



GREEN SHOOTS VISIBLE, INDIA
WILL BOUNCE BACK: KANT Pg 11

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UNBREAKABLE LINK
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POLICE AND CRIME Pg 8

KEANE OWN GOAL GIVES TOTTENHAM
HOTSPUR 1-0 WIN OVER EVERTON Pg 16



₹2

Quality at Value

WEATHER
31°C. 26°C.

Sunrise: 06:07 am
Sunset: 07:20 pm

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Love all, be always
cheerful, 'Love'; keeps
on doing good service
unto others; smile
and retire from life.

Sri Ma

Is the withdrawal from Galwan Valley, Hot Springs and Gogra a red herring?

CHINA HOLDS ON TO PANGONG TSO

FPJ NEWS SERVICE
Leh/New Delhi

The Chinese retreat in the Galwan Valley has been affirmed by high resolution satellite images, media reports said on Tuesday.

This is in keeping with the claim that the disengagement process had started after Sunday's Special Representative-level talks.

As part of this exercise -- to create a buffer zone or a no-man's land -- Indian troops

too are retreating in a confidence building measure. While the Chinese have retreated 2 km, it is not clear to what extent have the Indians backed off.

There is forward momentum elsewhere, too. The PLA has removed its makeshift infrastructure and backed off from the other two points of friction -- Hot Springs and Gogra in eastern Ladakh. Here, the withdrawal is likely to be completed in a couple of days.



The Indian Army is keeping a strict vigil on their rearward movement, government sources said. However, in Pangong Tso -- the strategically sensitive area which the Chinese have set their eyes on -- the sources said a "marginal thinning out of troops" has been observed. In other words, the PLA continues to occupy Finger 4.

According to some experts, Galwan Valley may be a red herring and the PLA never intended to hold onto it.

Their quarry is the Pangong Tso, areas of which they have successfully usurped. Unless a complete withdrawal takes place in this area, any talk of complete disengagement is mere hogwash.

The two Armies are expected to hold further talks later this week after the first phase of disengagement process is complete. Possibly, the Pangong Tso will fall in the ambit of the second round of de-escalation.

CONTD. ON P5

FAREWELL TO ARMS IN THE CORONA WAR

Centre drops from 'essentials' list masks and sanitisers, even as the state government is seeking to regulate their prices and availability

SWAPNIL MISHRA / Mumbai

Even though the country is ranked No. 3 in the world for the most number of corona cases -- 6,97,836 and counting -- the Central government has dropped masks and hand sanitisers from the list of essential commodities.

These two products, the first line of defense in the fight against the virus, had been declared as essential items until June 30. Doctors and health experts are alarmed by this decision to take them out of the essential list, saying citizens will have to bear the brunt and

blackmarketeers will once again have a field day.

The notification issued by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs on July 1 states that there are no adverse reports from the States/UTs with respect to price or availability of face masks and hand sanitisers. Therefore, it has been decided to discontinue these items as essential commodities under the Epidemic Act 1955 beyond June 30, the notification adds.

On March 13, the Union Consumer Affairs Ministry had declared masks and hand sanitisers as essential commodities for 100 days, to boost

supply and prevent hoarding of these items, in its fight against coronavirus. "These two products were declared as essential items till June 30. We are not extending this date further, as there is enough supply in the country," said Leena Nandan, secretary, Consumer Affairs.

A decision in this regard was taken after consultation with the state governments, she said. "We have checked with all states and got information from them that there is sufficient supply of these two items. There is no supply concern," she added.

CONTD. ON P5

Fast News



NITISH KUMAR NIECE POSITIVE

The Anney Marg bungalow of Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar was sealed on Tuesday morning after his niece tested COVID positive. She was down with a fever for a couple of days and rushed to the AIIMS on Monday evening in an ambulance. The CM's residence is being sanitised and is closed to visitors. Last week, Nitish was also examined for Corona but tested negative. Sixteen other members of his staff were also examined.

After the CM's niece tested positive, it was announced that a makeshift Corona hospital with ventilator would be operational at the residence. An official letter, which contains roster of duties assigned to physicians, anaesthesia experts and nurses, has gone viral. The health staff would ensure that the "ventilator-equipped hospital" at the CM's residence remains functional round the clock, the letter states. Incidentally, on Tuesday, 385 new cases were detected in the State, including 56 in Patna. More than 30 areas in the state capital have been sealed following what is perceived to be 'community transmission'. LAH KUMAR MISHRA/Patna

SOP SOON TO KICK START FILM MAKING

The government is coming up with Standard Operating Procedure for shooting films and is also set to provide incentives for production houses to accelerate film-making, Union minister Prakash Javadekar said on Tuesday. It is also coming up with incentives to kick start TV serials, animation and gaming. "We will be announcing these measures shortly," he said.

TAILPIECE

2.87 LAKH CASES A DAY IN INDIA?

India might see the worst of the pandemic early next year if the vaccine remains a pipedream. On the basis of recent testing and case data of 84 countries, comprising 60 per cent of the world population, researchers of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have predicted that India might record 2.87 lakh coronavirus cases per day by February 2021. The researchers used a standard mathematical model for infectious diseases used by epidemiologists, for their analysis. They have also projected that the total number of cases worldwide would be between 20 crore and 60 crore by "spring 2021" (March-May) in the absence of a treatment (Ref: India Today.com).

NO PRESCRIPTION NEEDED FOR TESTS

DIPTI SINGH / Mumbai

In a significant move, the BMC has revised its testing guidelines and will now allow COVID-19 tests without a doctor's prescription. The civic body's move comes after the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) instructed it to increase testing.

BMC conducts an average of 4,000 to 4,500 tests daily. Earlier, a doctor's prescription was mandatory for taking the COVID-19 test.

According to a circular issued by the BMC on Tuesday evening, anyone can get oneself tested for coronavirus infection at

designated private laboratories in Mumbai without a doctor's prescription.

BMC commissioner Iqbal Singh Chahal took the decision to allow testing without a medical prescription in view of an increase in the number of private laboratories, the circular stated. It will help people get treatment for coronavirus quicker, it added.

Elaborating on the decision, Chahal told The Free Press Journal: "This is the most liberal COVID testing policy to be implemented anywhere in India. The policy will be implemented in Mumbai with immediate effect."

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FINAL YEAR EXAMS: NEW FLASHPOINT

SANJAY JOG / Mumbai

With the University Grant Commission's decision on holding final-year examinations in September, a face-off between the Centre and the Maha Vikas Aghadi government in Maharashtra seems inevitable. The youth wing of the Shiv Sena, the Yuva Sena led by Aaditya Thackeray, dashed off a letter to the Union Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal on Tuesday opposing the move and urged him to reconsider the decision to "compulsorily" conducting final year examinations.

In a related development, Maharashtra Minister of Higher and Technical Education Uday Samant, also wrote to Pokhriyal, saying that in the present unforeseen, uncertain and challenging situation, holding final-year exams for more than 10 lakh students in the state seems an unfeasible task and, if conducted, they would endanger the well-being of students, parents, teachers, support staff and other machinery involved in the process.

Samant urged Pokhriyal to issue uniform guidelines on awarding degrees to final-year students based on an appropriate formula, since the students are the pivotal soul of the entire educational ecosystem.

On the other hand, Yuva Sena Secretary Varun Sade-sai said, "The UGC had earlier released guidelines which allowed Universities to take decisions based on the situation in their vicinity. The Maharashtra government has cancelled these exams, giving students the option to appear for exams."

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STATE TELLS HIGH COURT...

Street vendors "unorganised", cannot be allowed to resume

NARSI BENWAL / Mumbai

Adding to the woes of small vendors and hawkers, the Maharashtra government on Tuesday informed the Bombay High Court that it has no plans yet to allow such street vendors to carry out their usual business, especially in the present scenario. The government said that allowing vendors could increase the risk of spread of the pandemic since it is an "unorganised" sector.

A bench of Justices Amjad Sayed and Makarand Karnik ordered the government to spell out its stand on an affidavit. The bench was dealing with a PIL filed by one Manoj Oswal seeking permissions for street vendors to carry out their usual business as they are among the worst hit by the pandemic and the subsequent lockdown.

Oswal, in his plea, claimed that street vendors have a "hand to mouth" existence and are facing the worst time as they have had no source of livelihood for the last few



Shops & markets: two more hours

SANJAY JOG / Mumbai

In yet another move to give a fillip to business activity, the Maharashtra Government has decided that from July 9 markets and shops in the city can remain open for two additional hours and function from 9 am to 7 am.

Chief Secretary Sanjay Kumar on Tuesday issued a notification whereby markets would be permitted

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months. During the course of the hearing, Oswal pointed out that the government has decided to permit hotels and lodges to resume business, but has not taken any decision yet for vendors.

Appearing for the state, advocate general Ashutosh Kumbhakoni informed the judges that the government has not taken any decision for resuming hotels yet.

"We are in the process of unlocking. Hotels are yet to be permitted. We are finalizing the guidelines under which the hotels would be functioning henceforth. And it must be noted that regulating

CONTD. ON P5

US move to kick out foreign students

LALIT K JHA AND YOSHITA SINGH
Washington/New York

Says they must leave or face deportation, if their universities switch to online classes this fall due to the pandemic; Indians to be hit badly

In a move that will adversely impact hundreds of thousands of Indian students, the US immigration authority has announced that foreign students will have to leave the country or risk deportation if their universities switch to online-only classes in the ensuing semester this fall due to the pandemic.

"The US Department of State will not issue visas to students enrolled in schools and/or programmes that are fully online for the fall semester; nor will US Customs and Border Protection permit these students to enter the United States," the release said, referring to the September to

December semester.

The agency, however, suggested that students currently enrolled in the US could consider other measures, such as seeking transfer to schools with in-person instruction.

International students enrolled in academic programmes at US universities and colleges study on an F-1 visa and those enrolled in technical programmes at vocational institutions, other than a language training programme, come to the US on an M-1 visa. India sent the largest number of students (251,290) to the US after China (478,732) in 2017 and 2018, according to the latest data. The number of students from India increased from 2017 to 2018 by 4,157.

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LAST WORD

Covid catches up with athletic Brazil President



Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro says he has tested positive for COVID-19, after months of downplaying the virus' severity.

Bolsonaro confirmed the test results while wearing a mask and speaking to reporters in capital Brasilia. The president has often

appeared in public to shake hands with supporters and mingle without a mask. He has said that his history as an athlete would protect him from the virus, and that it would be nothing more than a "little flu" were he to contract it.

He has also repeatedly said that there is no way to

prevent 70% of the population falling ill with COVID-19, and that local authorities' measures to shut down economic activity would ultimately cause more hardship than allowing the virus to run its course.

Cities and states last month began lifting restrictions that had been imposed to control the

spread of the virus, as their statistical curves of deaths began to decline along with the occupation rate of its intensive-care units. Brazil, the world's sixth most populous nation, with more than 210 million people, is one of the global hot spots of the pandemic.

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Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar's iconic house in Dadar attacked

MUMBAI: Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar's iconic house 'Rajgruh' in Dadar east reportedly attacked by unknown persons on Tuesday evening. The miscreant damaged the house, however, no one was injured in the attack. According to the press release issued by Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA), two unidentified persons entered the

banglow in Dadar east at around 6 pm and damaged the bungalow property. The miscreants damaged the CCTV camera and broke the windows of the house as well. At the time of attack, Anandaram Ambedkar was present in the house while Balasaheb Ambedkar was away.
— STAFF REPORTER

MARATHA QUOTA

All prepared to defend

PWD minister Ashok Chavan is confident that state government will be able to defend the quota which was upheld by Bombay HC last year

SANJAY JOG
Mumbai

Maharashtra Public Work Minister Ashok Chavan, who heads the cabinet sub-committee on Maratha quota, on Tuesday said the apex court has refused to give an interim stay on the implementation of 12% reservation in education and 13% in jobs for the Maratha community under the SEBC Act 2018. He said the legal team has strongly put up an argument in favour of quota. He was reacting to the Supreme Court's decision to hear and pass interim orders on July 15 on petitioners challenging Maratha reservation.

Chavan reiterated that the state government is fully prepared to defend the quota which was upheld by the Bombay High Court last year. "The Maha Vikas Aghadi Government has retained the legal team led by former Attorney General Mukul Rohatgi who had argued the state government's case in the Bombay High Court which has upheld the Maratha quota. We are confident that the Maratha reservation will also pass the Supreme Court test. The government is quite committed for the same," he noted.



The SEBC Act 2018, which was passed by the Devendra Fadnavis-led Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government, was challenged in the apex court by one Jayashri Patil. On the other hand, Maratha Kranti Morcha coordinator Vinod Patil has urged that the matter be referred to a five-judge bench. The petitioners have challenged the Bombay High Court's decision to uphold the law by which the Maratha community would get reservations in education and jobs in Maharashtra.



"MVA govt has retained legal team led by former Attorney General Mukul Rohatgi, who had argued the case in HC"
— PWD Minister Ashok Chavan

Chavan said the sub-committee led by him had met six times and held marathon meetings with the legal team. "The government has been working quite sincerely for the continuation of Maratha quota," he viewed. The state

government has prepared a 1500-page report justifying Maratha reservation.

Interestingly, former chief minister Devendra Fadnavis yesterday had assured BJP's full support to the state government in the ongoing legal battle.

Lonar lake situation 'bad, pathetic': HC

NAGPUR: The situation at the Lonar crater lake, the colour of which has turned pink, is bad and pathetic, the Nagpur bench of Bombay High Court has said. It rapped the Buldhana district collector and the Lonar Municipal Council for their "callous and indifferent attitude" in preserving and protecting the lake and its surrounding area.

The oval-shaped Lonar lake, formed after a meteorite hit the Earth some 50,000 years ago, is a popular tourist hub located in Maharashtra's Buldhana district.

The colour of the lake water recently turned pink, which has not only surprised locals, but also nature enthusiasts and scientists.

A division bench of Justices Sunil Shukre and Anil Kilor was on Monday hearing a petition filed by one Kirti Nipankar, raising concern over the change in the lake colour.

Sinnar: SC seeks details of errors in voters' list

FROM OUR BUREAU/ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday disposed of a writ petition of Shivaji Yashwantrao Deshmukh, asking him to furnish appropriate details of the errors in the voters' list of Sinnar legislative constituency in Nashik district within four weeks to let the concerned authorities look into the matter expeditiously. A 3-judge Bench of Justices Uday Umesh Lalit, Mohan M Shantanagoudar and Vineet Saran said it went through a representation made by him to Nashik's deputy collector, making the requisite assertion but no exact details were given. In his representation, Deshmukh has alleged that 10,793 voters' names appeared twice in the voters' list of Sinnar.

Sanjay Raut maintains his trust on Ajit Pawar

Says that discussions will be held henceforth before admitting people from each other's party

DHAVAL KULKARNI
Mumbai

Trying to play down differences between the ruling Shiv Sena and the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Raut gave a clean chit to deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar, who has been blamed by Sena leaders for inducting party corporators into the NCP. The NCP and Shiv Sena were at loggerheads over the transfer of 10 deputy commissioners of police (DCP), which were revoked after the minister Uddhav Thackeray's intervention. The NCP had also walked out with a section of Shiv Sena corporators in Ahmednagar district, and these dissident corporators from Parnar had joined the party in Ajit Pawar's presence on Sunday. On Monday, chief minister Uddhav Thackeray and NCP supremo and former union agriculture minister Sharad Pawar had met to discuss



and resolve such differences. "Sharad Pawar is a senior leader of this country. Even he can summon the chief minister for discussions considering his seniority. The chief minister always respects experience... Sharad Pawar meets the chief minister occasionally to discuss issues of importance before the state. There are no differences or contradictions within the government," said Raut. Raut, who is also the executive editor of Shiv Sena mouthpiece Saamna, said the DCP's were

transferred by the Commissioner as part of a routine administrative exercise, and there were no politics or contradictions involved. "The issue at Parnar is a minor one... It does not concern Ajit Pawar in that sense and is related to the local legislator or Shiv Sena taluka president. This cannot be called a defection, but henceforth, when it comes to admitting people from each other's party henceforth, discussions must be held. Ajit Pawar was in the dark about these inductions," added Raut.

BSP ups the ante on Dalit atrocities

DHAVAL KULKARNI
Mumbai

Pointing to instances of atrocities against Dalits in Maharashtra, even during the lockdown necessitated by the Corona pandemic, the Mayawati-led Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has demanded the fast-tracking of such cases. The party, which organised protests on Tuesday, has also sought stronger social security measures to mitigate and buffer the impact of the lockdown and subsequent economic contraction on the working class. Suresh Vidyagar, BSP Mumbai president, said the party had held protests across the state for demands like fast-tracking these cases of atrocities against Dalits, waiving off electricity bills to provide relief to people during the lockdown and aid for those who were affected or had died because of Corona. The BSP is also seeking that educational institutions waive off fees and prices of cooking gas and motor fuels be reduced.

Over 88K job seekers, 751 firms register on Maha Jobs

MIDC expects registration from 3L individuals and 5K companies by the end of July

SANJAY JOG
Mumbai

Within 24 hours after its launch the Maha Jobs, nearly 88473 job seekers and 751 companies were registered on Tuesday. The portal is an interactive platform for employers and job seekers. It has been developed and run by the state-run Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC).

MIDC expects to cross the registration by 3 lakh job seekers and nearly 5,000 companies by the end of July.

Industry Department Officer told Free Press Journal, "The registration of



companies and job seekers is in various sectors including food processing, electronics, iron and steel, IT and ITES, automotive, instrumentation, logistics, power, textile and manufacturing. The portal will provide the list of candidates with requisite qualifications in the dashboards

of the companies. The job seekers will be able to vacancies for the qualification across the sectors."

The officer explained if a company in the auto sector in a particular district will be given a list of eligible candidates from the same district. In case of non-availability, the software

will pick up candidates from other districts. While selecting two criteria are applied the date of registration and qualification will be taken into consideration.

As reported by FPJ, MIDC has selected 950 plus trades and 17 different sectors, including automobile, engineering, manufacturing, logistic, textile, garmenting, processing, pharmaceutical, and biotechnology for recruitment. Industry Minister Subhash Desai said the Department of Industry's recent survey revealed the availability of 50,000 jobs after reopening of more than 65,000 industrial units.

2 railway employees run over by local train

STAFF REPORTER
Mumbai

Two railway employees were run over by a local train on midnight of July 7 and were declared brought dead at the hospital. Railway officials said it was an unfortunate accident and suitable compensation and benefits will be given to their family members. The incident occurred between Khar and Bandra Railway station at 00.08am on July 7. Both the employees were between the age group of 40-50 years. One was working as senior sub engineer (SSE)/Pway (permanent way) and another was the senior trackman. "Both have been identified as Raj

Kumar Sharma, SSE/PWay (48/M) and Nagesh Savant, Trackman/STC (40/M). Kumar was moving to attend necessary track work in BA-KHAR section. He was moving adjacent to UP slow line with another person. EMU trains on the UP slow line hit them. Train stopped at the site and then moved," said railway officials. The railway guard of the train reported this incident to the nearest railway station after which a medical team was sent to the spot. "These officials were taken to Bhabha Hospital at about 1am on July 7, but were declared brought dead by doctors. Both have head injuries with open skull fractures," he said.

DHAVAL KULKARNI
Mumbai

Politicians across party lines are seeking that the state government relax lockdown rules to allow places of worship to re-open conditionally for the faithful and for religious ceremonies to be observed.

While the Mumbai Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has demanded that places of worship be allowed to take in devotees, subject to precautions and social distancing norms, the Samajwadi Party (SP)

wants the slaughter of goats to be permitted on Bakri Id.

The state government has already asked for Ganesh utsav celebrations to be scaled down considering the prevalence of the Corona pandemic, while the Ashadi wari to Pandharpur and the holy month of Ramzan were observed on a low-key due to the spread of the disease.

Mangalprabhat Lodha, BJP Mumbai chief and Malabar Hill MLA, sought that Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray allow religious

sites across Maharashtra to re-open to allow people to seek mental and spiritual succor as part of the state government's 'Mission Begin Again.' Lodha has demanded that these places of worship be allowed to re-open with norms of social distancing in place, even if for a limited time in a day.

SP MLA Abu Asim Azmi said he had met deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar with party legislator Rais Shaikh to seek that the slaughter of goats on Bakri Id, which is scheduled on month-end, be allowed.

Policeman shoots himself dead in Gadchiroli

NAGPUR: A 47-year-old police driver allegedly committed suicide by shooting himself with a rifle in Gadchiroli district on Tuesday morning, police said. The deceased worked as the driver of Gadchiroli's sub-divisional police officer (SDPO), an official at the office of Gadchiroli's superintendent of police said. He allegedly shot himself with an AK47 around 7 am when he was in the guard room at the SDPO's residence in Gadchiroli.

Shiv Sena raises concern over PM Modi's coronavirus strategy

Without naming anyone, party said that questions were being raised as for how long the lockdown will have to continue

AGENCIES
Mumbai

The Shiv Sena on Tuesday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had expressed confidence that the battle against COVID-19 would be won in 21 days, but it has been over 100 days and the crisis still persists.

The fight against COVID-19 is more difficult than the mythological war of Mahabharata, an editorial in Sena mouthpiece "Saamana" said, adding that the battle against the pandemic will continue till 2021 as the disease vaccine won't be available before that.

It expressed concern over India reporting the third highest COVID-19 cases in the world. It is unfortunate and serious for the country, which is dreaming to become a financial superpower, to report over 25,000 COVID-19 cases in 24 hours, the Sena said.

We left Russia behind in terms of the number of cases. We will attain the number one slot in this unfortunate area if the num-



ber of cases continue to go up," it said.

The war of Mahabharata lasted for 18 days. Prime Minister Modi had exuded confidence (in March) that we will win this battle against COVID-19 in 21 days. But it has been over 100 days and the coronavirus still persists and those fighting it have become tired, the Shiv Sena said.

Patients are recovering on a big scale in Maharashtra, but the situation in some areas of the state turns one restless, it said citing the example of Thane district, which has been a major COVID-19 hotspot. The Shiv Sena said sever-

al politicians, public representatives, policemen, health workers and other administrators are getting infected by the disease, and this does not suit the country and states.

"The coronavirus will be there and (we) need to live with it...the vaccine for coronavirus will not be available before 2021...that means (we) will have to live with coronavirus at least till then, it said.

Without naming anyone or any party, the Shiv Sena said questions are being raised as to for how many days the lockdown will continue.

But when you open the door (ease restrictions), the 'messengers' (threat) of coronavirus" are right out there, the Marathi publication said.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray has relaxed lockdown restrictions to some extent, but the threat is still not over, the Sena said.

It said the COVID-19 must be fought even though the industries, economy and lifestyle have been hit hard by the disease.

ROBBERY WITH PRECAUTIONS

Burglars wearing PPE kits flee with 780 gm gold



AGENCIES
Satara

Burglars wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) kits broke into a jewellery shop in Satara district and walked away with 780 gm gold, police said on Tuesday.

CCTV footage from the shop, located in Phaltan area, shows the burglars taking hold of the gold jewellery from the showcases and cupboards within, police said.

The footage of the 2-day-old in-

cident during the coronavirus-induced lockdown shows the burglars wearing caps, masks, plastic jackets and hand-gloves taking the jewellery from the display cases.

A case has been registered at the Phaltan police station after a complaint by the jewellery shop owner, who said the burglars took away 78 "tola" (one tola is 10 gm) gold, police said.

The shop owner said the burglars broke in through the shop wall, police said.

Dharavi reported just a single case on Tuesday

MUMBAI: From being the epicentre of coronavirus outbreak in Mumbai to a successful containment model, Asia's largest slum Dharavi has come a long way. The densely populated area on Tuesday reported just a single case and no deaths, giving a ray of hope to all its frontline staff working day and night to contain the outbreak in the area. The first cases in

the area was reported on April 1, when a cloth merchant, a resident of Dr Baliga Nagar not only tested positive but also succumbed to the infection on the same day. The last time when it had recorded a single new coronavirus case was on April 5, three months ago. The current count of covid 19 cases in Dharavi has jumped to 2,335. —Staff Reporter

Opine on exempting lawyers from lockdown rules: HC to govt, BCI

NARSI BENWAL
Mumbai

Three lawyers have moved the Bombay High Court seeking the services they render to be categorized as 'essential services' since they are 'officers of the court' and work towards ensuring justice for all. They have urged the HC to allow them to travel in the suburban local trains so that their work isn't obstructed.

While a bench headed by Justice Amjad Sayed issued notice to the Maharashtra government seeking its stand on the issue, another bench led by Justice Sambhaji Shinde ordered the Bar Council of India to file its say in the matter by Friday.

Justice Sayed's bench heard a PIL filed by three advocates and the one led by Justice Shinde dealt with a separate criminal writ petition filed by another advocate, who was fined Rs 500 for commuting on his two-wheeler.

The PIL urged the bench



to declare the services of advocates as essential services so as to enable them to travel in the local trains, which are specially being run for essential services staff. It argued that lawyers are officers of the court and they help in ensuring justice for all.

On the other hand, the criminal writ petition claimed that the petitioner advocate was fined Rs 500 for travelling on the Western Express Highway, despite him furnishing the copy of his ID card and the case papers to the concerned traffic cops.

The petitioner advocate told the bench led by Jus-

stice Shinde that he was stopped by the cops on the view of the new rule of Mumbai Police barring everyone from travelling beyond two kilometers from their residence, except for some essential work. The petitioner lawyer claimed to have reached late to the Magistrate's court, which was to hear his matter and by then the court had adjourned the case till a further date.

Both the pleas, principally sought an exemption for lawyers and their staff from the lockdown rules since they ought to work as the courts are functioning even during the lockdown.

Who's WFH, who's coming to office: Companies don 'sorting hat' to decide

PRATIP ACHARYA
Mumbai

Given the strong likelihood of staggered work hours for employees becoming the new normal, private offices and multi-national companies (MNCs) have begun to roll out new policies, incorporating staggered schedules. Many MNCs and private companies have decided to classify their employees as those who can work from home and those who must work from office on a rotational basis.

For those reporting to office, there will be staggered timings and a flexible routine will be followed. "Our organisation has already given us options on whether to work from home or attend office. For those living within city limits, these slots may be rotational and it will be work from home for those living in the outskirts or outstation employees, until things return to normal," said Aswin Gupta, senior employee at a management firm.

"Already, only 10 per cent of the workforce is allowed in the private sector and anticipating that this may continue until next month, organisations are planning ahead," Gupta added. Most MNCs have large workforces and in case the government allows these offices to call in more staff, maintaining social distance will be impossible even with staggered timings; hence the slotting of employees into groups is the solution. "Mumbai has a very high population density, even if we stagger our workplace

timings, there will be crowds on the roads, buses and trains. Hardly will anyone be able to adhere to social distancing norms," said a senior HR manager from a city MNC.

"Hence, it is better to classify the staff and rotate these slots routinely. This will ensure there are fewer people in office and at the same time, ensure that projects are completed within the deadline," she said.

For staffers of non-governmental organisations also, commuting is also a problem. The Mumbai suburban trains are strictly ferrying only those engaged in essential services. For the convenience of the employees, some firms are providing their employees with pick-up and drop facilities.

"Some offices are providing employees with pick-up and drop facilities and are trying to restrict the number of people who must be ferried at a time," said Dinesh Pathak, a corporate communication executive. "Staggered timings are meant to relax working hours, but at the same time there needs to be synchronisation or else employees will come and go at will and there will be an imbalance in the workforce," said Ramesh Vatsa, a senior marketing research professional. "Thus, the only option for efficient output is to provide relaxation in timings to some, while letting the remaining employees work from home," Vatsa said.



872 corona cases among CR, WR staff, kin, so far

SWAPNIL MISHRA
Mumbai

Since the pandemic outbreak, there have been 872 corona cases among railway employees of Central and Western Railways, their family members and retired personnel in all, with 86 deaths so far. According to a railway workers' union, there has been an uptick in cases since suburban services were resumed from June 15. However, railway officials refuted this claim, saying they were taking all the necessary precautions and following guidelines.

All patients have been admitted to the Jagjivan Ram Hospital of Western Railway, a dedicated Covid facility. According to the data received, of the total cases, 559 positive cases were reported from CR, while rest 313 are from the WR.

"Twenty-two of the 86 patients who died of Covid-19 were railway employees, while rest include their family members and retired personnel. At present, there 132



active cases and 718 have recovered," said an official.

Currently, some special trains, goods trains and 700 local train services, with a limited number of passengers, are being operated here by both the CR and WR.

Meanwhile, Venu Nair, president, National Railway Mazdoor Union, claimed the number of afflicted railway employees has increased as more of them are on duty since the resumption of suburban services. "The state government has allowed only 15 to 30 per cent attendance in offices, but in the

railways, nearly 100 per cent field staff personnel has been working since the resumption of suburban train services," he said.

However, zonal railways officers said there was no connection between the resumption of suburban services and the rise in Covid-19 cases. "Most patients who are positive are the family members of the railway employees or retired personnel who have contracted the infection. The number of employees contracting infections is low," said an official.

4 jumbo Covid facilities with 3,520 beds inaugurated

SANJAY JOG / Mumbai

Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Tuesday inaugurated Covid-19 field hospitals with a total 3,520 beds at Mulund, Dahisar, Mahalaxmi Racecourse and Bandra Kurla Complex. These jumbo facilities will have 222 ICU/acute care beds also. Thackeray said Maharashtra was the first state to set up such jumbo facilities on open spaces. Of the 1650 beds at Mulund, 1000 are O2 beds and 650 are isolation beds. Of 1,650 beds, nearly 500 are being made available to the Thane Municipal Corporation. At Dahisar, the 955-bed jumbo facility has been developed by BrihanMumbai Municipal Corporation jointly with the Mumbai Metro. There are 108 ICU beds. Nearly 200 beds are made available to the Mira Bhayander Municipal Corporation. There are 600 beds at the Mahalaxmi Racecourse jumbo facility. Thackeray said these jumbo facilities are state

of the art and have all the necessary technical and medical requirements for any Covid care hospital. It is also probably for the first time that negative pressure has been achieved in a hanger for an ICU. These field hospitals have contactless clinics, negative pressure ICU and ACU wards, remote monitoring, central command systems and Covid dialysis beds. Tourism Minister Aaditya Thackeray said, "Such field hospitals are an essential part of an administrative response to a medical emergency. We replicate this model of field hospitals to add bed capacity in other districts. These beds will be available for all. Neighbouring cities of Thane and Navi Mumbai have already allocated a few beds when they get operational this week." He further noted, "We keep fighting this battle of Covid and not give up or give in. The state government is doing everything it can and it must to safeguard every person."

Heavy rains, waterlogging continue in city, suburbs



DIPTI SINGH / Mumbai

Heavy to intermittent rainfall was recorded across Mumbai and suburbs throughout the day on Tuesday leading to waterlogging in several areas. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) had predicted intermittent intense showers in the region over the next few days.

Several parts of the Mum-

erally cloudy throughout the day. A minimum temperature of 24 degrees Celsius and a maximum of 30 degrees Celsius has been predicted for Wednesday. While the rains are expected to subside by Wednesday, on and off moderate spells of showers have been predicted too. Meanwhile, IMD has projected persistent rains in the city beginning on July 12.

The forecast by Mumbai Santacruz weather observatory has predicted moderate rain in nearby areas with skies remaining cloudy through the day on Wednesday. The temperatures are likely to remain between 26 degrees Celsius and 31 degrees Celsius. Moderate rains are likely to continue till July 11 and 12. The Santacruz weather observatory reported 30.2 mm rainfall in the last 24 hours, meanwhile, the Colaba observatory recorded 13.4 mm rainfall during the same period.

bai city had witnessed waterlogging on Sunday and Monday troubling commuters. However, on Tuesday, not many areas witnessed waterlogging. Locals from areas like Hindmata, King Circle, Milan Subway said the water receded within half an hour to one hour.

IMD's forecast for Tuesday was moderate showers in and around Worli, the area with the sky remaining generally cloudy throughout the day. A minimum temperature of 24 degrees Celsius and a maximum of 30 degrees Celsius has been predicted for Wednesday. While the rains are expected to subside by Wednesday, on and off moderate spells of showers have been predicted too. Meanwhile, IMD has projected persistent rains in the city beginning on July 12.

Less than 1,000 new cases in city in last 24 hrs

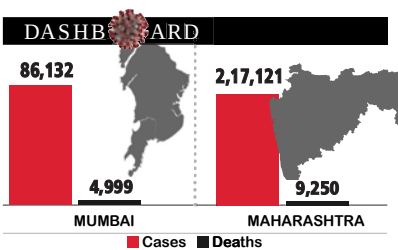
SWAPNIL MISHRA / Mumbai

After almost a week, there were less than 1,000 new corona cases in Mumbai, with 806 new cases and 64 fatalities being reported in the last 24 hours, taking the total positive count to 86,132, with 4,999 deaths until Tuesday. The previous instance of below-1,000 cases in a day was on June 30, when 903 cases were reported.

