go. Fortunately, the US has shown it is not oblivious to the Chinese threat. It has appointed a special coordinator to talk directly to the representative of the Tibetan government in exile, a post that had been vacant for long. Robert Destro, the new American special coordinator for Tibet's issues, will directly talk to the Tibetan people through its government-in-exile headquartered in Dharamsala, in Himachal Pradesh in India. This is an opportune US initiative which His Holiness the Dalai Lama should respond to with vigour. First, he should be free to publicly tell the young citizens of Tibet to come over to McLeod Ganj. If they like, he would guarantee their employment, perhaps as his bodyguards and in other echelons of his government in exile. He should not be shy of taking American help. The combination of American readiness, India being far better equipped than before, and above all, China having antagonized many a country is a potent one.

It would be unfortunate for the people of Tibet if the Dalai Lama does not get into an initiative mode. Opportunity does not materialize every day, which he well knows. Napoleon once defined destiny as "catching luck while it is flying". Above all, he should immediately nominate his successor.

In all probability, the world could have been in a happier situation had President Richard Nixon and his Secretary of State Henry Kissinger not shown haste to go to Beijing to pay their respects to Mao Zedong in 1972. Their reasoning was that the Soviet Iron Curtain was impenetrable whereas the Chinese Bamboo Curtain was easier to enter. So, they entered the Red world and opened the gates of the free world for China to exploit any or every economy. Never mind that between Mao's conservatism, Deng Xiaoping's enterprise and Xi Jinping's aggressiveness, there isn't much difference. It would

now appear that the World Trade Organization (WTO) was promoted unwittingly for the sake of Chinese exports. It is difficult to think of a country that has benefited, over a period, by importing Chinese materials. Yes, in the short run, China helped its clients to reduce their costs of production, but given a few years, they became helplessly dependent. Take for instance, an item like the toothbrush. For the nylon bristles, every manufacturer is dependent on the yellow giant. There are Western manufacturers of nylon bristles in India, but they too have to depend on China for the import of some of the raw materials. Why were the Chinese costs of production, across the board, lower than the world's? The new entrepreneur was leased land for practically no rent. To build the factory, the banks lent him term loans, often at rates as low as one per cent per annum. He was seldom harassed for neglecting repayment of the loan.

So long as he produced hard currency exports to the tune of say 75 per cent of his production, such an exercise amounted to converting the renminbi, the Chinese currency, into the dollar.

The smaller entrepreneurs did not have to go out of China to look for markets. Public sector agencies identified which country imports what and consumes which products. Most such Chinese manufacturers operated their export business with the help of English-speaking Chinese agents. This is the package which enabled the Chinese to supply even Ganesh muritis at prices lower than that of any other supplier. With the foreign exchange thus earned and accumulated, China extends loans to smaller countries, whether Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Kenya or other countries in Africa. If any borrower happens not to abide by the terms of repayment, its national assets, given as collateral security, are taken over; for example,

towards learning English. English language is considered as one of the needed languages in Chinese educational system. China currently has more speakers of English as a second language than any other country. English is an official language in at least 59 countries. It is the unofficial lingua franca of dozens more including the European Union. It is the key to the worlds of education and international commerce and a parent's dream in our country. We are well aware that Science is the key to the growth and development of a Nation. We only need to look at China which has put so much emphasis on STEM areas to rise and be recognised around the world as a rising power, 8 out of 10 Chinese leadership and Chinese-government is dominated by scientists-engineers. To achieve this command and proficiency China is spending vast sums

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A MEMBER OF THE **ANN**
ASIA NEWS NETWORK

ASIAN VOICES

Dredgers, poachers, research ships

The discovery of the "illegal and unauthorized presence" of the Chinese dredger MV Zhonhai 68 makes China's recent passage of a law allowing its coast guard to fire at foreign ships doubly outrageous. Not only was the Zhonhai supposed to have left Philippine territory more than a year ago, its automatic identification system transponder was also found turned off, indicating intent to evade tracking. Its presence encapsulates China's cavalier stance that continues to insult and harm Filipinos and to mock the landmark ruling issued by the Permanent Court of Arbitration in July 2016.

The ruling ~ we should not tire of repeating ~ tosses out China's nine-dash line with which it lays claim to almost the entire South China Sea, including the Philippines' exclusive economic zone in the West Philippine Sea. Sure, Foreign Secretary Teddyboy Locsin has "fired" a diplomatic protest against China for its new law. But he took his sweet time doing so, initially counseling self-restraint to those vocally smarting at the nerve of the behemoth that sends its dredgers on silly missions.

But better late than never, as wise men say, and Locsin's about-face ~ a result of "reflection," he said, but God knows what else ~ earned him a phone call from US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, who promised that the US government would "stand with Southeast Asian claimants in the face of (China's) pressure."

China's new law that Locsin first described, incredibly, as "none of our business" allows its coast guard to use armed force on foreign groups or per-

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
sons in securing its claimed waters and resources; to destroy structures built by other claimants in its claimed areas; and to board and inspect foreign vessels sailing in those claimed areas. The Chinese embassy has since stated that the new law targets no specific country, but with China's claim of prior possession of 85.7 percent of the South China Sea by virtue of its nine-dash line ~ baseless, according to the arbitration court ~ the law covers Chinese encroachment on the claims of the Philippines and of Malaysia, Vietnam, Brunei, and Indonesia.

And it should be pointed out yet again that Chinese encroachment has been occurring regularly ~ under the Palace's benign gaze. Filipinos can now fish at Panatag Shoal, their fishing ground for generations, only by the grace of Chinese ships and crews stationed there. Pagasa Island, home to Filipino soldiers and families, is constantly "guarded" by a flotilla of Chinese ships. In the dead of night at Recto Bank on June 9, 2019, a Chinese trawler rammed the anchored FB Gem-Ver 1 and left its captain and crew struggling for their lives overboard. They were eventually saved by Vietnamese fishermen.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana's condemnation of the maritime hit-and-run quickly petered out. President Duterte kept a stony silence and then pronounced it "a little maritime accident." Finally, then agri chief Manny Piñol traveled with antiriot police to Occidental Mindoro and managed to get the Gem-Ver kapitan to say on-cam that he, Junel Insigne, who had earlier sworn to seek justice and restitution for himself and his men, was now unsure of what had actually happened.

ROLE OF MEDIA

SIR, What happened on Republic Day was unfortunate both for the country and for the real protesters (farmers) who have been bearing with the harsh weather and other hostilities for two months to get their demands met. What is more unfortunate and worrisome is the role of media.

Sadly, almost all channels missed showing glimpses of the actual tractor parade which went as per plan and route.

Where does a person look for to satisfy their curiosity before forming any opinions. The role of television media needs serious introspection.

Yours, etc., Chandan Kumar Nath, Guwahati, 2 February.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@thestatesman.com

No need to belittle English

SIR, This refers to 'A language to teach' One does not see the need to belittle English which has given us so many benefits and opened the world for millions of Indians. Given the thousands of languages and dialects that our country is blessed with one is unable to understand why English alone is considered for censure. Every government at the centre has made countless attempts to displace English and this has now intensified under the present regime. We must accept that English is neither a colonial imposition nor is it a foreign language. English is as Indian as the other major languages of our nation. Indians have been winning Nobel prizes and heading large Global conglomerates because of their proficiency in English. It is the lan-



guage of the Internet, Science, Technology, Aviation, Medicine, Law and business to name some. The core knowledge and even non-English speaking nations accept, for a nation to develop on scientific lines is in English and not in our Indian languages. Just because we speak a language and India is blessed with multiplicity of languages and dialects, does not mean it can lend itself to tech-

nical use. We are well aware that Science is the key to the growth and development of a Nation. We only need to look at China which has put so much emphasis on STEM areas to rise and be recognised around the world as a rising power, 8 out of 10 Chinese leadership and Chinese-government is dominated by scientists-engineers. To achieve this command and proficiency China is spending vast sums

means that non-English articles, when they get published, may reach only a limited audience. Scientists and intellectuals who wish to produce influential, globally recognized work most likely need to publish in English. There are simply no appropriate words to convey vast amounts of technical knowledge to another person other than English. The world's legal, medical and scientific journals are written in English. It is important to recognise that almost all the gadgets and inventions are for those who understand English. Parents are willing to make huge sacrifices for their children to acquire education in English and using English language. English-language academic papers outnumber publications in the country's own language several times over. The gap between English and the other languages

learn mother tongue ~ State language and English right from the primary level to acquire the necessary skills which are so important in the present-day world. The one-size-fits-all prescription suggests that decisions about languages cannot be compelled in a multilingual society like India with its historically complex culture and tradition. In spite of the claim to preserve and encourage linguistic diversity of our country, the NEP is but a push towards Hindi. In order to solve the language problem of India, let us use only English in higher education. Otherwise, Hindi-speaking people will get an undue advantage in competitive examinations. They do not carry the burden of learning a third language.

Yours, etc., HN Ramakrishna, Bengaluru, 1 February.

The unfinished journey of Sheikh Mujib

GAUTAM BHATTACHARYA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi at a virtual summit with his Bangladeshi counterpart, Sheikh Hasina, recently released a commemorative postage stamp on the occasion of the birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. India issuing a stamp to honor a foreign leader is a rarest of rare events and in the past such stamps were only issued on the death centenary of Abraham Lincoln (1965), in honour of Martin Luther King Jr. (1969) and on birth centenaries of Vladimir Lenin (1975) and Ho Chi Minh (1990). A contingent of the armed forces of Bangladesh participated in the Republic Day Parade at New Delhi to commemorate 50 years of the Bangladesh Liberation War. Only on two earlier occasions had a contingent of a foreign country participated in the Republic Day celebrations. Prime Minister Modi is likely to visit Dhaka in March to participate in the Golden Jubilee celebration of the liberation of our eastern neighbor. All these events demonstrate how India values the principles that Bangabandhu stood for and India's priority in strengthening friendship with Bangladesh.