Across the state too, there was a drop in the number of new cases on Tuesday as compared to the day before, with 5,134 new cases and 224

deaths in the last 24 hours. The total progressive count is now 2,17,121, with 9,250 deaths. Meanwhile, 3,296 patients have recovered and were discharged from various hospitals in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of recoveries to 1,18,558 so far.

Of the 224 deaths, 137 were from the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), 48 in Pune, 24 in Nashik division, seven in Aurangabad division, five in Latur, two in Akola and one from another state.



Currently, the MMR alone accounts for 70% of the overall number of cases and deaths in the state, followed by Pune (16%), Nashik division (5.81%), Aurangabad division (3.81%), Akola (1.50%), Kolhapur (1.11%), Nagpur

(1.06%) and Latur (0.62%).

State health department officials said that the figures for Monday and Tuesday were aberrations and they expected a surge in the daily count for the next few days. "The daily rise in Covid-19 positive cases was lower on Monday. But this cannot be construed as a defining trend, unless the graph is sustained for a longer period. Besides, the viral outbreak is growing in the densely congested Mumbai Metropolitan

Region (MMR) and other areas. A surge is expected by July-end and then there is a likelihood that the curve will flatten," said an official.

Civic officials have cautioned citizens who have waded through flooded areas to seek preventive care for leptospirosis within 72 hours. A senior official said, cases of malaria and dengue had nearly halved this June, though the lockdown had a role to play in this. "Now that the monsoon has picked up, we may see a spurt in monsoon ailments in the next few days," said the official.

LOCKDOWN 3

THE FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI | WEDNESDAY | JULY 8, 2020 www.freepressjournal.in

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH Exams, no exams; suspense is nerve-wracking: Students

RONALD RODRIGUES
Mumbai

Over 10.18 lakh students have raised an uproar following the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) direction and revision of University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines to conduct final year exams. Students unions have written letters to the UGC, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and state government to not conduct final year exams in Maharashtra considering risks involved as the number of COVID-19 cases are increasing every day.

Students agitated with constant back and forth decision in terms of final year exams claim they are suffering mental stress.

Vibhuti Jaiswal, a student said, "I have been in tremendous stress for the last three months. Both the central and state governments are not bothered about our lives."

While Beniyl Das, another student said, "The MHRD, MHA and UGC want us to appear for exams when Maharashtra has the highest number of coronavirus cases in India. What about our health and safety? Enough is enough because the government has been playing with our lives even during a pandemic situation."

The Maharashtra Students Welfare Association (MSWA) has written a letter on July 7 to Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, minister of HRD, UGC and state government demanding



cancellation of exams. Vaibhav Edke, President of MSWA, said, "Final year exams should not be conducted in Maharashtra. We got to consider the severity of the COVID-19 pandemic situation in Maharashtra. We will stage a hunger strike outside Mantralaya, fight legally and protest if the state government does not take a decision in favour of students."

Also, the Maharashtra Students Union (MASU) has written to the UGC, central and state government to cancel exams. Siddharth Ingle, founder president of MASU, said, "The mental health and well-being of students have got slaughtered between the dirty politics played by the central and state government authorities. The UGC has just issued guidelines but it is the prerogative of the state to take a final decision whether to cancel or conduct exams considering the ground situation."

GR cancelling final-year exams challenged in HC

STAFF REPORTER / Mumbai

A retired teacher moved the Bombay High Court challenging the decision of the Maharashtra government to issue degrees to final year students without holding their last semester exams.

The HC has asked the teacher to implead University Grants Commission (UGC) so that its stand could be heard too.

A bench of Justices Amjad Sayed and Makarand Karnik was moved by Dhananjay

Kulkarni, a former teacher, through advocate Uday Warunjikar challenging the government resolution (GR) issued on June 19, 2020.

By virtue of the GR, the state had decided not to hold the final exams and instead issue the degree certificates to the graduate level students for the current academic year, owing to the continuous lockdown and spread of the pandemic.

In his plea, Kulkarni claimed that the UGC had in April 2020 ordered all the uni-

versities to conduct their final exams. However, after this, some student organisations wrote to the minister of technical and higher education to cancel the exams and accordingly, the ministry cancelled all the exams in Maharashtra.

On Tuesday, when the bench led by Justice Sayed took up the matter for hearing, it noted that UGC was not added as a respondent in the PIL and adjourned the matter till a further date, to enable Kulkarni to make UGC a party to the petition.

After TikTok ban, scamsters come up with TikTok Pro

STAFF REPORTER / Mumbai

After India recently banned 59 popular Chinese apps including TikTok, CamScanner among others, the cyber scamsters are taking advantage of the popularity and unavailability of the app in the Indian cyberspace and promoting malware in the name of TikTok Pro. In the light of such malware being sent in the form of a link, either on messages or WhatsApp texts, Maharashtra Cyber Cell issued an advisory, cautioning the netizens.

A senior cyber official said, while the official TikTok app continues to remain blocked in India, cybercriminals are spreading a malware called TikTok Pro through SMS and WhatsApp texts. When a user receives this message, claiming that TikTok is now available in India in the form of TikTok Pro, they are advised to ignore it.

Explaining the modus operandi, police said, this message has a link to download the TikTok Pro APK file and after downloading, the icon appears as the original TikTok app and asks for permissions to access camera, image gallery, mic and others. But after you provide these permissions, the app doesn't function but simply stays on

your phone. As this application is not available on Google Play, it will be downloaded and installed only through the APK file, which are usually used to easily steal user IDs of other popular social media accounts, in a bid to hack them and take advantage of cyber vulnerabilities.

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Na Cainam Kledayantyapo Na Sosayati Marutah



With great sadness and a heavy heart we share the news of the heavenly departure of our beloved Maa Smt. Sushila Devi Ramratan Garg on July 6th, 2020. While we grieve her loss, we know that she is at peace and with Lord Krishna. Our dearest Maa, was an inspiring soul, touching the lives of many. She lived a full and celebrated life. A beautiful soul... She will always be fondly remembered.

Madhusudan & Shashi Garg

Mahendra & Sunita Garg

Vivek & Stephanie Garg

Shyam & Raina Garg

Madhubala & Late Ashokji Goyal

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Barkha-Sanjay, Shailesh-Nishita, Neha-Yogesh, Shweta-Anshul

Niti, Saanya, Vansh, Ayaan, Arya & Isha



2 held for breaking into mobile shop; 47 phones recovered

MUMBAI: The RAK Marg police has arrested two persons for allegedly breaking into a mobile phone shop in Wadala and stealing 86 mobiles and 40 wrist watches worth Rs 6 lakh. Police has seized 47 mobiles from two accused identified as Monu Usman Khan and

Mubarak Rajaman Shaikh while their third accomplice is still at large. According to the police, three accused broke into a mobile shop on the night of June 28.

-STAFF REPORTER

WITH MALLS STARING AT DE-GROWTH OF 77%

Retailers seek Aaditya Thackeray's help

STAFF REPORTER
Mumbai

A day after the Maharashtra Government released a notification allowing opening up of hotels, lodges and guest-houses outside the containment zones at 33% capacity; the Retailers Association of India on Tuesday has sought the intervention of Tourism Minister Aaditya Thackeray for an early opening up of malls in the state.

The Association said in its latest business survey with more than 100 big and small retailers revealed that there has been no significant growth in business for retailers even during the second half of June. Further, the retailers witnessed 67% de-growth from June 15 to 30 compared to the corresponding period last year. During the same time frame, malls witnessed 77% de-growth (y-o-y) on account of not being allowed to open uniformly across the country.

The Association further said that with SOPs



in place, malls are functioning well in other states and assured that these practices will be implemented to ensure the safety of customers and staff.

"Dear Shri @AThackeray, good to know that hotels are now allowed to open. We request you to help us reopen malls in Maharashtra. With SOPs in place, malls are functioning well in other states & these practices will be implemented here as well to ensure safety of customers & staff," the Association added that the opening up of malls will save jobs and the entire retail chain value.

An earlier consumer sentiment survey by RAI

had revealed that more than 60% of the consumers will wait up to 90 days before shopping, keeping in mind expenditure and safety factors. This has resulted in slow growth for the retail sector throughout June. The sentiment got reflected in categories like QSR and restaurants (-71%), followed by beauty, wellness, and personal care (-69%) and apparel, clothing, jewellery, watches, and other personal accessories (-67%).

With Unlock 2.0 on the cards in the next few days and several sectors opening up, the retail sector can hope for a revival of consumption and signs of recovery at least in the second quarter of the year.

Hotels gear up to function as govt order relaxations

PRATIP ACHARYA / Mumbai

Bringing a sigh of relief to the hospitality industry the state government has allowed further relaxations, allowing hotels and lodges to operate with 33 per cent capacity in a phased manner starting July 8.



PIC BL SONI

Keeping up with the statement, hotels and lodges are gearing up to function again maintaining all the precautionary measures. In a statement released by Hotel and Restaurant Association Western India (HRAWI) stated

cautions as well, these set of rules are not very different from the guidelines issued by the government and we are just trying to adhere by them," stated Gurbaxish Singh Kohli, President, HRAWI.

KIRTI VYAS CASE

Court denies bail to murder accused salon staffer

BHAVNA UCHIL
Mumbai

The sessions court on Tuesday rejected the temporary bail plea of a former B-Blunt salon staffer Khushi Sahjwani, 42, accused in the murder case of her colleague Kirti Vyas in March 2018.

Sahjwani had sought interim bail on grounds of the coronavirus pandemic. In a one-page plea sent to the court through email, she had cited the overcrowded conditions in prison and the High Power Committee's guidelines to decongest prisons as grounds for seeking interim bail. Her plea was argued by advocate Wahab Khan.

Special Public Prosecutor Raja Thakare, appearing for the crime branch, opposed the plea stating that her bail application on merits had already been rejected by the High Court earlier and that

a case for grant of temporary bail was not made out.

Sahjwani has been in custody since her arrest on May 5, 2018. In a 962-page chargesheet filed against her and her colleague Siddhesh Tamhankar, 28, in July 2018, the crime branch had charged them with offences of murder, kidnapping for murder and destruction of evidence, among other sections of the IPC.

Vyas had been reported missing on March 16, 2018. The chargesheet relies on the last-seen theory where in she was seen entering Sahjwani's car near her house in Grant Road. They had also found Vyas's blood stains in Sahjwani's car. The DNA report had showed the blood to be that of Vyas.

The crime branch claims that Sahjwani and Tamhankar were having an affair.

AMIT SRIVASTAVA
Mumbai

The re-imposition of lockdown in Navi Mumbai is stricter than previous four lockdowns as the local body is taking stern action against the violators. The police are also taking action against people who are stepping out of their homes without any valid reason.

Even, the Panel Municipal Corporation (PMC) has stopped the sale of essentials except for medicines over the counter. Now, citizens have to depend on home delivery of products, right from groceries to milk.

The civic body on Monday evening came up with a revised guideline and stopped the selling of essentials from the shop counters. As per the revised circular, citizens can order over the phone and shopkeepers will deliver through to their representatives.

However, this decision did not go well with citizens as they claimed that it is very difficult to store milk for 10 days. "We know most of the delivery boys have gone to their native villages and now shops have fewer deliv-



ery boys. Home delivery will now take three to four days and people cannot store milk for four days," said Ragini Patil, a resident of Kharghar.

Similarly, the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) has also stopped over to counter selling of products from departmental stores like D mart and Reliance Fresh. However, home delivery is allowed by these stores.

In fact, the civic body took action against six shops across the city including at Centre One mall in Vashi. In the last three days, the civic body collected Rs 2,22,800 as fine from violators, for not wearing masks and maintaining social distancing. "We have registered an FIR against shops

in Centre One mall in Vashi for selling other items secretly on the pretext of selling essential commodities," said an official from Vashi ward office. He added the shops were booked under section 188 for violating the lockdown norm. Even, the Koparkhairane and Turbhe ward offices took similar actions against 2 shops in each area.

Meanwhile, on the third consecutive days, the number of positive cases has come down under the NMMC jurisdiction. On July 7, 115 positive cases reported. Similarly, under the PMC area, 90 positive cases reported. As part of mass screening, the civic body screened around 1,03,959 from 37841 houses in containment zones in the last 7 days.

Financial conditions can not be a ground to terminate pregnancy after 20 weeks, rules HC

NARSI BENWAL / Mumbai

Being financially unsound could be no ground for allowing abortion of a pregnancy, which is more than 20 weeks, ruled the Bombay High Court on Tuesday. The HC pronounced the significant ruling while denying permission to a woman, who sought to medically terminate her 21 weeks pregnancy.

The woman, 39, a resident of Ratnagiri, claimed to be financially weak and "not in a position" to become a mother at this stage in her life. She had accordingly moved the bench of Justices Ujjal Bhuyan and Riyaz Chagla seeking to abort the foetus.

As per procedure, her case was referred to a medical board in Ratnagiri, seeking an expert's opinion on whether to allow the abortion or not.

The medical board comprising of seven experts from Civil Hospital, Ratnagiri, in their report opined that there were no anomalies in the foetus. The board further told the judges that the woman did not disclose all the facts relating to her pregnancy.

The woman's case was that she learnt about her pregnancy at a later stage since her period cycle was irregular.

However, the bench noted that the woman learnt about the pregnancy, when her foetus was 18 weeks old. It

further took into account the fact that she approached the court only after her pregnancy crossed the mandatory 20 weeks limit.

Upon being asked, the woman cited the lockdown rules that barred movement. However, her excuse was trashed by the board saying that obstetric and gynaecologists were functioning 24x7 even during the lockdown.

Having considered the contentions, the judges said, "We are of the considered view that the reasons for medical termination of pregnancy beyond the statutory limit of 20 weeks viz. that the woman and her family are in no condition financially and/or that

she would be of an advanced age of 39 years to be mentally prepared to be a mother are not valid grounds for termination of pregnancy."

While referring to a Supreme Court judgment, the judges said, "The SC has observed that a pregnant woman has a personal autonomy to exercise her reproductive choice and terminate her pregnancy. This would necessarily be exercisable within the statutory limit of 20 weeks." "Upon a thorough consideration of the matter as well as giving due consideration to the report of the medical board, she cannot be allowed to terminate her pregnancy which is beyond 20 weeks," the bench said in its 27-page judgment.

C Rly saves lives of blood cancer patients

Central Railway in continuation with its unconventional way of transporting the most essential life saving drugs to the ill patients, has comforted more than 8 cancer patients across India by reaching medicines in quick time during this Covid pandemic time.

Recently, two cancer patients at Belgavi required medicines urgently from Mumbai. The Parcel wing of Mumbai, chalked out a plan to deliver through various modes of rail transport as there is no direct train from Mumbai to Belgavi.

"After booking medicines the parcel was carried first from CSMT to Pune by a Special Parcel train and from there it was transported to

Satara by workmen special train by the Guard, in third stage transported from Satara to Miraj ina shramik special train and on fourth stage from Miraj to Belgavi in a Goods train. The overall coordination for movement of this medicine was done by Mumbai Division Parcel Inspector and medicines were handed over to the Station Manager of Belgavi station at 01.00 hours midnight," said Shivaji Sutar, chief public relation officer, CR.

One medicine was for a Blood Cancer patient named Prakash Mane, aged 69 years, his son Sridhar Mane, personally received the medicine after fulfilling the formalities from Station Manager at midnight,

Sushant Singh suicide case

Cops seize TV footage from actor's bldg

STAFF REPORTER
Mumbai

Bandra Police have seized the CCTV camera footage installed in the late Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput's building and are scrutinising it carefully.

Meanwhile, police said no CCTV cameras were installed inside Rajput's flat. Police are also awaiting the viscera report which was sent for forensic and chemical analysis. Till now, police have recorded statements of 34 people including Sanjay Leela Bhansali, close friend Rhea Chakraborty and director Mukesh Chhabra.

The CCTV camera footage, that was seized from Rajput's Bandra building, will prove as strong evidence, which will ascertain who were the last persons to meet the late actor. Police also looked for any CCTV cameras installed in Rajput's flat, but found nothing.

While probing the 'professional rivalry' angle, which could have led to Rajput's extreme step of killing himself, police are examining the actor's contracts with production houses and also projects that were shelved, said DCP Trimukhe.

Meanwhile, police had earlier sent viscera from the actor's body and the kurta which he allegedly used to hang himself for chemical and forensic analysis at the Kalina Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) and are awaiting the report.

Senior citizen dies after tree falls on him in Airoli

AMIT SRIVASTAVA
Mumbai

A 64-year-old senior citizen died after a tree fell on him when he was standing in a queue outside of a bank in Airoli to withdraw money. While the incident happened on Monday morning, the person died while recuperating at Dr. D Y Patil hospital on the same night. The two others also received minor injuries.

The deceased identified as Baderam Vitthal Patil, a resident of sector 20 in Airoli. According to police, the incident happened around 10.30 am when Patil was standing in a queue outside of Abhyudaya Bank in sector 17 in Airoli. "A tree over the divider of the road fell suddenly and Patil received injuries in his head

from the branches of the tree," said Yogesh Gawade, the senior police inspector from Rabale police station. Gawade informed that Patil was immediately taken to Dr. D Y Patil hospital in Nerul for medical assistance. However, Patil had received severe injuries in head and while recuperating he died in the hospital. He was survived by his wife and a daughter. The Rabale police filed an accidental death report.

Meanwhile, Gawade has written to the Garden Department of Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation to trim trees and also cut which is dangerous in the area.

This year, because of the outbreak of the COVID-19, the monsoon related work delayed.

Thane police solves three theft cases

NARENDRA GUPTA
Mumbai

The Mumbra police has solved three separate theft cases across the Mumbra-Diva city, police officials said on Tuesday. All the three theft cases were reported within a span of one month during the lockdown.

The victim, who has been identified as Nasrin Shakil Shaikh (30) a resident of Mumbra Kausa. The thief had broken the main door and decamped with an LED TV, gold ornaments and household stuff of Rs 7,15,000.

The accused (thief) has been identified as Sarfaraz Khan (25), a resident of Kausa village in Mumbra.

Madhukar Kad, senior police inspector, Mumbra police station said, "Based on a tip-off, we had formed a team of police personnel and laid a trap at Kausa and arrested him."

Police have confiscated the LED TV, gold ornaments and other stuff worth Rs 4,54,500 from his possession.

The second incident was reported on July 5 at Mumbra city. The victim has been identified as Vijay Mandal, whose



cellphone got stolen from his house. He immediately informed to local police station and filed a police report.

The accused identified as Arbaaz Yelukur (25) was arrested and the cops seized a cell phone worth Rs 5,000.

The third theft incident was reported in Mumbra. The accused, who has been identified as Sunil Kalam, 20, who had broken a mobile shop and decamped with 12 mobile phone worth of Rs 2,10,000. Assistant police inspector H H Kshirsagar got a tip about Kalam and laid a trap for him and arrested him. Police have seized 12 mobile phones from his procession worth Rs 2,10,000.

Hosp gets notice for refusing to treat pregnant woman

AGENCIES / Thane

The civic body of Bhiwandi city in Maharashtra's Thane district has issued a show-cause notice to a hospital for allegedly refusing to admit a pregnant woman, an official said on Tuesday.

The Maharashtra government has already directed all hospitals not to deny treatment to any patient amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the official said.

Municipal commissioner Dr Pankaj Ashiya on Monday issued a show-cause notice to the management of Supreme Hospital that had allegedly refused to admit a pregnant woman, said Milind Palsule, the PRO of Bhiwandi-Nizampur Municipal Corporation.

Supreme Hospital, which is a non-COVID-19 hospital in Bhiwandi, had refused to admit the complainant on July 4, following which the civic body has sought a clarification from the hospital, the official said.

Meanwhile, in a recorded message to doctors and citizens, the civic chief reiterated that it was absolutely necessary to provide treatment to non-COVID-19 patients and those who violate the order will face action.

NAXALS ABDUCT PARENTS OF COP, FREE THEM A DAY ON

DANTEWADA: Naxals abducted parents of a policeman in Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh and released them on Tuesday evening, less than 24 hours later, the police said. Villagers played a key role in securing safe release of Lachhu Telam (64) and his wife Vijjo Telam (62), said a police official. Their son Ajay Telam is a constable with the

District Reserve Guard (DRG). The couple were abducted by a group of naxals from their house in Gumiyaipal village under Kirandul police station limits on Monday night, Dantewada SP Abhishek Pallava said. Before taking them away, the naxals assaulted the constable's sister and snatched her mobile phone, he said. —Agencies

China sat images back India's stand

CCTV airs satellite images to show Indian soldiers' presence in Galwan Valley. However, pictures in June had pointed to structures built by China

FPJ BUREAU / New Delhi

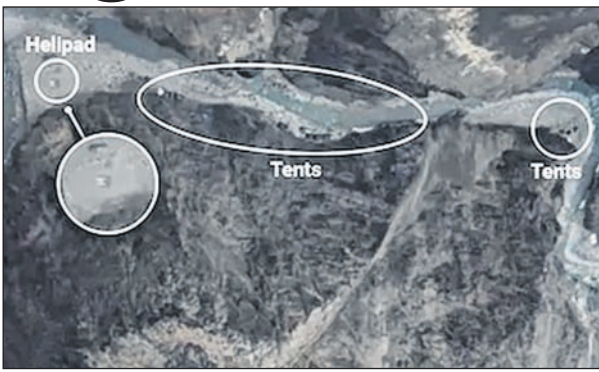
Soldiers of China's People's Liberation Army had tried to stop Indian troops from carrying out bonafide work on the Indian side of the Line of Actual Control in the Galwan Valley in May. This was a month before soldiers from both sides got into a bloody clash that saw the sacrifice of 20 Indian soldiers.

This revelation was made after satellite images were aired by China on Monday night on state-run television

CCTV, the NDTV reported. Following talks between National Security Advisor and China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Beijing began pulling back its soldiers from three points in Ladakh.

According to the CCTV, the undated satellite images captured an Indian helicopter pad and camps near Galwan river at Patrol Point 14, all on the Indian side of the LAC. However, satellite images shown by NDTV from May 22 shows the spot bereft of such structures, a clear indication that Indian soldiers were forced the leave the area by their Chinese counterparts.

The Ministry of External Affairs had earlier referred to a confrontation between the troops of India and China in May. In early May, the Chinese side had taken action to hinder India's normal, traditional patrolling pattern in the Galwan Valley area," Anurag Srivastava, the ministry spokesperson, had said. The propaganda machin-



ery ended up undoing itself. If the images are genuine, the conclusively prove that Chinese soldiers indeed tried to dismantle Indian work, something that was established by satellite images released in June.

Meanwhile, China removed temporary infrastructure and continued gradual withdrawal of troops from Hot Springs and Gogra in eastern Ladakh for the second consecutive day on Tuesday. Govt leaves nothing to misinterpretation. The Government of India doesn't want any criticism

or misinterpretation of the "mutual disengagement" by India and China along LAC. So editors and senior journalists on a WhatsApp group were sent about 15 points on what to write, telling them to attribute it to "sources." One of the points says "China hasn't pulled back. China has been pushed back, by a united nation led by a leader who led from the front", while another says "taming expansionist China is a herculean task but the right strategies and actions can yield to outstanding results".

QUICK READS

'Why are forces vacating our land at LAC?'

Congress has questioned the govt on reports of withdrawal of Indian troops from Galwan Valley. Party chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said the country wants response on it. He tweeted, "Respected PM, do you remember your words and do your words mean something and will you tell that why are our forces leaving our motherland?" Cong questioned the Modi's statement during the all-party met in June where the party said the PM had claimed no one had occupied Indian territory and so it sought Modi must apologise for that statement.

60 ITBP companies move towards LAC

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police is not expected to be assigned any task related to internal security in the near future as over 60 companies of the paramilitary force are being deployed along the LAC in the backdrop of the recent standoff with China in Ladakh, officials said. Sources said ITBP is set to get sanctions from the Home Ministry to raise 9 fresh battalions soon. It will bolster troop numbers along the 3,488-km-long LAC with China. An ITBP company has a strength of about 100 men. ITBP is not expected to be drafted in any internal security duty like law & order or poll duties.

Army to buy extreme cold weather tents

With over 30,000 additional troops being deployed in the Ladakh sector to counter the Chinese aggression, the Indian Army will place emergency orders for extreme cold weather tents for the soldiers on the borders. The need for the tents is being felt as the deployment on the LAC is expected to be prolonged as the senior armed forces officers feel the standoff is likely to continue at least till September-October timeframe. Meanwhile, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reviewed the ongoing projects with Border Roads Organisation, Chief Lt Gen Harpal Singh and other senior officials, the DeMin said.

Why no mention of Galwan Valley in MEA statement: Rahul

AGENCIES New Delhi

A day after India and China started de-escalation at the border, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday asked the government why status quo ante was not insisted upon by New Delhi and why the territorial sovereignty of India's duty is to protect it," he said on Twitter.

"Then, Why has Status Quo

Ante not been insisted on? Why is China allowed to justify the murder of 20 unarmed jawans in our territory? Why is there no mention of the territorial sovereignty of Galwan valley?," he asked.

Targeting the Modi-led BJP government at the Centre over handling of the economy, using the hashtag "BJPs-DistractAndRule", Rahul said on Twitter, "India's economic mismanagement is a



tragedy that is going to destroy millions of families. It will no longer be accepted silently." India shouldn't budge: Adhir

Meanwhile, leader of the Congress party in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury in Kolkata said the retreat of the Chinese Army in Ladakh vindicated the argument intrusions had indeed taken place on the Indian side of the LAC and asserted "we will not budge an inch" before status quo ante

is restored at the border. "Unlike Indian Army, Chinese forces are not accustomed to withstand harsh & inhospitable glacial weather of Himalayan mountain which may trigger to the extent of the retreat of the Chinese army, that too again vindicates our arguments that huge intrusions occurred into our territory," Chowdhury said in a tweet. "They may try to leave other occupied strategic areas as a fait accompli. But we won't budge an inch till the status quo ante is restored," he wrote on Twitter.

AIIMS director Guleria takes revenge

OUR BUREAU / New Delhi

Dr Randeep Guleria, the director of the AIIMS, Delhi, has punctured the much-publicised claim of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) trials to launch India's first Covid-19 vaccine, COVAXIN, by August 15, as a sort of a sweet revenge for keeping him out of picture in the whole exercise. As a distinguished pulmonologist (chest & lungs physician), he should have been the first to be involved as a principal investigator; but instead the ICMR picked up an

AIIMS professor of preventive and social medicine (PSM). In fact, there is no pulmonologist detailed for the vaccine research. Dr Guleria, otherwise the front man in the govt's all campaigns on the Coronavirus, got the AIIMS ethics committee reject the protocols drawn up by the ICMR, pointing out discrepancies. The committee has faulted phase II of the trial, noting that there is no document to show affirmative agreement for children to participate in the study though the trials are supposed to be conducted

on those in the age group of 12 to 65. The trials cannot start unless the concerned hospitals' ethics committees okay; 12 have been selected for holding the trials. AIIMS dissent note may trigger similar objections that may hold up the trial. Every day counts in the trials since the ICMR putting a deadline of August 15 on releasing the vaccine despite protests by numerous researchers on rushing with the trials and risking the lives of millions if such a hurry results in reactions in those taking the vaccine.

Union minister Pratap Sarangi self-isolated

Bhubaneswar: Union minister and Balasore MP Pratap Sarangi has quarantined himself at his Delhi residence after a BJP MLA from Odisha he shared the dais with at two events last week tested positive for Covid-19. In a series of tweets on Monday night, the Union minister of state for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) said he is "hale and hearty". Sarangi said he had shared the dais with Sukanta Kumar Nayak, the MLA from Nilagiri constituency in Balasore district, at two events on July 2-3.

"On being informed that MLA Nilagiri has been tested positive for #COVID-19, I self quarantined myself at my official residence in Delhi as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare," he said.

Nayak tested positive for Covid-19 earlier on Monday. He is the first legislator in Odisha to be infected with the disease.

Meanwhile, the total cases in Odisha crossed the 10,000 mark, at 10,097, on Tuesday with 571 fresh infections, while the death toll climbed to 42 as four more people succumbed to the virus, a health department official said.



IAF CARRIES OUT NIGHTTIME OPS

AJIT K DUBEY

FORWARD AIR BASE (NEAR CHINA BORDER): Amid tensions with China, the Indian Air Force (IAF) is carrying out nighttime combat air patrols over the Eastern Ladakh sector. Team ANI reached a forward airbase near China border from where the Indian Air Force is carrying out intensive night operations involving its fighter aircraft including the MiG-29 and Sukhoi-30MKI along with its Apache attack helicopters and the Chinook heavy-lift helicopters.

Notwithstanding the strong winds and the chilling weather, the ground crew and pilots are flying using even very small windows

when the wind speed is low. Explaining the significance of nighttime operations, senior fighter pilot Group Captain A Rathu deployed at the forward base told ANI, "Night operations have an inherent element of surprise. Indian Air Force is fully trained and ready to undertake an entire spectrum of operations in any environment with the help of modern platforms and highly motivated personnel."



India has fewest cases, lowest death rate per mn

OUR BUREAU New Delhi

The Government on Tuesday took pride on India recording the lowest Covid-19 cases and the lowest deaths per million population, giving credit to its preparedness that continuously improved the recovery rate and resulted in low case fatality rate.

It quoted the Situation Report 168 of July 6 of the World Health Organisation (WHO) to point out that India's cases per million population is 505.37 while the global average is at 1,453.25. The report shows Chile has witnessed 15,459.8 cases of Covid-19 per million population, while Peru, the US, Brazil and Spain have 9070.8, 8560.5, 7419.1 and 5358.7 cases per million population respectively. The WHO report also shows India



has one of the lowest deaths per million population. India's cases of death per million population is 14.27 while the global average is more than its four times, at 68.29. The UK has witnessed 651.4 cases of Covid-related deaths per million population, while the metric for Spain, Italy, France and US is 607.1, 576.6, 456.7 and 391.0 respectively.

The government also cited the enhanced focus on 3Ts — Test, Trace, Treat — further augmented with

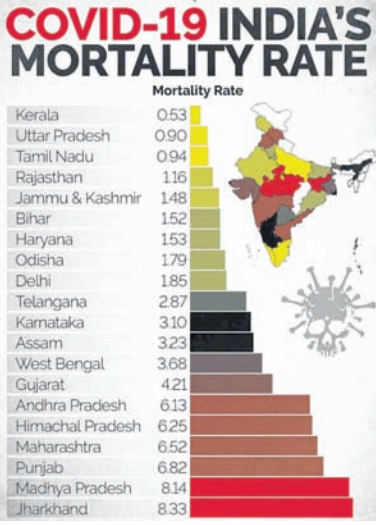
various measures to facilitate widespread Covid-19 testing by the states/UTs.

Recovery rate crosses 61%

Over 4.40 lakh Covid-19 patients have recovered in India raising the recovery rate to the highest 61.13% of the total 7.20 lakh infected since March, with 15,515 cured and out of hospital since Monday, the Health Ministry reported.

Its claim of 3,46,459 tests carried out in a single day on Monday is, however, not vouched by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) as it reported 2.41 lakh persons tested up to July 6, raising the total to 1.02 crore tests so far.

As many as 22,252 persons were found infected and 492 died in the past 24 hours, raising the total Covid-19 deaths in the country to 20,160.



Mumbai runs into a mist

Independent meteorologists and weather enthusiasts, however, said the strong wind gusts and misty weather on Tuesday were not likely to spill over to Wednesday, owing to weather systems in the Arabian Sea off Gujarat coast moving westwards and weakening subsequently. Rains were likely to subside gradually over the next three days (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday), before making a comeback, informed weatherman and self-taught meteorologist Rajesh Kapadia of Vagaries of Weather.

"Strong southwesterly winds led to moisture over Mumbai and Konkan coast, which in turn led to gusty wind and misty weather. The cyclonic circulation that led to heavy showers had induced a low-pressure area, which further intensified into a well-marked low and now lies over the Saurashtra and Kutch region and remained stagnant throughout the day," said Kapadia.

"High wind field, low cloud, increasing rainfall contributed to moisture over the sea, leading to the misty effect across the city. Winds are a result of the well-marked low-pressure system in the Arabian Sea close to Gujarat. The outlook for the next 2-3 days is: Mostly moderate showers, with some intermittent heavy spells of short duration."

According to skymetweather.com, "On and off rain and thundershowers will continue over Mumbai and suburbs on Tuesday in moderate intensity. Thereafter, the intensity will go down further and temperatures will rise, leading to sultry weather conditions. Weather will not go completely dry over Mumbai, we expect spot rain and passing showers to continue for the next 4 to 5 days. Rain activities are likely to increase around July 12 or 13. What we do not expect is flooding rains over Mumbai and suburbs for at least the next week."

Maratha quota: Expect interim Order...

It has also suggested that the respective lawyers hold a video conference among themselves to discuss the issue and limit their

arguments. Jaishri Laxmanrao Patil and ten others had moved the Apex Court in July last year, challenging the Bombay High Court verdict on June 27, 2019, upholding the reservation extended to the Marathas by the previous Fadnavis government, observing that the 50% cap on total reservations as imposed by the Supreme Court could be exceeded in exceptional circumstances.