To many of that generation who had witnessed the bitterness of partition of this sub-continent, these gestures of India may appear to be counter intuitive. Sheikh Mujib as a student (1942-47) of Islamia College of Calcutta (now known as Maulana Azad College) was an activist of Pakistan movement and even at that age he emerged as a powerful youth leader in Bengal politics because of his proximity to the then premier of Bengal, Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy (who in 1956 became the Prime Minister of Pakistan). After partition, Mujib Rahman returned back to Dhaka.

When Muhammad Ali Jinnah declared in 1948 that Urdu would be the only State Language of Pakistan, protests broke out amongst the Bengali speaking majority of Pakistan led by Sheikh Mujib. Within few years Sheikh Mujib turned out to be the



de-facto leader of his people in spite of the presence of many senior leaders who played significant roles in pre-partition politics and in governance of Pakistan after partition viz. A. K. Fazlul Haque, Sir Khawaja Nazimuddin, Suhrawardy, Maulana Bhasani, Nurul Amin and Sahibzada Mohammad Ali Bogra. In less than a quarter of a century, Sheikh Mujib succeeded in making his people free from Pakistani subjugation.

Was it a case of complete turnaround of the ideology of Sheikh Mujib Rahman, before and after partition or was it an example of a leader who evolved over time? Perhaps it was neither. Most of the leaders of Bengal Provincial Muslim League in pre-partition days did not believe in the two-nation theory of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, yet they wanted a separate Muslim State of Pakistan. The meaning of Pakistan(s) was deliberately kept so vague by its proponents that it meant different things to Muslims in different regions. For the majority of the people of East Bengal, language identity was stronger than religious identity. If their leaders had really believed

that the Muslims of the sub-continent constituted a different nation, Shaheed Suhrawardy would not have approached Jinnah or Bengal Congress leader Sarat Chandra Bose with the idea of forming a third country: an undivided Bengal at the time of partition. To them partition of Bengal was only the second-best solution, a strategy to achieve a higher goal. For leaders like Mujib, inclusion of East Bengal in Pakistan was only an intermittent stage to realize the goal of an independent nation, predominantly based on Bengali culture as opposed to Islamic culture but where the reins would be in the hands of the majority Muslims. Pakistani rulers, however, looked at the people of East Bengal with contempt as they were perceived to be culturally close to the Hindus, their language was more akin to Sanskrit. More the Pakistani rulers tried to Islamize the culture of East Bengal (renamed as East Pakistan in 1955), it made the job of Mujib easier. Bengali identity of people gathered strength and their attitude towards the rulers hardened. That's how within two decades of formation of

Pakistan, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman turned out to be the supreme leader of the entire population of East Bengal, irrespective of religion and varied ethnicity of people living there.

In 2004, BBC organized an opinion poll to find out the greatest Bengali of all time as perceived by Bengalis at that time. Bengalis from India, Bangladesh and overseas were all expected to participate in the poll. We should not assign much importance to such polls. At the same time, we cannot overlook the fact that Bangabandhu was voted to be the greatest Bengali of all time and he polled more votes than Rabindranath Tagore! One may, however, legitimately ask if a people's leader like Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was there what made Hindu population in East Bengal to dwindle from 28 per cent in pre-partition days to 22.05 per cent in 1951, 18.5 per cent in 1961, 13.5 per cent in 1974 (after formation of Bangladesh), 12.13 per cent in 1981, 10.51 per cent in 1991, 9.2 per cent in 2001 and 8.96 per cent in 2011? In order to understand this phenomenon, we need to go deep into the politics of Bangladesh.

There are two strong parallel streams in Bangladesh: the liberal democratic enlightened by the spirit of freedom struggle (muktijuddho) whom Sheikh Mujib stood for. The other constitutes the conservative elements who might or might not have supported Pakistani rule but always accused the liberals of being Indian stooges. Hindus primarily left East Bengal not so much because of religious persecution but because of intimidation by this second stream in social life of that country. It is difficult to prove such intimidation but those who have faced it know it well. The struggle of Sheikh Mujib in his time and that of Awami League today is primarily against identity politics promoted by this second stream.

The politics of India in the aftermath of the partition was also responsible to a great extent for the dwindling Hindu population in

Bangladesh. In the provincial elections of 1946, Bengal Provincial Muslim League won 113 out of the 117 Muslim electorate seats, whereas Congress with predominant support of the Hindus in 78 General electorate seats, won 86 seats in total.

Muslim League formed the Government led by Suhrawardy. In the following year, after the partition, 141 legislators representing constituencies that fell in East Bengal were included in the East Bengal Legislative Assembly and 35 of them were elected on Congress ticket. But the Congress leaders of the East migrated to Calcutta instead of leading their followers in establishing the rights of minorities in newly formed Pakistan. Hindus in East Bengal (today's Bangladesh) were rudderless after partition and were stunned by the suddenness of the event. They felt as if they had become 'foreigners' in their homeland and followed their leaders in leaving the country with or without provocation.

The most important contribution of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was just not to give the clarion call for liberation but to develop the "spirit of muktijuddho", to make all his people dream of establishing a society based on liberal values. But his journey in realizing this dream remained largely unfinished because of his assassination within three years of his coming to power. After his assassination in 1975 and after assassination of all top-ranking leaders of his party later in the same year, his daughter Sheikh Hasina had to build up Awami League from scratch and she had to struggle hard to revive and to keep alive the spirit of freedom struggle by isolating the fundamentalist elements in society. It's an eternal battle. India by honoring Bangabandhu in a year when Bangladesh is going to celebrate 50 years of its independence, salutes this spirit that Sheikh Mujib had created, which is still the driving force of society under the leadership of his daughter.

The writer is a former civil servant

NOW AND AGAIN The call of duty

PARMANANDA PAL

This incident occurred many years ago, on a day the city of Kolkata was in the grip of severe cyclonic weather. The city was getting lashed with heavy rains accompanied by strong gusty winds. We, my family members and I, were all indoors and watched from the window as the road outside became inundated with water.

As the water-level rose, our anxiety increased. We were worried about how we would find a taxi to take my brother-in-law (a Major in the Army Medical Corps) to Sealdah Railway Station. He was to catch the Jammu Tawi Express to report urgently to a forward area military hospital camp in Jammu and Kashmir after receiving telegraphic summons. In those days, there were no mobile phones or call taxis. We could not even call the Taxi Association office because the land line had gone dead.

Ultimately the elders decided to depute me, the youngest member, to venture out for calling a taxi. I was a high school student and accepted the challenge. Clutching an umbrella, I went out. My pants rolled up to my knees, I waded through the water towards an area inhabited by the Sikh community, many of whose members drove taxis. But, no, not a single taxi was in sight. Time was running out, and my anxiety grew with each passing minute.

Almost a half hour later, I saw a blurred yellowish image in the distance. Yes, it was a taxi that was moving slowly splashing water on both sides. As it came closer, I beckoned to it to stop. It was driven by a Sikh youth who said he had come out because of a family emergency and could not carry passengers. I almost broke down, explaining my brother-in-law's predicament. Hearing me, the Sikh driver asked, "Excuse me, Sir, did you say he is in the Indian Army and has to report back to his posting urgently? In that case, don't worry. I know about Army discipline as many of my family members are in the Army. Your brother-in-law's need is now greater than my family's." Yes, thanks to the spirited Sikh driver, my brother-in-law reached Sealdah Railway Station in time to catch the train and report for duty.

100 YEARS AGO

CONGRESS AND FOREIGN CAPITAL

To The Editor Of The Statesman

SIR - The draft of the Non-Cooperation Resolution prepared for the Congress proposes, among other things, the gradual withdrawal of Indian capital from Government loans and from industrial and commercial concerns in India owned and controlled by the British people. The Indians have long complained about the "economic drain" from India caused by the domination of all our industries by foreign capital. The one remedy for that situation is the greater share of Indian capital in our industries - whether controlled by Indians or Europeans - and for the last 25 years or more we are all trying to explore all possible means of inducing wealthy Indians to invest more freely in our industries. I do not know with what sense exactly the present proposal is being put forward before the Congress unless it is an attempt to subordinate economics to politics. The Congress certainly has every right to do it, but let the country realise the consequences.

B. MUKERJEE.
Bankipore.

THE CALCUTTA FOOTBALL CLUB

To The Editor Of The Statesman

SIR - At the Calcutta Football match between Mohan Bagan and Kumartuli at the Calcutta Football ground yesterday there were only 8 anna tickets for persons other than those belonging to the Calcutta Football Club or Indian Football Association and the visiting teams. Why cannot the Calcutta Football Club set aside two and one rupee seats for respectable men both European and Indian? Surely they should have anticipated the crowd that assembled considering the two Indian teams were playing and there being a heavy crowd the previous day when only one Indian team was playing. There was ample room in the Calcutta enclosure and quite a number of Rs 2 and Re 1 seats could have been thrown open to the public. If this had been done it would increase the takings of the Club and be no inconvenience to the Calcutta Football Club members.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

THE PENSIONERS' PLEA

To The Editor Of The Statesman

SIR - After eighteen months of appealing, we have succeeded in getting Government to increase pensions up to Rs 100 per month. This does not benefit the remainder. When the pensions of late employees of the superior police and other superior departments were granted an increase why did not Government then stipulate that pensioners, say, drawing up to Rs 250 per month should get an increase? We have so far tried to get sympathy and justice by appealing quietly and respectfully, depending on thus getting what we were entitled to, but, as we find our trust has been misplaced, it is only left to us now to cry a little louder and let our voice reach a bit further till the House of Commons sees the cruel way we have been treated. When we are strong enough we will call on the public for their support and hold a mass meeting.

W. WARDE.
Bedford Lane.

POLITICAL DIARY | KALYANI SHANKAR

New Delhi's Myanmar dilemma



meeting them after her re-election in November. With senior General Min Aung Hlaing's tenure set to end soon, the military acted quickly. Trying to mobilize public support, Suu Kyi, after her arrest, said in a statement, "I urge people not to accept this, to respond and wholeheartedly to protest against the coup by the military."

What does this coup mean for India and China - Myanmar's two mighty neighbours? Both had shown interest in Myanmar for various rea-

sons. Although many western democracies like the US, UK, and international organizations like the UN have condemned the coup, India and China were cautious in their reactions.

The new Biden administration gave a call to the military leaders to release all government officials and civil society leaders. The US Secretary of state Anthony Blinken said, "The United States stands with the people of Burma in their aspirations for democracy, freedom, peace, and

development."

India was careful in its reaction. The Ministry of External Affairs said, "India has always been steadfast in its support to the process of democratic transition in Myanmar. We believe that the rule of law and the democratic process must be upheld."

New Delhi has invested in Myanmar's military with training, weapons, and tactical equipment. For the past three decades, New Delhi had developed a purposeful relationship with the military junta even before Myanmar embraced democracy and had maintained a good relationship with Suu Kyi, who lived in India with her mother for some years. In return, Myanmar had helped in containing the insurgency in India's Northeast. India shares a long land border of over 1,600 km with Myanmar and a maritime boundary in the Bay of Bengal. Four northeastern states viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, and Mizoram share a border with Myanmar. Further, Myanmar is the only ASEAN country adjoining India and is our gateway to South East Asia. Moreover, Myanmar has played an essential part in India's Act East policy.

Beijing called on all parties to "resolve their differences under the constitutional and legal framework to protect political and social stability." China has worked closely with the military dictatorship and Aung San Suu Kyi. Myanmar also is a vital part of Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative.

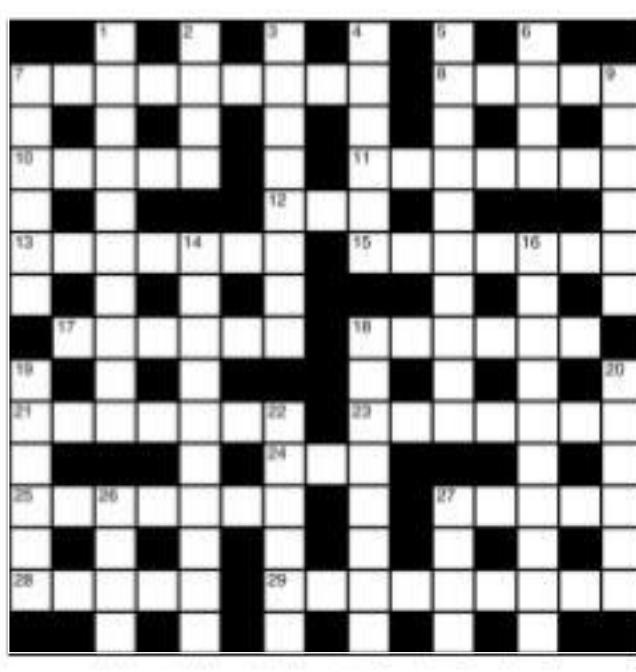
With no indications of democracy returning at least for a year in Myanmar, there is the difficult task of keeping the generals in good humour and also support Suu Kyi; South Block indeed will have to walk a tight rope dealing with

China.

India has built in the Rakhine province a large, deep sea port, to connect the Northeast region to the sea. Above all, Beijing's growing influence in Myanmar is a fundamental reason as India does not want to push Myanmar into China's arms. That is why New Delhi may find it difficult if the US and other countries impose sanctions.

With no indications of democracy returning at least for a year in Myanmar, there is the difficult task of keeping the generals in good humour and also support Suu Kyi; South Block indeed will have to walk a tight rope dealing with

CROSSWORD



SOLUTION FOR 31 JANUARY

ACROSS

- Witness catches scoundrel in stable (6)
- New notices in areas of potential trouble (3,5)
- Arguments caused by knight sharing spoils (3-3)
- Classified ad featuring exotic escorts about to be removed (8)
- Strict disciplinarian's right to set about wayward inmate? Just the opposite (8)
- Appeal from injured guerrilla American soldier ignored (6)
- Unlikely to happen as principal leaves hurriedly (4)
- Since coming from Belgium (16)

DOWN

- Hercule finally with grounds for action (7)
- Weapon found in ditch brought back by petty officer (7)
- Fool with Dickens over ... (4)
- ... the full effect of Abbott's debut on stage (6)
- Suspect in stolen lippy (8)
- Novel in the earliest stage of development (8)
- Success after Rushdie's first to break through for UK publisher (6)
- Republican VP hedging about the end of his political influence (8)
- Outrageous cheek without unqualified driver getting (11)

TO SHOUT ABUSIVELY (6)

- Jumble sale's top stuff bringing little enthusiasm at first (8)
- Deal with vote against covering face (8)
- Turned off (6)
- Eject Jack from tournament (4)
- Succeeded without drugs to become absolutely clean (8)
- Choose not to get involved with solicitor after work (3,3)
- Plants found in south facing borders (6)
- Happen to get new

NO 28818

NOTE: Figures in parentheses denote the number of letters in the words required. (By arrangement with The Independent, London)



The government's consistent push for a gas-based economy has opened new paradigms

MANOJ JAIN
CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR, GAIL

THUMBNAILS

Forex reserves at new high: The country's foreign exchange reserves rose by \$4.85 billion to touch a record high of \$590.18 billion in the week ended 29 January, according to the latest data from the RBI. In the previous week ended 22 January, the reserves rose by \$1.09 billion to \$585.33 billion. In the reporting week ended 29 January, the reserves rose on account of an increase in foreign currency assets, a major component of the overall reserves. FCA increased \$5.03 billion to \$547.22 billion, the Reserve Bank of India's weekly data showed.

JK Cement profit: JK Cement Ltd on Saturday reported an increase of 74.82 per cent in its consolidated net profit to Rs 217.28 crore for the third quarter ended December 2020. The company had posted a profit of Rs 124.29 crore in the October-December period a year ago, JK Cement said in a regulatory filing. Its revenue from operations was up by 24.52 per cent to Rs 1,832.71 crore during the quarter under review as against Rs 1,471.78 crore in the year-ago period.

AU SFB profit: AU Small Finance Bank Limited has reported profit after tax of Rs 479 crore for the quarter ended 31 December 2020 compared with Rs 190 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous fiscal. The lender's net interest income jumped to Rs 633 crore during the quarter from Rs 507 crore, said a Press release issued by the lender.

DIVI's Lab: Drug firm Divi's Laboratories on Saturday reported a 31.05 per cent jump in net profit to Rs 470.62 crore for the quarter ended December 2020, on account of robust sales. The company had posted a net profit of Rs 359.09 crore in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, Divi's Laboratories said in a filing to Bombay Stock Exchange.

Poco smartphone: Online smartphone brand Poco has announced the launch of its latest smartphone ~ Poco M3. With this, the brand will be taking forward the legacy of the M series by offering the best performer in its segment, the company said. Priced at Rs 10,999, Poco M3 boasts of 6GB RAM, a 48MP triple camera setup, 6000 mAh battery and Qualcomm Snapdragon 662 chipset, it added.

Hindware campaign: Leading bathware brand Hindware has kickstarted the new year with its new brand campaign "Thoughtful is Beautiful". The new campaign is first-of-its-kind in the category, and aims to showcase how innovative performance-led product solutions that offer convenience to consumers is where true beauty lies, according to a Press statement issued by the company.

PNB to raise ₹3,200 cr from share sale by Mar

It had taken approval for raising ₹14,000 crore through a mix of equity and debt

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, 6 FEBRUARY

State-owned Punjab National Bank today said it plans to raise Rs 3,200 crore from share sale during the current quarter to enhance its capital base.

The bank has raised Rs 3,788.04 crore from qualified institutional placement (QIP) in December following which the government holding in the bank came down from 85.59 per cent to 76.87 per cent.

The bank had taken approval for raising Rs 14,000 crore through a mix of equity and debt. As per the plan, the bank decided to raise Rs 3,000 crore from AT-I bonds, Rs 4,000 crore from Tier II bonds and Rs 7,000 crore from QIP.

"We have already taken Rs 4,000 crore from Tier-II and Rs 3,788 crore we have taken through QIP as at the end of December. In the month of January, we have also taken AT-I of another Rs 500 crore. So I am very confident that remaining Rs 2,500 crore under review as against Rs 1,471.78 crore in the year-ago period."

Additional Tier-1 bonds will be garnered from the market before 31 March," PNB managing director SS Mallikarjun Rao said.

Talking to the media after result, he said: "We are also actively looking at going for the QIP again with respect to the remaining Rs 3,200 crore to be acquired from the market at an appropriate time...it could be in this fiscal also."

However, he said, current level of capital adequacy ratio



is sufficient to take care of not only the requirement in the month of March 2021, but also during the next financial year.

Besides, Rao said, the bank has sold some of the non-core assets, including sale of its holding in UTI Mutual Fund.

Going forwards, he said, the bank expects to mobilise Rs 500 crore from sale of real assets by June 2021.

PNB on Friday reported a standalone net profit of Rs

506.03 crore for the December quarter on the back of a reduction in bad assets. It had posted a net loss of Rs 492.28 crore in the year-ago period. Total income in the quarter under review rose to Rs 23,298.53 crore as against Rs 15,967.49 crore earlier.

On the outlook, Rao said, the bank expects to close the current financial year with annual profit of Rs 2,000 crore.

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On the outlook, Rao

Odisha: 2nd phase COVID vaccination begins

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BHUABANESWAR, 6 FEBRUARY

Odisha government on Saturday launched the second phase of the Covid vaccination drive covering frontline workers including police personnel.

Meanwhile the health authorities have appealed to the senior officials to share their vaccination pictures on social media to sensitise people to spread the message that the vaccination is safe and effective.