The Shiv Sena's MVA government is also backing Maratha reservation, as the Sena was a party to the decision of the coalition government of Devendra Fadnavis.

The petitioners are excited at Justice Rao promising an interim order; earlier, the top court had refused to pass any such order or stay the Bombay High Court ruling and posted the matter for final hearing on March 17, which could not take place due to the spread of Covid-19.

The petitioners, however, pleaded that the matter could not be adjudicated through virtual hearing since there were nuances that could not be brought out except in the physical hearing.

Justice Rao said this aspect will also be heard on July 15 and a decision will be pronounced the same day.

US move to kick out foreign students

The directive is certain to cause severe anxiety and uncertainty among hundreds of thousands of international students who are studying in the country and to those who were preparing to arrive in the US to begin their education when the new academic session begins in September.

The US is the worst-hit country by the pandemic. The virus has infected more than 2.9 million people and killed over 130,000, according to Johns Hopkins University data.

International travel restrictions in place due to the pandemic have made it increasingly difficult for foreign students in the US to return to their home countries, while those outside America are uncertain if they

will be able to travel to join their courses in American colleges and universities.

Reacting to the move, Harvard University President Larry Bacow expressed deep concern and said it imposed a "blunt, one-size-fits-all approach to a complex problem giving international students, particularly those in online programmes, few options beyond leaving the country or transferring schools."

US Senator Elizabeth Warren tweeted that "kicking international students out of the US during a global pandemic because their colleges are moving classes online for physical distancing hurts students. It's senseless, cruel, and xenophobic."

"ICE's announcement is a cruel and xenophobic assault on America's international students. Trump is exploiting the pandemic to punish students for coming from a foreign country for education," said Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard from California.

Covid catches up with Brazil President...

Over the weekend, the Brazilian leader celebrated the US Independence Day with the nation's ambassador to Brazil, then shared pictures on social media showing him with his arm around the ambassador alongside several ministers and aides. None wore masks, despite being in close quarters.

The US Embassy said on Twitter on Monday that Ambassador Todd Chapman is not showing any COVID-19 symptoms but would be tested.

Bolsonaro tested negative three times in March after meeting with the US President Donald Trump in Florida. Multiple members of his delegation to the US were later reported to be infected with the virus.

More than 65,000 Brazilians have so far died from COVID-19 and more than 1,500,000 have been infected. Both numbers are the world's second-highest totals, and are considered to be undercurrents to the lack of widespread testing.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

China holds onto Pangong Tso

MODI'S OLD TWEET: Congress leaders on Tuesday dusted a 2013 tweet on China posted by PM Modi and asked him to clarify his position. In the tweet, Modi — then the Gujarat CM — had asked the Manmohan Singh-led UPA government why Indian forces were retreating from their own territory in Ladakh. "China is withdrawing its forces, but I wonder why Indian forces are withdrawing? Why did we retreat?" The tweet is a throwback to the time when the Chinese troops had entered nearly 10 km deep into the Indian side. After their current standoff, China and India have yet again decided to retreat, pull back their troops and form a buffer zone, it is pointed out.

It is understood that the Government did not want any misinterpretation of the "mutual disengagement" agreement reached after National Security Adviser Ajit Doval's phone call to Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi; so, editors and senior journalists on a WhatsApp group were sent a set of guidelines on what to write, telling them to attribute it to "sources."

FAREWELL TO ARMS IN THE CORONA WAR

The notification has come even as the Maharashtra government is planning to cap the prices of masks and sanitisers, which have become an essential part of the 'new normal'. "We have received complaints of people selling these items at inflated prices. We have decided to cap their prices, like we did for hospital charges and ambulance services. A notification will be issued in eight days," said Rajesh Tope, state health minister.

Dr Deepak Baid, president of Association of Medical Consultants, said the masks (2-ply and 3-ply surgical masks, N95 masks) and hand sanitisers had been brought under the Essential Commodities Act, empowering states to regulate production, distribution and prices of these items and also crack down on hoarding and blackmarketing. "It is not the right decision of the Central government, as India continues to be in the grip of coronavirus and masks and sanitisers are most important in keeping people safe. Citizens will now have to bear the brunt of this decision. However the state government is yet to decide on it," he said.

NO PRESCRIPTION NEEDED FOR TESTS

He added, "If the test comes out to be positive, a (hospital) bed will be allotted to the person through ward-level 'War Rooms' of the municipal corporation only. We have maintained this and we will continue to do so." Besides this, all high-risk contacts in institutional quarantine facilities are henceforth to be tested before discharge. Till now, those in institutional quarantine were discharged after 10 days if they did not show any symptoms during the last three days. Testing criteria for high-risk contacts in-home quarantine have also been eased and they can now get tested through self-declaration. These steps are being taken to ramp up testing in Mumbai.

"Those kept in institutional quarantine will be discharged only when they test negative for the virus. The decision was taken by the BMC commissioner on Tuesday," said a senior BMC official.

Maharashtra Cabinet Minister Aaditya Thackeray took to Twitter to confirm the development. He tweeted: "BMC has decided to open up testing to any individual in the city without prescription/self-attestation. Labs can now conduct RT PCR tests as per ICMR guidelines at anyone's request. This will help citizens feel safer and get tested when they have a doubt, without any delay."

The BMC's move to allow tests without a doctor's prescription will make it easier for people in Mumbai, who have misgivings about their health, to get tested without wasting any time.

The civic body has directed Assistant Commissioners of all wards to increase testing by setting up camps and using mobile vans (with the help of assigned labs) in high incidence areas to collect samples.

"Assistant Commissioners have been directed to take help of private labs assigned to their wards for conducting at least 250 Rapid Antigen Tests per day. Rapid Antigen Tests kits will be provided by the BMC and labs will conduct the tests," said a senior BMC official.

A senior BMC official said that the decision will come into effect from Wednesday morning and will be applicable to all those under the BMC jurisdiction. The BMC has procured one lakh test kits of Rapid Point-of-care (PoC) Antigen Detection Test (for diagnosis along with RT-PCR) and has distributed the same to the BMC-run medical colleges and attached hospitals. Deans of these colleges have been instructed to ensure Rapid antigen tests of patients be carried out as per ICMR guidelines within the hospital settings; this, in turn, will ensure that there is no compromise on optimal utilisation of RT-PCR tests in their labs.

FINAL YEAR EXAMS: NEW FLASHPOINT

On Monday, the UGC came out with guidelines saying the final-year exams had to be compulsorily conducted in September, which the Yuva Sena said had created confusion, panic and caused immense stress to the students and the educational fraternity." He further said that when exams were originally scheduled, there were not as many Covid-19 cases and the pandemic had not reached all parts of the country.

"Cases have been steadily rising and we cannot be sure they will decline by September," he noted. Both Samant and the Yuva Sena swung into action after the UGC issued its revised guidelines on examinations and the academic calendar for the universities in view of Covid-19 pandemic. The UGC said the terminal semesters final-year examinations would be conducted by the universities/institutions by September in offline (pen and paper)/online/blended (online plus offline) mode. The guidelines came after the Union Home Minister, in a letter to the Union HRD ministry on Monday permitted universities and institutions to conduct exams. The ministry said the final-term examinations are to be compulsorily conducted, as per the UGC guidelines.

Samant said Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry have decided not to conduct terminal exams. Even IITs Bombay, Kharagpur, Kanpur and Roorkee have cancelled their final semester exams.

"The Maharashtra Government, in consultation with the vice chancellors of Universities and all other concerned stakeholders, has arrived at the decision to award degree certificates based on evaluation of students' performances of previous semesters and internal assessment, since conduction of exams by other modes is not feasible," he noted.

He further informed the students would be given the opportunity to improve their grades by appearing for exams which would be conducted at a more conducive time. Further, the Yuva Sena argued that online infrastructure and availability was poor in the rural parts of the country. "Hence, online exams cannot be an option. Offline exams would be an invite to community transmission," said Sardesai.

Meanwhile, the Bharatiya Janata Party has welcomed the UGC guidelines. Former school education minister Ashish Shelar alleged that the Maharashtra government's decision to cancel final-year exams was not taken in line with UGC guidelines and was done by keeping university chancellors and vice chancellors in the dark. "Now the ball is in the state government's court. It is the state government's responsibility to do proper planning for conducting final-year exams as per the UGC's revised guidelines," noted Shelar.

Street vendors "unorganised", cannot be...

hotels would be easy as that is an organised sector," Kumbhakoni told the judges.

"But in comparison to them, vendors are unorganised and regulating them would be much more difficult for the authorities. I can say that allowing vendors could increase the risk of spread of the virus," the AG added.

Noting the submission in his orders, Justice Sayed said, "The AG states that the street vendors are an unauthorised sector and there is no mechanism to regulate them and there is no policy presently contemplated to permit them to sell their products/food in the present scenario of outbreak of COVID-19. Let the stand of state government be put on an affidavit-in-reply, which shall be filed before the next date."

The bench adjourned the hearing for two weeks.

Shops & markets: two more hours

to open on all 7 days of the week. "However, shops will function on a P1-P2 basis (alternate day)," he noted. P1-P2 basis means that on a day only stores on one side of the road will be open and on other day stores on the other side can operate.

"All markets/shops will be permitted to remain open from 9 am to 7 days on all 7 days of the week. If any crowding or failure of social distancing norms is seen, then authorities will immediately close down such markets/shops," said Kumar in the notification.

The Retail Traders Welfare Association President Viren Shah said the government has allowed shops to remain open for two extra hours. However, the shops were permitted to function on alternate days. "This means shops are open three days a week or 12 days a month. Many shopkeepers don't want to open. Therefore, our demand remain of allowing them to remain open for six days a week up to 7 pm," he noted.

Dubey hold deep in power lane

Pictures of don and aide with BJP MPs, IPS and IAS officers leave Yogi govt red-faced; probe chief, who allegedly ignored slain cop's report against Dubey, shunted out

OUR CORRESPONDENT
Lucknow

Five days on, Kanpur don Vikas Dubey remains elusive, even as 40 teams of Uttar Pradesh police are sweating out to catch the mastermind of July 3 bloodbath in which eight of their colleagues were killed.

Several photographs emerged on social media on Tuesday in which Dubey and his aide Jai Bajpayi could be spotted with senior political leaders and bureaucrats and top police officials. The revelations put the Yogi government on defensive mode.

Late evening, the government was forced to shunt IPS officer and DIG of Special Task Force Anant Deo Tiwari who was handling the probe against Dubey. Tiwari has been sent to a less significant post in PAS, Moradabad.

Anant Tiwari stands accused of trashing slain cop Devendra Kumar Mishra's report against Dubey submitted in March. Although



no case has been registered against him or any other cop, 10 policemen from Chaubepur station have been suspended for allegedly having nexus with the don.

Vikas Dubey's photo with Law Minister Brajesh Pathak was particularly the talk of the town. Pathak had already denied any links with Dubey. His photos with BJP MP Ashok Rawat from Mishrikh (Sitapur) and BJP MP from Akbarpur Devendra Bhole and Samajwadi

party leader Satish Nigam also did rounds.

Dubey's aide and business manager Jai Bajpayi's several photos along with STF DIG Anant Deo Tiwari also went viral on Tuesday.

Jai Bajpayi's purported photographs with UP's Home and Information Secretary and most powerful babu Awanish Awasthi also came out.

Bajpayi allegedly owns 15 bungalows and a dozen flats. "He was just a printing press



operator in Kanpur and earned mere Rs4,000 a month seven years ago. He came in contact with Dubey and then his fate changed", local reporters say.

The police claimed to have seized Jai's Audi car which was allegedly used by a BJP leader, Vikas Dubey and a co-median. "Jai claims to have several businesses including second-hand luxury sales. He also claimed that he knew Vikas Dubey briefly.

On Monday, two videos had gone viral in which Dubey had claimed how two BJP MLAs from Kanpur saved him from police's ire in 2017.

Don at large, action on ground

- UP cops are also on the hunt for Dubey's wife Richa, who has now been declared a 'most wanted' person.
- UP Deputy CM meets slain sub-inspector's family, hands over cheque of Rs 1 crore.
- An old video of Dubey has surfaced in which he can be seen interacting with locals and resolving their disputes.
- Three more aides of the gangster were arrested on Tuesday.
- Dubey was apparently so impressed by Sunny Deol thriller 'Arjun Pandit' that he loved being called 'Pandit'.

Although both had denied the charge and called it a conspiracy.

Apart from 10 suspended cops, entire police station staff of Chaubepur sent to reserve police line. Brand new staff to take over tomorrow.

Big fish still untouched.

DELHI RECORDS OVER 2,000 FRESH COVID CASES; DEATH TOLL 3,165

NEW DELHI: A day after witnessing a sharp drop, Delhi on Tuesday recorded over 2,000 fresh COVID-19 cases, taking the tally to 1,02,831 while the death toll from the disease mounted to 3,165 with 50 fatalities. On Monday, the coronavirus tally crossed the 1,00,000-mark, making the national capital the first city in the country to surpass the grim milestone. The city had

recorded 1,359 cases - the sharpest drop in 19 days --- after 13,879 tests were conducted. The bulletin issued by the Delhi Health department on Tuesday said 2,008 fresh coronavirus cases were reported, taking the tally to 1,02,831. It said there are presently 25,449 active cases in the national capital, of which 16,608 are recovering in home isolation. —Agencies

Bihar poll bonanza to OBCs

OUR BUREAU
New Delhi

A Group of Ministers (GoM) headed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh recommended in February to raise the family income criteria for reservations in government jobs and educational institutions for the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) from Rs8 lakh to Rs12 lakh per annum, but the Modi government put it on hold for rollout when Bihar is getting ready for the Assembly poll in November.

OBCs constitute 41% of Bihar's population with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar seen as their representative and hence excluding the parents with the income of over Rs12 lakh as "creamy layer" would be a sort of the poll bonanza for the poor and middle class OBCs to have a better chance of getting the benefit of 27% OBC reservation that was otherwise cornered away by the well to do OBCs.

The GoM's recommendation has been dusted out for the Union Cabinet decision very shortly. To ensure the rural OBCs get a better advantage over their urban counterparts, Rajnath Singh insisted on redefining the income criteria to include the salary in calculating the an-

nual income. The agriculture income, as in the past, will be excluded in the calculations to give further advantage to the rural OBCs. Home Minister Amit Shah, Road & MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari, Agriculture Minister Thawar Chand Gehlot and MoS V Muralidharan were other members of the GoM. The National Commission for Backward Classes was opposed to inclusion of the salary in calculating the parents' income for the reservation, but Rajnath convinced it that the salary inclusion will give advantage to the rural masses as there is hardly any salary component in their income. Most of the OBCs are farmers and so keeping out the agricultural income from the calculations will give a big advantage to the farmers' children.

EYE ON LOK SABHA POLLS: Though the Census exercise has been delayed because of the Coronavirus pandemic, the government would also announce in the Bihar elections that the OBCs will be counted in the 2021 Census to know their exact percentage in the population since the OBC reservation was worked out by the Mandal Commission on the basis of the dated Census of

1931. It may take advantage of the Census to fiddle with changes in the percentage of reservation to various categories of OBC, SC and ST just before the Lok Sabha poll in 2023 to get votes of the OBCs high in terms of their percentage in the population.

Bihar CM Nitish Kumar early this year got the PM's promise to conduct the OBC count in the Census, pointing out that their number is much more than 27% as the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) had estimated their strength in the country in 2007 at 40.94% as against the Scheduled Castes numbering 19.59% and Scheduled Tribes 8.63%.

Though the Census results will be available only by the end of 2022, they will give a handle to the OBC protagonists to insist on raising the reservation to the OBCs if their percentage in the population is high by cutting down the quota of the SCs and STs. Today, the SCs enjoy 15% quota and the STs 7.5%. The Modi government, which has time and again tried to curtail the advantages to SCs though without success, will take advantage to woo the OBCs having higher percentage of the population in the 2023 LS election.

FAST NEWS

CBSE rationalises syllabus by up to 30% for Classes IX to XII to reduce course load

NEW DELHI: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has rationalised the syllabus by up to 30 per cent for classes 9 to 12 for the academic year 2020-21 to reduce course load of students amid the COVID-19 crises, Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' announced on Tuesday. The curriculum has been rationalised while retaining the core elements, "Looking at the extraordinary situation prevailing in the country and the world, CBSE was advised to revise the curriculum and reduce course load for the students of classes 9 to 12. "To aid the decision, a few weeks back I also invited suggestions from all educationists on the reduction of syllabus for students and I am glad to share that we received more than 1.5K suggestions. Thank you, everyone, for the overwhelming response," Nishank tweeted.

Vizag gas leak: LG Polymers CEO, 11 held

VISAKHAPATNAM: The police have arrested 12 officials and personnel of LG Polymers in connection with the styrene gas leak tragedy near Vizag that left 12 dead in May. Commissioner R.K. Meena said the arrested persons include the CEO and two directors. The development comes on the heels of the probe report that was submitted to Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Moha Reddy by the high powered committee on Monday.The HPC probe report had listed several lapses on the part of the LG Polymers management, which led to the styrene gas leakage, resulting in the deaths of 12 persons in the vicinity of the chemical factory located on the outskirts of the city.

Haryana stops DA at current rate till July 2021

CHANDIGARH: The COVID-19 induced economic crisis has compelled the Haryana government to freeze Dearness Allowances to state government employees and Dearness Relief to its pensioners at current rate till July next year, an official statement by the Haryana Finance Department said. "In view of the crisis arising out of COVID-19, it has been decided that additional instalment of Dearness Allowance payable to Haryana Government employees and Dearness Relief to Haryana government pensioners, due from January 1, 2020 shall not be paid," the statement by the ministry said on Monday.

Stricter norms for Kolkata hotspots

KOLKATA: West Bengal's largest civic body Kolkata Municipal Corporation is gearing up to tighten its noose in all the Covid-19 hotspots and isolation zones across the city to tackle the recent spurt in Corona cases. The KMC authorities are likely to send a communication regarding the issue to the state secretariat Nabanno on Tuesday to impose stringent Covid guidelines in all the 18 hotspots and nearly 2,000 isolation zones in Kolkata. Meanwhile, the Kolkata Police sealed a posh high-rise in the city's affluent neighbourhood of Alipuri to tackle the rapid spread of Covid-19 infection in the area. Sources said Satyam Apartment, on 3, Alipur Road, has been completely sealed on Tuesday morning as at least 65 people, including 53 residents, have tested positive in the past 3 weeks in the same apartment.

Bengal's serial 'chain' killer gets death

BARDHAMAN (West Bengal): A man accused in 15 cases including seven murders, was sentenced to death by a local court for the rape and killing of a schoolgirl in West Bengal's Purba Bardhaman district. Kamaruzzaman Sarkar has been charged in two rape cases, seven murder and six attempts to murder cases in West Bengal. Sarkar, who gained notoriety as a serial 'chain' killer for strangling his victims with bicycle chains, was sentenced to be hanged to death by the additional district and sessions judge Tapan Kumar Mondal of Kalna court after being found guilty of the rape and murder of the girl. According to the Police, Sarkar, a small-time trader of discarded materials, is being tried in other courts for alleged sexual assault and murder of at least five other women and murderous attacks on at least three other women in Purba Bardhaman and neighbouring Hooghly districts. The victims were aged between 16 and 75 years. All the crimes took place between 2013 and 2019 until he was arrested.

FIR against 6 cops for killing Gujarat suspect

VADODARA: Six police officials were booked for allegedly killing a theft case suspect at a police station and destroying evidence in Gujarat's Vadodara. The incident took place on December 30, 2019. It was found in the investigation that accused police personnel had picked up Babu Shaikh on suspicion that he was involved in a theft case and during interrogation, the suspect died. Later, the accused disposed of the body of the suspect. Meanwhile the Cemtre has notified the CBI taking over the Tamil Nadu father-sod duo custodial death case.

Heavy rains lash Saurashtra; 1,000 evacuated

AHMEDABAD: Over 1,000 people have been evacuated from low-lying areas in Saurashtra in the last two day as heavy rains lashed the region in Gujarat for the third consecutive day on Tuesday, an official said. The NDRF on Tuesday rescued nine people from a village in Jodia taluka of Jamnagar, two persons from Dhrol taluka and three from a village in Porbandar district - all located near river banks, he said. —Agencies

IN BONNET-DEEP WATER



Trucks are seen partially submerged in floodwaters following heavy rainfall in Jamnagar of Gujarat on Tuesday. —PTI

Pinarayi forced to ditch trusted aide as gold plot thickens

K RAVEENDRAN
Thiruvananthapuram

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan appeared increasingly vulnerable as he was forced to remove one of his most trusted man for the latter's alleged connection with the main accused in the case involving gold smuggling through diplomatic channel.

The CM asserted that neither the chief minister's office nor the IT department had any connection with the accused woman as she was only on a contract job with the department.

He also said that Sivasankaran was not removed for his connection with the gold smuggling, but in view of the public perception about the man after television channels aired footage



of the woman's neighbours saying that he was a regular visitor to her house.

An invigorated opposition has interpreted the sacking of M Sivasankaran, who was both his principal secretary and IT secretary, as a sign of the chief minister acknowledging the misuse of his office for the questionable ac-



The CM asserted neither the CMO nor the IT dept had any connection with the accused woman as she was only on a contract job with the department.

was not aware of the appointment of the dubious woman. But with these claims failing to cut ice, he was forced to act.

Sivasankaran was first removed as the principal secretary in the morning, which meant the embattled official would hold on to his IT dept post. But this provided further ammunition to the opposition, whose leaders addressed a series of press conferences to mount their attack, forcing the chief minister to remove his man from the secretary's post as well.

Infy flies over 200 staffers, their kin back from US

SHANKAR RAJ / Bengaluru

Karnataka-based IT major Infosys flew back over 200 of its employees and their families stranded in the United States due to the Covid-19 crisis and visa issues.

Infosys commissioned a chartered flight to bring back the employees and their families. The employees would be allotted to offices in Bengaluru and elsewhere in India. Infosys executive Sanjeev Bode said in a 'LinkedIn' post, "Some of the Infosys employees were stranded in the US because of their visa expiration. All international flights were suspended because of the pandemic. The company booked the first ever chartered flight exclusively for 200+ employees and families from US to India." The flight landed in Ben-



galuru on Monday morning. Responding to the initiative, Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani tweeted saying, "Infosys: compassionate capitalism at work!"

Bengaluru relief Karnataka's capital on Tuesday heaved a sigh of relief as the number of new Covid-19 cases dipped for the second consecutive day. The city recorded 800 new cases on Tuesday against 1,235 on Sunday and 981 cases on Monday. No new Covid-19 death was reported from the city on Tuesday. Dakshina Kannada report-

ed 83 new cases on Tuesday becoming the second-highest in the daily increase of cases. Dharwad (57), Kalaburagi and Bidar (51 each), Mysuru (49), Ballari (37), Uttara Kannada (35) and Shivamogga (33) were the other districts with more than 30 cases.

Meanwhile, taking cognisance of widespread complaints of Covid patients struggling to get beds in private hospitals and the issue of over-pricing, the Karnataka High Court has initiated a suo motu public interest litigation.

The division bench led by Chief Justice AS Oka and Justice Nataraj Rangaswamy took cognisance of letters by lawyers including by the Advocates Association of Bengaluru (AAB), according to reports in the local media.

Former CEO of crisis-hit Karnataka bank ends life

SHANKAR RAJ
Bengaluru

The body of a former CEO of a cooperative bank was found in a car outside his residence in Bengaluru.

M Vasudev Maiya, 70, headed Guru Raghavendra Bank, which was in the news in January when the RBI started a probe into financial irregularities of Rs 1,400 crore there. Sources said the police suspect he died of suicide as there were no signs of any foul play.

Following initial investigations, the RBI imposed tough restrictions for "next six months or until further review" and the bank was not allowed to carry out any further transactions. The central bank also put a cap on withdrawal by each deposi-

tor at Rs 35,000.

This had put hundreds of depositors, many of them senior citizens, to hardship as they were depending on the interest from their investment for their expenses. A case of cheating and forgery was registered against Maiya and he was subsequently removed from his post. Subsequently, ED, CID, and the Registrar of Cooperative Societies also began scrutinising bank records.

Maiya had assured depositors that they would get their money back as the bank had enough liquidity. Later, in June, the RBI increased the withdrawal from Rs 35,000 to 1 lakh. Recently, the Karnataka High Court had pulled up the probe agencies over lack of swift investigation in the case.



TN: Discharge overtakes new Covid cases

DRAVIDA THAMBI / Chennai

In a welcome break from the upwardly rising Covid-19 curve, Tamil Nadu on Tuesday saw the number of discharged patients far exceeding the new patients. While only 3,616 persons tested positive for the virus, 4,545 patients were discharged post-recovery. "This is a good sign. We have never had such a high difference between the numbers of patients recovered and new cases," said a Health Dept official. Only on Monday, Health Minister C Vijayabaskar expressed happiness over what he saw as the "flattening curve" in Chennai, a Covid-19 hotspot with over 2,500 persons testing positive over the past few days. However, now this number has fallen below 2,000 in the state capital. However, a cause for concern was that the cases were now rising in the districts outside Chennai and its surroundings of Chengalpattu, Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram.

No coercive action, final SC hearing in Dua sedition case on July 15

OUR BUREAU
New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Tuesday fixed the final hearing on July 15 in a sedition case filed against noted TV journalist Vinod Dua (66) in Himachal by a BJP leader and extended its interim order against any coercive actions against him until that date.

The Bench of Justices Uday Umesh Lalit, Mohan M Shantanagoudar and Vineet Saran indicated to dispose of the petition on that day and it also sought on that day the investigation report from the Himachal police. It told Dua he need not answer the supplementary questionnaire pressed on him by the police when informed he was being flooded with one after another questionnaires to harass him.

Airfare refund: Notice to Centre, DGCA The SC asked the Centre and the

DGCA to respond to a plea seeking directions to airlines to refund full amount of tickets for the flights cancelled due to restrictions imposed in India to contain the Covid-19 pandemic.

A bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan issued notices to the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) seeking their replies on the plea, alleging airlines have failed to refund the ticket amount and are "illegally imposing" the mechanism of 'credit shell' on unwilling passengers.

"Issue notice," said the bench, also comprising Justices S K Kaul and MR Shah.

Kanpur shelter home: Report sought from UP govt

The court asked the Uttar Pradesh government to file a status report on news articles

that 57 girls of Kanpur-based shelter home have tested positive for Covid-19.

It has taken suo motu (on its own) cognizance of the condition of children in protection — be it juvenile, foster or kinship homes across the country — amid the coronavirus or Covid-19 pandemic.

Unitech's Sanjay Chandra get interim bail

The SC granted interim bail to Unitech Ltd promoter and former Managing Director Sanjay Chandra, who has been behind bars for nearly three years in the homebuyers' case.

A bench headed by Justice DY Chandrachud allowed Chan-

dra's release for a month since his parents are not keeping well and are hospitalised. The court was told Chandra's 78-year-old father is infected with Covid-19 and admitted in ICU. The bench, allowing interim bail to Chandra, asked him to withdraw the second plea for regular bail.

The SC however declined bail to Chandra's younger brother, also in jail in the case involving alleged siphoning money paid by homebuyers in their project. **Commissioning women army officers: Centre gets 1 month**

SC granted one more month's time to the Centre to ensure complete compliance with the February verdict that granted permanent commissions and command posts for eligible women officers in the Army.

Lawyers desirous of sharing important judgements, with a word count up to 200, can send them to fpjcitydesk@gmail.com. Newspieces that meet all the requisite criteria, as per the editor's discretion, will be published in The Free Press Journal.

Anti-China protests in PoK against construction of dams

MUZAFFARABAD: Protests against China and Pakistan have been taking place in Muzaffarabad city of Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) against the illegal construction of Dams on the Neelum and Jhelum rivers. On Monday, a massive protest rally was held by residents to

condemn illegal construction of Neelum Jhelum and Kohala Hydro power projects. The protesters highlighted environmental impacts caused by the dams constructed by Pakistan and China.

—AGENCIES

Texas, Florida hospitals near capacity, Miami closes restaurants...

SEE-SAW CORONA BATTLE IN US



MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

AGENCIES
Miami

Hospitals rapidly approached capacity in Florida and Texas, and the Miami area closed restaurants again Monday because of the surging coronavirus, as the US emerged from a Fourth of July weekend of picnics, pool parties and beach outings that health officials fear could fuel the rapidly worsening outbreak.

The see-saw effect - restrictions lifted, then reimposed after a resurgence of cases - has been seen around the US in recent weeks and is expected again after a long holiday that saw party-goers and sunbathers gathering, many without masks, on one of the biggest week-ends of the summer.

Confirmed cases are on the rise in 41 out of 50 states plus the District of Columbia, and the percentage of tests coming back positive for the virus is increasing in 39 states.

Florida, which recorded an all-time high of 11,400 cases Saturday and has

In Florida's Miami-Dade County, population 2.7 million, Mayor Carlos Gimenez issued an emergency order closing restaurants and certain other indoor places, including gyms and vacation rentals, seven weeks after they were allowed to reopen

gyms and vacation rentals, seven weeks after they were allowed to reopen.

"We want to ensure that our hospitals continue to have the staffing necessary to save lives," Gimenez said in a statement.

Hair salons and stores will remain open along with hotel pools and summer camps.

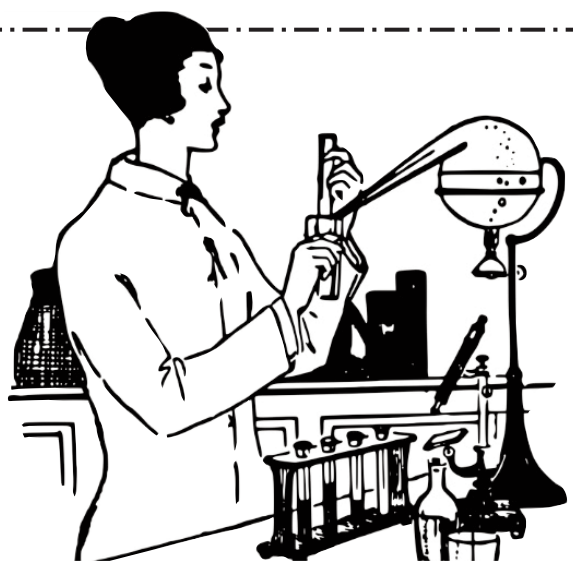
Beaches will reopen on Tuesday after they being closed over the weekend. "But if we see crowding and people not following the public health rules, I will be forced to close the beaches again," the mayor warned.

Hospitalizations across the state have been ticking upward, with nearly 1,700 patients admitted in the past seven days compared with 1,200 the previous week. Five hospitals in the St. Petersburg area were out of intensive care unit beds, officials said.

Miami-Dade said it has more than 1,600 coronavirus patients now in the hospital, more than double from two weeks ago. Miami's Baptist Hospital had only four of its 88 ICU beds available.

seen its positive test rate over the past two weeks reach more than 18%, has been hit especially hard, along with other Sunbelt states such as Arizona, California and Texas.

In Florida's Miami-Dade County, population 2.7 million, Mayor Carlos Gimenez issued an emergency order closing restaurants and certain other indoor places, including



CORONA CURE CORNER

SII expects vaccine by year-end

Vaccine maker Serum Institute of India (SII) is hoping to develop a COVID-19 vaccine by the year-end as it is focusing on a "good and safe" product and is not in a "rush", the company's CEO Adar Poonawalla said on Tuesday.

He was speaking during the launch of 'Compact XL', a compact diagnostics machine by MyLab Discovery Solutions, that will automate lab processes from sample handling to preparing RT-PCR tubes.

Replying to a question about the development of the COVID-19 vaccine, Poonawalla said that by the end of 2020, the SII is hoping to have a vaccine.

Sinovac advances to phase-3 trial

Chinese vaccine maker Sinovac has received approval for starting phase-3 clinical trial of its COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CoronaVac, in Brazil.

This study will recruit nearly 9,000 healthcare professionals working in CPVID-19 specialised facilities in 12 clinical sites located in several states in Brazil, Sinovac said on Monday. The inclusion of participants is scheduled to start this month after ethical approval is obtained from each clinical site, the company added.

The study will be conducted in partnership with Instituto Butantan, a leading Brazilian producer of vaccines.

Baxter gets nod for Oxiris filter

Healthcare firm Baxter India on Tuesday said it has received approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) for the use of its Oxiris blood purification filter for the treatment of COVID-19 patients. The filter is intended to be used in the critically ill COVID-19 patients in need of blood purification where excessive inflammatory mediators are present, Baxter India said in a statement.

FDA gives emergency approval for antigen test

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for a COVID-19 antigen diagnostic test, the Becton Dickinson Veritor System for Rapid Detection of SARS-CoV-2.

This is the second antigen test the FDA has authorized for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 antigens, reports Xinhua news agency.

This test is authorized for use in laboratories certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 for high, moderate, or waived complexity testing, according to the FDA.

"Expanding America's testing capabilities is the result of partnership and ingenuity between the federal government, private sector and academia," FDA Commissioner Stephen Hahn said on Monday.