As many as 1,92,437 front-line workers have been enlisted

for the jab. While 1,57,388 policemen figure in the list, 25,961 sanitation workers and 9,088 revenue staff are targeted to be covered under the second phase vaccination programme.

Side by side with the vaccination of frontline workers, the first phase of inoculation covering the healthcare workers is still continuing and it will go on till February 10.

The Director General of Police Abhay was first among the police officials to get vaccinated at a session site at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Cuttack.

"The vaccination drive

holds the key in the fight against Covid-19 diseases. I extend my deep gratitude to all the police personnel who worked tirelessly since March last year to till the COVID containment work launched by the government. All of them should volunteer to get vaccinated. They should avail the opportunity which is being provided free by the government. I also availed the opportunity today," DGP Abhay said.

Meanwhile the state, on Saturday, reported 82 fresh COVID-19 cases while the death toll rose to 1,909 with one dying of coronavirus since the past 24 hours,

according to the State's COVID dashboard data updated at 12 pm on Saturday.

The case fatality rate currently stands at 0.56% in Odisha in comparison to national average of 1.43% CFR. The State's recovery rate is 99.16%.

Odisha currently has 853 active cases.

A total of 78,40,772 sample tests have been conducted in the state so far, including 20,865 on Friday.

Meanwhile two districts—Nabarangpur and Kandhamal—have become COVID-free with no active case under medication.



Chakkajam as part of the ongoing farmers protest in Bhubaneswar

Absconding suspect found dead

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
CUTTACK, 6 FEBRUARY

Prafulla Biswal, one of the suspected accused in the Mahanga double murder case was found dead on road near Tangi.

Biswal was a prime suspect and named among the 14 in the murder of BJP leader Kulamani Baral and Dibya Singh Baral on 2 January. He had eluded the police since the murder while 10 others have been arrested.

Today, his body was found crushed to death leaving the police to ascertain whether it was a case of accident or not.

It could be a case of hit and run by a vehicle, said a police officer while refusing to jump in to any conclusion before further investigation and the post mortem report.

Family members of Biswal alleged it to be a case of murder.

The BJP was quick to point accusing fingers at the ruling BJD and local Minister Pratap Jena. Biswal was used to eliminate Baral and fearing that he may spill the beans, he has been eliminated too, charged the BJP.

Customary practices protected Odisha tribals from COVID: SCSTRI study

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BHUBANESWAR, 6 FEBRUARY

houses are linearly arranged with physical gaps between two houses. There are also tribal villages where houses are located in a scattered manner, with one house located distantly from the other.

In the case of scattered houses, the boundaries are large enough to keep the neighbours at a distance, unlike urban residences or even modern villages, where houses are bunched together. As a result, the tribal settlers mostly maintain physical barrier or behavioural self-restraint, it stated.

Social distancing is a customary behavior of tribal people. By habit, they walk mostly in rows, instead of groups, and while walking they maintain reasonable distance from one another.

The tribal people while walking on hilly terrain slopes used to maintain a distance so that if someone skids then the following person would not be affected and also can extend a helping hand.

Experts noted that over and above everything, the very fact that the tribals had very little exposure to urban areas and 'outsiders'. They live in far flung forest areas, far from the madding crowd and that saved them from the pandemic, noted sociologists.

sense, this behaviour of maintaining a distance between two persons is also conducive to their work traditions in consideration to the terrains. It is this customary behaviour that became incidental to the benefits of prescriptive social distancing in the Covid context, said the report.

Social distancing is also followed during the observance performed at a sacred grove. The priest takes his seat at the designated place and performs. The community people sit scattered at their convenience and observe the occasion with spiritual fervor.

They might not be aware of the scientific significance of the lockdown, but tribals are very aware about keeping distance from others, and are able to maintain social distancing in their routine life. No doubt, the traditional way of life of a tribal is acknowledged by many as the "proper way" to keep a disease like Covid-19 at bay, it concluded.

The tribal people while walking on hilly terrain slopes used to maintain a distance so that if someone skids then the following person would not be affected and also can extend a helping hand.

Further, when the women walk with head-loads, self-distance is strictly followed by them.

If they do not maintain physical distance then there is every possibility that if the person in front falls down then the whole line would fall down. In a very practical



The foothills of Peace Pagoda Dhauli reverberated with scintillating Odissi, Kathak and Chhau dance on the inaugural of the Dhauli-Kalinga Mahotsav today. DC P K Jena, Dr. Priyambada Mohanty Hejmadi, Padmashree Guru Aruna Mohanty, Bishnupada Sethi, IAS, Vishal Dev, IAS, Sachin Ramachandra Jadhav, Director, Tourism; Sridhar Patra, Chairman-cum MD, NALCO, Guru Ileana Citaristi were present.

SNS

Allegation by woman employee against officer

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BALANGIR, 6 FEBRUARY

A departmental inquiry has been initiated against agriculture officer Himansu Shekhar Padhi on allegations of misbehaving with a woman employee of the department.

There are several women working in the department and they were called to the head office as part of the inquiry. Twenty five employees were called as part of the ongoing inquiry.

A four member committee has been formed.

Nine injured in accident

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
JAIPUR, 6 FEBRUARY

At least nine persons sustained injuries, two of them grievously, after a private passenger bus in which they were travelling collided head-on with a truck near a petrol pump in Korei area of the district on Saturday.

According to sources, the bus was on its way to Jaipur Road from Keonjhar when it collided with the truck, which was coming from the opposite direction.

Local residents reached the spot to rescue and shifted the injured to the government hospital. Two of the seriously injured were shifted to the SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack.

On being informed the Korei police reached the spot and seized the ill-fated vehicles.

New CBT at Jharsuguda soon

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
SAMBALPUR, 6 FEBRUARY

A coal bearing tribunal will soon be established at Jharsuguda, informed Bargarh MP Suresh Pujari.

Pujari said the CBT at Jharsuguda will hear disputes of coal mines land oustees and settle issues relating to compensation, payment etc covering areas of Jharsuguda, Sambalpur and Sundargarh districts.

It needs mention that there is only one coal bearing tribunal in Dhenkanal district at present whereas maximum land oustees are

from the above three districts of western Odisha. Hence, for every work people of this area rush to Dhenkanal which is always a difficult task for them involving a lot of financial burden.

A good number of advocates and Jharsuguda bar association have been demanding this tribunal for a long time. So we thank both the central government and the MP Suresh Pujari who raised the issue in Parliament and got it approved," said Jogesh Dixit, who is an advocate for many land oustees of the three districts.

On 4 February, the body of the woman whose head had been severed was found and a knife and pair of gloves were found at the

Cash reward to help identify deceased woman

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BHUBANESWAR, 6 FEBRUARY

The Commissionerate Police, Bhubaneswar today announced Rs 50,000 cash reward for anyone providing the identity of the deceased woman, whose headless body was found from roadside near Dasapur on Bharatpur-Chandaka road here.

On 4 February, the body of the woman whose head had been severed was found and a knife and pair of gloves were found at the

spot.

It is suspected that the woman had been strangled to death before her head was chopped off.

Today, the city police provided features of the deceased woman saying she is aged between 30 to 35 and wheatish in complexion and has a Trishul tattoo on her right hand.

Those having any information about the deceased woman can provide the same by dialing 8280338323 or 8280338296," the police stated.

Rs 3 crore drug bust in January: STF

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BHUBANESWAR, 6 FEBRUARY

In the latest crackdown on narcotic substances, the Special Task Force (STF) wing of the crime branch on Saturday made a seizure of brown sugar valued at Rs 26 lakh in Nayagarh with the arrest of the drug peddler.

In the month of January, the STF has successfully cracked five cases of drug peddling arresting four drug peddlers and making a seizure of 2,812 Kg of brown sugar valued at around Rs three crore.

The drug peddler identified as Prakash Chandra Behera was apprehended



today with 260 grams of brown sugar from Ranapur-Sunakhal road under Ranapur police station jurisdiction of the district.

The accused had failed to produce any valid authority in support of possession of

contraband substances.

Later he was remanded to judicial custody under section 21(c)/29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance (NDPS) act, 1985.

In 2020, the STF has seized around 25 kilograms of brown sugar. The seized narcotics would have fetched the drug peddlers over Rs 25 crore in the international market, said Special Task Force (STF) officials.

The increased crackdown on drug peddlers could be gauged from the fact that the cumulative seizure of brown sugar in 2020 is more than two-fold than the drug haul of the past seven years.

At a time when focus is on providing road-side green ambience to keep tab on pollution, the green cover along the busy Paradip-Daitary expressway close to the in the Kalinga Nagar industrial hub wears an emaciated look.

The 1.5 kilometer patch highway from Bangala chowk to Brahmani Bridge has turned into dumping ground industrial waste in the form of fly ash and blast furnace slag dust.

The stretch of the highway which was once rich with luxuriant standing trees has become a poor shadow of the

past. With scorching summer days ahead, the trees enfeebled by the dumping of wastes may not provide the cooling effect.

For the past six months, the wastes are dumped on the highway side. If the practice continues, the standing trees are bound to die young. The motorists, bikers and pedestrians will bear the brunt of the heat wave in the summer days, said a resident

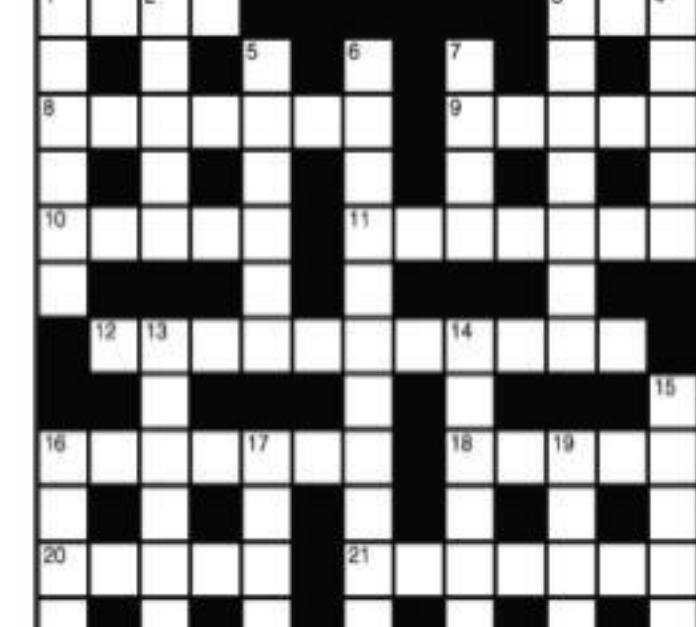
Anam Biswal.

The National Highway authorities could not be reached despite several attempts.

The matter is being looked into. The administration will do its level best to protect the highway side trees. The Jaipur regional office of State Pollution Control Board has been directed to inquire and submit a report. The pollution panel has also been asked to initiate legal action against those who are perpetrating the environmentally-damaging activities", said the Additional District Magistrate, Kalinga Nagar, Santosh Mishra.

LEISURE

10 MINUTE CROSSWORD



SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

ACROSS

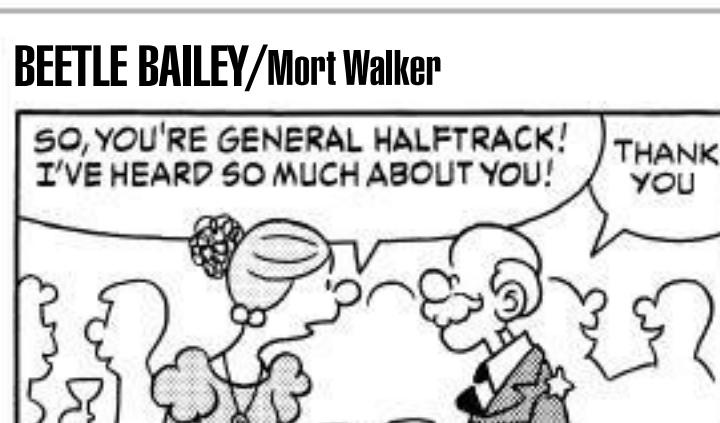
- Former Indian coin (4)
- Record of a voyage (3)
- Small bouquet (7)
- Strength (5)
- 10 Leather (5)
- 11 Outfit (7)
- 12 Judo, karate, etc (7,4)
- 16 Preserved in liquid (7)
- 18 Sweetener (5)
- 20 Custom (5)
- 21 Dawn (7)
- 22 Not well lit (3)
- 23 Joke (4)

DOWN

- Waylay (6)
- NHS employee (5)
- Proceeding in a court (7)
- Overeat (5)
- Evident (6)
- Goods (11)
- Musical work (4)
- Applaud (7)
- Agreement (6)
- Clergyman (6)
- Unit of weight (5)
- Welsh emblem (4)
- Crafty behaviour (5)

By arrangement with The Independent
Figures in parentheses denote the number of letters in the words required

BEETLE BAILEY/Mort Walker



SO, YOU'RE GENERAL HALFTACK! I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT YOU!

THANK YOU

GREG & HOWIE WALKER



DON'T THANK ME UNTIL YOU HEAR WHAT I HEARD

HOWIE WALKER

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YOU SHOULDN'T MURTER BAD THINGS ABOUT FATHER UNDER YOUR BREATH, TANGLEFOOT!

WHY NOT?!

© 2021 King Features Syndicate, Inc.



I'M GLAD YOU THINK I'M DOING A GREAT JOB AS A PARENT.

THAT'S VERY GENEROUS OF YOU...

© 2021 King Features Syndicate, Inc.



THANK YOU FOR DOUBLING MY PAY!

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NEED TO KNOW

HOSPITALS

- AllMS 2658800, 26588900
- Moolchand Medcity (formerly Hospital) 4200000 & 24+ hours
- Chemist Shop 42000447
- Vidyasagar Institute for Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences 26924300, 26924304
- Batra Hospital & Medical Research Central 29051280, 29958747
- Deen Dayal Upadhyay 25496320, 25494003
- Guru Tegh Bahadur 23717473, 23253200

RAILWAY INQUIRY

- General Inquiry 139
- Toll Free Nos. 1800112511
- SMS Inquiry Nos. 54959, 5676747

ROADWAYS INQUIRY

*...the lottery system is giving Big Tech donors the gift of cheap foreign labour at the expense of American workers*

US REPUBLICAN SENATOR TOM COTTON

WEATHER

CITY	MAX (°C)	MIN (°C)	CL
SINGAPORE	32	24	H
HONG KONG	23	15	CL
TOKYO	15	4	CL
LONDON	8	4	H
DUBAI	26	18	CL
SAN FRANCISCO	16	8	S
NEW YORK	4	-2	S
MOSCOW	-12	-17	H

S= sunny, CL= clear, H=hazy, R= rainy...

THUMBNAILS



A customer wearing face mask, carries a pot with a citrus plant at a flower market ahead of the Lunar New Year in Hong Kong on Saturday.

Turkey protest: Turkey's president has ordered the establishment of two new departments in the country's most prestigious university, which has been rocked by weeks of demonstrations protesting his appointment of a new rector with government links. Critics say the establishment of new departments would allow the presidentially appointed rector to staff them with government loyalists.

Separate blasts in Kabul
Kill 3: Two separate explosions rocked the Afghan capital of Kabul on Saturday, killing at least three people including members of the minority Sikh community and wounding four others, Afghan officials said. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the blast.

Trump trial confronts 6 January nightmares

With the trial set to begin Tuesday, lawmakers share experiences of Capitol seige

ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON, 6 FEBRUARY

The impeachment trial of Donald Trump is more than an effort to convict the former president of inciting an insurrection. It's a chance for a public accounting and remembrance of the worst attack on the US Capitol in 200 years.

In the month since the January 6 siege by a pro-Trump mob, encouraged by his call to fight like hell to overturn the election, defenders of the former president say it's time to move on.

Trump is long gone, ensconced at his Mar-a-Lago club, and Democrat Joe Biden is the new president in the White House. With the trial set to begin Tuesday, and a supermajority of senators unlikely to convict him on the single charge, the question arises: Why bother? Yet for many lawmakers who were witnesses, onlookers and survivors of that bloody day, it's not over.

One by one, lawmakers have begun sharing personal accounts of their experiences of that harrowing afternoon. Some were in the Capitol fleeing for safety, while others watched in disbelief from adjacent offices. They tell of hiding behind doors, arming themselves with office supplies and fearing for their lives as the rioters stalked the halls, pursued political leaders and trashed the domed icon of democracy.

Never imagined what was coming, said Republican Mark Takano, D-Calif., recounted in a speech on the House floor.

Memory is a powerful tool, and their remembrances, alongside the impeachment proceedings, will preserve a public record of the attack for the Congressional Record.

Five people died and more



than 100 people have been arrested in a nationwide FBI roundup of alleged ringleaders and participants, a dragnet unlike many in recent times. While that is sufficient for some, assured the perpetrators will be brought to justice, others say the trial will force Congress, and the country, to consider accountability.

Todd Shaw, an associate professor at University of South Carolina, said the founders envisioned a check on the presidency and the trial provides a moment that will demarcate whether American democracy makes a course correction and says things have gone too far or not, he said. We're in a period where a lot of Americans are very aware of that question, he said.

Defenders of the former president are casting doubt over the legality of the impeachment trial, the rationale for punishing an elected official no longer in office and the political fallout of preventing him from being elected again.

Even Republican critics of Trump, who watched in horror as he encouraged a rally mob outside the White House to make its way to the Capitol, have cooled their out-

rage with the passage of time and as the reality of Trump's enduring hold on the party takes shape.

Senator Ted Cruz, R-Texas, who was among those leading Trump's charge to challenge Biden's election, mocked the Senate impeachment case as a show trial and waste of time. It's time to move on, he said. But Senator Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., a former prosecutor, said a trial can have a lasting effect of informing the public, regardless of the verdict or outcome.

"A public trial serves a vital purpose," he said. What Donald Trump mobilised and emboldened and incited is an expression of domestic terrorism that the public needs to see and understand.

Several lawmakers stood before the House late Thursday and shared their remembrances: seeing the crowds gather outside the Capitol grounds and hearing the taunts, screams and glass breaking down the halls.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has asked lawmakers to consider compiling their experiences in essays. Pelosi told Democrats in impeaching Trump, the only president twice impeached, and the first in history to face trial after leaving office.

'No need for erratic Trump to get intel briefings'

WASHINGTON, 6 FEBRUARY

US President Joe Biden has said his predecessor Donald Trump should not be given access to classified intelligence briefings, as is tradition for past presidents, because of his "erratic behaviour".

Former American presidents are frequently given routine intelligence briefings and access to classified materials after they leave office.

"I'd rather not speculate out loud. I just think that there is no need for him to have the intelligence briefings. What value is giving him an intelligence briefing? What impact does he have at all, other than the fact he might slip and say something?" Biden said in an interview on CBS Evening News with Norah O'Donnell.

Early this week, the White House said it is reviewing if Trump should receive the intelligence briefings.

Biden said that Trump should not have such briefings because of his erratic behaviour unrelated to the insurrection.

He said that Trump represents an existential threat and dangerous.

In remarks following the January 6 insurrection in the US Capitol, Biden told reporters, "I've been saying for now, well, over a year, (Trump's) not fit to serve."

Joe Biden revokes terrorist designation for Yemen's Houthis



Aid groups hail US move

CAIRO, 6 FEBRUARY

Aid agencies working in war-torn Yemen on Saturday welcomed plans by President Joe Biden's administration to revoke the terrorist designation of Yemen's Houthis as a terrorist group, citing the need to mitigate one of the world's worst humanitarian disasters.