Plot twist! 'COVID is not Chinese': Oxford expert

AGENCIES
London

The novel coronavirus has existed worldwide and broke out whenever and wherever favourable conditions occurred before it emerged in China last December leading to the ongoing global pandemic, an Oxford University expert said.

"I think the virus was already here - here meaning everywhere. We may be seeing a dormant virus that has been activated by environmental conditions," Xinhua news agency quoted Tom Jefferson, a senior associate tutor at the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine (CEBM) at Oxford and a visiting professor at Newcastle University, as saying.

"There was a case in the Falkland Islands in early February. Now where did that come from? There was a cruise ship that went from South Georgia to Buenos Aires, and the passengers were screened and then on day eight, when they started sailing towards the Weddell Sea, they got the first case. Was it in prepared food that was defrosted and activated?"

"Strange things like this happened with Spanish Flu.

"I think the virus was already here -- here meaning everywhere. We may be seeing a dormant virus that has been activated by environmental conditions"

—Tom Jefferson

In 1918, around 30 per cent of the population of Western Samoa died of Spanish Flu, and they hadn't had any communication with the outside world," Jefferson added.

"The explanation for this could only be that these agents don't come or go anywhere. They are always here and something ignites them, maybe human density or environmental conditions, and this is what we should be looking for," he stressed.

Last week, Spanish virologists announced the discovery of traces of the novel coronavirus in a sample of Barcelona waste water collected in March 2019, nine months before COVID-19 was identified in China.

The Italian National Institute of Health said last month that sewage water from Milan and Turin showed coronavirus traces on December 18, 2019.

Melbourne returns to lockdown

NATASHA CHAKU
Melbourne

Melbourne city and some other towns in Australia's Victoria state have been ordered back into lockdown for six weeks starting Wednesday after the state reported 191 new COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours, the highest spike in its daily infection count.

Residents have been advised against leaving their homes apart for four activities - purchasing essential items, medical care or caregiving, exercise and study/work.

"The public health teams have advised me to reimpose stage 3 stay-at-home restrictions. Staying at home, except for the four reasons to leave, effective from midnight tomorrow night for a period of six weeks," Premier of Victoria Daniel Andrews said on Tuesday.

"There is simply no alternative other than thousands and thousands of cases and potentially more. Many, many people in hospital and the inevitable tragedy that will come from that," he said.

The coronavirus death toll stands at 22 in Victoria with 722 active cases. No new death was reported in the last 24 hours.

Andrews said 35 people were recovering in hospitals, while nine were in serious condition, admitted in intensive care units.

"With case rates at these levels, it is simply impossible to have enough contract tracing staff, to have enough physical resources," the premier said, explaining the need for lockdown.

Andrews said the people were acting as if the pandemic was over, which was "not the answer, (but) part of the problem".



**AUSTRALIA CASES: 8,755
AUSTRALIA DEATHS: 106**

Residents have been advised against leaving their homes except for four activities- purchasing essential items, medical care or caregiving, exercise and study/work

Dos and don'ts of dining out

WASHINGTON: How risky is dining out during the COVID-19 pandemic? There is some risk, but health officials say there are precautions you can take to minimise the chances you'll be exposed to the virus.

Ordering takeout or delivery is still the safest option for getting restaurant food, according to the

US. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

If you decide to eat at a restaurant, it's best to opt for outdoor seating where tables are at least six feet apart, the agency says. Dining inside a restaurant that hasn't reduced its capacity or safely distanced tables poses the most risk, it says.

The coronavirus spreads through droplets that are emitted when people talk, laugh, sing, cough or sneeze. Indoor spaces are more risky than outdoor spaces because it might be harder to keep people apart and there's less ventilation, the CDC says. Diners should assess what other safety steps the restaurant is taking.



TikTok says goodbye to Hong Kong

AGENCIES / Hong Kong

TikTok said Tuesday it will stop operations in Hong Kong, joining other social media companies in warily eyeing ramifications of a sweeping national security law that took effect last week.

The short-form video app's planned departure from Hong Kong comes as various social media platforms and messaging apps including Facebook, WhatsApp, Telegram, Google and Twit-

ter balk at the possibility of providing user data to Hong Kong authorities.

The social media companies say they are assessing implications of the security law, which prohibits what Beijing views as secessionist, subversive or terrorist activities or as foreign intervention in the city's internal affairs.

In the communist-ruled mainland, the foreign social media platforms are blocked by China's "Great Firewall."

Critics see the law as Beijing's boldest step yet to erase the legal divide between the former British colony and the mainland's authoritarian Communist Party system.

TikTok said in a statement that it had decided to halt operations "in light of recent events." Facebook and its messaging app WhatsApp said in separate statements Monday that they would freeze the review of government requests for user data in Hong Kong, "pending fur-

ther assessment of the National Security Law, including formal human rights due diligence and consultations with international human rights experts." Hong Kong was convulsed with massive, sometimes violent anti-government protests for much of last year as the former British colony's residents reacted to proposed extradition legislation, since withdrawn, that might have led to some suspects facing trial in mainland Chinese courts.

Bottled holy water, sterilised pebbles, personal prayer rugs...

Hajj is on, but with riders

AGENCIES / Dubai

Saudi Arabia has issued guidelines for the 1,000 or so pilgrims that will be allowed to perform the hajj pilgrimage in Mecca later this month, an experience that will be unlike any before because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The pilgrims will be only be able to drink holy water from the Zamzam well in Mecca that is packaged in plastic bottles, and pebbles for casting away evil that are usually picked up by pilgrims along hajj routes will be sterilised and bagged ahead of time. Pil-

grims will also have to bring their own prayer rugs.

The guidelines were announced on Monday as Saudi authorities prepare to carry out a very limited hajj, which for the first time will not include pilgrims from outside the country.

Instead, the kingdom said that 70 per cent of pilgrims allowed to participate this year will be from among foreign residents of Saudi Arabia while 30 per cent would be Saudi citizens.

Saudi pilgrims will be selected from among healthcare workers and security personnel who have

recovered from COVID-19, the illness caused by the virus. The government said their selection represents a "token of appreciation for their role in providing care" during the pandemic.

The new guidelines also mandate that foreign residents in Saudi Arabia who want to participate in this year's pilgrimage should be between the ages of 20 and 50, and that have not performed the hajj before.

The pilgrims will have to quarantine before and after the hajj, and they will be tested for the coronavirus.

Daniel Pearl murderer could walk free soon

AGENCIES / Islamabad

In another victory for terrorists in Pakistan, Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh convicted of the 2002 murder of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl could walk free soon.

Recently, the Supreme Court refused a government request to suspend a lower court's ruling exonerating Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh of Pearl's murder before a 90-day detention order expires on Thursday.

Though they will remain in jail for three more months after that Sheikh and three more terrorists might be free to go. It is believed that Sheikh has not been released yet due to US pressure.

Pearl's parents have filed an appeal to Pakistan's Supreme Court challenging the lower court's ruling. "It is a travesty of justice," Pearl's father, Judea Pearl, told CBS News correspondent Imtiaz Tyab.

BEAT THE BLUES



Circus performers gather outside Downing Street in central London and deliver a letter for the Prime Minister calling for the right to reopen for their summer peak season.



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: A stumble may prevent a fall.

— Thomas Fuller

Unbreakable link between politics, police and crime

The UP Government has announced a cash reward of Rs 2.5 lakhs for anyone providing information leading to the arrest of the notorious Kanpur gangster Vikas Dubey. Dubey has gone underground from the night of Thursday-Friday which saw his 100-odd criminal associates gun down eight policemen in cold blood. The police party had gone to arrest him, a wanted criminal, in connection with a murder case. Having been tipped off by someone in the police department itself, Dubey gathered his gang members and ambushed the police party. The FIR registered after the ambush mentions that he was heard yelling at his men, ~sab ko maar do...koi zinda na jaye~ (Kill them all. No cop should remain alive.) Eight of the police party, including a Dy. SP, were killed on the spot; some others were injured. Dubey and his associates then made off with the automatic assault weapons of the policemen and other arsenal. They have been untraceable since, while the UP Police is left pondering over the flawed strategy which led to the massacre of its men. A day after, in a fit of vain rage the police razed to the ground the fortress-like home of Dubey, crushing vehicles parked in the compound with the same earthmover Dubey had used the previous night to block the narrow road leading to his house while his men rained bullets from atop houses abutting the road. They also arrested Dubey's domestic servant and a couple of low-level factotums to try and squeeze information about their master. It seems the Dy. SP who died at the hands of the mafia don had warned his superior about the close link between the latter and the local thana head. His superior ignored the complaint, dismissing it to be borne out of a personal grudge. After the carnage, an examination of the phone records revealed close links with the SHO and a few others of the local police station. They were indeed in regular touch with the don. The SHO has since been suspended and is being questioned on the suspicion that he alerted Dubey about the coming raid. In the meantime, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath lost no time in declaring a cash award of Rs. 1 crore each to the families of the deceased policemen, full salary payment with perks till the time of their retirement and a job in the police department for one member each of their families. A nation-wide hunt for Dubey has been launched, with the police fearing that he could escape to the neighbouring Nepal from the UP border. Meanwhile, the Kanpur ambush by the notorious gangster came as a reminder that despite Yogi Adityanath's take-no-prisoners approach to dealing with criminal gangs, these were proving hard to be put down. Early on in his stint as chief minister, there was criticism of the CM for having given a free hand to the police to tackle notorious criminals. There were allegations that some gangsters were killed in fake encounters. Such was the fear in the initial months of the Yogi Government that reportedly some criminals arranged to get themselves back into prison.

But the death of policemen in the Kanpur ambush highlights the deep-seated nexus between the police and criminals. Of course, without political patronage criminal gangs will find it hard to survive. Politicians use them for votes at election-time. Between elections they necessarily feel obliged to patronise them for mustering crowds at rallies, for pressurising difficult local-level adversaries, and even for sourcing funds. Spoils of crime are often shared between the police and local-level politicians. Indeed, the way politics has got structured in the last seven decades or so, the national level leaders rely on State satraps for winning elections while the latter patronise slumlords and criminal dons who extort, blackmail the poor and deliver their votes at election-time. Without cleansing the political system, it will be hard to break the police-criminal nexus. Meanwhile, though not in any way connected to the Kanpur incident, the way the constituents of the ruling alliance in Maharashtra are fighting over the transfer of the Mumbai Deputy Commissioners of Police would suggest as if high stakes were involved. Ideally, such postings and transfers ought to be left to the immediate superiors of the DCPs, depending on their record in service and suitability to a particular district. But partisan politics so deeply permeates the police department that even SHO-level postings are now decided at the highest level in the government. Is there any surprise, then, that the first victim in such a corrupt system is the rule of law.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Words of the wolf warrior

Ref: *Test more COVID-19, not soldiers*, July 7, 2020. Consul General Mr. Tang Guocai advises India to have more COVID-19 tests rather than fight China. If the author is sincere in advising GOI, he should first advise his country to withdraw from the incursion in LAC and respect the international borders, as it is mutually beneficial to both the countries and not to rock the boat. His statement on western countries' double standards, while completely forgetting his own country's, is only a lame statement. PRC's actions on many countries affected by the pandemic is downright condemnable; the pot is calling the kettle black.

Rangarajan P M

Not quite good and simple

The new tax system might have reflected substantial growth in tax collection but still flaws are visible in GST, which reflects a messy tax structure and weak administration and this must be remedied. In this time of the pandemic, people will focus more on savings in spite of discretionary spending. Certain commodities like cars have high GST (28%), which is acceptable on 'sinful goods' like alcohol and tobacco. The consumer will regain confidence when GoI spends for industry and PSUs to boost demand – the only possible solution to sustain the economy in this catastrophe.

Gaurav Sharma

Peace flung out of the window

Ref: *Hindi-Chini bye-bye?* Dt. July 7, 2020. As they say devil lies in the details. China's retreat by few yards looks more strategic and planned rather than an intention to go back to status quo. China's belligerence notwithstanding India must not be convert its own area as a buffer zone. It would amount to acceding to the aggressor's demands. The Chinese are good at making even settled issues looks contentious. India simply can't buy peace with this unruly and unethical neighbour just by placating over some seemingly harmless issues. So let's take full control of our borders with heightened vigil. It's time to treat China at par with Pakistan.

Ashok Goswami

China running out of friends



Hawk Eye

Kamlendra Kanwar

The US-China rivalry in the South China Sea could trigger a serious crisis, jeopardising the relative calm since the Second World War. It could escalate into a major conflict with the bone of contention being maritime supremacy.

The US Navy's despatch of two aircraft carriers and several accompanying warships to participate in a military exercise in the sea bolstered by a F-52 bomber is no less muscle-flexing than the just-concluded Chinese military exercises, in what Beijing regards as its home turf though international law considers it to be high seas over which no country can lay claim to supremacy. As the conflict sharpens, many countries including India could get drawn into the conflict in varying measures. As a rising power, India can ill afford impediments to trade and commerce in its path.

The South China Sea carries tremendous strategic importance. A whopping one-third of the world's shipping passes through it, carrying over \$3 trillion in trade each year. It contains lucrative fisheries, which are crucial for the food security of millions in South-east Asia. Huge oil and gas reserves are believed to lie beneath its seabed. With such high stakes, it is hardly surprising that countries in South East Asia too are seeking a share in the pie and are severely unhappy that the Chinese are coveting a portion of the cake that they feel should belong to them.

India has no direct maritime stake in the area but it has a deep stake in the freedom of navigation so that the ships carrying its goods far and wide are not hampered on the high seas by any restrictions on movement. The same stakes bind other powerful countries/regions too like Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, etc. who see merit in the US standing as a bulwark against China which has ostensible expansionist designs.

The US is seeking to protect its prima donna position as the world's lone super power which is coming under increasing challenge from a belligerent China whose supremo, Xi Jinping, is striving to justify his anointment by the country's Communist party as the supreme leader for life. While Xi Jinping wants to prove China's primacy with the party watching over him, the US is in the hands of Donald Trump who could well be jettisoned as President in the upcoming presidential poll. If he fails in his presidential bid, the Democrat who would succeed him would follow his own policy direction.

The current battle is not over maritime supremacy alone. It is over China's bid to be seen as a super power. But in the crude way in which it is going about it, China has alienated almost the entire world by its greed and covetousness. Drunk as it is by power, its leaders reckon that their rivals are no match for them.

The South China Sea Islands consist of over 250 islands, atolls, cays, shoals, reefs, and sandbars. The islands are mostly low and small, and have few inhabitants. They and surrounding seas are subject to overlapping territorial claims by the countries bordering the South China Sea.

While the US Navy routinely operates in the area, the operation of two nuclear-powered aircraft carriers — the USS Nimitz and USS Ronald Reagan — represents a significant show of force and comes amid heightened tensions between Washington and Beijing over a number of areas, including Hong Kong and India's Ladakh region.

China indeed sees this confrontation as a golden opportunity to assert its much-touted status as a potential super power. Xi Jinping fancies himself as one who will leave a stamp in history as a leader of consequence. Whether this would prove true or merely be a hogwash only the future would tell. But the Chinese assertion of sovereignty in the disputed waters has irked the hinterland states of the South China Sea no end. They are on the vigil and are naturally relieved that the US is asserting itself vis-à-vis China.



The Philippines and Vietnam had last week spoken of growing insecurity in Southeast Asia at an ASEAN event amid concerns that China is using the cover of the coronavirus pandemic to step up its presence in the disputed waters. No sooner had China's PLA Navy started the five-day military drills on July 1, Vietnam protested strongly to the Chinese foreign ministry. The Chinese drills were being held near the Paracel Islands claimed by Vietnam and the Philippines. In its strongest statement yet, the Philippines has said the exercises are being held in waters claimed by Vietnam. "Should the exercises spill over to Philippine territory, then China is forewarned that it will be met with the severest response, diplomatic and whatever else is appropriate," the Philippines foreign ministry said in a statement. Significantly, the Philippines has a defence cooperation pact with the US which could give the Chinese a potential headache when push comes to shove.

The US naval exercises in retaliation have come a day after US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo expressed solidarity with China's neighbours. "The PRC's (People's Republic of China) military exercise in disputed waters of the South China Sea is highly provocative. We oppose Beijing's unlawful claims. Period," Pompeo tweeted. Pompeo has been brutally direct in his criticism of China's expansionist approach, describing Beijing as a "rogue actor" for escalating tensions. Last month, he had underlined the degree to which the US is deploying its considerable military might with an almost single-minded determination to contain China.

Shinzo Abe's Japan, which had been looking at improving ties with China till some months back, is set to cancel a state visit by Xi Jinping that had been deferred from April this year due to the coronavirus pandemic. Japan, which has raised its deployment around its Senkaku Islands that China eyes, has been upset with Beijing over its practice of sending its ships to the those islands. Since April this year, Japan has spotted 67 Chinese Coast Guard ships near the islands in the East China Sea.

The eight uninhabited islands and rocks in the East China Sea controlled by Japan have a total area of about seven sq km and lie north-east of Taiwan and east of the Chinese mainland but are important because they are close to important shipping lanes and lie near potential oil and gas reserves.

The China-US flashpoint is well on the cards. When it would come is still uncertain but it appears that it is well on the cards.

The writer is a political commentator and columnist. He has authored four books.



ONE FLEW OVER THE NEST #internationalstudents

Kicking international students out of the US during a global pandemic because their colleges are moving classes online for physical distancing hurts students. It's senseless, cruel, and xenophobic. ICE and DHS must drop this policy immediately.

Elizabeth Warren, U.S. Senator, Massachusetts

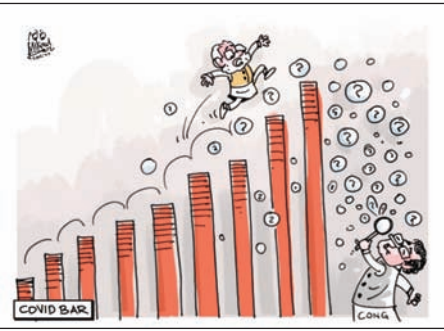
This despicable and needlessly cruel decision upends the lives of our international students and further tarnishes America's reputation and competitiveness. It's shameful how low this administration will go to distract from Trump's failed pandemic response.

Kamala Harris, U.S. Senator

New ICE policy regarding F-1 visa international students is horrible & will hurt the US, students, and universities. Pushes universities to offer in-person classes even if unsafe or no pedagogical benefit, or students to leave US amidst pandemic and risk inability to return.

Andrew Ng, Co-Founder of Coursera

WEDNESDAY'S SWIPE



Five mantras for unlocking India



Brief

Akshay Baheti

Large parts of India are now implementing 'Unlock 1.0' as India begins to limp to a state of partial normalcy. However, it is clear that this cannot be back to business as usual.

By now, most of us are aware of the three basic *mantras* for preventing COVID-19 transmission: a) masking, b) social distancing, and c) hand and cough hygiene. Simple as these may sound, their actual implementation still remains far from the extent desired. People continue to crowd outside shops despite there being ample space. Similarly, people often pull down masks while talking (masks have to cover the nose, mouth and chin all the time and especially while speaking), and hand sanitisers are usually applied cursorily without following the 20-second and 7-steps hand-rub rule.

This leads to the fourth basic *mantra* that Atul Gawande, the noted American surgeon and writer, has talked about — changing culture or attitudes. Thinking just about oneself does not work in protecting communities from COVID-19. USA is the perfect example, with many obstinately refusing to wear masks. Remember that masks are meant not just for the user's protection, but also for others. This is especially important because even asymptomatic patients can transmit COVID-19. Thus, we have to become more altruistic and develop the attitude that masks will protect others, particularly the elderly and weak. This attitude ensures that we also mask ourselves when the house-help comes home, because he or she is as much at risk from us as we are from him or her. It makes us not step out of the house nor let anyone step in if we have fever or a cough. It allows a subordinate or stranger to politely remind us to adjust the mask hanging around the chin without any offence being taken. And it ensures that offices provide webinars, safety training and appropriate protective gear not just to white-collared workers, but to housekeeping staff and security as well.

Finally, we need to start making sustainable non-impulsive decisions based on science and deliberation rather than fear and panic. This is the fifth *mantra*; that of 'rational decision-making'. Globally, it is clear that one size doesn't fit all while fighting COVID-19. Attempting herd immunity worked for Sweden but failed miserably in UK, and Japan beat coronavirus without following South Korea's policy of mass testing. The same holds true at an individual and local level. Thus, a model that worked in Bhillwara may not work for Mumbai or Tamil Nadu. Rational decision-making involves making nuanced scientific decisions tailor-made to the current ground reality and needs of every city, locality, and individual. The prerequisite for this is to develop a scientific temper and

know the basics regarding COVID-19 transmission. It primarily spreads by respiratory droplets, which tend to transmit within six feet. Hence, social distancing and masking are of utmost importance.

In addition, the duration of contact is equally important. As long as the patient is masked and not coughing, brief contact of a few minutes will not transmit a sufficient number of viral particles to infect others. For example, the infamous COVID-positive Delhi pizza delivery boy did not transmit to any of the 72 homes he delivered. Also, the WHO and CDC have recently clarified that fomites (infected surfaces) are not a major mode of transmission. Thus, we need not fear getting COVID-19 from elevators, doorknobs, groceries or newspapers, especially if we maintain proper hand hygiene and avoid touching the face.

One's actions must be based on these fundamental scientific facts rather than on sensational myths and claims propagated on social media. For example, many housing societies still do not allow house-helpers or technicians to enter. Paradoxically, some residents of these very societies have restarted working in offices cleaned by housekeeping staff! Given the brief duration of any interaction, no one in the society is at risk from such visitors apart from the homes they visit. Such decisions should hence be left to individual flat residents rather than imposing blanket restrictions. Societies could however screen visitors for fever, cough, and masking; this will strike a good balance.

Similarly, at a personal level, we need to get used to taking daily decisions balancing the risks involved with our needs, be it while hiring a house-help, visiting a hair salon, or hailing a cab. Remember that as long as the basic *mantras* are scrupulously followed, the risk is minimised. For example, the evening walk is not very risky for anyone, but lunging together in the office is, as this is unmasked and the duration of interaction is longer.

Local authorities will also have to make sustainable and sound decisions. This is already happening, with Mumbai moving from a blanket lockdown of entire societies to only locking the floor on which a COVID-19 patient was detected. Cities need to similarly decide whether imposing a night curfew is sustainable, or could we instead encourage people to possibly work in two shifts with greater social distancing and staggered commute times. Likewise, pillion riding is currently blanketly banned. We could however allow people of the same household to ride together rather than risk taking a cab.

As we start reopening, our potential exposures are bound to increase. We now have to get into the habit of rationally assessing everything we do with regards its risk, benefit, and sustainability. Is this really needed, is the risk high or low, are the *mantras* being properly followed, is avoiding this for many months viable? Most doors at homes have a safety chain. With the metaphorical unlocking, these five *mantras* are like the safety chain; we must use them all the time to remain protected from unwanted visitors.

The writer is a radiologist at a leading hospital in Mumbai and a visiting adjunct faculty at Dept of Body Imaging, University of Washington Medical Center, Seattle. Views are personal. Through Foundation of The Billion Press

Pandemic response laid bare efficacy of populist leadership



Comment

A. I. Chougule

The outbreak of the coronavirus has spread to at least 213 countries and territories. The first death from an illness caused by the virus was reported in China on January 11. Nearly six months after the first death became public, more than 11.7 million people across the world have been infected and over 5.4 million have died. The fast spread of the virus, the high casualty rates in many countries and the economic damage it has caused raises important questions about how different countries and their elected leaders have dealt with the pandemic and coped with the challenges to bring the virus under control. Some countries have managed the virus well, some have bungled and many continue to struggle on medical, administrative, economic and political fronts.

New York Times opinion columnist Nicholas Kristof compiled death rates from the coronavirus for 21 countries around the world, 13 led by men and 8 by women. Kristof says the male-led countries suffered an average of 214 coronavirus-related deaths per million. Those led by women suffered only one-fifth as many – 36 per million. One should resist drawing conclusions about women leaders from a few exceptional individuals acting in exceptional circumstances. But experts say that the women's success may still offer valuable lessons about what can help countries weather not just this crisis but others in the future. According to experts, New Zealand, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Norway, Iceland and Taiwan seem to have been particularly successful in fighting the virus perhaps due to the leadership and management styles attributed to their female leaders. Kristof says it's not that the leaders who best managed the virus were all women. "But those who bungled the response were all men and mostly a particular type – authoritarian, vainglorious and blustering," he notes.

He gives four examples: Boris Johnson in Britain, Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in Iran and Donald Trump in the US. Virtually every country that has experienced coronavirus mortality at a rate more than 150 per million population is male-led. India has been excluded from Kristof's list because of its death rate per million population is only 15. Susan Rice, ex-national security adviser under President Barack Obama, is of the view that it's not a coincidence that some of the best-run countries have been run by women – New Zealand, Denmark, Germany, Finland, Norway, Taiwan etc. "And where we have seen things go most badly wrong – the US, Brazil, Russia, the UK – it's a lot of male ego and bluster," she observes. Kristof says "those leaders who handled the virus best were those who humbly consulted public health experts and acted quickly, and many were women; in contrast, male authoritarians who botched the response were suspicious of experts and too full of themselves."

As of July 7, the total number of coronavirus cases in the world are 11.07 million, of which 4.6 million are active cases and over 5.4 lakh people have died. Four democratic countries – the US, Brazil, India and Britain – are among the top five countries in the COVID-19 infections league table; the fifth is Russia, which has a facade of democracy. The US leads the table with a big margin: it has 30.41 lakh infected cases and 1.32 lakh deaths. Brazil follows with 16.26 lakh cases and over 65,000 deaths. India is third with 7.21 lakh cases and 20,184 deaths, followed by UK with 2.85 lakh cases and 44,236 deaths. The US, UK, Brazil and India together account for nearly 50 per cent of global COVID-19 infections and deaths. What do these numbers tell us about the political leadership of the four functioning democratic countries from different continents?

The answer is evident in the number of infections in each of these countries where new cases are still surging and deaths rising. Trump, Bolsonaro, Modi and Johnson are heading different countries with different political, social and economic backgrounds. But they are known as "populist leaders" and share certain traits: they are strong in rhetoric and dislike criticism; they are said to be egoistical and confident in their own knowledge, understanding and wisdom; and they project themselves as outsiders who have forced themselves into national politics to rid the system of the corrupt "elite" who pandered to self-interest and pampered minority groups.

The pandemic is the real test of their ability in handling a serious national crisis and offers an insight into their style of functioning in the face of huge challenges before them. The entire American continent – both North and South America – is the global hotspot for COVID-19. Trump has handled the crisis miserably: his delayed and inconsistent response without a plan to tackle the virus has left America with millions of infections and highest death toll in the world. Last week, Dr. Anthony Fauci, a physician and immunologist and America's trusted voice on infectious diseases, said he would not be surprised if the number of new cases reached a hundred thousand a day. If the pandemic remains a national problem in North America, populists have also inflamed the virus outbreak across Latin America where Brazil is second only to the US in everything related to the pandemic.

Brazil's far-right president has made no real effort to curb the pandemic. Instead, he has belittled the threat of the virus and responded of sufferers by declaring, "We all have to die someday." Among its neighbours, two nearby countries – Ecuador and Peru – have suffered soaring rates of COVID-19. Mexico is no better either and it's the same story in El Salvador and Nicaragua. Moving on to UK, Johnson's government is confronting the havoc wreaked by the pandemic on the national health and economy, thanks to its "sluggish imposition of the lockdown", followed by "chaotic mismanagement" of the easing of restrictions.

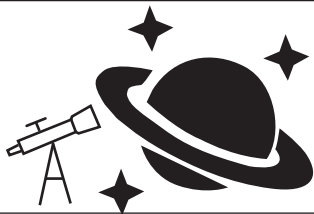
On March 25, when Modi declared the three-week national lockdown, he had exuded confidence that the battle against coronavirus would be won in 21 days. However, 104 days later, India's "war" is far from over. In fact, it may well have just begun. But the government seems to be focused on managing public perception. What does the pandemic reveal about the affected counties and their political leadership? While heads of state in some countries have succeeded in controlling the virus and some have used the lockdown to flatten the curve, populist leaders have been severely tested and found wanting in their ability to defeat the virus.

The writer is an independent Mumbai-based senior journalist.

Hot weather does not drive people to post angry tweets

SAN FRANCISCO: Hot weather may make people more aggressive but the rising mercury may not result in more angry tweets or hateful Facebook posts from the social media users, an interesting study has revealed. However, the first-of-its-kind research found that incidence of angry tweets is highest on Mondays. The study by The Conversation that involved researchers from Macquarie University in Sydney, found that angry tweets increased as the weather turned cool. As daily maximum temperatures rose, angry tweet counts decreased. Hotter weather is associated with aggressive crime. However, it is not well known if similar relationships apply to online aggression.

—IANS



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THE FREE PRESS JOURNAL

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Fun corner

Laugh out loud in lockdown

While you are stuck at home during the lockdown, the Free Press Journal brings you the best memes and jokes from the internet. As even in times of darkness, one should not forget to laugh. So, sit back, and don't forget to laugh on these hilarious memes and thank us later! Here are a few hilarious memes and jokes that will leave you in splits:

It happens only in India:

1. Every Indian bachelor wants to marry a fair girl.
2. We spend more time talking to guests at the door when they are leaving than while sitting in the living room.
3. Picking up/dropping a relative (airport/railway station) is an important family affair.
4. We thrive on street food and we don't get sick.
5. Every Indian mother has 2 careers - Working/Housewife + Match Making.

Please, don't even talk about it!



— Compiled by Husain Rizvi

Disclaimer: These are jokes to lighten your mood in dark times

High BP pills can also reduce colorectal cancer risk

AGENCIES / Hong Kong

Researchers have now claimed that medications commonly prescribed to treat high blood pressure may also reduce patients' colorectal cancer risk. Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor (ACE-i) or angiotensin II receptor blocker (ARB) medications are prescribed for conditions such as heart failure, high blood pressure or heart disease. These medications inhibit or

block angiotensin, a chemical that causes arteries to become narrow, the researchers said.

Doctors commonly prescribe these medications to people with high blood pressure to relax and open blood vessels, thereby lowering blood pressure. The current study, published in the Hypertension, an American Heart Association journal, revealed that taking these medications may also reduce colorectal cancer risk. —IANS

Probiotics boost mental health too

Probiotics, which improve gut health, also help in keeping depression and anxiety at bay

AGENCIES / London

Probiotics that broaden the mix of helpful bacteria in the gut may help ease depression, say researchers. Foods that broaden the profile of helpful bacteria in the gut are collectively known as probiotics. These "good bacteria" can be taken as supplements, or found naturally in yoghurts or fermented foods.

For the findings, the research team from the University of Brighton in the UK searched for relevant studies published in English between 2003 and 2019, which looked at the potential therapeutic contribution of pre-and probiotics in adults with depression and/or anxiety disorders.

Out of an initial haul of 71 studies,



just seven met all the criteria for inclusion. All 7 investigated at least one probiotic strain; four looked at the effect of combinations of multiple strains. In all, 12 probiotic strains featured in the selected studies, primarily Lactobacillus acidophilus, Lactobacillus casei, and Bifidobacterium bifidum.

One study looked at combined prebiotic treatment, while one looked at prebiotic therapy by itself. The studies varied considerably in their design, methods used, and clinical considerations, but all of them concluded that probiotic supplements either alone or in combination with prebiotics may be linked to measurable reductions in depression.

And every study showed a significant fall or improvement in anxiety symp-

toms and clinically relevant changes in biochemical measures of anxiety or depression with probiotic or combined pre-probiotic use.

Of the 12 different probiotics investigated, 11 were potentially useful, the findings showed.

Probiotics may help reduce the production of inflammatory chemicals, such as cytokines, as is the case in inflammatory bowel disease, the researchers suggested.

"They may help direct the action of tryptophan, a chemical thought to be important in the gut-brain axis in psychiatric disorders," they added. "In this way, with a better understanding of the mechanisms, probiotics may prove to be a useful tool across a wide range of conditions," the authors wrote. —IANS

Elderly people less willing to wear mask, self-isolate

AGENCIES / London

Despite being most vulnerable to severe illness due to COVID-19, older adults are not more willing to isolate when asked to — which put them at more risk, say researchers. Survey results from 27 countries, published in the journal PLOS ONE, suggest that elderly people are not more willing to isolate and are not more compliant with several COVID-19 preventive measures.

"Given the vulnerability of elderly people, we should expect nothing else but a greater level of compliance with preventive measures compared to their younger fellow citizens," said study researcher Francois Daoust from the University of Edinburgh in the UK.

"Among those who become ill with COVID-19, older adults appear to be more likely to be hospitalised or die



from the disease," Daoust added. In the study of elderly people's attitudes and compliance with Covid-19 preventative measures, the research team examined survey results from 72,417 people of all ages across 27 different countries.

The surveys asked about people's willingness to self-isolate if necessary, as well as their compliance with specific preventive measures, such as hand washing or wearing a mask.

The analysis suggests that elderly people are no more willing than those in their 50s and 60s to voluntarily self-isolate if they begin to feel ill or if they are advised to do so by a clinician or health official.

The findings showed that people aged 60 to 80 are also less likely than younger age groups to wear a mask outside their home. However, older people are more likely to avoid public transportation and to avoid small gatherings or having guests over. These findings suggest that efforts are needed to improve public health strategies to encourage older adults to comply with preventive measures.

A deeper understanding of elderly people's attitudes and compliance could help inform such improvements and, ultimately, reduce the number of deaths due to the pandemic, the researchers said. —IANS

Earth's magnetic field can change faster than thought

AGENCIES / London

Scientists using simulations in the lab have revealed that changes in the direction of the Earth's magnetic field may take place 10 times faster than previously thought. The study, published in the journal Nature Communications, gives new insight into the swirling flow of iron 2,800 kms below the planet's surface and how it has influenced the movement of the magnetic field during the past hundred thousand years.

"We have very incomplete knowledge of our magnetic field prior to 400 years ago. Since these rapid changes represent some of the more extreme behaviour of the liquid core, they could give important information about the behaviour of Earth's deep interior," said study researcher Chris Davies from the University of Leeds in the UK.

According to the researchers, our magnetic field is generated and maintained by a convective flow of molten metal that forms the Earth's outer core. The magnetic field is constantly changing.

For the current findings, the research team combined computer simulations of the field generation process with a recently published reconstruction of time variations in Earth's magnetic field spanning the last 100,000 years.

Their study shows that changes in the direction of Earth's magnetic field reached rates that are up to 10 times larger than the fastest currently reported variations of up to one degree per year.

They demonstrate that these rapid changes are associated with local weakening of the magnetic field. This means these changes have generally occurred around times when the field has reversed polarity or during geomagnetic excursions when the dipole axis moves far from the locations of the North and South geographic poles.

The clearest example of this in their study is a sharp change in the geomagnetic field direction of roughly 2.5 degrees per year 39,000 years ago.

This shift was associated with locally weak field strength, in a confined spatial region just off the west coast of Central America, and followed the global Laschamp excursion - a short reversal of the Earth's magnetic field roughly 41,000 years ago. —IANS



TAROT MESSAGE FOR THE DAY

A day of emotional healing, moving away from turbulence towards peace. You may feel like standing on a tightrope so that you can experience peace.

You will get support to make this change in your life. You will spend some time in solitude.

You will spend some time watching rains or waterfalls. Music will heal your soul so listen to it.

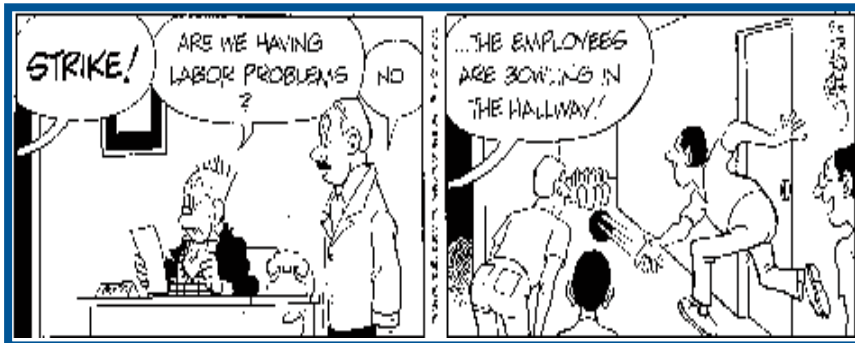
TIP OF THE DAY: Visualise peaceful water and say "Dear God Goddess and Archangels please bless me with tranquility and nourish me emotionally. This or better than < you"



—By Sheetal Sapan Mhatre

(For online appointments, Whatsapp: team on 9820533750)

BRINGING UP FATHER / FRANK JONSON



BLONDIE / Dean Young & Mile Gersher



DENNIS THE MENACE



FPJ - SUDOKU - 36

Level: easy

	4	3			5			
8				9	2			
	9	2			6			
	4	3			1	7		3
7			8	9				
			5			8	3	
			9	6				2
6					3	9		

WHAT TO DO: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Every puzzle has only one correct solution.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Fidel

4 Like some

5 Elphinstone

10 The Lego

12 Banded

13 Huge

15 Quarter-

16 "You get"

17 Break-

18 Opera's

20 To some

21 Some

22 Mace

23 "Not a

25 Nip-

26 Conspic-

31 Dolly

32 "ake, as

34 "Not"

35 Bear's

36 Verb

37 Empha-

DOWN

1 Stop

2 Churn

3 Slick

4 Director

5 Cave

6 In the

7 Go

8 Rhythmic

9 Cock a

11 Breat

14 Coasts

19 Radiate

20 Mild

24 Show

25 Rain

26 Daryl

27 Maine

29 Brought

30 Bullfight

33 High

35 Politician

36 Heads

39 Eggs

40 Cusca

Yesterday's answer

1 A

2 B

3 C

4 D

5 E

6 F

7 G

8 H

9 I

10 J

11 K

12 L

13 M

14 N

15 O

16 P

17 Q

18 R

19 S

20 T

21 U

22 V

23 W

24 X

25 Y

26 Z

YOUR DAY

ARIES: Focus on creating a happy and positive atmosphere at the workplace. Romance is in the air. You would be able to finish your pending tasks on time.

TAURUS: Today, a big opportunity will not just push you up on the professional ladder but it will also boost your confidence. The laws of attraction will work in your favour.

GEMINI: You stretch yourself in all directions. You reach out to people and they respond favourably. Your plate is full to overflowing with events and activities.

CANCER: Learning time management is the need of the hour. Schedule your day and time in such a way that you get enough time to rest and relax.

LEO: On the work front, an unfavourable or a negative situation may hurt your ego. Avoid signing any new deal or documents for time being. Travelling will be hectic.

VIRGO: Those in the banking and financial sector, will see a rise in their income. Instead of presenting your ideas directly to the boss, discuss them with co-workers.

LIBRA: On the romantic front, you will prove that you are the best for your partner and would be able to clear off long-standing confusions which were triggering clashes.

SCORPIO: Minor problems are on the cards. Make sure that you work with full focus and concentration as your seniors may test your skills and intelligence.

SAGITTARIUS: Keep in touch with your loved ones and friends. On the work front, difficulties and challenges are there on the cards. The romantic chemistry will improve.

CAPRICORN: Trouble awaits those in romantic entanglements. It's a successful day for those who are running a poultry farm or a sanitary ware business.

AQUARIUS: You would want to speak your heart inside out, but it will be better if you don't as it will likely to cause misunderstandings. The Sun in Capricorn may affect your image.

PISCES: You are likely to be in a competitive mood and will be determined to achieve your goals. You could be a little uneasy by certain issues at home.



Brad Pitt is set to feature in the big screen adaptation of *Bullet Train*, based on the Japanese novel *Maria Beetle* by Isaka Kotaro. The film will be helmed by David Leitch, known for blockbuster actioners like *Deadpool 2* and *Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw*. In the novel, five assassins find themselves on a fast-moving bullet train from Tokyo to Morioka with only a few stops in between. They discover their missions are related to one another. The question they face is: "Who will make it off the train alive and what awaits them at the terminal station?" According to The Hollywood Reporter, Antoine Fuqua, who originally developed the project for Sony Pictures, will produce the project. Screenwriter Zak Olkewicz has adapted the book. —PTI

'I'm done with reflecting, time to look forward'

Says Abhishek Bachchan, as he gears up for a digital debut with the second season of the web series *Breathe*

Abhishek Bachchan turned 20 in Bollywood years last month and after a period of self-reflection, the actor says he now wants to focus on the coming decades.

The actor, who along with Kareena Kapoor Khan made his debut with JP Dutta's 2000 film *Refugee*, returned to screen with Anurag Kashyap's *Manmarziyaan* in 2018 after a brief hiatus. "I have reflected far too much. Past two-three years, I have only been reflecting in the media. So, I'm now done with that. When I completed 20 years last month, I said, 'Enough of looking back, now we have to look forward'," Abhishek said.

Known for his performances in films like *Yuva*, *Guru*, *Bunty Aur Babli* and *Bluffmaster*, the actor said in the spirit of going ahead the first thing he has to offer is his work. Abhishek, who will next be seen in the web series *Breathe: Into The Shadows*, said he happy to be getting the opportunity to play a gamut of roles. "I don't know in the next six months what state of mind I'm going to be in to decide what kind of work I want to do. But currently, I just love the fact that the producers, directors and audience are allowing me to do work which has a lot of variety. I hopefully show them that there are different things that I can convincingly do," he said.

The psychological thriller is the follow-up to the 2018 *Breathe*, which starred R Madhavan. The new season goes ahead with Abhishek, who plays Avinash Sabharwal, a psychiatrist who will go to any

length to find his missing daughter Siya. It starts streaming from July 10.

The web series also marks the actor's digital debut, but he said yes to the project on its story's merit. "When I heard the story, I immediately said yes. The criteria that it was on Amazon Prime Video, or it was going to be a movie or TV show is immaterial to me. At the end of the day, it was great material which I really liked and wanted to be a part of it."

The actor said today's audience is more interested in seeing characters that are real and flawed rather than being

fantastical. "That time is gone when the hero has to be morally on a higher ground to the audience. In today's day and age, especially the youth, they would much rather see a flawed character achieve something by admitting their flaws and trying to work with it," Abhishek said. "There are lesser and lesser fantastical characters. Our most popular heroes today are all great characters which have one or two flaws which just makes them real. That just makes the character more tactile and approachable," he added.

Besides the web series, the actor has three films: *The*

Big Bull, reportedly based on India's biggest securities scam of 1992, Anurag Basu's anthology *Ludo* and crime thriller *Bob Biswas*. A rags-to-riches story *The Big Bull*, which will digitally release on Disney+Hotstar, has "thematic similarities" to *Guru*.

"That's the only similarity that it is thematic," Abhishek admitted. "*The Big Bull* is a story of perseverance, hard work, and dedication. I like watching inspirational movies. What I liked about this one is that it wasn't just a white-wash piece," he added.

The actor, who has also worked with Ratnam in *Yuva* (2004) and *Raavan* (2010), said he would love to collaborate with the "genius" filmmaker again. "He is one of my favourite directors. Mani has an amazing way of working. He tells great stories, his style of telling those stories is unique. I'm blessed to have three Mani Ratnam films in my repertoire. I know actors who would give an arm and a leg to do one film with him. Mani is family to me and Aishwarya. He just has to call me and I'll be there."

Ludo, a dark anthology comedy, gave him an opportunity to work with Basu, the director with a "wonderful, quirky mind". "He is a director I've had great admiration for. A latent desire that I'd get the opportunity to work with him and he's lived up to it. He's a mad genius. I loved working with him. I just love the way he looks at life and I think that reflects in his films. He has a very unique perspective on everyday things," he said. Production on *Bob Biswas* came to a halt amid the coronavirus-led lockdown and they still have about 12-13 days of shoot left. The actor said they want to finish the shooting on a priority basis. —PTI

Discussion on Sushant's suicide agenda-driven, says Anubhav



Anubhav Sinha finds all the clamour around Sushant Singh Rajput's suicide ridiculous. The filmmaker says the everyday drama is disturbing, adding he suspects "some politics" has gotten into the conversation, which started after the news of the young actor's death.

Sushant's demise sparked off discussions around a lot of things — from nepotism to the ruthless ways of Bollywood's power camps to the culture of blind items. "What is going on is ridiculous. I would allow that young boy to rest. He must have been really disturbed in his head, restless and not at peace at all. I think we should just let him be for some time," Sinha said while discussing how a blame-game started after Sushant's death.

"It's not easy to take your own life and especially when you're doing rather well. We need to keep quiet but a lot has been spoken about, and I suspect there is some politics that has gotten into it, and that's not good for anybody — not for the boy at all," he added.

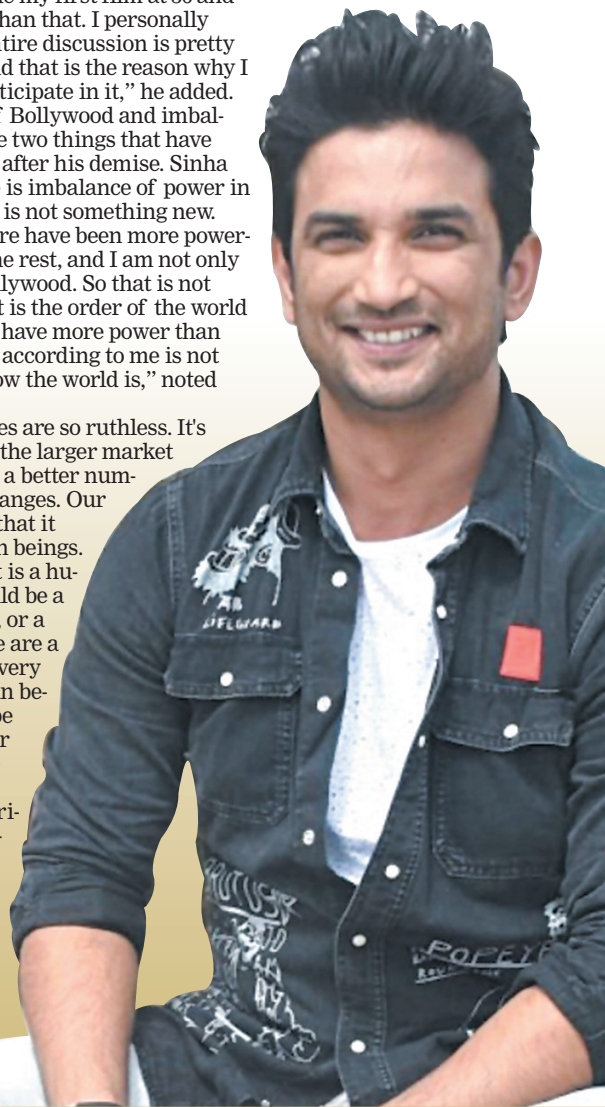
The filmmaker feels one needs to be sensitive towards Sushant's family. "They need to think about him and his family. Every day there is some drama or the other, which is disturbing. I didn't know him, I never met him, but I am disturbed. He

was just 34. I made my first film at 36 and he was younger than that. I personally think that this entire discussion is pretty agenda driven and that is the reason why I don't want to participate in it," he added.

Toxic culture of Bollywood and imbalance of power are two things that have been highlighted after his demise. Sinha admits that there is imbalance of power in Bollywood, but it is not something new.

"In any era, there have been more powerful people than the rest, and I am not only talking about Bollywood. So that is not something new. It is the order of the world that some people have more power than the rest — which according to me is not fine but that is how the world is," noted the filmmaker.

"Most businesses are so ruthless. It's about me having the larger market share, me having a better number of stock exchanges. Our business is such that it deals with human beings. So, every product is a human being, it could be a director, an actor, or a DOP. So, while we are a business, we are very vulnerable human beings. We should be kind to each other and we should be mindful of each other, our insecurities and each other's happiness. There is a place for everyone to be happy," he concluded. —IANS

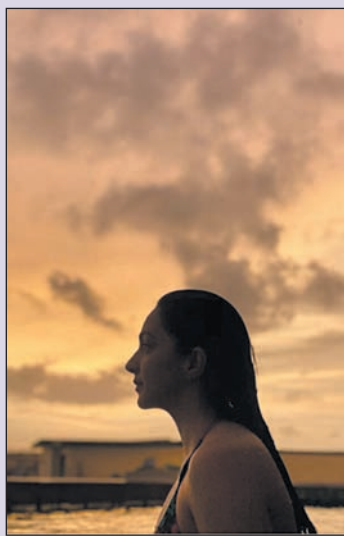


Kiara Advani makes the best of sunset

Kiara Advani has been soaking in the mellow sun lately, going by her latest social media post. Kiara's new Instagram image sees her enjoying the sunset at a swimming pool. "Making the most of every sunset," she captioned the image, which currently has over 1.3 million likes on the photo-sharing website.

Kiara has several films lined up in the coming months. She stars in the comedy film *Indoo Ki Jauani*. She will also be seen opposite Sidharth Malhotra in *Sher-shaah*, which is based on the life of Param Vir Chakra recipient army captain Vikram Batra.

She has also has *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2*. The film is a follow-up of *Bhool Bhulaiyaa*, directed by Priyadarshan and released in 2007. The original film was an official remake of the 1993 Malayalam film *Manichitrathazhu*. —IANS



Veteran filmmaker Harish Shah passes away

Veteran filmmaker Harish Shah, best known for producing Rajesh Khanna-Tanuja starrer *Mere Jeevan Saathi*, passed away on Tuesday after a long battle with throat cancer. He was 76. According to Harish Shah's brother, Vinod Shah, the filmmaker breathed his last at 6 am at his residence here. "He was battling throat cancer for 10 years and passed away in the morning today," Vinod Shah said.

Last rites of the producer were held at Pawan Hans crematorium on Tuesday afternoon. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the funeral was attended only by close family members.

After backing romance drama *Meere Jeevan Saathi* in 1972, Harish Shah produced movies like *Kaala Sona*, the 1975 Indian Westerner featuring Feroz Khan and Parveen Babi, and *Ram Tere Kitne Naam*, the 1985 drama starring Sanjeev Kumar and Rekha.



In 1980, he turned director with Rishi and Neetu Kapoor-starrer *Dhan Daulat*. Harish Shah also directed Dharmendra and Shatrughan Sinha's 1988 action-drama *Zalzala* and 1995 film *Ab Insaaf Hoga*, featuring Rekha and Mithun Chakraborty. Sunny Deol and Tabu-led 2003 action thriller *Jaal: The Trap* was one of the last films he backed. —PTI



HOLLYWOOD TALK

Chris Evans, Lily James' night out: Something brewing?

Hollywood stars Chris Evans and Lily James were spotted enjoying each other's company together in London on Saturday. According to photos published by The Daily Mail and subsequent People Magazine's report, the two visited Mark's Club in Mayfair and shared a taxi together.

While James lives in North London, Evans had been isolating stateside before heading to London, where several film and television projects have resumed



production. Representatives for both actors could not immediately be reached for comment.

James was last linked to *The Crown* actor Matt Smith, who she reportedly split from in December. They first started dating in 2014. Evans was last linked to actress Jenny Slate, who he met during the making of 2017 film *Gifted*.

"I'm a pretty romantic guy," Evans had told People magazine at the premiere of his directorial debut, *Before We Go*. "I don't necessarily limit the notion of romance to people, though. I think I have a romantic relationship to art, to music, to nature," added Evans. —ANI

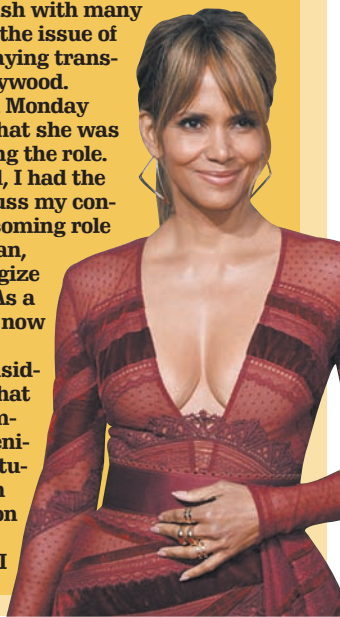
Criticism makes Halle Berry say no to transgender character

Hollywood star Halle Berry has apologised and pulled out from playing a transgender character in a movie following criticism on social media. The actor had spoken about the role during an Instagram Live interview.

"(The film is about) a character where the woman is a trans character, so she's a woman that transitioned into a man," Berry said in the interview with hairstylist Christin Brown. "She's a character in a project I love that I might be doing."

The announcement was followed by severe social media backlash with many people highlighting the issue of cisgender actors playing transgender roles in Hollywood. Berry apologised on Monday night and tweeted that she was no longer considering the role.

"Over the weekend, I had the opportunity to discuss my consideration of an upcoming role as a transgender man, and I'd like to apologize for those remarks. As a cisgender woman, I now understand that I should not have considered this role, and that the transgender community should undeniably have the opportunity to tell their own stories," she wrote on Twitter. —PTI



Helmet has a sensible message, says Aparshakti



with a sensible message in the middle of their stressful schedules," he added.

Directed by Satram Ramani, *Helmet* is a quirky comedy that depicts the ground reality in the heartlands of the country, where talking about protection is awkward. The film pairs Aparshakti opposite the late Nutan's grand-daughter Pranutan, and also features Abhishek Banerjee and Ashish Verma in pivotal roles. —IANS

Aparshakti Khurana says his upcoming film *Helmet* will bring a smile on people's face, with a sensible message in the middle of their stressful schedules. "Absorbing the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic and the crisis that has followed is going to take us some time. As that happens, I cherish everything that makes me smile and laugh. The movies will be crucial in aiding people's abilities to cope with different pressures," Aparshakti said.

"I can safely assure viewers that *Helmet* will be the recess of fun and bring a smile on people's face

PFRLDA allows pension funds to invest in Bharat Bond ETF

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority has allowed pension funds to invest in Bharat Bond Exchange-Traded Fund paving the way for their possible participation in the upcoming second tranche of the ETF. "In the last board meeting we decided to

allow pension fund managers to invest in the ETF," PFRLDA Chairperson Supratim Bandyopadhyay said. The bond ETF is a good long-term investment option with low risk and we have been considering the proposal for some time, Bandyopadhyay said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Banks sanction about Rs 1.14 lakh crore loans to MSMEs

NEW DELHI: The finance ministry on Tuesday said banks have sanctioned loans of about Rs 1,14,502 crore under the Rs 3-lakh crore Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for MSME sector reeling under the economic slowdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, disbursements against this stood at Rs 56,091.18 lakh crore till July 4 under the 100 per cent ECLGS for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

Gold price jumps Rs 102, silver declines Rs 249

NEW DELHI: Gold prices in the national capital jumped by Rs 102 to Rs 49,228 per 10 gram on Tuesday amid rupee depreciation, according to HDFC Securities. The precious metal had closed at Rs 49,126 per 10 gram in the previous trade. Silver, however, declined by Rs 249 to Rs 50,573 per kg from Rs 50,822 per kg in the previous trade.

Power industry seeks govt support for extending FGD deadline

NEW DELHI: The power committee of industry body FICCI has sought the government's help for installation of Flue Gas Desulfurization (FGD) at operational Independent Power Producers (IPP) and Captive Power Producers (CPP). Other power producers have to comply with the norms by December 2022.

RBI says weighted avg rate on fresh loans up 2 bps to 8.54% in May

MUMBAI: The weighted average lending rate on fresh rupee loans rose 2 basis points to 8.54% in May, according to Reserve Bank of India data. However, the 8.52% figure for April was much higher than the provisional figure of 8.30% reported in the previous month owing to a revision for lending rate of state-owned banks for April that was sharply updated to 8.44% from 8.04% reported in last month's data.

'Need to constantly look at avenues for high growth'

NEW DELHI: The government is strictly implementing the announcements made as part of the Rs 21-trillion package aimed at reviving economic activity, Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur said. "Finance ministry is evaluating the situation regularly and as you have seen in the recent weeks we are strictly implementing announcements made so far."

'Boycott of Chinese products should be done in calibrated manner'

KOLKATA: Amid a call for boycott of Chinese goods after the Ladakh face-off, a national trading body in a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said, it should be done in a calibrated way and not until alternatives are in place.

L&T Finance Holding's infra finance arm gets \$50-mln loan from AIIB

MUMBAI: L&T Infrastructure Finance Co Ltd has received \$50 mln of an external commercial borrowing loan of \$100 mln from Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, according to a press release. The company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of L&T Finance Holdings, will use the loan to lend to large and mid-scale wind and solar power infrastructure projects.

BP to invest USD 70 million in India's Green Growth Equity Fund

NEW DELHI: The UK-based BP plc on Tuesday said it will invest USD 70 million in the Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF) that supports the growing renewable energy sector in India. The fund, established in 2018, is focused on identifying, investing and supporting growth in zero-carbon and low-carbon energy solutions in the country.

Essar Ports eyes V shaped recovery; cargo handling in Q1 at 11.23 MT

NEW DELHI: Essar Ports on Tuesday said it has handled 11.23 million tonnes (MT) of cargo in the first quarter of 2020-21 and targets a V-shaped recovery. The company said its cargo handling had dipped to 2.52 MT in April 2020 but green shoots of economic recovery has resulted in boosting its cargo handling in June 2020 to 4.41 MT.

Magicbricks: 5% fall in realty prices in Apr-Jun; property searches dip 27%

NEW DELHI: Realty portal Magicbricks has reported up to 5% fall in real estate prices across eight big cities during April-June, while property searches on its platform dipped 27% compared to the previous quarter due to COVID-19 pandemic. The volume of active listing of properties on Magicbricks website, too, fell 42.5% during April-June 2020 from the first quarter of this calendar year, it said in a report.

CIL clocks avg daily output of 44% in 3-day strike, attendance close to 36%

NEW DELHI: State-owned Coal India (CIL) on Tuesday said it managed to clock an average daily production of 44 per cent and average attendance of nearly 36 per cent during the three-day strike called by worker unions last week. This calculation of average is based on the average of 10 days prior to July 2 -- the first day of the three-day strike.

UltraTech Cement's step-down arm to sell entire stake in China co

MUMBAI: UltraTech Cement Ltd today said its step-down arm Krishna Holdings Pte Ltd has entered into a binding agreement to offload its entire 92.5% stake in Shandong Binani Rongcan Cement Co Ltd for an enterprise value of 845 mln renminbi (9 bln rupees).

JLR starts deliveries of BS-VI petrol Range Rover Evoque, Discovery Sport

NEW DELHI: Tata Motors's Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) said it has started deliveries of BS-VI compliant petrol derivatives of new Range Rover Evoque and new Discovery Sport in India. The price of the new Range Rover Evoque starts at Rs 57.99 Lakh, while that of Discovery Sport begins at Rs 59.99 lakh.

Unacademy acquires PrepLadder for \$50 million

NEW DELHI: Edu-tech firm Unacademy said it has acquired PrepLadder, a Chandigarh-based postgraduate medical entrance exam preparation platform, for USD 50 million (about Rs 374.6 crore). The acquisition will help Unacademy expand its annual revenues by 15 per cent, it said.

HMSI launches new version of X-Blade; price starts at Rs 1,05,325

NEW DELHI: Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India (HMSI) on Tuesday launched a new version of its 160 cc motorcycle X-Blade with price starting at Rs 1,05,325. The X-Blade BS-VI bike is powered by a 160 cc fuel injection engine compliant with BSVI emission norm and uses eight onboard sensors to constantly inject optimum fuel and air mixture to provide greater performance and superior efficiency, it said.

Green shoots visible, India will bounce back: Niti Aayog CEO Kant

NEW DELHI: Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant on Tuesday said green shoots are visible and the economy, which has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, will bounce back soon.

The pandemic has impacted economic activities severely as the country had to go through a nationwide lockdown to check the spread of coronavirus. The government had to announce a slew of measures, including fiscal package, to boost the economy. "I am a great believer that India will bounce back. We are already seeing green shoots in the economy. We are seeing that key sectors like FMCG (fast-moving con-



sumer goods) have already come back. "I am hopeful that we will bounce back and bounce back with a vengeance," he

said while speaking at 'FICCI FRAMES 2020'.

The slowdown in economic activities led to a decline in the government's revenue collection. However, with the gradually unlocking, economic activities are reviving. The GST revenue collection in June rose to Rs 90,917 crore from Rs 62,009 crore mopped up in May and Rs 32,294 crore in April.

Kant further said the pandemic is a massive challenge not merely for India but for the whole world, including the US and European countries.

"Every crisis is also an opportunity.

Therefore, this crisis is also going to have huge losers and winners. India can decide whether it wants to lose or whether it wants to win," he said.

Kant stressed that India must pick up 12-13 areas of growth that are going to emerge as winners for tomorrow and listed out areas like data, artificial intelligence, geonomics, mobility, and creative industry.

"We must identify 12-13 sectors where India must become a global champion and really drive vigorously with full energy," he said adding that those sectors will take India to sustain high growth over the next 10-12 years and create a vast number of jobs.

Spend 50% capex by Sep to help economy out of Covid, PSUs told

AGENCIES/ Mumbai

With a view to pump up expenditure and improve investment climate in the country hit by Covid-19 pandemic, the government has asked public sector undertakings to become vehicles of growth and complete 50 per cent of their capital expenditure for FY21 before the end of September quarter.

This came out from the review meeting held by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with Secretaries of Ministries of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Power, Coal, Mines and Department of Atomic Energy and the CMDs of 23 CPSEs belonging to these Ministries.

During the meeting, Sitharaman asked the Secretaries to closely monitor the performance of the CPSEs in order to ensure capital expenditure to the tune of 50 per cent of capital outlay by Q2 2020-21. She said that to achieve this, planning should be done in advance and all unresolved issues should be brought before the ministry for



an immediate solution.

Sitharaman said that the CPSEs have a very important role in giving a push to the growth of the Indian economy and help it recover from the impact of Covid-19. For this, she said, it is important that the PSUs achieve targets and ensure that the capital outlay for 2020-21 is spent properly and within time.

The concern this year is that sluggish economic activities on account of Covid-19 and sagging demand conditions may also push the PSUs to step back on their investments.

In FY 2019-20, against the capex tar-

get of Rs 1,64,822 crore for the 23 CPSEs, the achievement was Rs 1,66,029 crore i.e. 101 per cent. In Q1 (FY 2019-20) achievement was Rs 26,320 crore (16 per cent) but achievement of Q1 (FY 2020-21) has already slowed down to Rs 20,202 crore (12 per cent). Capex target for 2020-21 is Rs 1,65,510 crore.

This review meeting on Tuesday was held as part of the series of meetings that the Finance Minister is having with various stakeholders to accelerate economic growth.

The Ministries/CPSEs discussed constraints being faced by them due to Covid-19 like problems of availability of manpower, delay in imports, delay in payments by discoms on the dues of the CPSEs like NPCIL and NLC.

The Finance Minister stated that extraordinary situations require extraordinary efforts and with collective efforts, they will not only perform better but also help the Indian economy to achieve better results.

80K ICICI Bank staff to get 8% pay hike for work done during Covid-19



MUMBAI: The country's second largest private sector lender ICICI Bank has decided to reward over 80,000 of its front-line employees with a salary hike of up to 8%, sources said. These employees form over 80% of its overall workforce and the decision has been taken in recognition of the services rendered during the COVID-19 pandemic, the sources said.

The hike of up to 8% is for the fiscal year 2020-21 and applicable from July onwards, the sources said.

The sources said these employees are from MI and grades below, who are frontline staff mostly in customer-facing roles. They ensure the functioning of branches and other operations of the bank.

It can be noted that the development comes at a time when a slew of organisations have been forced to stall salary hikes or even cut salaries as they seek to get some control over costs.

ED files money laundering case against GVK group, MIAL

NEW DELHI: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has filed a money laundering case against the GVK group, the Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) and others to probe alleged irregularities to the tune of Rs 705 crore in the operations of the Mumbai airport, officials said.

The central probe agency has filed the enforcement case information report (equivalent of a police FIR) under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act after studying a recent CBI FIR filed against the same entities.

The ED will probe if funds were laundered to amass personal assets and if proceeds of crime were generated by the accused, they said.

"We have not received any notice from the Enforcement Directorate," an spokesperson for GVK said.



The CBI case pertains to the alleged siphoning off Rs 705 crore from the funds of MIAL, a joint venture under public-private partnership (PPP) between the GVK Airport Holdings Limited and the Airports Authority of India (AAI) besides other investors, by showing inflated expenditure, under-reporting of revenues, fudging of records among others.

The ED, according to officials, is expected to summon company officials to record their statements and

it may also attach their assets under the PMLA after some stages of investigation are completed.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has booked Gunupati, a director in MIAL, his son GV Sanjay Reddy, managing director in MIAL, the companies MIAL, GVK Airport Holdings Limited (a GVK group company) and nine other private companies allegedly used to camouflage the inflated figures through sham deals and unidentified AAI officials.

The AAI entered into an agreement with MIAL on April 4, 2006 for the modernisation, upkeep, operation and maintenance of the MIAL.

It is alleged that the promoters of the GVK group in MIAL, in connivance with their executives and unidentified AAI officials, resorted to

siphoning off funds in multiple ways, the CBI had said early this month. The CBI had also carried out raids in Mumbai and Hyderabad after filing its FIR early this month. The CBI has alleged that the accused siphoned off funds showing execution of bogus work contracts to nine companies in 2017-18, causing a loss of Rs 310 crore.

The promoters of the GVK group allegedly misused the reserve funds of MIAL to the tune of Rs 395 crore to finance their group companies, the CBI alleged.

The agency has also alleged that the group inflated the expenditure figures of MIAL by showing payments to employees at their headquarters and group companies, who were not involved in the running of MIAL, causing a revenue loss to AAI.

'Tata Chem recovery from virus is on track'

NEW DELHI: Even as Tata Chemicals Ltd (TCL) was impacted by the coronavirus-induced lockdown, the company took steps to ensure that the recovery is on track including manufacturing of salt and soda ash, the company said at its 81st annual general meeting.