President Donald Trump's administration had branded the Iranian-backed Houthis as a foreign terrorist organisation, a move that limited the provision of aid to the beleaguered Yemeni people, who have suffered under a years-long civil war and famine.

A State Department official confirmed the move Friday after members of Congress were notified of the administration's plans. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the removal changed nothing about the Biden administration's views of the Houthis, who have targeted civilians and kidnapped Americans.

Our action is due entirely to the humanitarian consequences of this last-minute designation from the prior administration, which the United Nations and humanitarian organisations have since made clear would accelerate the world's worst humanitarian crisis, the official said.

This is a further, vital, correct decision to bring hope to Yemen's crisis-stricken population, he said. The next steps are to raise aid flows, negotiate a permanent cease-fire, and get the diplomatic process moving to establish a sustainable political settlement.

who were seizing ever more territory, including Sanaa. The Houthis have launched multiple drone and missile strikes deep into Saudi Arabia.

The US says the Saudi-led campaign has entrenched Iran's role in the conflict, on the side of the Houthis.

The US targeting assistance to Saudi Arabia's command and control was supposed to minimise civilian casualties in the Saudi-led airstrikes. But bombing since has killed numerous Yemeni civilians. Survivors have displayed fragments showing the bombs to be American-made.

'US will hold China accountable for abuses of int'l system'



WASHINGTON/BEIJING, 6 FEBRUARY

The US will hold China accountable for its abuses of the international system, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has said as he spoke to his Chinese counterpart Yang Jiechi and raised with him the issue of human rights violations in Xinjiang, Tibet and Hong Kong.

It was the first conversation between the top officials since President Joe Biden took office on January 20.

Secretary Blinken stressed the United States will continue to stand up for human rights and democratic values, including in Xinjiang, Tibet, and Hong Kong, and pressed China to join the international community in condemning the military coup in Burma (Myanmar), State Department spokesperson Ned Price said.

In recent years, China has faced severe criticism from western countries over human rights violations in Tibet and persistent reports of the mass detention in Xinjiang. China has also ramped up a crackdown in Hong Kong after imposing a new law against subversion following protests in the city.

In Beijing, China's official media reported that Yang told Blinken that the US should rectify its mistakes made over a period of time and work with China to uphold the spirit of no conflict, no confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation, focus on cooperation and manage differences.

US soldiers reach Rajasthan for joint Indo-US military exercise

PTI
JAIPUR, 6 FEBRUARY

A contingent of American soldiers has reached Rajasthan to

take part in a fortnight-long Indo-US joint military exercise

along the Pakistan border, starting Monday, a defence

TENDER

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed item rate tenders on form No. 6&8 are hereby invited by the Executive Engineer, Shimla Division No. III, HP PWD, Shimla-3 on behalf of the Governor of H.P. for the following works from the eligible Contractors/Firms enlisted in HP PWD, so as to reach in his office on or before 03-03-2021 up to 10:30 A.M. and will be opened on the same day at 11:00 A.M. in the presence of the intending Contractors/Firms or their authorized representatives. The tender form can be had from his office against cash payment (non-refundable) on any working day up to 4:00 P.M. on 02-03-2021 and the application for issue of tender form shall be received up to 4:00 P.M. on 01-03-2021.

The earnest money in the shape of National saving Certificate/Time deposit account/saving account in any of the post office in HP, duly pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, Shimla Division No-III must accompany with the application form for the tender offer. Conditional tender and the tender received without earnest money will summarily be rejected. The Executive Engineer reserves the right to reject the tender without assigning any reason thereto. Other conditions are applicable as perform No. 6&8. The offer shall remain open for 90 days.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Earnest money	Time	Form No.	Cost of form
1	S/R to Vidhan Sabha building at Shimla (SH:- Renovation of bath rooms by providing New partition walls with sanitary fitting etc in rain shelter cum waiting area).	Rs.3,69,427/-	Rs.7,400/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
2	S/R to Tourney house 1st floor at Barnes Court Shimla (SH:- P/F CGI Sheet roofing, ceiling, brick work etc.).	Rs.3,97,547/-	Rs.7,980/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
3	S/R to Vidhan Sabha building at Shimla (SH:- P/F aluminium door, window, ventilators and ceiling etc in rain shelter cum waiting area).	Rs.4,41,435/-	Rs.8,850/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
4	S/R to Minister House No.7 at Yates place Shimla (SH:- C/O green house etc.).	Rs.2,51,371/-	Rs.5,030/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
5	S/R to residential accommodation set occupied Sr. Medical Superintendent at DDUZHI Shimla (SH:- P/F cupboards, ceiling, lining, PVC flooring, painting & distempering etc.).	Rs.3,23,802/-	Rs.6,480/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
6	S/R to residential accommodation set occupied Sr. Medical Superintendent at DDUZH Shimla (SH:- Wooden work, paneling work, cupboard tiles, WS & SI fittings in the kitchen of residential accommodation allotted to Sr. Medical Superintendent Duffrin block Shimla)	Rs.2,57,251/-	Rs.5,150/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
7	S/R to Elteris main building at H.P. Secretariat Shimla-2 (SH:- Providing cup board, ceiling, painting in GAO-Room No.17, 37, Providing and fixing paneling and Sanitary work etc.).	Rs.1,57,652/-	Rs.3,160/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
8	S/R to Sarvodaya Balasharam / Children Home rock wood Shimla (SH:- Dismantling work, C.C. work, painting and Sanitary work etc.).	Rs.2,33,619/-	Rs.4,680/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
9	S/R to type-V Qtrs. 1st floor of set No.1 at Yates Place Shimla (SH:- Repair of ceiling, wood work, shutters, flooring, rain water pipes, roofing, gutter, painting & plaster in entrance Lobby & dining hall etc.).	Rs.3,85,598/-	Rs.7,720/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
10	S/R to H.P. Public service Commission building at Nigam Vicar Shimla-2 (SH:- P/F wallpaper, UPVC windows & frames, glass panes, lining & polishing etc in Member room No.1).	Rs.1,65,356/-	Rs.3,310/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
11	S/R to Guard room set No.1 Old Raj Bhawan at Peterhoff Shimla (SH:- Dismantling work, Providing and fixing panelled glazed and wire gauge shutter, Cupboard, ceiling work tiles work, painting, distempering etc.). M.S. pedestal for water storage tank and sanitary fitting etc).	Rs.3,03,930/-	Rs.6,100/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
12	R/R Damages Road from cart road to Annadale KM's 0/00 to 4/60. (SH:- Construction of retaining wall at RD's 0/680 to 1/691.5, 1/692.50 to 1/697).	Rs.1,65,543/-	Rs.3,350/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
13	S/R to type-III Quarters block No. 25-A, Sector-III at New Shimla. (SH:- Renovation of set No. 626,631	Rs.1,53,457/-	Rs.3,070/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
14	R/R damages to Oak Over building Hon'ble Chief Minister Official residence at Shimla. (SH:- C/O, R/Wall at RD 0/53.72 to 0/65.42).	Rs.3,80,719/-	Rs.7,650/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
15	R/R damages to Oak Over building Hon'ble Chief Minister Official residence at Shimla. (SH:- C/O , R/Wall along the road to kitchen garden and cow shed at RD 0/0 to 0/05 & 0/05 to 0/11.50).	Rs.3,31,147/-	Rs.6,650/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
16	S/R to Armsdale Building at H.P. secretariat Chotta Shimla-2 (SH:- P/F sensor in 2nd floor and 5th floor).	Rs.2,96,493/-	Rs.5,930/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
17	S/R to Residential Qtrs. 11,14 & 15 out house at winterfield Shimla. (SH:- P/F cupboards, Plastering work, painting and distempering work etc.).	Rs.1,41,395/-	Rs.2,830/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
18	S/R to Oak Over building Hon'ble Chief Minister Official residence at Shimla. (SH:- P/F aluminium doors, windows and partitions in lift entrance ground and first floor painting and distempering etc.).	Rs.2,50,654/-	Rs.5,050/-	One Month	6&8	350/-
19	S/R to Type-IV Qtrs. Block No. 44, sector-IV at New Shimla. (SH:- Renovation of toilets of set No. 828, 830, 832 & 834etc).	Rs.2,29,083/-	Rs.4,590/-	One Month	6&	



*...the UN will do everything it can to...create conditions
for the coup in Myanmar to be reversed*

UN SECRETARY-GENERAL ANTONIO GUTERRES

ON THE MYANMAR SITUATION

The Sunday Statesman

NEW DELHI, 07 FEBRUARY 2021

11

Near-total internet shutdown in Myanmar

Myanmar witnesses some of the largest street protests against the military takeover ■ About 1,000 protesters march down a main street in Yangon

ASSOCIATED PRESS
YANGON, 6 FEBRUARY

Myanmar's new military authorities appeared to have cut most access to the Internet on Saturday as they faced a rising tide of protest over their coup that toppled Aung San Suu Kyi's elected civilian government.

Numerous internet users noted a slow disappearance of services, especially from mobile service providers, that accelerated sharply late Saturday morning. Broadband connection also later failed, while there were mixed reports on whether landline telephone service was still working.

Netblocks, a London-based service that tracks internet disruptions and shutdowns, said Saturday afternoon that a near-total internet shutdown is now in effect in Myanmar, with connectivity falling to just 16% of normal levels.

The broad outage followed Friday's government order to block Twitter and Instagram that said some people were trying



ing to use the platforms to spread what it deemed fake news. Facebook had already been blocked earlier in the week, though not completely effectively.

The communication blockages are a stark reminder of the progress Myanmar is in danger of losing after Monday's coup plunged the nation back

under direct military rule after a nearly decade-long move toward greater openness and democracy. During Myanmar's previous five decades of military rule, the country was internationally isolated and communication with the outside world strictly controlled.

Suu Kyi's five years as leader since 2015 had been Myan-

mar's most democratic period despite the military retaining broad powers over the government, the continued use of repressive colonial-era laws and the persecution of minority Rohingya Muslims.

The blockages are also adding greater urgency to efforts to resist the coup, with Saturday seeing some of the

largest street protests against the takeover. In what appeared to be the main one, about 1,000 protesters, factory workers and students prominent among them, marched Saturday morning down a main street in Yangon, the country's biggest city, and were met by more than 100 police in riot gear.

Members of the crowd shouted Military dictatorship should fall and Down with dictatorship. They marched with their hands in the air, formed into three-fingered salutes, a symbol of defiance adopted from protesters in neighbouring Thailand, who borrowed the gesture from the Hunger Games movie franchise.

The demonstration ended peacefully with no clashes reported. It dispersed around the time communications were cut, and it was unclear if the marchers later regrouped.

Telenor Myanmar, a major mobile operator, confirmed it had received Friday's order to block Twitter and Instagram. In a statement, Twitter said it was deeply concerned about

the order and vowed to advocate to end destructive government-led shutdowns.

It undermines the public conversation and the rights of people to make their voices heard, its spokesperson said.

Since the coup, social media platforms have been major sources of independent news as well as organizing tools for protests.

For the fourth night Friday, those opposed to the coup and the arrests of activists and politicians that have accompanied gathered at windows and on balconies around Yangon to make a cacophony of noise in protest.

Earlier Friday, nearly 300 elected lawmakers from Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party declared themselves as the sole legitimate representatives of the people and asked for international recognition as the country's government.

They were supposed to take their seats Monday in a new session of Parliament following November elections when the military announced it was taking power for a year.

The military accused Suu Kyi and her party of failing to act on its complaints that last November's election was marred by fraud, though the election commission said it had no found evidence to support the claims.

In New York, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres pledged Friday that the United Nations will do everything it can to unite the international community and create conditions for the military coup to be reversed.

He told a news conference it is absolutely essential to carry out the Security Council's calls for a return to democracy, respect for the results of the November elections, and release of all people detained by the military, which means the reversal of the coup that took place.

Guterres said Christine Schraner Burgener, the UN special envoy for Myanmar, had a first contact with the military since the coup and expressed the UN's strong opposition to the takeover.

In addition to 134 officials and lawmakers who were

detained in the coup, some 18 independent activists were also held, said the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners in Myanmar, which added that some have been released.

The office of Australia's foreign minister said in a statement Saturday that the government was deeply concerned about reports of Australian and other foreign nationals being detained arbitrarily in Myanmar. The statement said the government was concerned in particular about one Australian who was detained at a police station. The statement did not provide details on the identities of those being held or the reasons for their detention.

On Friday, Suu Kyi's senior aide, Win Htein, was picked up in Mayangone township.

Suu Kyi and Kyaw Soe Oo are also under house arrest and have been charged with minor offenses, seen by many as merely providing a legal veneer for their detention. Suu Kyi was described by her party as being in good health.

China grants conditional approval to second Covid vaccine, CoronaVac

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BEIJING, 6 FEBRUARY

China has granted conditional approval for its second Covid-19 vaccine, ahead of the expected emergency approval from the WHO for two of its jabs that would enable the country to step-up global supplies of the shots.

The country's drug regulator has given approval for the conditional mass use of the coronavirus vaccine produced by Chinese pharmaceutical firm Sinovac Biotech.

Sinovac Biotech announced on Saturday that CoronaVac, an inactivated vaccine candidate against Covid-19, received authorisation from the National Medical Products Administration.

It is the second locally made vaccine to be given conditional approval. Beijing authorised the state-owned Sinopharm's vaccine in December.

The conditional approval was based on the results of the

overseas Phase-III clinical trials of CoronaVac. Final data from the trials has not been made available yet and the results of its efficacy and safety require further confirmation, state-run Global Times said, quoting a Sinovac statement.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) on Friday said two Chinese vaccines are "in a very advanced stage" of its Emergency Use Listing Procedure (EUL) assessment.

The vaccines, produced by Sinovac and Sinopharm, are among the four vaccines in very advanced phase of approval, Mariangela Simao, assistant WHO Director-General for Access to Medicines, Vaccines and Pharmaceuticals, said in Geneva.

A team of experts from the WHO are now ready in China, and they "will start inspections next week" as they are currently in quarantine, she said.

So far, only the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine has received EUL approval. Two other vac-

cines - Britain's AstraZeneca and South Korea's SK Bioscience - are also being assessed, Simao said.

Nepal to get 500,000 doses of vaccine from China: China will provide 500,000 doses of Covid-19 vaccines to Nepal on a grant basis, officials here said on Saturday, supplying the first batch of vaccine aid for the Himalayan nation.

During a telephonic conversation with his Nepali counterpart Pradeep Gyawali on Friday evening, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi assured that China would accord priority to Nepal in vaccine cooperation, according to a press statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here.

China's move to supply the coronavirus vaccine to Nepal is seen as Beijing's efforts to step-up its vaccine diplomacy amid projections from experts that India could become a key player in distributing the jabs to the world.

The World Health Organization (WHO) on Friday said two Chinese vaccines are "in a very advanced stage" of its Emergency Use Listing Procedure (EUL) assessment.

The report noted that Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan was responsible for over 100 cross-border attacks within three months last year.

The 27th report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team was submitted to the Security Council Committee concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Daesh), Al-Qaeda and associated groups.

From those, the scientists identified the best 11 from which to construct a multi-epitope vaccine, which can attack the spike proteins that the coronavirus uses to bind and penetrate a host cell. Vaccines target the region, or epitope, of the contagion to disrupt the spike protein, neutralising the ability of the virus to replicate, the study said.

Moreover, the engineers can construct a new multi-epitope vaccine for a new virus in less than a minute and validate its quality within an hour.

By contrast, current processes to control the virus require growing the pathogen in the lab, deactivating it and injecting the virus that caused a disease. The process is time-consuming and takes more than one year; meanwhile, the disease spreads.

The method is especially useful during this stage of the pandemic as the coronavirus begins to mutate in populations around the world.

When applied to SARS-CoV-2 -- the virus that caus-

WATER WOES



A volunteer walks through water on a flooded road in Coussan, near Marmande in southwestern France on Saturday. Rivers across France broke their banks this week amid heavy flooding. ■ AP

New AI tool can thwart coronavirus mutations: Study

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
HOUSTON, 6 FEBRUARY

Researchers have developed a new method to counter emergent mutations of the deadly coronavirus and hasten vaccine development to stop the pathogen responsible for killing thousands of people and ruining the economy, according to a study.

The research team at the University of Southern California Viterbi School of Engineering, using artificial intelligence developed a method to speed the analysis of vaccines and zero in on the best potential preventive medical therapy, the varsity said in a statement.

The method is easily adaptable to analyse potential mutations of the virus, ensuring the best possible vaccines are quickly identified - solutions that give humans a big advantage over the evolving contagion. Their machine-learning model can accomplish vaccine design cycles that once took months or years in a matter of seconds and minutes, the study says.

"This AI framework, applied to the specifics of this virus, can provide vaccine candidates within seconds and move them to clinical trials quickly to achieve preventive medical therapies without compromising safety," said Paul Bogdan, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering at USC Viterbi and corresponding author of the study.

"Moreover, this can be adapted to help us stay ahead of the coronavirus as it mutates around the world."

When applied to SARS-CoV-2 -- the virus that caus-

TPP oversaw reunification of splinter groups in Afghanistan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
UNITED NATIONS, 6 FEBRUARY

Moderated by Al Qaeda, terror group Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is reported to have overseen a reunification of splinter groups in Afghanistan, a development that was expected to increase the threat in the region, according to a UN report.

The report noted that Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan was responsible for over 100 cross-border attacks within three months last year.

The 27th report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team was submitted to the Security Council Committee concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Daesh), Al-Qaeda and associated groups.

According to Member State assessments, TTP fighter

strength ranges between 2,500 and 6,000 and one Member State reported that TTP was responsible for more than 100 cross-border attacks between July and October 2020, it said.

The report noted that Al-Qaeda has endured a period of high leadership attrition, with multiple losses in Afghanistan, Mali, Somalia, Yemen and the Governorate of Idlib in Syria.

One Member State has confirmed the death of Abdulah Ahmed Abdulla el-Alfi, also known as Abu Mohamed al-Masri in August, who was the deputy of Aiman Muhammed Rabi al-Zawahiri.

There were also reports of the death of al-Zawahiri in October, although no Member State has been able to con-

firm such reports to the Monitoring Team, it said. The report said that the importance of Mohammed Salahaldin Abd El Halim Zidane, also known as Sayf-Al-Adl, previously assessed to be the third most senior leader of Al-Qaeda, has likely increased.

It noted that in the event a succession to al-Zawahiri becomes necessary, it may be difficult for the new leader to take up residence in Afghanistan...as such a move could have an impact on the interests of the Taliban," the report said.

Al-Qaeda is expected by Member States to overcome these challenges, but it is not clear whether it will ultimately emerge stronger, under a more dynamic leadership.

The success or otherwise

of the Afghan peace process will be an important factor in this, as well as in the shorter- and longer-term prospects of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant-Khorasan (ISIL-K).

The report added that following its setbacks in Nangarhar and Kunar Provinces, ISIL-K has suffered from degraded combat capability, reduced support on the ground and insufficient funding.

"The group seeks to restore influence, secure new locations, update its organisational structure and logistics, and identify additional financing sources."

Al-Qaeda assesses that its future in Afghanistan depends upon its close ties to the Taliban, as well as the success of Taliban military operations in the country.



Christopher Plummer in *The Sound of Music*

"The world has lost a consummate actor today and I have lost a cherished friend. I treasure the memories of our work together and all the humour and fun we shared through the years. My heart and condolences go out to his lovely wife Elaine, and his daughter Amanda," Andrew said.