"Tata Chemicals has a global presence with manufacturing operations in four continents. In India, it was impacted by the nationwide lockdown to curb COVID-19 pandemic, but it took steps to ensure that the recovery is on track," Bhaskar Bhat, non-executive director and



chairman of TCL.

He was addressing shareholders at the Tata Chemicals' 81st annual general meeting (AGM), which was conducted via video conference.

This was TCL's first AGM after the merger of the consumer business of the company with Tata Global Beverages.

See no economic logic now for diesel cars: Maruti Suzuki

NEW DELHI: With parity between the prices of petrol and diesel, there is no economic logic for buying diesel cars as with the same running cost, the acquisition cost differential is very high.

Shashank Srivastava, Executive Director (Marketing & Sales), Maruti Suzuki India said under BS VI, the differential between diesel and petrol cars is to the tune of Rs 1.25 to Rs 2 lakh. Srivastava said that at the same running cost, with petrol and diesel at the same price, or even diesel higher in some states, there is no economic logic for buying diesel cars.

He said till 7-8 years back, diesel was cheaper by Rs 32 compared to petrol and diesel cars were 60% of total sales. Thereafter, the govern-



Diesel extends gain over petrol in Delhi

NEW DELHI: Diesel has extended its gain over petrol in Delhi as oil marketing companies raised its price in the city by 25 paise a litre after keeping auto fuel prices hanged for the last seven days.

With the increase, diesel is priced at Rs 80.78 a litre in the NCR, up from Rs 80.53 a litre on Monday

ment allowed free float of fuel prices and last year the differential fell to Rs 7 and diesel car share fell to 28%.

Srivastava said in the last quarter, it was only 17%, the share has been falling due to the convergence between the petrol and diesel prices. In the smaller car segment, it was only 5%.

Currently, there is almost parity in diesel and petrol prices and in some states, diesel is even higher. Srivastava said there is no economic logic now for diesel cars to be bought.

In BS VI vehicles, the differential is Rs 1.25-2 lakh, meaning that diesel cars are more expensive.

Srivastava said that with a similar running cost why would consumers want to pay extra.

'Biggest bane for media ind? Dependence on ads'

NEW DELHI: Dependence on advertising is the "biggest bane" for the media and entertainment sector, and there is a need for change by making the consumers pay for content, industry veteran Uday Shankar said.

Shankar, who chairs The Walt Disney Company in Asia Pacific, said the media industry's short sightedness is to be blamed for the disproportionate dependence on advertising continuing over the years.

"Biggest bane of this industry, especially for print, TV and now even for digital, has been its disproportionate dependence on advertising," Shankar said in his address to the annual FICCI Frames conference here.

He said the industry has grown to over \$20 billion and advertising alone contributed over USD 10 billion in revenues as of now.

Globally, the media industry has grown on the back of establishing a clear relationship with the consumers, he said. "All of us are guilty of this, we decided to be shortsighted, we decided to subsidise our products and we decided to create hurdles



for small challengers," he said.

He added, "if the industry has to grow to the next level, I think the one thing that must be fixed is our ability and our desire to get people to pay for what they consume.

That's fair and that's the only way this industry can grow," he added. Shankar said he has been associated with the industry lobby and reflected that a lot has changed over the past few years.

Shankar said the Indian ambitions on content are very small, and it is time the industry expands to having global ambitions and does not concentrate only on the ratings or circulation.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tata Power subsidiary completes sale of 3 ships for USD 212.76 million

NEW DELHI: Tata Power on Tuesday said its Singapore-based subsidiary Trust Energy Resources completed the transaction for the sale of its three ships for USD 212.76 million (around Rs 1,592 crore). TERPL will now cater to the shipping requirements of the company's imported coal-based Coastal Gujarat Power Ltd (CGPL) plant at Mundra under an asset light model which will help unlock significant value and returns for the company's shareholders, the company added.

CEOs of top American tech firms to be questioned over antitrust hearing

WASHINGTON: The CEOs of four of the biggest US tech giants, including Google's Sundar Pichai, will appear virtually for questioning in front of the House Judiciary Committee on July 27 as part of an antitrust hearing to investigate competition in the online marketplace. Apple's Tim Cook, Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, Google's Pichai and Amazon's Jeff Bezos will testify before the antitrust panel that is working on proposals to reform and regulate the digital market, the Washingtonexaminer.com reported on Monday.

Suzlon loss widens to Rs 834.22 cr in March quarter

NEW DELHI: Wind turbine maker Suzlon Energy has posted a consolidated net loss of Rs 834.22 crore for the March quarter mainly due to lower revenues and high finance cost. The consolidated net loss of the company was Rs 294.64 crore in the quarter ended on March 31, 2019, a regulatory filing said. Total income from operations of the company declined to Rs 658.89 crore in the quarter under review from Rs 1,450.47 crore in the year-ago quarter.

India ranks 34th in JLL's real estate transparency index

MUMBAI: India is ranked 34th in JLL's Global Real Estate Transparency Index (GRET), marking an improvement due to more regulatory reforms and other initiatives. In the previous index launched in 2018 India was in the 35th position.

Zolostays raises USD 56 mn in funding round led by Investcorp, others

MUMBAI: Bengaluru based co-living space provider Zolostays on Tuesday said it has raised USD 56 million (around Rs 420 crore) in a series C funding round led by Investcorp and other existing and new investors. Besides Investcorp, Nexus Ventures Partners, Mirae Assets and Trifecta Capital, among others, participated in the funding round, taking the total capital raised by the company to USD 90 million, Zolostays said.

PiggyRide raises Rs 14 cr from JAFCO Asia, Artha Ventures

NEW DELHI: PiggyRide, a platform that provides courses and extracurricular interest-based activities for children, on Tuesday said it has raised Rs 14 crore in pre-Series A round from JAFCO Asia, along with new investor Artha Venture Fund.

Kia Motors crosses 50,000 unit sales mark for cars with connected features

NEW DELHI: Kia Motors India on Tuesday said it has crossed the 50,000-mark in sales for connected cars within 10 months of its first product launch in the country. The company has surpassed figure of 50,000 activated connected cars on road which includes Seltos and Carnival models, Kia Motors India said in a statement.

—Agencies

Suzlon Group CEO to talk about wind energy potential

MUMBAI: Unlike solar energy, the wind installations were flat in India in 2019. This was due to many factors like changes in policy, infrastructural unpreparedness among other issues that hit the industry. However, India has the fourth largest wind installed capacity in the world with a total installed capacity of 35.6 GW (as on March 31, 2019). In order to understand these dynamics of wind energy better, Jayarama Prasad Chalasani, Group CEO, Suzlon Group will be speaking at a webinar "The future of wind energy" organised by NMIMS-FPJ in association with Tata Power.

Suzlon Group is a 25-year-old company founded by Tulsi Tanti (CMD of Suzlon Group), which invested in wind energy after understanding which direction the wind is blowing. In India, Suzlon has 100 plus wind farms and an installed capacity of over 12,500 MW.

The group, which achieved a landmark milestone of 10,000 MW of wind energy installation in India in the year 2016, just recently completed its debt restructuring process. Through this process, the company has strengthened its balance sheet to focus on capturing



the tremendous growth potential in the Indian wind energy sector. Reinforcing confidence in the wind energy and Suzlon's business, the promoters, key shareholders and various stakeholders infused Rs 392 crore.

It would be interesting to hear from Chalasani the journey of wind energy and the contribution of the company in this energy on July 8 from 4 to 5 pm.

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'Low interest rate regime critical for banks' survival'



NEW DELHI: Eminent banker and former president of New Development Bank K V Kamath on Tuesday pitched for a low interest regime, saying it is critical for survival of banks at this juncture.

In view of the current economic slowdown induced by the coronavirus outbreak and subsequent lockdowns, Kamath's advice for lenders is considerable as banks are staring at a surge in non-performing assets (NPAs).

"I think the banking sector was having a problem, but I think the banking sector with all the efforts of the government, the capital that was injected and so on was coming out of the problems. It needs a little more hand-holding when it was coming out of the challenges," he said in an interview to CNBC-TV18.

The career banker said that the pick-up in growth is important for improving the health of the banking sector. "...with the steps that have been taken, the growth will happen whether it is in the corporate India, whether it is in rural India or whether it is in retail India, I think we need to maintain momentum of growth," he said.

Donear Group invests around Rs 10 cr to grow its antiviral fabric business

JESCILIA KARAYAMPARAMBIL
Mumbai



COVID-19 has brought in a new set of challenges and opportunities. But it is time to look beyond challenges and tap in the opportunities that are available. This is exactly what a company like Donear Group is doing by planning to go big in the antiviral fabric, which is claimed to be 99.997 per cent effective against COVID-19 virus.

Like other Indian textile players, Donear Group has entered the space. But the group which runs three brands - GBT, OCM, Donear - enjoys the benefit of the first mover. Rajendra Agarwal, managing director of Donear Group, said, "We have invested Rs 100

million (Rs 10 crore) for this fabric. This investment has gone in chemicals, machine modification and marketing activities among other areas." Donear Group's NEO TECH in partnership with HEIQ Viroblock has come up with an intelligent textile technology - HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03. It is the first textile technology in the world to be proven and certified effective against

SARS-CoV-2. As per the tests conducted in an Australian-based laboratory, the treated fabric achieved 99.99 per cent reduction of the virus. The R&D wing of the group is NEO TECH, Center of Excellence which partnered with Swiss firm for this technology.

At present, the production capacity of the fabric is around 3 lakh meters a month. "We have been able to dispatch 200,000 metres," Agarwal added. The company started production in the month of June and is expecting orders to pour in continuously for the next two months. "There are more orders in the pipeline. So, for the next two months, the dispatches will be good. In the year 2020, we expect 10 per cent business out of

the COVID-19-resistant fabric."

Clothing brand, Zodiac, has received a good response to the first batch of antiviral fabric-based clothing lines. Agarwal revealed Zodiac is planning to place another set of orders (for the fabric) with Donear.

On this backdrop, the company is mulling on growing in the medical (technical) textile business in a big way. Agarwal stated, "We are planning to go for technical textile in healthcare in a bigger way. We have decided to venture into polyester filament yarn (this will not be regular but speciality yarn) in a larger way as well." The company is mainly looking at exporting this textile to the United States.



MSMEs employ 16 crore people. This is excluding the additional 10 crore people that are employed unofficially, stated **CHANDRAKANT SALUNKHE**, founder and president of SME Chamber of India in an interview to FPJ's **Jescilia Karayamparambil**. So, to revive a sector, which creates millions of jobs, the state and the central governments will have to devise a strategy that will help the sector to recover, he added. Besides given is edited excerpts:

'Waiting for Maharashtra government's economic package for MSMEs'

How is COVID-19 challenges different or similar from pre-COVID-19 challenges?

Pre-COVID-19, there were plenty of issues already, particularly in raising funds, limited access to skilled manpower and other infrastructure issues. In addition, the economic downturn hit the medium, small and micro enterprises (MSMEs). This was followed by many clients cancelling export orders since September last year. Other than this, the taxation issue was also there.

Already SMEs were burdened with pre-COVID-19 issues when COVID-19 struck. The biggest issue was migrant labours leaving the city. This reverse migration took place because there was no support for their survival.

Due to COVID-19, the supply chain management was completely disturbed, manufacturing came to a standstill, transportation was an issue (at least in the first month of lockdown) and there was no access to skilled manpower. Even minimal machinery work was not possible, due to the lockdown.

It was only after the lockdown was lifted partially, companies were able to operate. In Maharashtra alone, there are around 19.5 lakh companies, of which nine lakh are service-oriented companies and around 10 lakh are manufacturing industries.

So, the government is claiming that 75,000 companies have started and I do not think that is a big achievement for the government. The government's effort can only be appreciated if they were able to reopen a few lakh companies.

The Maharashtra government has not even announced a package for MSMEs in the state. In the case of the central government, it has announced Rs 3 lakh crore economic package particularly for those MSMEs that are enjoying facilities from banks already. Many MSMEs have approached the bank for working capital needs but no avail and other MSMEs are stuck in paperwork formalities.

The factories are allowed to function but there is no transport for workers to travel. Such issues crop up and there are no solutions to them yet.

What are the challenges faced by MSMEs in raising capitals?

In the last financial year 2019-2020 (since September), the growth in manufacturing activity and exports has been upside down. So, if a company with Rs 100 crore turnover, and annual growth of 20-30 per cent, was not able to achieve its target due to the economic slowdown in the last two quarters of FY 2019-2020, then the banks are not giving the companies the funds that they essentially require.

In addition, these companies have lost business in the first quarter of FY 2020-2021. So, it will be further difficult

to raise working capital requirements from banks and other financial institutions.

Other issues that were raised are related to state government. The Maharashtra government had announced on May 1 that there will be an economic package for the industry that are facing challenges and for rural areas. But nothing has happened there.

How do you see banning import and export of Chinese products and services hit Indian MSMEs?

MSMEs import large electrical equipment, chemicals, machinery etc from China. We are not capable of fighting with Chinese manufacturers. We depend heavily on China for most of the products that we import from China, as against our exports. Our imports are double the exports. Our industry is not an innovative industry (about 75 per cent of MSMEs).

The sector only produces products and sells them in the market. MSMEs do not set aside money for research and development. This issue is not limited to MSMEs alone. Despite having funds, large companies do not support research and development units. In China, MSMEs' productivity is huge which is driven by innovation; also supported by a highly-productive labour force.

What policy level changes are you expecting from the government authorities?

The government should empower Indian SMEs by providing a level playing field. Funding should be made available easily and at low cost.

There is a need to put more efforts into the export promotion by finding new markets or new supply opportunities. At this time of the pandemic, we should see this as an opportunity.

Another policy level change should be to encourage industrialisation that should take place in rural India, rather than limiting these activities to metros.

There is a need to encourage entrepreneurship in the manufacturing sector. The government should encourage job creation and get labour forces back.

The government should also look at extending ease of doing business not just to foreign players but to India counterparts as well. The government should not provide red carpet treatment to foreign companies and offer red-tapism to Indian companies.

Would increasing the working hours of labour and annulling labour laws help MSMEs?

People working on the shop floors can hardly work for 10-12 hours. By increasing the working hours, the productivity of the workforce will come down. So instead of quantity, quality work should be the focus. If you make people work for long hours, the health of the people will deteriorate. So, encouraging long working hours is not a feasible option.

Would that mean MSMEs will forgo their employees and focus more on automation?

This is not possible for SMEs as they lack funds to invest in capital-intensive goods, advance machinery and technology among others. To achieve digitisation and automation, the banks will have to come forward to support MSMEs by offering loans at the rate of six per cent.

The Maharashtra government announced the new website to promote local talents. How will it help MSMEs?

The website was to help employers and employees find their match, but it will take some time before it becomes smooth. This website will not just help industries in Mumbai but in other parts of Maharashtra.

While this project is mainly for bhumiputra (sons of the soil), it has to be noted that these are not the types of jobs that the sons of the soil are looking for. So, we will end up depending on migrant labourers. In the past, there were few programmes that were run to encourage participation from sons of the soil but there is no clarity how much has that helped the state government.

CHANGE OF NAME

NOTE

Collect the full copy of Newspaper for the submission in passport office.

I, MALKU MOHD EJAJ MOHD BASHIR HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO EZAZ BASHIR QURESHI AS PER AADHAR CARD. CL-184

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM ADEDAABDUL JABBR SHEIKH TO ADEBA ABDUL JABBAR SHAIKH AS PER AADHAR CARD NUMBER 7413 1426 2877 CL-303

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM HAIDER ALI JAFFAR ALI SHAIKH TO HAIDER ALI JAFFER ALI SHAIKH AS PER AFFIDAVIT CL-465

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SHABBIIR MULLA YUSUFALI PALITANAWALA TO SHABBIIR YUSUFALI PALITANAWALA AS PER DOCUMENTS CL-465 A

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM PUKAR YADAVA TO RAMPUKAR YADAV AS PER AADHAR CARD NO: 8197 9110 5657. CL-580

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM FRANCIS MARSHAL GONSALVES TO FRANK MARSHAL GONSALVES AS PER AFFIDAVIT. CL-809

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM GEORGE CANDICE VALENI LIFRA EDNA TO CANDICE VALENI GEORGE AS PER DOCUMENTS. CL-809 A

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM DATTATRAY YASHWANT MALAKAR TO DATTU YASHWANT MALKAR AS PER AFFIDAVIT. CL-809 B

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM KHALIFA SALMAREN GULAMNABI TO SALMA SUBHANI TAILOR AS PER DOCUMENTS. CL-809 C

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM HUSSEN FARIDALI VASHAYA TO HUSSAIN FARIDALI VASAYA AS PER DOCUMENTS. CL-809 D

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM MOHD SIDDIQUE SALMAAN/MOHD SIDDIQUE SALMAN SHETHWALA TO MOHAMMED SIDDIQUE MOHAMMED SALMAN SHETHWALA AS PER DOCUMENT. CL-901

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SALMAAN MOHD KASAM SETHWALA/SALMAN SHETHWALA TO MOHAMMED SALMAN MOHAMMED KASAM SHETHWALA AS PER DOCUMENT. CL-901 A

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM MISBAH SALMAAN SHETHWALA/MISBAH SALMAN SHETHWALA TO MISBAH MOHAMMED SALMAN SHETHWALA AS PER DOCUMENT. CL-901 B

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM HUSSAIN RIZVI TO SAYYED NIYAZ RIZVI AS PER DOCUMENT. CL-901 C

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM YASMIN ABDUL HAMEED TO YASMIN KHAN VIDE DOCUMENTS. CL-901 D

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM AQEELA ABDUL HAMEED TO AQEELA KHAN VIDE DOCUMENTS. CL-901 E

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE NOTICE is hereby given that my client has agreed to purchase/acquire from (i) Jitender Surrender Thapar, residing at 5/A/10, Tolaram Nagar Cooperative Housing Society Ltd., Chembur Colony, Mumbai- 400 074, (ii) Vinay Surrender Thapar and (iii) Poonam Vinay Thapar, both residing at 5/A/3, Tolaram Nagar Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., Chembur Colony, Mumbai-400 074, Five (5) fully paid-up shares of the face value of Rs.50/- (Rupees Fifty only) each, bearing Distinctive Nos.86 to 90 (both inclusive) issued under Share Certificate No. 19, by Shivnam Co-operative Housing Society Ltd. and ownership right, title and interest in Shop No.4, admeasuring about 257 square feet of carpet area, on Ground Floor of the building known as "Shivnam, D-Wing" of Shivnam Co-operative Housing Society Ltd. situated at Mahtaney Park Complex, Mahul - Ghatkopar Road, now known as R. C. Marg, Aziz Baug, Chembur, Mumbai - 400 074 and more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder written.

All or any person/persons having or claiming any right, title, benefit and/or interest whatsoever in respect of the above Shares and the Shop, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, charge, gift, lease, trust, possession, inheritance, lien, easement, bequest or otherwise howsoever, is/are hereby requested to make the same known in writing along with notarized true copies of all the documents in support of the claim, to and at the office of the undersigned, within a period of 15 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which all such claims, right, title and interest if any, shall be considered waived and/or abandoned with notice.

SCHEDULE

Shop No.4, admeasuring about 257 sq. ft. (carpet area) on the Ground Floor of the Building "Shivnam, D-Wing", situated at Mahtaney Park Complex, Mahul -Ghatkopar Road, now known as R. C. Marg, Aziz Baug, Chembur, Mumbai -400 074, lying and being on plot of land bearing CTS Nos.130 and 131, Survey No.24, Hissa Nos.I & 3 of Marvli Village, Taluka Kurla, in the Registration District and Sub-District of Mumbai Suburban and 5 (five) fully paid up shares of Rs.50/- each bearing Distinctive Nos.86 to 90 (both inclusive) under Share Certificate No. 19 dated 22nd August, 2007 issued by Shivnam Co-operative Housing Society Ltd.

Sd/-
Jayesh R. Vyas,
Advocate, High Court, Bombay
106, Vikas Building,
11, Bank Street,
Fort, Mumbai - 400 001
Mobile: 9820969225
Place: Mumbai
Date: 08.07.2020

DELTA CORP LIMITED
Regd. Off:- 10, Kumar Place, 2408, General Thimayaya Road, Pune - 411 001 • CIN No. L65493PN1990PLC058817 • Tel No. 91-22-40794700 • Fax No. 91-22-40794777 • Email ID: secretarial@deltin.com • Website: www.deltacorp.in

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, (Listing Obligations) that pursuant to Regulation 33 of the Listing Regulations, a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on **Tuesday, 14th day of July, 2020** inter alia, to consider, approve and take on record Un-audited Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results of the Company for the quarter ended **30th June, 2020**.

Further, Pursuant to our letter dated **30th day of June, 2020** to Stock Exchanges and in compliance with the Code of Conduct of the Company under SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015, the trading window for dealing in the securities of the Company, shall remain closed for all the Directors and other persons covered under the Code, till 48 hours after communication of aforesaid Un-audited Financial Results to the Stock Exchanges.

The information contained in this Notice is also available on the website of the Company i.e. www.deltacorp.in and also on the website of the Stock Exchanges, where shares of the Company are listed i.e. www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com.

For Delta Corp Limited
Sd/-
Dilip Vaidya
Company Secretary & GM - Secretarial
FCS No. 7750

IIITL GROUP
INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED
CIN: L65990MH1933PLC001998
Regd. Office: Rajababdur Mansion, 2nd Flr., 28, B.S. Marg, Mumbai-1
Tel: (+91) 22-43250100, Fax: (+91) 22-22651105
Email: iiitl@iiitgroup.com, Website: www.iiitgroup.com

Notice to Shareholders
For Transfer of Equity Shares of the Company to Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) Account (As per Section 124(6) of the Companies Act, 2013)

In terms of requirements of Section 124(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 ("Act") read with Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 ("the Rules"), the Company is required to transfer the shares, in respect of which the dividend remains unpaid or unclaimed for a period of 7 (seven) consecutive years or more to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) Account established by the Central Government.

The Company has sent individual communication to the concerned shareholders who have not encashed the final dividend for the financial year 2012-2013 and all subsequent dividends declared and paid by the Company, which are liable to be transferred to IEPF Account as per the said Rules.

A list of such shareholders along with their folio number or DP ID-Client ID, who have not encashed their dividends for the last seven consecutive years and whose shares are therefore liable for transfer to the IEPF demat account, is displayed on the website of the Company at <http://www.iiitgroup.com/newStatic/InvestorRelations.aspx>

Shareholders are requested to forward the requisite documents as mentioned in said communication to the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent on or before October 05, 2020, to claim the shares and unclaimed dividend amount(s). Notice is hereby given that in the absence of receipt of a valid claim by the shareholder, the Company would be transferring the said shares to IEPF Account without further notice in accordance with the requirement of said Rules.

Please note that no claim shall lie against the Company in respect of unclaimed dividend amounts and shares transferred to IEPF pursuant to the IEPF Rules. The concerned shareholders may note that, upon such transfer, they can thereafter claim their said shares alongwith dividend(s) from IEPF by making an application online to the IEPF Authority in form IEPF - 5, for which details are available at www.iepf.gov.in. Please note that all subsequent corporate benefits accruing on such shareholding shall also be credited in favour of the IEPF demat account.

For further information, concerned shareholders may contact the Company at iiit@iiitgroup.com or Link Intime India Private Limited, (Registrar and Share Transfer Agent) Unit: Industrial Investment Trust Limited at C - 101, 247 Park, LBS Marg, Vikhroli West, Mumbai - 400 083, Tel: 022-49186000 / 49186270 quoting the reference folio no. / demat account no.

For Industrial Investment Trust Limited
Sd/-
Cumli Banerjee
CEO & Company Secretary

ESSEL PROPACK LIMITED
Regd. Office: P.O. Vastind, Taluka Shahapur, Thane 421604, Maharashtra,
Tel: +91-9673333971/9882 CIN: L74950MH1982PLC028947
Corporate Office: Top Floor, Times Tower, Kamala City, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai 400013. Tel: +91 22 4481 9000/9200. Fax: +91 22 44963137
complianceofficer@epglglobal.com, www.esselpropack.com

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that the 37th Annual General Meeting (AGM or meeting) of the members of Essel Propack Limited (the Company) will be held on Thursday, 06 August 2020, at 11:30 a.m. via electronic means / video conferencing (VC). Annual Report for the financial year 2019-20 and the Notice convening the AGM containing the ordinary and special businesses together with the statement pursuant to section 102 of the Companies Act, 2013 (the Act) will be sent by Email on or around 08 July 2020, to those Shareholders whose email Ids are registered with the Company / Depository Participants (DP). Aforesaid documents are also available on the Company's website www.esselpropack.com. Person whose name is recorded in the register of members or in the register of beneficial owners maintained by the depositories as on 31 July 2020 (cut-off date) shall be entitled for remote e-voting or e-voting during the meeting. Any members holding shares in physical / electronic mode and have not registered their email Id with the Company / DP may send their request to the company for obtaining an e-copy of the AGM Notice along with Annual Report on complianceofficer@epglglobal.com quoting their name and folio number. Members who wish to register their email ID may refer notes to AGM notice for detailed instructions. Members who do not vote by remote e-voting can vote at the meeting, facility to vote at the meeting through e-voting will be made available.

Notice is also hereby given that pursuant to applicable regulations of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/70 dated 12 May 2020, and provisions of Ministry of Corporate Affairs General Circular No. 14/2020, 17/2020 and 20/2020 dated 08 April 2020, 13 April 2020 and 05 May 2020 respectively, the Record Date shall be 31 July 2020 for the purpose of determining the entitlement of shareholders to the dividend, to be declared at the AGM. Dividend, if approved at the AGM will be credited to the bank account of all those members who have registered their Bank details with their DP / Company. Members who wish to register their bank account details may refer notes to AGM notice for detailed instructions.

The Company is pleased to provide remote e-voting facility (e-voting) to its members enabling them to cast their vote electronically for all the resolutions as set out in the AGM Notice. Details of instructions for e-voting are given in AGM Notice, which will be sent through prescribed mode. The AGM notice is also available on Company's website www.esselpropack.com, Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE"), The National Stock Exchange of India ("NSE") and on NSDL's website <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com>. The e-voting period shall commence on 03 August 2020 (9:00 a.m.) and ends on 05 August 2020 (5:00 p.m.). During this period, shareholders of the Company, holding equity shares as on the cut-off date, may cast their vote electronically. E-voting shall not be allowed beyond the said date and time. Person, who has acquired shares of the Company after sending of the Notice/ Annual Report and hold such shares on cut-off date, may send a requisition to Company Secretary at corporate office for obtaining login ID and password for e-voting or voting at the AGM and may send a requisition for e-copy of the Annual Report and Notice convening the AGM. Member may participate in the AGM even after exercising his right to vote through e-voting but shall not be entitled to vote again at the meeting. The Company shall provide e-voting facility to enable members to cast their vote during the meeting.

For detailed instructions pertaining to e-voting and Technical Assistance for attending AGM, members may please refer the notes given in the AGM Notice. For any guidance or grievances about e-voting, members may refer the Frequently Ask Questions (FAQ) and e-voting manual for members at the Downloads Section of <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com> or call on toll free no. 1800222990 or contact Mr. Suresh Savaliya, Company Secretary at Corporate office on 022 24819000/9200 or complianceofficer@epglglobal.com

Place: Mumbai FOR ESSEL PROPACK LIMITED
Date : 07 July 2020 Sd/-
Suresh Savaliya
Head-Legal & Company Secretary

APPENDIX - 16

[Under Bye-law No. 35]

The Form of Notice, inviting claims or objections to the transfer of the shares and the interest of the Deceased Member in the Capital / Property of the society. MR. MAHESH F. TEJWANI Member of Jay Bharat C. H. S. Ltd., having address at 3rd and 5th Road, Khar (West), Mumbai - 400 052 and holding Plot No. 11-E, expired on 0 9 / 0 8 / 2 0 1 9 . The Society hereby invites claims or objections from the heir or heirs or other claimants / objector or objectors to the transfer of the said Shares and interest of the Deceased Member in the Capital / Property of the Society within a period of 15 (Fifteen) days from the publication of this Notice, with copies of such documents and other proofs in support of his / her / their claims / objections for transfer of Shares and Interest of the Deceased Member in the Capital / Property of the Society in such manner as is provided under the Bye-laws of the Society. The claims / objections, if any, received by the Society for transfer of Shares and Interest of the Deceased Member in the Capital / Property of the Society shall be dealt with in the manner provided under the Bye-laws of the Society. A copy of the Registered Bye-laws of the Society is available for inspection by the claimants/objectors, in the office of the Society/ with the Secretary of the Society between 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. from the date of publication of the notice till the date of expiry of this period.

Place: Mumbai

Date: 08/07/2020

For JAY BHARAT C.H.S. Ltd.,
Sd/-
(Hon. Secretary)

ELANTAS Beck India Ltd.
(CIN: L24222PN1956PLC134746)
Regd. Office: 147, Mumbai-Pune Road, Pimpri, Pune 411018.
Tel.: 020-67190606 | Email: Abhijit.Tikekar@attana.com
Website: <https://www.elantas.com/beck-india>

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to regulation 29 read with regulation 47 and other applicable Regulations of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Tuesday, 28th July 2020, Inter-alia, to consider and approve the unaudited Financial Results of the Company for the second quarter and half year ended 30 June 2020.

This intimation is also available on the website of the Company at www.elantas.com and on the website of the stock exchange at www.bseindia.com, where the shares of the Company are listed.

For ELANTAS Beck India Limited
Sd/-
Abhijit Tikekar
Head Legal & Company Secretary
(M. No. 20213)

TRENT LIMITED
Corporate Identity No.: L24240MH1952PLC008951;
Registered Office: Bombay House, 24, Horni Mody Street, Mumbai 400 001;
Corporate Office: Trent House, G Block, Plot No. C-60, Besides Citi Bank, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra East, Mumbai 400 051; Tel: (91-22) 6700 8090;
E-mail: investor.relations@trent-lata.com; Website: www.westside.com.

NOTICE

This is to inform that in the view of the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the 68th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Trent Limited (the Company) will be convened through Video Conferencing (VC)/Other Audio-Visual Means (OAVM) in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 (Act) and the rules made thereunder, read with General Circulars dated 8th April 2020, 13th April 2020 and 5th May 2020 issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA Circulars) and Circular dated 12th May 2020 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI Circular).

The 68th AGM of the Members of the Company will be held at 3.00 p.m. (IST) on Thursday, 6th August 2020 through VC/OAVM facility provided by the National Securities Depositories Limited (NSDL) to transact the businesses as set out in the Notice convening the AGM. The e-copy of 68th Annual Report of the Company for the Financial Year 2019-20 along with the Notice of the AGM will be available on the website of the Company at www.westside.com, on the website of NSDL at www.evoting.nsdl.com and on the websites of the stock exchanges at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com. Members can attend and participate in the AGM through the VC/OAVM facility ONLY, the details of which will be provided by the Company in the Notice of the AGM. Accordingly, please note that no provision has been made to attend and participate in the 68th AGM of the Company in person to ensure compliance with the directives issued by the government authorities with respect to Covid-19. Members attending the AGM through VC/OAVM shall be counted for the purpose of reckoning the quorum under Section 103 of the Act.

The Notice of the AGM along with the Annual Report 2019-20 will be sent electronically to those Members whose e-mail addresses are registered with the Company/Registrar & Transfer Agents (Registrar)/Depository Participants (DPs). As per the MCA Circulars and the SEBI Circular, no physical copies of the Notice of AGM and Annual Report will be sent to any Member. Members who have not yet registered their e-mail addresses are requested to follow the process mentioned below, before 5:00 p.m. (IST) on Thursday, 30th July 2020, for registering their e-mail addresses to receive the Notice of the AGM and Annual Report electronically and to receive login ID and password for e-voting: **Process to be followed for registration of e-mail address is as follows:**

a) Visit the link <https://green.ltsrdarashaw.com/green/events/login/fk>
b) Select the company name viz. Trent Limited
c) Enter the DP ID & Client ID/Physical Folio Number and PAN details. In the event the PAN details are not available on record for Physical Folio, Member to enter one of the share certificates numbers
d) If PAN details are not available in the system, the system will prompt the Member to upload a self-attested copy of the PAN card for updation and authentication
e) Enter your e-mail address and mobile number
f) The system will then confirm the e-mail address for receiving this AGM Notice

After successful submission of the e-mail address, NSDL will e-mail a copy of the AGM Notice and Annual Report for FY 2019-20 along with the e-voting User ID and Password. In case of any queries, Members may write to csq-unity@tsrdrashaw.com or evoting@nsdl.co.in.

The Company is pleased to provide remote e-voting facility (remote e-voting) of NSDL to all its Members to cast their votes on all resolutions set out in the Notice of the AGM. Additionally, the Company shall also provide the facility of voting through remote e-voting system during the AGM. Detailed procedure for remote e-voting before the AGM/remote e-voting during the AGM will be provided in the Notice.