Evans, who played Ransom, the grandson of Plummer's

Twitter.

Actor Daniel Craig also released a statement, saying he is "deeply saddened" by Plummer's death.

"Christopher Plummer was a lovely, charming man. I was humbled and incredibly fortunate to get the chance to work with him. He was a joy to be around. My heart goes out to his family and loved ones," he added.

Johnson posted on Twitter, "RIP to Christopher Plummer, a living legend who loved his craft, and was an absolute gentleman. So lucky to have shared a set with him."

De Armas said she feels "lucky" to have shared screen space with Plummer in *Knives Out*. "My heart is broken, my dear Chris, I feel your loss deep inside. How lucky was I having you next to me in what's been one of the best experiences of my career," she wrote on Instagram.

Veteran filmmaker Ridley Scott, who had replaced embattled actor Kevin Spacey with Plummer in his 2017 movie *All The Money In The World*, also mourned his demise.

Actor Jamie Lee Curtis, who also starred in *Knives Out*, shared a black and white portrait of Plummer to honour the veteran actor.

"I made this portrait of Christopher Plummer the first day of filming @KnivesOutAs I played his eldest child I wanted to connect a moment with him and I sat in the little study that he had as a room to wait in and we talked."

"I had very little work with him but we made a lovely connection. His work in that movie is full of life, love and longing. A beautiful portrayal. Honoured to have been able to work with him," she wrote in the caption.

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DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI
4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001.
OA NO. 636/2018
ICICI Bank Limited ...Applicant
Versus
Sh. Bontha Suresh Babu & Ors.
...Defendants

To,
1. Sh. Bontha Suresh Babu (Defendant No. 01)
R/o: Flat No. B-7, Resident Hostel Intri, Mehrauli, New Delhi-110030
And also:
Sh. Bontha Suresh Babu

R/o: Flat No. A-114, 14th Floor, Tower T-1 Monarch, Plot No. Gh-02C, Sector-01, Greater Noida, Noida-201307.

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 37,42,400/- (Rupees Thirty Seven Lacs Forty Two Thousand And Four Hundred Only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before the Tribunal on 17.02.2021 at 10:30 A.M. (for further details kindly visit DRT website www.ebtndr.gov.in Phone Number 011-23748473).

Take note that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Due to ongoing pandemic situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:-

(i) All the Advocates/ Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application/ Software.

(ii) "Meeting ID" and "Password" for the next date of hearing cases to be taken by Registrars/ Recovery Officer/ V- and Recovery Officer- II shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. "drt.gov.in" under the Public Notice Head.

(iii) In any



For more updates

www.thestatesman.com

THIRD TIME LUCKY

Former captain Steve Smith claimed his third Allan Border Medal while Beth Mooney bagged her maiden Belinda Clarke Award, the top two honours of the Australian Cricket Awards. Smith was honoured for his performances in all three formats of the game, while Mooney bagged the recognition in the Australian women's game for the first time. "It's a great thrill, plenty of hard work has gone into it (but) I didn't expect it; I thought Marnus (Labuschagne) or Pat Cummins were the front runners because they both had exceptional years," he said.

THUMBNAILS

Neymar misses training: Paris Saint-Germain star Neymar missed training because of gastroenteritis and his fitness will be assessed later in the day ahead of Sunday's trip to face bitter rival Marseille, the club said Saturday. French champion PSG also said that backup defender Timothee Pembele has the coronavirus and is self-isolating. Central defender Abdou Diallo, who contracted the virus on Jan. 29, is still following COVID-19 protocols and will miss the game.

Kenin's hope: Defending Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin is putting her leg soreness down to the 14 days spent in quarantine and not able to play competitive matches until this week. She felt pain in her upper left leg and it bothered her during a 6-2, 6-2 loss to Garbine Muguruza on Friday in the quarterfinals of a tuneup tournament for the year's first major.

Daruvala grabs second position: Mumbai Falcons' Jehan Daruvala continued to sparkle in the Formula 3 Asian Championship, grabbing the second position in Race 1 of Round 3 at the Yas Marina International Circuit in Abu Dhabi on Saturday.

New CBA: Major League Soccer and its players struck and agreement Friday night on a reworked collective bargaining agreement that will run through the 2027 season. The league had invoked a force majeure clause in December to reopen negotiations over the current CBA, citing ongoing uncertainty because of the COVID-19 crisis.

Osaka, Azarenka withdraw: Former Australian Open champions Naomi Osaka and Victoria Azarenka withdrawn from tuneup tournaments Saturday, two days before the year's first tennis major begins at Melbourne Park. No. 3-ranked Osaka pulled out of her Gippsland Trophy semifinal against Elise Mertens, citing a "niggling injury."

Protests at Manchester United: Protests against his family's ownership of Manchester United have long bemused Joel Glazer. "I get that some fans don't like us," he said. "To hate us when the club has been so successful, it's extraordinary."

Bayern win: Robert Lewandowski missed a penalty but a deflected effort from Kingsley Coman helped Bayern Munich eke out a hard-fought 1-0 victory at Hertha Berlin in the Bundesliga on Friday. Bayern stretched its winning run in the league to five games, while Hertha remained in relegation trouble with just one point from its last six games.

Fifa rules: FIFA extended an easing of its rules on Friday that frees clubs during the coronavirus pandemic from obligations to release all players to national teams. The decision came with 135 national teams set to play World Cup qualifying games in March, and 48 more playing African Cup of Nations qualifiers.

Villa beat Arsenal: Aston Villa maintained its push for a finish in the European qualification positions by beating Arsenal 1-0 in the Premier League thanks to a goal after 74 seconds by Ollie Watkins on Saturday. Villa moved into eighth place and only five points behind Liverpool.

ATP cup final: World No. 4 Daniil Medvedev outlasted Alexander Zverev in a 3-6, 6-3, 7-5 marathon to clinch Russia's first ATP Cup final berth. With Andrey Rublev taking down Jan-Lennard Struff earlier in the No. 2 singles match, Russia wins the tie and will face Italy for the title. "We're really happy to get the win, that's the most important," Medvedev said.

India undergoes painful Root canal as Ben Stokes the fire

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
CHENNAI, 6 FEBRUARY

Skippers Joe Root (in photo) continued to torment the Indian spinners with a majestic double century that placed England in a commanding position and scuttled home team's chances of enforcing a favourable result in the first Test here on Saturday.

England ended the day two at an intimidating 555 for eight, built around Root's 218 that was result of a near nine-hour effort in which he faced 377 balls.

The pace never dropped even when he was well past bowling his 20th over as the tattered old ball would consistently tail in. But Ishant, Ashwin and Jasprit Bumrah (2/81)'s good work was undone once again by rookie Washington Sundar. And Shahbaz Nadeem (2/167) for all his experience at the domestic level for a decade and half, probably understood that he probably is a bit less-skilled when facing the veteran pacer, it was Stokes, whose on-drive and square drive off successive deliveries from the pacer did change his skipper Virat Kohli's facial complexion, which remained grumpy for the most part of the day. Ishant (2/52) bowled as best as he had in any unfavourable conditions, something that the scoreboard wouldn't perhaps tell. The veteran of 98 Tests finally got a couple of wickets at the fag end of the day but his performance with old ball on one of the flattest tracks will be remembered for a long time.

"It makes us all feel, you know, pretty rubbish (laughs), the way he makes batting looks. I was a quite surprised he run down the wicket and packed a six to bring up a double (century)," Stokes said at the press conference after



day's play. England didn't declare after being well past 500 which was like driving home a point and piling on the misery on an Indian team which has now been shaken up on a track where nothing happened for two days. While Root will be lauded for sure for his sec-

ond double hundred in last three Test matches, it was Stokes, whose counter-attack deflated the home team. He started by coming down and lofting Ravichandran Ashwin over long for a six and then used the giant stride to slog sweep the senior off-spinner for a

boundary. In fact, Ashwin (2/132), who was brilliant over two days, was only a bit rattled when Stokes gave him the charge. Although Root hit Ashwin for two sixes -- the second one bringing up his fifth career double hundred for the England captain -- it was Stokes who gave him and the other spinners a big charge. Also the only one who played Ishant Sharma with some degree of confidence was Stokes. While Root defended well against the veteran pacer, it was Stokes, whose on-drive and square drive off successive deliveries from the pacer did change his skipper Virat Kohli's facial complexion, which remained grumpy for the most part of the day. Ishant (2/52) bowled as best as he had in any unfavourable conditions, something that the scoreboard wouldn't perhaps tell. The veteran of 98 Tests finally got a couple of wickets at the fag end of the day but his performance with old ball on one of the flattest tracks will be remembered for a long time.

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Root and Stokes showed how to stay low and try and take the ball below the eye-line. Since the duo couldn't build a lot of pressure from one end, the onus was always on either Ashwin or Ishant or Bumrah to strike and keep the pressure. Root's strike-rate against pacers was in mid-30s and against spinners, it was in the high 70s, underlining his dominance against Washington and Nadeem.

Root is a very good batsman. He has been in form of late. He is sweeping really well. So to bowl to him you have to plan to stay on the stumps and not bowl away from stumps. It becomes a problem when a batsman starts sweeping but at the same time you have to stick to your line and length and wait for batsman to make mistakes," he added.

"There has not been much change in the wicket. There is just a rough, which is on the left (of the batsman) that can trouble but in the centre it is still good."

"If we wouldn't have got those wickets, those batsmen would have still been batting. Two bowlers batting can be called an upper hand," he said and also explained why India are still in the game.

"We have to get them out as early as possible. The pitch is still very good for batting. I am sure our batsmen will also score a big total," he added.

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"If we wouldn't have got those wickets, those batsmen would have still been batting. Two bowlers batting can be called an upper hand," he said and also explained why India are still in the game.

"We have to get them out as early as possible. The pitch is still very good for batting. I am sure our batsmen will also score a big total," he added.

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