Members holding shares in physical form who have not updated their mandate for receiving the dividends directly in their bank accounts through Electronic Clearing Service or any other means are requested to send a scanned copy of the following details/documents at Csq-KYC@tsrdrashaw.com latest by Saturday, 18th July 2020:

a. a signed request letter mentioning your name, folio number, complete address and following details relating to bank account in which the dividend is to be received
i) Name and Branch of Bank and Bank Account type;
ii) Bank Account Number and type allotted by your bank after implementation of Core Banking Solutions;
iii) 11 digit IFSC Code
b. self-attested scanned copy of cancelled cheque bearing the name of the Member or first holder, in case shares are held jointly;
c. self-attested scanned copy of the PAN Card; and
d. self-attested scanned copy of any document (such as Aadhaar Card, Driving License, Election Identity Card, Passport) in support of the address of the Member as registered with the Company.

Members holding shares in demat form are requested to update their Electronic Bank Mandate with their respective Depository Participants.

In view of the outbreak of Covid-19, in case of non-availability of the bank details of any Member, the Company shall dispatch the dividend warrant/cheque by post to such Member, upon normalisation of postal services and other activities. Pursuant to the Finance Act, 2020, dividend income will be taxable in the hands of the Members w.e.f. 1st April 2020 and the Company is required to deduct tax at source (TDS) from dividend paid to the Members at prescribed rates in the Income Tax Act, 1961 (the IT Act). In general, to enable compliance with TDS requirements, Members are requested to complete and/or update their Residential Status, PAN, Category as per the IT Act with their DPs or in case shares are held in physical form with the Company/Registrar by sending documents through e-mail by Saturday, 18th July 2020. The detailed process of the same is available on the Company's website www.westside.com.

Place : Mumbai For Trent Limited
Date : 07th July 2020 M. M. Surti
Company Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICE
BEFORE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY
Please take notice that MR. SACHIN S. KHEDKAR CHILLE AND MRS. SHWETA A. CHANDRAKANT KHEDKAR ALIAS SHWETA SACHIN CHILLE, both adults, Indian inhabitant of Mumbai, (hereinafter referred to as "my clients") has entered into negotiations with 1. MR. VISHWANATHAN SARAVANAN, 2. MR. PUTHUGURAMAN VISHWANATHAN RAMACHANDRAN, 3. MRS. RAJIV GOPAL K. KRISHNAN, 5. MR. PUDUGURAMAM VISHWANATHAN VIJAYAN, 6. MR. GANESH VISHWANATHAN IYER, AND 7. MR. PUDUGURAMAM VISHWANATHAN HARIHARANPUTHRAN (herein after referred to as the "other party") for the purchase of the Flat No.1, area admeasuring about 520 Sq. ft. Carpet, on Ground floor of building known as "Gauri Giridhar Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., Plot No.49, S.S. III, Pestom Sagar, Chembur, Mumbai-400089, lying and being on plot of land bearing C.T.S. No. 647, Village Chembur, Taluka Kurla, Mumbai Suburban District, (herein after referred to as the "said property"), owned and occupied by the "other party", and more particularly described in the "Schedule of property" written hereunder and the said negotiations have reached the final stage of culmination. In view of the above, my client hereby gives a notice to the public at large and calls upon all or any person/s who have any right, title, interest in the "said property" prejudicial to the interest of the "other party", and who have already filed any suit, claim, dispute, petition, appeal or other legal proceedings or obtained any decree, award or other order concerning the subject matter of the "said property" or who intend to file any such proceedings as described above for enforcement of right in the "said property", to submit all their objections and claims in writing along with supportive documentary proofs thereof, to the undersigned within a period of fifteen days of the date of publication of this notice, failing which "my client" will presume that no adverse claims or objections concerning the "said property" exist or if they do exist, they stand waived hereinafter, and in such event "my client" will proceed to complete the transaction of sale as envisaged by both the parties. So please do note.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

Flat No.1, area admeasuring about 520 Sq. ft. Carpet, on Ground floor of building known as "Gauri Giridhar Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., Plot No.49, S.S. III, Pestom Sagar, Chembur, Mumbai-400089, lying and being on plot of land bearing C.T.S. No. 647, Village Chembur, Taluka Kurla, Mumbai Suburban District, Date: 8th July 2020 Place: Mumbai.

Chandrasekhar Pal (Advocate, High Court) Off Address: 108, Prakash Arcade, Near Ambedkar Garden, Chembur, Mumbai-400071

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE THAT Mr. Ravindar H. Upadhyay and Mrs Laxmi R. Upadhyay presently the owner of property being Flat no 202 admeasuring 560Sq. fts Super Built up area on the 2nd Floor, in the building known As 'C/8' of 'Nilgiri' Gardens Residential Complex" constructed on the land in sector-24 C.B.D. (earlier Nerul) admeasuring about 4050 Sq.mtrs pertaining to Revenue Village - Nerul, Taluka (Now Sector 24, C.B.D.0 and Dist Thane Mr. Ravindar H. Upadhyay and Mrs Laxmi R. Upadhyay had purchased the said property vide Original Agreement for sale dated 08.08.1997 executed between Mr. Anupam Singh and Mr. Ravindar H. Upadhyay and Mrs Laxmi R. Upadhyay. However the link document i.e. Original Agreement for sale dated 06.03.1995 executed between M/s Kailash Nath & Associates "the Builders" therein and Smt. Usha Singh and Mr. Anupam Singl along with Original Registration receipt dated 09.03.1995 under serial no 1089-1995 issued by Sub Registrar, Thane have been irrevocably lost or Misplaced and not traceable till date. Any Person who finds the said Document should intimate undersigned and Any person, Bank, Financial institution, and or any organization who has/have any claim in respect of the said Flat / or in part thereof, by the way of lease, lien, gift, license, in heritage, sale, exchange, easement, Mortgage, charge, or otherwise, howsoever should make the same known to the undersigned in writing at the address mentioned below, specifically, stating therein the exact nature of same claim, if any, together, with documentary evidence within 8 days of the publication of this notice. In case No Objections are received within the aforesaid time it shall be presumed that there is no claimant to aforesaid documents.

ADV. PURNIMA PANDIT,
206, Birya House 265 Perin
Nariman Street,
Fort, Mumbai-400 001

PUBLIC NOTICE
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APPENDIX - 16

[Under Bye-law No. 35]

The Form of Notice, inviting claims or objections to the transfer of the shares and the interest of the Deceased Member in the Capital / Property of the society. MR. MAHESH F. TEJWANI Joint Member of MAHESHWAR GANGA C.H.S. Ltd., having address at Plot M, 21A, Pali Naka, TPS 3, Bandra (West), Mumbai - 400 050 and jointly holding Flat NO. 8, on 2nd floor, of the building of the Society expired on 0 9 / 0 8 / 2 0 1 9 . The Society hereby invites claims or objections from the heir or heirs or other claimants / objector or objectors to the transfer of the said Shares and interest of the Deceased Member in the Capital / Property of the Society within a period of 15 (Fifteen) days from the publication of this Notice, with copies of such documents and other proofs in support of his / her / their claims / objections for transfer of Shares and Interest of the Deceased Member in the Capital / Property of the Society in such manner as is provided under the Bye-laws of the Society. The claims / objections, if any, received by the Society for transfer of Shares and Interest of the Deceased Member in the Capital / Property of the Society shall be dealt with in the manner provided under the Bye-laws of the Society. A copy of the Registered Bye-laws of the Society is available for inspection by the claimants/objectors, in the

CENTRAL RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Kindly refer Advt. e-procurement Tender Notice No. e-18-2020, Dt:11/08/2020. Description: PPE Kits, due for opening 01/07/2020. Please note that the Tender opening date is revised to 20/07/2020 due to revision in Description and eligibility conditions At Sr. No. 2. Details may be seen in website www.ireps.gov.in.

For Principal Chief Material Manager

RPF Security Helpline 182

CENTRAL RAILWAY

SUPPLY OF BREADS AND EGGS IN KALYAN HOSPITAL

Name of Work with Location: E-Tender for Supply of Breads and Eggs in Central Railway Hospital Kalyan. Earnest Money to be Deposited: ₹ 12,000/- (Rupees Twelve Thousand only). Completion Period of Work: 02 (Two) Years. (From 01/08/2020 to 31/07/2022). Last Date and Time of Submission of E-Tender: 27/07/2020 (Time Upto 15.00 hrs.). Date and Time of Opening of Tender: 27/07/2020 (Time 15.30 hrs.). Website Where Complete Details of Tender with its Requirement: www.ireps.gov.in

Tender Notice No.: KYN/H/E/Tender/Breads and Eggs/2020-22 Date:04/07/2020

Railway Helpline 139

CENTRAL RAILWAY

APPOINTMENT OF HALT CONTRACTOR AT RASAYANI HALT STATION IN MUMBAI DIVISION

The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, 1st Floor above Reservation Centre, PRS Building, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai Central Railway, for and on behalf of The President of India invites application in sealed cover from interested applicants in the prescribed form for the appointment of Halt contractor at Rasayani Halt station over Mumbai Division. Contract Period: 5 years. Cost of Application Form: ₹ 500/-. Last Time & Date of Sale and Download of Application Forms: Up to 17.00 hrs. 10/08/2020. Last Time & Date of Submission of Application Forms: 15.00 hrs. 11/08/2020. Time and Date of Opening of Application Forms: 15.30 hrs. 11/08/2020. Application forms can be purchased from the above office. Complete details of application are also available on the website www.cr.indianrailways.gov.in Application form can also be downloaded from above website.

Application No. BB.C.288.G.O.Halstn.

Railway Helpline 139

LOSS OF SALE AGREEMENT

IN TRANSIT ON 25TH JUNE 2020 AT SION BY MR. S.J. ALMEIDA, 1/20 EVERARD NAGAR, EASTERN EXPRESS HIGHWAY, SION, MUMBAI-400022 (M) 9819714241. IF ANY ONE FINDS IT PLEASE CALL ON THE ABOVE MOBILE NUMBER. FINDER WILL BE REWARDED.

WESTERN RAILWAY

CANCELLATION NOTICE

Please refer to this office Tender notice no. (1) BCT/20-21/133 dt. 12/06/2020 which is to be opened on 14/07/2020 may be treated as cancelled.

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EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

STORES DEPARTMENT

Corrigendum Batch No.: 31/20 dated: 06.07.2020

E-Tender Notice for supply of materials: "participation in through" web portal of IREPS- www.ireps.gov.in offers are invited for supply of the following materials: The closing time for all tenders is at 14.00 hr.

SI No. 01. Tender No.: 06191001 **Brief Description:** Battery operated LED based torch light cum flashing hand signal lamp, spec. No. RDSO/SPN/195/2019 Ver 3.0 **Before opening date:** 06.07.2020 **Current Closing on:** 23.07.2020 **Fund:** Fund is available. Receipt No. 0349 dated 23.06.2020 and allocation no. Rev: 43-3667-04. Participants are required to submit their offer only on-line through the web portal of IREPS- www.ireps.gov.in before the closing date and time. Other details regarding Consignee and detailed description of stores are available in tender document in tender notice on the above portal.

Principal Chief Material Manager
PR/402/HQ/STORE/C/20-21/32

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WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION

VARIOUS ELECTRICAL WORKS				
Sr. No.	Tender No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	EMD
01	EL-50-1-ADI-T-19-2020-21	Electrical work in connection with replacement of mechanical	35,29,131/-	70,600/-
operation i.e. liverframe / SM's side by electrical operation at Anjar and Ratnal, widening of road and infrastructural improvement of duty bank to various manned level crossings under Sr. DEN-NW-ADI's Jurisdiction and providing tool room cum rest room for trackman in Ahmedabad division.				
02	EL-50-1-ADI-T-20-2020-21	Repair/renovation work of male ward, female ward and casualty ward at divisional hospital Sabarmati.	10,88,525/-	21,800/-
03	EL-50-1-ADI-T-03-2020-21R	Electrical work in connection with creation of maintenance facilities/M&P for electric locomotives in diesel shed Vatva.	28,20,389/-	56,400/-
Date & Time of submission and opening: Not later than 15:00 Hrs of 30-07-2020 and 30-07-2020 at 15:30 Hrs. Address of the office and Website details: Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, D.R.M. Office (W.R.), Near Chumunda Bridge, Opp. G.C.S. Hospital, Naroda Road, Ahmedabad-382345. Website: www.ireps.gov.in				
Like us on: facebook.com/WesternRly Follow us on: twitter.com/WesternRly				

TENDER NOTICE

Tenders are invited in prescribed form as per e-tendering (CPA website), duly superscribing tender No, due date, opening date and time are invited for following.

Tender No.: MMD/T-HTM1-01/0720 for Regular suppliers (On Two Bid System) for procurement of 11 & 22/0.433 KV, 100 KVA, Three Phase, Oil Immersed without CSP Feature with Energy Efficiency Level-II as per IS 1180/2014 (Star 1) Distribution Transformers as below:

Quantity - 11/0.433 KV, 100 KVA Distribution Transformers - 4264 nos.
22/0.433 KV, 100 KVA Distribution Transformers - 776 nos.

- Estimate Amount:** Rs. 7206 Lakhs
- Cost of tender documents:** Rs. 29,500/- (including GST)
- Due date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission of Tender:** On 23.07.2020 upto 15:00 Hours
- Due date & Time (Hrs.) for Opening of Tender:** On 23.07.2020 at 15:30 Hours
- Date & Time for Pre-Bid Meeting:** On 13.07.2020 at 11:00 Hours
- Contact person/Tender to be submitted to:** The Chief Engineer (MMD), MSEDCL.
1st Floor, "Prakashgad", Bandra (East), Mumbai-51, Maharashtra. For further details please visit our website: <https://cpa1.mahadiscom.in/>

Chief Engineer (MMD)

Samtanagar Branch:- Ground Floor, G Bunglow, Crystal Lane, Thakur Complex, Kandivali East, Mumbai - 400101

POSSESSION NOTICE
[See Rule 8(1)] [For Immovable Property]

Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Central Bank of India, under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 30.12.2019 calling upon the borrowers Mortgagor **Mr. Amar Shivpujan Gaud** (applicant) and **Mr. Shivpujan Ramkumar Gaud**. (Co-applicant) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 51,05,417/- (Rupees Fifty One Lakhs Five Thousand Four Hundred Seventeen only)** due as on 30.12.2019 with further interest thereon, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property owned by **Mr. Amar Shivpujan Gaud** and **Mr. Shivpujan Ramkumar Gaud**, described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said Rules on this **6th day of July, 2020**.

The borrower/guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Central Bank of India** for an amount **Rs. 52,75,853/- (Rupees Fifty Two Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Three only)** as on 02.07.2020 together with interest thereon.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the property at **Flat No B-402, Building No 12 "Spring Leaf, Lokhandwala Township, Akurli Road, Kandivali (E), Mumbai-400101** admeasuring 28.32Sq.mtrs, Carpet area i.e. 33.98Sq.mtrs standing in the name of **Mr. Amar Shivpujan Gaud** (applicant) and **Mr. Shivpujan Ramkumar Gaud**. (Co-applicant). The Borrower's/Mortgagors/Guarantors attention is invited to Provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Date : 6th July, 2020
Place : Samtanagar (Kandivali, East)

Sd/-
(Authorised Officer)
Central Bank of India

WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION

VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS				
Sr. e-Tender No.	Name of work	Approximate NIT Cost (₹)	EMD Cost (₹)	
01	DRM-ADI-123-2020-21	Gandhidham - Providing 02 Nos. escalators at Gandhidham station.	53,87,138.93	1,07,800.00
02	DRM-ADI-124-2020-21	Gandhidham - New Bhuj Section - Complete Track Renwal (P&S)	56,94,845.21	1,13,900.00
loop line no.7 at New Bhuj 0.800 km & loop line no.3 at KEMA 0.700 Km. Total = 1.50 kms. on conditional basis.				
03	DRM-ADI-125-2020-21	Providing additional water way by providing RCC Boxes of various sizes at breaches location between Samakhiali-Gandhidham section.	8,06,82,239.57	5,53,400.00
04	DRM-ADI-126-2020-21	Chharodi :- Earth work for additional loop line No (L-4) & Extension of line	6,94,14,567.51	4,97,100/-
no-1 Dead End to towards Ahmedabad End by 750 M for handling Auto car Traffic & Construction of S&T building and goods shed. Extension of plate form high level rising of platform No 02 at chharodi station and other associated work, cover shed water hut, toilet etc.				
05	DRM-ADI-127-2020-21	Chharodi :- Track work for Provision of additional loop line No (L-4) & Extension of line no-1 Dead End to towards Ahmedabad End by 750 M for handling Auto car Traffic and other associated work.	1,35,36,577.02	2,17,700/-
Closing and Opening date and time of e-tender: 04-08-2020 at 15:00 Hrs. and 04-08-2020 at 15:30 Hrs. Address of the Office: Sr. Divisional Engineering (Co-ordination)-Ahmedabad, DRM Office, Opp. New Swadeshi Mill, Naroda Road, Amdipura, Ahmedabad-382345. Website for participating e-tender: www.ireps.gov.in				
Like us on: facebook.com/WesternRly Follow us on: twitter.com/WesternRly				

WESTERN RAILWAY**VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS**

Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 6th floor, Engg. Deptt. Mumbai-400 008, invites E-Tender as per details given as follows

Sr. No.	Tender Notice No. & Date	Work and location	Approx. cost of work in ₹	EMD ₹
1	BCT/20-21/161 dtd.07.07.2020	Virar Surat section : (i) TFR =28.02 km & TBR=1.684 km (ii) Thick web Switch Renewal & Deep screening of P&C (iii) Rectification of bad layouts and TBR of P&C by use of T-28, JCB Crane etc.(iv) Painting of AT weed collars & rails under ADEN/ Surat in connection of sanctioned track work under CPW/NAV/SARI	₹1,36,62,443.61	₹2,18,300.00
2	BCT/20-21/162 dtd.07.07.2020	Virar Surat section : (i) TFR =28.02 km & TBR=1.684 km (ii) Thick web Switch Renewal & Deep screening of P&C (iii) Rectification of bad layouts and TBR of P&C by use of T-28, JCB Crane etc.(iv) Painting of AT weed collars & rails under ADEN/ Surat in connection of sanctioned track work under CPW/SURAT	₹1,26,83,084.93	₹2,13,400.00
3	BCT/20-21/163 dtd.07.07.2020	Virar Surat Section (i) TRP(P) 1.711km CTR (S) 3.90 kms (ii) casual renewal of rails for a section of under ADEN SURAT (iii) Painting of AT weed collars & rails under ADEN/ Surat (iv) Providing slack gauge sleepers and check rails on curve No.TV- between udhna & chalthan in the jurisdiction of ADEN/ST in connection of sanctioned track work under CPW/SURAT	₹1,70,28,649.32	₹2,51,200.00

Sr. No. 1 - 3 Date & Time of submission: On 04-08-2020 till 15:00 hrs **Date & Time of opening:** On 04-08-2020 at 15:30 hrs

Regarding detailed nature of work, containing cost of tender document (non refundable), EMD, eligibility criteria, similar nature of work, detailed tender conditions, please visit www.ireps.gov.in Manual offers will not be considered.

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WESTERN RAILWAY**VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS**

Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 6th floor, Engg. Deptt. Mumbai-400 008, invites E-Tender as per details given as follows

Sr. No.	Tender Notice No. & Date	Work and location	Approx. cost of work in ₹	EMD ₹
1	BCT / 20-21 /164 dtd.07.07.2020	Virar-Surat Section:- Repairs to P.way under SSE(Valsad) Section for 12 month.(Re-invite-4)	₹1,90,47,198.05	₹2,45,200/-
2	BCT / 20-21 /165 dtd.07.07.2020	Virar-Surat Section:- Valsad-Chlorination of drinking water under jurisdiction of SSE/W/BL. (For Two years)	₹32,55,691.97	₹65,100/-
3	BCT / 20-21 /166 dtd.07.07.2020	Virar- Surat Section:- ADEN/Valsad (i) TRR(P)= 2.74km TSR(P)=7.683. (ii) Thick Web Switch Renewal (iii) Casual renewal of rails for a section of under ADEN-BL (iv) Painting of AT weed collars & rails under ADEN/Valsad Section.(Re-invite-6)	₹3,27,38,108.47	₹3,13,700/-
4	BCT / 20-21 /167 dtd.07.07.2020	Virar- Surat Section:- ADEN/Valsad (i) Complete Track Renewal of existing 60kg rails on PRC sleepers at 1660 No./km including deep screening and recouplement of ballast to 300mm on various location i.e Total CTR(P) = 5.854km, CTR(S)= 3.110kms. (ii) Deep Screening of P&C (iii) TFR= 56.04km & TBR= 4.523km (iv) Rectification of bad layouts and TBR of P&C by use of T-28, JCB, Crane etc. under ADEN/Valsad Section.(Re-invite-6)	₹3,16,55,349.83	₹3,08,300/-

Sr. No. 1 - 2 Date & Time of submission: On 04.08.2020 till 15:00 hrs. **Date & Time of opening:** on 04.08.2020 at 15:30 hrs. **Sr. No. 3 - 4 Date & Time of submission:** On 11.08.2020 till 15:00 hrs. **Date & Time of opening:** on 11.08.2020 at 15:30 hrs.

Regarding detailed nature of work, containing cost of tender document (non refundable), EMD, eligibility criteria, similar nature of work, detailed tender conditions, please visit www.ireps.gov.in Manual offers will not be considered.

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BRIHANMUMBAI
MAHANAGARPALIKA

GARDEN DEPARTMENT

DySG/254/Z-5, dt. : 6.07.2020

'Tender Notice'

Sub :- Invitation of 'e-tender' FOR MAINTENANCE OF VARIOUS GARDENS / PLAY GROUNDS / RECREATION GROUNDS / OPEN SPACES / TRAFFIC ISLANDS / CENTRAL MEDIANS ETC FOR THE PERIOD OF ONE YEAR in L, M/EAST & M/WEST WARD IN ZONE - V.

Ref :- SG/8175, dt. : 02.07.2020

With reference to the above cited subject matter, Garden department is inviting e-tender for MAINTENANCE OF VARIOUS GARDENS / PLAY GROUNDS / RECREATION GROUNDS / OPEN SPACES / TRAFFIC ISLANDS / CENTRAL MEDIANS ETC FOR THE PERIOD OF ONE YEAR in L, M/EAST & M/WEST WARD IN ZONE - V.

You are therefore requested to visit MCGM website (<http://portal.mcgm.gov.in>)

Sd/-

PRO/341/ADV/2020-21 **Dy. Supdt. of Gardens (Z-V)**

MCGM HELPLINE NUMBER 1800221292 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. FOR Homeless/Stranded Migrants/Workers for food & shelters

FORM G

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
(Under Regulation 36A (1) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016)

RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1 Name of the corporate debtor	Shree Daksh Jyot Silk Mills Private Limited
2 Date of incorporation of corporate debtor	April 25, 1988
3 Authority under which corporate debtor is incorporated / registered	Registrar of Companies, Mumbai
4 Corporate identity number / limited liability identification number of corporate debtor	U99999MH1988PTC047141
5 Address of the registered office and principal office (if any) of corporate debtor	Survey No. 20, 695/25, New Mulchand Compound, Kala Village, Bhivandi, Thane - 421302.
6 Insolvency commencement date of the corporate debtor	February 13, 2020 (being the date of delivery of Order and communication by NCLT, Mumbai bench).
7 Date of invitation of expression of interest	July 08th, 2020
8 Eligibility for resolution applicants under section 25(2)(h) of the Code is available at:	Complete details available on email at: rp.shreedaksh@gmail.com
9 Norms of ineligibility applicable under section 29A are available at:	Available at websites of - IBBI: www.ibbi.gov.in or available at Email at: rp.shreedaksh@gmail.com
10 Last date of receipt of expression of interest	July 23rd, 2020
11 Date of issue of provisional list of prospective resolution applicants	August 1st, 2020
12 Last date for submission of objections to provisional list	August 06th, 2020
13 Date of issue of final list of prospective resolution applicants	August 16th, 2020
14 Date of issue of information memorandum, evaluation matrix and request for resolution plans to prospective resolution applicants	August 06th, 2020
15 Manner of obtaining request for resolution plan, evaluation matrix, information memorandum and further information	All the Prospective Resolution Applicants ("PRA") in the provisional list and those PRAs who have contested against their non-inclusion in the provisional list shall be provided Request for Resolution Plan (RFRP), Evaluation Matrix and information Memorandum, electronically. Further information is available on e-mail at: rp.shreedaksh@gmail.com
16 Last date for submission of resolution plans	September 06th, 2020
17 Manner of submitting resolution plans to resolution professional	By Email: rp.shreedaksh@gmail.com , by Regd. Post/Speed Post or in person in sealed envelopes.
18 Estimated date for submission of resolution plan to the Adjudicating Authority for approval	October 01st, 2020
19 Name and registration number of the resolution professional	Vinodkumar P. Ambavat ; Regn No. IBBI/PA-001/IP-P00420/2017-18/10743
20 Name, Address and e-mail of the resolution professional, as registered with the Board	Room No. 40, 9/15 Moray Vellj Bldg, 1st Floor, Dr M.B Vellkar Street, Kabbadwar Road, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400002 vinod.ambavat@gmail.com
21 Address and email to be used for correspondence with the resolution professional	Axeon Resolution & Turnaround Pvt Ltd D-511, 5th Floor, Kanakia Zillion, Junction of LBS Road and CST Road, BKC Annex, Kurla (West), Mumbai-400070, Maharashtra rp.shreedaksh@gmail.com
22 Further Details are available at or with	Available with Resolution Professional at: rp.shreedaksh@gmail.com
23 Date of publication of Form G	July 08th, 2020
Date: July 08th, 2020 Place: Mumbai	Vinodkumar P. Ambavat Resolution Professional IBBI/PA-001/IP-P00420/2017-18/10743 D-511, 5th Floor, Kanakia Zillion, Junction of LBS Road and CST Road, BKC Annex, Kurla (West), Mumbai-400070, Maharashtra In case of Shree Daksh Jyot Silk Mills Private Limited



BRIHANMUMBAI
MAHANAGARPALIKA

CENTRAL PURCHASE DEPARTMENT

566, N. M. JOSHI MARG, MUMBAI - 400 011

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

No. Dy.Ch.E./CPD/85/90/TDR/AE-4
Dated : 07-07-2020

Department	Office of D.M.C. (Central Purchase Department), 566, N. M. Joshi Marg, Byculla (W), Mumbai - 400011
Section	Dy. Chief Engineer (CPD)

Bid No.	Subject
7100172698	1) Providing Claim Management and settlement services under Rajiv Gandhi Jeevandayee Arogya Yojna & Prime Minister Jeevandayee Arogya Yojan or similar Govt. Yojana on outsources basis for MCGM. No. Dy.Ch.Eng./CPD/85/TDR/AE-4 of 2019 - 2020
7100175163	2) Supply of 'Safety Shoes for Fire Brigade and other departments of MCGM". No. Dy. Ch. Eng./CPD/90/TDR/AE-4 of 2019 -20

Tender Date From 08.07.2020 at 16:00 hrs. To 10.08.2020 at 16:00 hrs.

*The pre-bid meeting for both the tenders will not be held. Instead the bidders willing to participate in this tenders shall submit their queries/suggestions through below mentioned E-mail only on or before 22/07/2020 at 3.00 pm. Accepted changes will be published through corrigendum.

* Tenders shall note that any corrigendum issued regarding this tender notice will be published on the MCGM portal only. No corrigendum will be published in the local newspapers.

Website	http://portal.mcgm.gov.in
Contact Person	Mr. A. S. Deshmukh, Asst. Engineer- 4 (CPD)
Office No.	Email id - ae04.cpd@mcgm.gov.in (022) 23083162/63, Ext. 219/221
Direct No.	(022) 23053161

By Order of the Commissioner of Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai
Sd/-
Dy. Chief Engineer (CPD) i/c

PRO/339/ADV/2020-21

MCGM HELPLINE NUMBER 1800221292 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. FOR Homeless/Stranded Migrants/Workers for food & shelters

PUBLIC NOTICE

Shri Trilokchand P. Bhimani along with his son Shri Kalpesh T. Bhimani are joint members of Navjivan Co-op. Housing Society Ltd., Dr. D. Bhadkamkar Marg, Mumbai 400 008. In respect of Building No. 04, Flat No. 20 holding Share Certificate No. 642 bearing nos. 2506 to 2510 (both inclusive). Shri Trilokchand P. Bhimani (Joint Member) died on 29th April 2020 at Mumbai.

Shri Kalpesh T. Bhimani (son and joint member of Late Shri Trilokchand P. Bhimani) have applied for membership by transfer (through transmission) under Bye-law No. 35 of MCS Act 1960 the entire 100% shares, interest of the deceased member in the said flat, capital / property of the said society.

The said Shri. Kalpesh T. Bhimani has submitted to the said society No Objection Affidavit cum indemnity Bonds of all other legal heirs of deceased member along with all legal documents as required under Bye-Law No. 35, the original share certificate No. 642 bearing nos. 2506 to 2510 (both inclusive) for necessary transfer (through transmission) and endorsement on the said share certificate, and death certificate of deceased member Shri Trilokchand P. Bhimani issued by Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai having No. D-2020-27-90261-001010 dated 05.06.2020.

The Society hereby invites claims or objections claimants / objector or objectors to the transfer of the said shares and interest of the deceased member in the flat / share / capital / property of the society within a period of 15 days from the publication of this notice, with copies of such documents and other proofs in support of his / her / their claims / objections for transfer of shares and interest of the deceased member in the flat / share / capital / property of the society. If no claims / objections are received within the period prescribed above, the society shall be free to transfer the said share certificate / capital / property as provided under the byelaws of the society. The

FORM A PUBLIC ANNUANCE (Under Regulation 6 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016) FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CREDITORS OF BOTHRA METALS AND ALLOYS LIMITED	
RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1	Name of corporate debtor
2	Date of incorporation of corporate debtor
3	Authority under which corporate debtor is incorporated / registered
4	Corporate Identity No./ Limited Liability Identification No. of corporate debtor
5	Address of the registered office and principal office (if any) of corporate debtor
6	Insolvency commencement date in respect of corporate debtor
7	Estimated date of closure of insolvency resolution process
8	Name and registration number of the insolvency professional acting as interim resolution professional
9	Address and e-mail of the interim resolution professional, as registered with the Board
10	Address and e-mail to be used for correspondence with the interim resolution professional
11	Last date for submission of claims
12	Classes of creditors, if any, under clause (b) of sub-section (6A) of section 21, ascertained by the interim resolution professional
13	Names of Insolvency Professionals identified to act as Authorised Representative of creditors in a class (Three names for each class)
14	(a) Relevant Forms and (b) Details of authorized representatives are available at:

Notice is hereby given that the National Company Law Tribunal, Mumbai Bench has ordered the commencement of a Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process for **Bothra Metals and Alloys Limited** on 6th July 2020.

The creditors of **Bothra Metals and Alloys Limited** are hereby called upon to submit their claims with proof on or before 20th July 2020 to the Interim Resolution Professional at the address mentioned against Entry No. 10.

The financial creditors shall submit their proof of claims by electronic means only. All other creditors must submit the proof of claims in person, by post or electronic means.

Submission of false or misleading proofs of claim shall attract penalties.

Date: 8th July 2020
Place: Mumbai

Bothra Metals and Alloys Limited
 09th November 2001
 Registrar of Companies, Mumbai
 L27100MH2001PLC133926
 Room No. 6A, Ground Floor, Bothra House, 5, Assembly Lane, Dadi Seth Agyari Lane, Kalbadevi, Mumbai – 400002.
 6th July 2020
 As per order of NCLT, Mumbai Bench dated 6th July 2020 in Corporate Petition (IB) No. 2579/MB./19/ 2019
 2nd January 2021 (180 days from the Insolvency Commencement date which is 6th July 2020)
 Name: Harish Kant Kaushik
 Reg. No: IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P-01469/2018-2019/12340
 Address: F-1904, Sapphire, Regency Towers, Kaveash, Ghodbunder Road, Thane (W) – 400615.
 Email: id.harishkant2007@gmail.com
 Address: Flat No. 1904, Sapphire, Regency Towers, Kaveash, Ghodbunder Road, Thane (W) – 400615.
 Email: id.rp.bothrametals@gmail.com
 20th July 2020
 Date of appointment of IRP is 6th July 2020; date on which copy of order of NCLT, Mumbai Bench in Corporate Petition (IB) No. 2579/MB./19/ 2019 was received.
 Not Applicable
 www.ibbi.gov.in/downloadforms.html

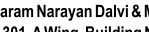
Harish Kant Kaushik
 Interim Resolution Professional
 Reg. No. IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P-01469/2018-2019/12340

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Mr. Iyer Hariharan Jayaraman & Mrs. Iyer Pramilla Hariharan propose to create equitable mortgage by deposit of original title deeds of their Flat No. 204, 2nd floor, Building No. 20, SIDDHACHAL, Sachinpath Estate, II Co-op. Hsg. Soc. Ltd., 14, Himjir Near Vasant Vihar, Dolkhar Road, Thane 400610 i.e., 'the Flat' in favour of my clients IDFC First Bank Ltd., Mumbai to secure the loan to be availed by Haris Senthon Technologies P. Ltd. and they have represented to my clients that they alongwith Mrs. J. Bhuvaneshwari had jointly purchased the said flat from M/s. Kalpataru Soham Property Developers Ltd. vide an Agreement dated 26/10/2001. They have further represented to my clients that the said joint owner Mrs. J. Bhuvaneshwari has expired leaving behind her Will whereby she has bequeathed her 1/3rd share in the said flat in favour of her son Mr. Iyer Hariharan Jayaraman.

All Persons claiming any interest in the said flat, or any part thereof by way of sale, gift, lease, inheritance, exchange, share, right, interest, mortgage, hypothecation, charge, lien, trust, possession, easement, attachment or otherwise etc. whosoever are hereby required to write to the undersigned at his office within 14 days from the date hereof alongwith documentary evidence, failing which my client shall proceed with the proposed mortgage, without any reference to such claimants and the same, if any, shall be considered as waived.

SANTOSH R. SHETTY
Advocate
705/A, Bonanza, Sahar Plaza
A.K. Marg, J.B. Nagar
Andheri (E), Mumbai 400059

 Union Bank of India Patel Apartment, Chitabhai Patel Road, Kandivli East, Mumbai - 400 101 Tel No.: 022-28870798	
BR/RC/2020/6665/2577/12020	Date : 03/03/2020
By REGD.AD.POST	
To, Mr. Dattaram Narayan Dalvi & Mrs. Darshika Dattaram Dalvi Flat No. 301, A Wing, Building No. D/30, Hari Om RMG Unit No. 13, Co-op Hsg. Soc. Ltd. Near Hanuman Mandir, Gen A.K. Viadya Marg, Gokul Dham, Goregaon (E), Mumbai - 400 063.	
Sir/Madam,	
SUB: Enforcement of Security Interest Action Notice – in connection with the credit facilities enjoyed by you with us – Classified as NPA	
We have to inform you that your account 56191066500025777 has been classified as NPA because on 29.02.2020 pursuant to your default in making repayment of dues/installment interest. As on date of sum of Rs. 33,87,316/- (Rupees Thirt Three Lacs Eighty Seven Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Six only) is outstanding in your account as shown below:	
Nature of Facility	Total Dues
Housing Loans(Term Loan)	Rs.33,87,316/-
Total Amount : Rs. 33,87,316/- (Rupees Thirt Three Lacs Eighty Seven Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Six only) Inspite of our repeated demands you have not paid any amount towards the amount outstanding in your account and you have not discharged your liabilities.	
We do hereby call upon your terms of section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, to pay a sum of Rs.33,87,316/- together with interest at the rate of 9.20% p.a. with monthly reset/as per the terms and conditions of loan documents executed by you and discharge your liabilities in full within 60 days from the date of this notice, failing of which we shall be constrained to enforce the following securities created by you in favour of the bank by exercising any or all of the rights given under the said act.	
DESCRIPTION OF THE SECURED ASSET Flat No. 301, A Wing, Building No. D/30, Hari Om RMG Unit No. 13, Co-op Hsg. Soc. Ltd. Near Hanuman Mandir, Gen A.K. Viadya Marg, Gokul Dham, Goregaon (E), Mumbai - 400063.	
1] Please note that if you fail to remit the dues within 60 days and if Bank exercises all its rights under this Act and if the dues are not fully satisfied with the sale of proceeds of the secured assets, we shall be constrained to take appropriate legal action against you in a court of Law/Dev Sec Recovery Tribunal for recovery of the balance amount.	
2] As per section 13 (13) of the Act, on receipt of this notice you are restrained from disposing of or dealing with the above securities except in the usual course of business without the consent of the Bank. Please note any violation of this section entails serious consequences.	
3] Your kind attention is invited to provisions of sub-section(8) of section 13 of the SARFAESI in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.	
Yours faithfully, Sd/- (Mr. M.P.Bhotka) Authorised Officer	

SARLA PERFORMANCE FIBERS LIMITED
 CIN : L31909DN1993PLC000056
 Regd. Office: Survey No. 59/1A, Alpi Pimpria Industrial Estate,
 Silvassa- 396 203, (U. T. Dadra & Nagar Haveli).
 Tel: 022 22834116, Fax: 022 22851777 Website: www.sarfalibers.com
 Email: info@sarfalibers.com

NOTICE TO THE SHARES HOLDER

**Transfer of Equity Shares and Unclaimed Dividend to Investor
 Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) Account.**

The Notice is published in pursuance to the provision of the Companies Act 2013 read along with the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 as amended of modified and various circulars issued thereto from time to time ("the Rules") notified by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. Provisions of Section 124(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 read with IEPF Rules, inter alia provides to transfer such shares, in respect of which dividend has not been paid or claimed by the shareholders for seven consecutive years or more to the Investor Education and Protection Fund ("IEPF") Authority, set up by the Central Government. Notice is further given that in accordance with the provisions of the IEPF Rules, individual notices have already been sent to respective shareholders whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF, whose E-mail IDs are available in the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent ("RTA") records. Also, the Company has uploaded the details of such shareholders and shares due for transfer to IEPF on the website at <https://www.sarfalibers.com/shares-in-iepf/>

In view of the current situation of global pandemic of COVID-19 and the consequent lockdown imposed in the Country, serving physical notices to the shareholders whose E-mail IDs are not available with the Company RTA records, is challenging. Therefore, this newspaper notice may be considered as an individual notice to such shareholders in compliance with the IEPF Rules. However, for the benefits of the shareholders, individual communication shall be made once the normalcy is restored.

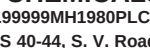
The concerned shareholders, holding shares in physical form and whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF Authority, may note that the Company would be issuing duplicate share certificate(s) in lieu of the original share certificate(s) held by them for the purpose of transfer of shares to IEPF Authority as per the Rules and upon such transfer the original share certificate(s) which is registered in their name shall stand automatically cancelled and be deemed non-negotiable. In case of shares held in Demat mode, the shares shall be transferred directly to IEPF Authority through the Depository Participants as per the Rules. It may be noted that the shares transferred to IEPF Authority including all benefits accruing on such shares, if any, can be claimed back from the IEPF Authority after following the procedure prescribed under the Rules or by visiting website of IEPF Authority i.e. www.iepf.gov.in

The shareholders may further please note that the details uploaded by the Company on its website shall be regarded as deemed adequate notice in respect of issue of duplicate share certificate(s) by the Company for the purpose of transfer of shares to IEPF Authority pursuant to the aforesaid Rules.

Notice is hereby given to all the concerned shareholders to claim the unpaid/unclaimed dividend amount(s) for the year 2012-13 by making an application to the Company/Company's RTA: M/s. Sharex Dynamic India Private Limited on or before 13th November, 2020, so that the shares are not transferred to the IEPF Authority. In case the Company does not receive any communication from the concerned shareholders on or before 13th November, 2020, the Company shall, with a view of complying with the requirements set out in the Rules, transfer the shares to the IEPF Authority by the due date and as per procedure stipulated in the Rules.

For any clarification on the subject matter, please contact the Company's RTA: M/s. Sharex Dynamic India Private Limited, Unit: Sarla Performance Fibers Limited Address: 304, Arcadia, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400021
 Email: support@sharexindia.com; Tel No. 022-2851 5644;
 Fax No. 022-2851 2858,

For Sarla Performance Fibers Limited
 Sd/-
 Place : Mumbai Mahendra Sheth
 Date : 7th July, 2020 CFO & Company Secretary

						
MASTER CHEMICALS LIMITED						
CIN: L99999MH1980PLC022653						
Regd. Office:- Sahara India Point, CTS 40-44, S. V. Road, Goregaon (West), Mumbai - 400 104						
Extract of statement of audited results for the quarter and year ended March 31, 2020						
(Rs in Lakhs)						
Sr. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended			Year ended	
		31.03.2020	31.12.2019	31.03.2019	31.03.2020	31.03.2019
1	Total income from operations (net)	-	-	-	-	-
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax, exceptional and/or extraordinary items)	(2.64)	(1.09)	(1.84)	(8.69)	(6.62)
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional and/or extraordinary items)	(2.64)	(1.09)	(1.84)	(8.69)	(6.62)
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after exceptional and/or extraordinary items)	(2.64)	(1.09)	(1.84)	(8.69)	(6.62)
5	Total comprehensive income/ (Loss) for the period	(4.11)	(1.09)	(0.55)	(10.16)	(5.33)
6	Equity Share Capital	24.50	24.50	24.50	24.50	24.50
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation reserve as shown in the Audited Balance sheet of previous year)				16.93	27.09
8	Earnings Per Share (of Rs 10/- each)					
	Basic :	(1.68)	(0.44)	(0.22)	(4.15)	(2.18)
	Diluted:	(1.68)	(0.44)	(0.22)	(4.15)	(2.18)

Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of the financial results for the quarter and year ended 31st March, 2020, filed with the Bombay Stock Exchange, under Regulation 33 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the financial results for the quarter and year ended 31st March, 2020 is available on the website of the Exchange, www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website.

for and on behalf of the Board of Directors
for Master Chemicals Limited
Nabi Ahamed
Director
DIN- 07143915

Date: July 06, 2020
Place: Mumbai

Rameshwar Media

 KHUSH HOUSING FINANCE		KHUSH HOUSING FINANCE PRIVATE LIMITED Regd. Address:-810, Aura Biplax, SV Road, Borivali (West), Mumbai - 400092 Web:-www.khfi.co.in				
POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY/IES)						
Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Khush Housing Finance Private Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower/s have failed to repay the amount. Notice is hereby given to borrower/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Khush Housing Finance Private Limited.						
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/Loan Account Number	Co-applicant Names	Description of property	Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/Amount in Demand Notice(Rs)	Name of the Branch
1	ANIL DINGRA /LXBOR01117-180002460	MADHU ANIL DIGRA	Row House No.D/32, Bhubangiri Co-operative Housing Society Ltd, Near Hanuman Tekdi, Ashok Van, Shiv vallabh Road, Dahisar (East), Mumbai-400068	06-07-2020	20-12-2019 /12124318	BORIVALI
2	BHURALAL RUPENJI PATEL /LXBOR00517-180001118	Bamila Patel	Flat No. 04, Ground Floor, Building No. A/1, Phase I, "Mahavir Point", Near Shantidevi School, Paygaon, Bhiwandi, Thane - 421302	06-07-2020	20-12-2019 /1467033	BORIVALI
The above -mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantor(s) are hereby given a 30 days' Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.						
Sd/- Authorized Officer Khush Housing Finance Private Limited						
Date: 07.07.2020 Place: Mumbai						



COSMOS BANK
THE COSMOS CO-OP BANK LTD.
Mutual Share Cooperative Bank

Recovery & Write-off Department
Correspondence Address : Horizon Building, 1st Floor, Ranade Road & Gokhale Road Junction, Gokhale Road (North), Dadar (West), Mumbai 400 028. Phone No. 022-24476012/57/58

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002

E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower Company, Directors and Guarantors that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of The Cosmos Co. Op. Bank Ltd., will be sold on the basis of **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** as per the brief particulars given hereunder:

Name of Borrower Company/ Directors & Guarantors	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Details of Secured Assets for Sale/Auction	Reserve Price	Date & Time of Auction
Borrower/Mortgagor Company: M/s. Nasik Metal Engineering Works Pvt. Ltd. Directors & Guarantors /Mortgagors:- 1) Mr. Sandeep R. Shah, 2) Mr. Vasantlal N. Shah, 3) Mr. Rajnikant N. Shah, Guarantor: Mr. Bankim Shah. Guarantor Firm:- M/s. Kushal Industries through its Partners & Guarantors :- a) Mr. Sandeep R. Shah, b) Mr. Vasantlal N. Shah, c) Mr. Rajnikant N. Shah, d) Mrs. Rupa's S. Shah e) Mrs. Pushpaben V. Shah, f) Mrs. Arunaben R. Shah, g) Mr. Binesh R. Shah	Demand Notice Date : 11.06.2008 ₹ 51,08,741.47 plus further interest & charges thereon from 01.06.2008	All that piece and parcel of Factory Land & Building at Plot No.218 (part) adm. approx. 2400 sq.mtrs. s/at Mouje Khupri, Tal. Wada, Dist. Thane (Presently Dist. Palghar) within jurisdiction of Registrar of Thane (Presently Palghar) & Sub-Registrar of Bhiwandi and within limits of Gram panchayat Khupri with facility of approach road to the said plot, right of ways easements etc. and along with construction of factory building standing and to be standing thereon and the said plot no. 218 (p) is bounded as follows: On or towards the North – Internal Layout road On or towards the South – Plot no. 219 On or towards the East – Plot no. 218 (p) On or towards the West – Plot no. 218 (p)	₹ 39,00,000/- (Rupees Thirty Nine Lakhs Only) Earnest Money Deposit ₹ 3,90,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Ninety Thousand Only) Bid Incremental Value ₹ 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)	July 28, 2020 from 12.00 noon to 1.00 pm

Notes:-

- 1) EMD forms are available with Authorized Officer.
- 2) Please contact for EMD payment details to Authorized Officer.
- 3) For inspection the subject property will be available with prior appointment.
- 4) Last Date & Time of EMD and KYC Documents Submission : 27.07.2020 upto 4.00 pm.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditor's website i.e. <https://www.cosmosbank.com QR>
<https://www.eauctions.samil.in>

Date: 08.07.2020
Place : Mumbai

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
Under SARFAESI ACT – 2002
The Cosmos Co-operative Bank Ltd.

 State Bank of India		Stressed Assets Recovery Branch, Mumbai 6 th Floor, The International Building, M.K. Road, Churchgate, Mumbai 400 020 Phone: 022 – 22053163 / 64 / 65 ; Email – sbi.05168@sbi.co.in		
A notice is hereby given that the under mentioned Guarantor(s) of JSK Marketing Ltd. have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loan facility obtained by JSK Marketing Ltd. (Borrower) from the Bank and the loan has been classified as Non Performing Asset (NPA) on 04.07.2019. The notice dated 01.06.2020 was issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.				
Name & Address of the Borrower/ Partners/ Guarantors / Mortgagees	Guarantors of JSK Marketing Ltd.: 1. M/s Associate Electrical Agencies, 2. M/s JSK Propmart LLP Address : 403 to 405, Sumer Kendra CHSL, 4th Floor, Near Door-Darshan Kendra, Behind Mahindra Tower, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Shivramseeth Annmurtwar Road, Worli, Mumbai 400 018 3. Mr. Kunal Krishan Kumar Jwarajka Address : 161/C, New Grand Paradi Apartment, August Kranti Marg, Mumbai 400036			
Description of the property mortgaged/ charged	(i) All that piece or parcel of office premises No. 403, area of 1915 sq. ft, (built up) or thereabouts on the 4th floor of building known as Sumer Kendra Premises Co-Op Society Ltd., near Doordarshan Kendra, Behind Mahindra Tower, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Shivramseeth Annmurtwar Road, Worli, Mumbai 400 018, owned by M/s Associate Electrical Agencies. (ii) All that piece or parcel of office premises No. 404, area, an area of 1570 sq. ft, (built up) or thereabouts and part of Terrace adme, 350 sq. ft. area attached to the said office premises on the 4th Floor of building known as Sumer Kendra Premises Co-Op Society Ltd., near Doordarshan Kendra, Behind Mahindra Tower, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Shivramseeth Annmurtwar Road, Worli, Mumbai 400 018, owned by M/s Associate Electrical Agencies. (iii) All that piece or parcel of office premises No. 405, area, an area of 1050 sq. ft, (built up) or thereabouts and part of Terrace adme, 350 sq. ft. area attached to the said office premises on the 4th Floor of building known as Sumer Kendra Premises Co-Op Society Ltd., near Doordarshan Kendra, Behind Mahindra Tower, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Shivramseeth Annmurtwar Road, Worli, Mumbai 400 018, owned by M/s Associate Electrical Agencies. (iv) All that piece or parcel of office premises No. 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210 and 211 (Total 11 flats), adme, in aggregate 3336.3 sq. ft, or thereabouts on the 2nd Floor of building known as S. S. Towers, being, lying and situate at Plot No. B-2, Jaipur Nagar, Chokdi, Hawali City, New Colony, Phant Bhatti, M I Road, Near Jayanti Market, Jaipur 302001, owned by M/s Associate Electrical Agencies. (v) Flat No. 701 and 801 of 2874.75 Sq. Ft carpet area along with the attached terrace having 700 sq. ft. carpet area and limited amenities area of 280 sq. ft. carpet area without amenities along with 4 car parking spaces in the 'B' wing as per plan on the 10th and 11th floor, in the building known as Santacruz Sayashraya Palazzo Landmark CHSL, constructed on the plot of land bearing Plot No. 63-B of the Santacruz Town Planning Scheme No. IV in the Revenue Village of Now Bandra (earshwale Danda) and bearing CTS No. G-451 of Bandra and bearing Bombay Municipal Corporation Assessment Department "H" ward No. 3099 (I) ST. No. 451 west Avenue, within the area of Sub Registration Office, Mumbai suburban and within the jurisdiction of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, owned by M/s Associate Electrical Agencies. (vi) A Flat bearing No. 1201 admeasuring 433 sq. ft. equivalent to 40.22 sq. mtr. Carpet area, Flat bearing No. 1202 admeasuring 686 sq. ft. equivalent to 63.73 sq. mtr. Carpet area, Flat bearing No. 1203 admeasuring 686 sq. ft. equivalent to 63.73 sq. mtr. Carpet area, A Flat bearing No. 1206 admeasuring 886 sq. ft. equivalent to 82.33 sq. mtr. Carpet area, A Flat bearing No. 1207 admeasuring 686 sq. ft. equivalent to 63.73 sq. mtr. Carpet area on the 12th floor in the building D-1 and A Flat bearing No. 1203 admeasuring 686 sq. ft. equivalent to 63.73 sq. mtr. Carpet area, A Flat bearing No. 1206 admeasuring 686 sq. ft. equivalent to 63.73 sq. mtr. Carpet area and A Flat bearing No. 1207 admeasuring 686 sq. ft. equivalent to 63.73 sq. mtr. Carpet area on the 12th floor, in the building No. D-2 of the Housing Complex known as 'Arhant City' situate, lying and being at village Temghar, Taluka Bhiwandi, District Thane, Registration District Thane and Sub District Bhiwandi and within the limits of the Bhiwandi Nizampur City Municipal Corporation, owned by M/s Associate Electrical Agencies. (vii) Residential Flat No. 1401 admeasuring an area of 990 sq. ft. equivalent to 91.973 sq. mtr. Carpet area (approx.) together with the balcony together with flowerbeds, dry balconies and niches admeasuring about 235 sq. ft. (21.832) as useable area together with all the furniture and fixtures lying therein and attached to the said flat, on the 14th floor in the building known as "Inez" of "Inez Tower A" CHSL, lying and being at Final plot No. 840, TPS-III, 6 Mori Road, Mahim West, Mumbai 400016, together with 10 fully paid up shares of Rs.50/- each bearing distinctive No. 121 to 130 (both inclusive) under share certificate No. 12 dated 05.01.2013 together with one stock parking facility bearing No. 5 on the 4th Floor (accommodating cars) in the compound of the said building, within the limits of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation and within the jurisdiction of sub registrar Mumbai, owned by M/s Associate Electrical Agencies. (viii) Office bearing No. 501, on the 5th floor, admeasuring an area of 368.58 sq. mtr. Carpet area, in fifth floor in the building known as Konark Epitome with the exclusive right to use, occupy and enjoy the terrace admeasuring an area of 338.30 sq. mtr. Carpet area adjoining the said office together with exclusive right to use and occupy 14 No. basement Scooter Parking space admeasuring 2.00 sq. mtr. each, 4 numbers double car parking space admeasuring 16 sq. mtr. each, 3 number single stilt car parking admeasuring 10 sq. mtr. each and 1 number of car parking on the ground floor admeasuring 10.00 sq. mtr. standing on the plot of land is bearing plot CTS No. 220, Survey No. 230A, Hissa No. 1, 1/1 and 1/6 at village Lohegao, within the limits of Pune Municipal Corporation, Taluka Haveli, Dist. Pune, owned by M/s Associate Electrical Agencies. (ix) Flat No. 1201 on the 12th floor admeasuring an area of 2160 sq. ft. (built up area) equivalent to 200.74 sq. mtr. along with an open to sky terrace admeasuring 1300 sq. ft. and 2 stilt car parking space No. 20 and 21 in the building known as Palazzo Gayatri of Gayatri CHSL, lying being and situated at E/32, Garden Scheme, 15th road, Santacruz West, constructed on the plot of land bearing CTS No. G-607 of Revenue Village of Bandra, Taluka Andheri and within the area of Sub registration office, Mumbai Suburban and within the jurisdiction of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, owned by M/s Associate Electrical Agencies. (x) All that shop/ Office premises bearing No. 114, 117, 118, 119, 124, 125, 128, 129, 135, 138, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 149 and 150 (Total 20 shops) admeasuring an aggregate area of 5760 sq. ft, or thereabouts on the 1st Floor of building known as Golden Trade Centre Condominium, Tikarpada, Kr. Rajendra Prasad Ward, 46, P. C. 114/45, Kh. No. 386/3, 387/24 at Raipur, Tehsil and District Raipur, Chattisgarh, owned by Mr. Kunal Jwarajka. (xi) Flat No. 1002 on the 10th Floor, admeasuring an area of 159 sq. mtr. in the building no. II known as BIANCA, constructed on the plot of land bearing New Survey No. 19/3/12, 19/3/3, 19/3/3/5, 19/3/3/6, 19/3/3/7, 19/3/3/8, 19/3/3/9, 19/3/3/10, 19/3/3/11, 19/3/3/12, 19/3/3/12, 19/3/3/12, 19/3/3/12, lying being and situated at revenue village Undri, Taluka Haveli, Dist. Pune and within the limits of Grampanchayat Pune and within the jurisdiction of Sub-Registrar, Taluka Haveli, Dist. Pune, owned by M/s JSK Propmart LLP. (xii) Flat No. 902 on the 9th Floor admeasuring an area of 1379 sq. ft. (carpet area) equivalent to 128.15 sq. mtr. and 2 car parking space in stack/ podium in the building known as PALAZZO OPULENCE MANGAL NEVATIA CHSL, constructed on the plot of land bearing CTS No. G/597, plot no. 10-B, lying being and situated at Sarjoni Road, Santacruz (West), Mumbai 400054, owned by M/s JSK Propmart LLP.			
Amount Outstanding	Rs.7,13,75,406.00 (Rupees Seven Crore Thirteen Lakh Seventy Five Thousand Four Hundred & Six Only) as on 01.06.2020 with further interest, expenses and other charges etc., thereon			
The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Guarantor(s) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.				
Date : 08.07.2020 Place : Mumbai				
		Sd/- Authorized Officer State Bank of India.		



Hara-kiri



Tottenham Hotspur's South Korean striker Son Heung-Min vies with Everton's Irish defender Seamus Coleman (C) and Everton's Portuguese midfielder Andre Gomes

FPJ CORRESPONDENT
Tottenham

An own goal by Michael Keane was enough to give Tottenham Hotspur their second win in three matches, as they beat Everton 1-0. Defeat would have seen Spurs fall below the visitors into the bottom half of the table but they held on fairly comfortably to stretch their unbeaten league run versus Everton to 15 games. The Toffees defender had

Keane own goal gives Tottenham Hotspur 1-0 win over Everton

Next fixtures

Spurs: 9 Jul v AFC Bournemouth (A)
Everton: 9 Jul v Southampton (H)

no chance of getting out of the way as Giovanni Lo Celso's shot deflected off him and past the helpless Jordan Pickford in the 24th minute. Son Heung-min came close to doubling the lead early in the second half but sent a shot wide and was also twice

denied by Pickford. Everton couldn't find a leveller as Dominic Calvert-Lewin's late header was saved by Hugo Lloris and Djibril Sidibe drove wide in stoppage time. Midfielder Giovanni Lo Celso thought he had scored his first Premier League goal for Tottenham in the 23rd minute but his shot on the turn took a decisive deflection off Keane to leave keeper Jordan Pickford with no chance.

Windies can't last for five days, says Brian Lara

Big boys kick off the gentleman's game in the three-Test series at the Ageas Bowl from today

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Southampton

West Indies and England bring down the curtains, as the big boys cricket is back on the 22-yard track, after being in cold storage for over three months due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

But, things are not looking bright for the visitors in recent time, and their own former skipper Brian Lara has rubbed more salt saying that they (West Indies) cannot survive this five-day version of the game, and host will have an edge over them.

Batting legend Lara believes Windies will need to adopt a proactive approach in the upcoming three-Test series against England and consider the matches as four-day games as the visitors doesn't have the firepower to last five days.

The 51-year-old former skipper said while West Indies' boast of a formidable bowling attack, their batting department is a concern, which is precisely the reason behind his statement.

The three-Test series between England and the West



Indies starts here from tomorrow in a bio-secure environment, marking the resumption of international cricket which was shutdown in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"They (West Indies) have to be able to pounce immediately. England are not beaten very easily at home and are overwhelming favourites," Lara was quoted as saying by BBC Sport.

"They have to hit the road running and stamp their authority on England. I don't

think they can last five days, so they have to take these games in four days. They have to establish a lead and keep it."

Lara, who has scored a record 11,953 runs for the West Indies in 131 Tests, said adaptability to the English conditions would be key for West Indies, who are the holders of the Wisden Tro-

LIVE on SONY SIX;
15.30 onwards

phy after winning 2-1 in the Caribbean last year.

The former left-handed batsman said it would be a great achievement for West Indies if they can win the series as they have not won a series in England since 1988.

"It's going to be a series that's watched all around the world and everybody is hoping to see a competitive series," said Lara, who scored 34 Test centuries.

"It would mean a lot to all West Indians if they could win. If they play good cricket

on the first day of the Test series, show they have the mettle to perform against England, that's the key."

The second and third Tests of the series will be played at Old Trafford in Manchester.

West Indies great Brian Lara isn't too optimistic of Jason Holder's men winning the Test series in England, he feels West Indies can't afford to take time and have to get into high-intensity action right from Day 1 of the series. The West Indies legend believes a lot will depend on how Jason Holder and his men perform on the opening day at the Ageas Bowl.

No international cricket has been played since March 13 as the novel coronavirus pandemic has brought the sporting world to a grinding halt.

The upcoming Test series in England will be watched from all over the globe as it's been seen as a baby step towards return of full-fledged competitive cricket.

West Indies arrived in the UK as early as June and were in quarantine before playing the two intra-squad practice matches in Manchester.

'IPL set to move out of India'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly on Monday reckoned the country will have to bear with the COVID-19 pandemic at least till the end of this year or beginning of 2021, effectively ruling out India's chances of organising the sought-after IPL at home.

Responding to a question on how he looks at the COVID-19 situation in India during a chat with opener Mayank Agarwal, Ganguly said, "I think the next two-three-four months will be a little tough. We will just have to bear it, and by the end of the year or beginning of next year, life should be



back to normal."

The BCCI has already zeroed in on the end September-early November window for the IPL.

The board's first choice is staging the tournament at home but that is looking increasingly unlikely with In-

dia having the third largest caseload of coronavirus behind Brazil and USA.

New Zealand on Monday became the latest country after UAE and Sri Lanka to present an offer to host the IPL in case the billion dollar league can't be held in India

due to rising cases of coronavirus.

Speaking on the show #DadaOpensWithMayank, the former India captain added, "I will wait for the vaccine to come out. Till then, yes, we will have to be a little more careful...we know what's happening and we don't want to fall sick. Saliva is an issue. Maybe once the vaccine comes out, just like any other illness, everything will be fine."

The pandemic may have changed the world forever but the cricketer in Ganguly compared the fast-evolving situation with batting tactics which helps a batsman to play according to the pitches.

Athletics: Bahadur Singh resigns

NEW DELHI: The Athletics Federation of India has placed on record its acknowledgement appreciation for Bahadur Singh who resigned as national chief coach after 25 years of service. Under Singh's stewardship, India did admirably in the Commonwealth Games 2010 Delhi when it won a dozen athletics medals, including two gold.

Bagan clear players dues

KOLKATA: Mohun Bagan Football Club on Monday cleared the salaries of the Indian coaches, players and support staff, the city heavyweights said in a statement. "We are pleased to inform you that Mohun Bagan Football Club (India) Pvt. Ltd has already cleared the due salaries of the Indian Coaches, Players and Support Staff, today, July 7, 2020," the statement read.

China Masters, Dutch cancelled

KUALA LUMPUR: The Badminton World Federation (BWF) on Tuesday announced the cancellations of the China Masters and Dutch Open from its revamped calendar.

SPORTS CAFE

Gates open for Oly-bound shooters today

NEW DELHI: With an eye on the Tokyo Olympics, Sports Authority of India (SAI) in its endeavour to support Indian athletes for their Olympic preparation is opening Dr Kanti Singh shooting range from Wednesday for Olympic-bound shooters. In the first phase, the facility would be opened only for athletes who have a probability of making it to the Olympics and form part of the core team of Indian shooting. "All precautions as per the guidelines issued by the Government and the SAI SOP would be strictly adhered to at the ranges to provide a safe training environment to the shooters and maintain social-distancing norms to prevent any transmission of the virus," a statement said. The shooters would have to book online training slots to avoid crowding at the range, with only single point entry to the range with adherence to thermal screening, as per the laid down procedure. The shooters would also need to download Aarogya Setu on their phone, the status of which would be checked at the entry gate. In addition, the operation of lanes and shooting stations has been restricted to ensure the social distancing norms between two shooters.

FC Goa sign Coelho, Bhonsle

PANJIM: Indian Super League (ISL) team FC Goa has signed up young goalkeepers Hansel Coelho and Viddhesh Bhonsle to bolster their developmental side. As per the agreement, the duo will be part of FC Goa developmental team 2022-23 season. The duo impressed with their performance during their time at SESA Football Academy, performing admirably in the Goa Professional League as well as the GFA U-18 tournament. Bhonsle spent the 2018-19 season at FC Goa on loan, and has now signed a permanent contract with the club.

Company that flew Kobe gets help

SAN FRANCISCO: The operator of the helicopter that crashed, killing former NBA star Kobe Bryant and eight others, received between \$150,000 and \$350,000 from taxpayers under a program to help small businesses hurt by the virus pandemic. Island Express Helicopters Inc. of Long Beach, California, was approved for the funds to help preserve 20 jobs, according to government records. The Treasury Department on Monday identified companies that received at least \$150,000 in help.

THIS DAY, THAT YEAR

One of India's finest captains is born

1972

Sourav Ganguly, who was born today, was first an elegant strokeplayer who struggled on the periphery. In 1996 he caressed centuries in his first two Test innings, in England, and soon established himself in both Tests and one-dayers (in the latter form of the game he will go down as an all-time great). Less than four years on, days after the match-fixing crisis rocking the cricket world, Ganguly was captaining India and went on to become the country's most successful leader - until MS Dhoni came along. Ganguly masterminded India's miraculous come-from-behind triumph against the all-conquering Australians in 2001 and set the tone for India's next series down under with an outstanding 144 in Brisbane. He put together a new-age Indian team, leading India to the finals of the World Cup in 2003, a drawn series in Australia, and a famous Test and ODI series win against Pakistan in 2004. In 2005, though, things went downhill and he was axed from the captaincy following an acrimonious row with the coach, Greg Chappell. Ganguly was written off by most pundits but made an astonishing comeback against South Africa in 2006 and got to the 100-Test landmark at the MCG in December 2007. He called it a day after the 2-0 win against Australia at home the following year.



WHAT OUR CITY NEEDS IS TIME DISTANCING.

It makes simple logical sense. For ours is a city with unlimited possibilities but limited space.

Our roads can't get any broader.
Our trains can't get any roomier.
Our pavements can't get any wider.
And social distancing couldn't get any harder.
But what we can stretch is time.

If we open our minds.
So this is a plea to all corporate decision makers who hold the power to effect true change.
And it's not about doing something, but about undoing just one thing.

Let's not go back to a redundant policy that crams millions of hardworking citizens into a 45-minute window every morning, just because a certain box in an attendance register needs to be ticked at a certain time.
Instead, all we need to do is space out the start and end of our office hours. So that in the same

limited space, with the same number of people, we can still distance our timings.

Let's face it. The city's creaking, over-burdened transport network has claimed 7 to 10 lives a day, for the last 5 years. Just while commuting.

That's an inhuman tragedy for an illogical reason. And with the ominous possibility of living with a pandemic, the odds against our city's work force have only stacked up.

Which is why WorkToLiveToWork, a radical people's initiative has been pitching to get every citizen the right to choose their lives over their livelihood.

By simply staggering our work timings without reducing our work hours.
Because only if our working hours get more flexible, do our commuting hours get less fatal.
Think about it. Switch to flexi-time.
It always made sense. Now it also makes space.

Print partner



An initiative by



www.worktolivetowork.com