

STEPHANOTIS FINANCE LIMITED

(FORMERLY: VORA CONSTRUCTIONS LTD)

3, Ground Floor, Durga Chambers, Veena Industrial Estate, Off Veera Desai Road, Andheri (W) Mumbai – 400 053

Email ID: voraconstructions@ymail.com CIN: L45200MH1985PLC036089

Website: www.stephanotis.in

Tel No.: 022- 66929290

To,
Department of Corporate Services
BSE Ltd.,
Phiroze Ieejeebhoy Towers,
Dalal Street, Mumbai – 400 001

Ref.:- Stephanotis Finance Limited (BSE Script Code: 512215)

Sub.:- Submission of Newspaper cutting pertaining to publication of Standalone Un-audited Financial Results for the Quarter ended on 31st December, 2020.

Dear Sir/Madam,

In Compliance with Regulation 47 of SEBI (Listing Obligation & Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, we are enclosing herewith copy of Newspapers Advertisement of meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company scheduled to be held on Friday, 12th February, 2021, published in the newspapers namely 'Navshakti' (Marathi newspaper) edition and "The Free Press Journal" (English) edition dated 14th February, 2021.

Please find enclosed below copies of Newspaper articles as published in both the above mentioned newspapers & Kindly take the same on your record.

Thanking you,

Yours Faithfully

For STEPHANOTIS FINANCE LIMITED

S/d

Rashmi Raturi

Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

Mob. No.: 9820884310

Date : 14-02-2021

Place : Mumbai

Encl: As above

जाहिर सूचना

माझे अशील १) श्री. निरव मेहता आणि २) राधिका काशीक (श्री. निरव मेहता यांची पत्नी) (सदर खरेदीदार) यांच्या वतीने आणि करिता जनतेसाठी यादारे सूचना देण्यात येते की, माझे अशील १) श्री. कुलकर्णी नारायण आणि २) श्री. गिरिश नारायण कुलकर्णी (सदर विक्रेते) यांच्यासह मुंबई उपनगर जिल्हाच्या नोंदणीकृत जिल्हा आणि उप-जिल्हाधीन गाव बांद्रा पूर्व, तालुका-अंधेरी च्या सखे क्र. ३४१ (भाग) आणि सी.टी.एस. क्र. ६४६(भाग), ६४६/१ ते ६४६/२० आणि ६४६/२१ ते ६४६/४० धारक जमिनीवर स्थित आणि असलेल्या एमआयजी कॉलनी, गांधी नगर, बांद्रा (पू.), मुंबई-४०००५१ येथे स्थित एमआयजी को-ऑपरेटिव्ह होमिंग सोसायटी (गुग-11) लि. अशा ज्ञात सोसायटीमधील कल्पक स्पर्कल अशा ज्ञात बिल्डिंगमधील तीन कक्षर कार पार्किंग क्षेत्र धारक क्र. बी२पी-१५, बी२एस-२४ आणि बीपी-४१ च्यासह मि.सी.सी. मधील १४व्या मजल्यावरील सर्व ते फ्लॅट धारक क्र. १४४, मोजमापित १८११ चौ. फूट चर्च क्षेत्र (फ्लॅट क्र. सी/१४४ असा सुद्धा ज्ञात) च्यासह ३०/०६/२०१४ रोजीस जारी रिजिस्टर फोलीओ क्र. ७/४१, सोअर प्रमाणपत्र क्र. १४४ धारक विभिन्न क्र. १५३१ ते १५४० (दोन्ही एकत्रित) धारक क्र. ५००/- ची एकूण किमतीचे पत्रास मात्रचे दहा पूर्ण भागा शेरस (यानंतर एकत्रितरित्या सदर फ्लॅट असा उद्देख) हे त्यांच्याकडून खरेदी आणि संपदासाठी वाटाघाटी करित आहेत. कोणत्याही व्यक्ती, बँका, वित्त संस्था यांना सदर फ्लॅट किंवा त्यावरील कोणत्याही भागाच्या संदर्भात घेणे किंवा विरोधात कोणासाठी हक, नामाधिकार, हितसंबंध किंवा दावे जसे की, विक्री, अदलाबदल, चर्चीस, सोडना देणे, परवाना, कुळबहिवाद, भाडेपत्र, धारणाधिकार, प्रमाण, गहाण, विक्रय, सुविधाधिकार, विभागीय, वाद, हुकुम, निवाह, वारसाहक, जमी किंवा अन्यकाही दावे असल्यास सदर लिखित त्यावरील संपूर्ण कागदपत्रे पुराव्यासह निम्नसाक्षरकारांना त्यांचा पत्ता वकील दिग्देश भाने, बिल्डिंग क्र. ६१/२६९५, तळमणदा, बँक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र समोर, गांधी नगर, उप.आय.जी. क्रिकेट क्लब बंगला, बांद्रा (पू.), मुंबई-४०००५१ येथे या प्रमिटीच्या तारखेप्रमाणे पंधरा (१५) दिवसांच्या आत कळविणे आवश्यक आहे, कसूर केल्यास, कोणतेही किंवा सर्व दावे त्यागित आणि किंवा परित्यागित समजले जातील आणि त्यानुसार व्यवहार पूर्ण केला जाईल.

वरील उद्देखित परिशिष्ट

मुंबई उपनगर जिल्हाच्या नोंदणीकृत जिल्हा आणि उप-जिल्हाधीन गाव बांद्रा पूर्व, तालुका-अंधेरी च्या सखे क्र. ३४१ (भाग) आणि सी.टी.एस. क्र. ६४६(भाग), ६४६/१ ते ६४६/२० आणि ६४६/२१ ते ६४६/४० धारक जमिनीवर स्थित आणि असलेल्या एमआयजी कॉलनी, गांधी नगर, बांद्रा (पू.), मुंबई-४०००५१ येथे स्थित एमआयजी को-ऑपरेटिव्ह होमिंग सोसायटी (गुग-11) लि. अशा ज्ञात सोसायटीमधील कल्पक स्पर्कल अशा ज्ञात बिल्डिंगमधील तीन कक्षर कार पार्किंग क्षेत्र धारक क्र. बी२पी-१५, बी२एस-२४ आणि बीपी-४१ च्यासह मि.सी.सी. मधील १४व्या मजल्यावरील सर्व ते फ्लॅट धारक क्र. १४४, मोजमापित १८११ चौ. फूट चर्च क्षेत्र (फ्लॅट क्र. सी/१४४ असा सुद्धा ज्ञात) च्यासह ३०/०६/२०१४ रोजीस जारी रिजिस्टर फोलीओ क्र. ७/४१, सोअर प्रमाणपत्र क्र. १४४ धारक विभिन्न क्र. १५३१ ते १५४० (दोन्ही एकत्रित) धारक क्र. ५००/- ची एकूण किमतीचे पत्रास मात्रचे दहा पूर्ण भागा शेरस.

सही/- वकील दिग्देश भावे खरेदीदाराकरिता वकील

दिनांक १४ फेब्रुवारी, २०२१.

ऑलिम्पिया इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड

सीआयएन नं. : एल१७११एमएच१९८७पीएलसी०४५२४८
नों. कार्यालय : सी-२०५, विन्डोफॉर्न इन्डस्ट्रियल इस्टेट, विन्डोफॉर्न इन्डस्ट्रियल इस्टेट मार्ग, गोंगाव (पूर्व), मुंबई - ४०००६३.

३१ डिसेंबर, २०२० रोजी संपलेली तिमाहीसाठी अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट वित्तीय निष्कर्षांचा उतारा (रु. लाखांत प्रति शेअर डाटा वागवून रु. मध्ये)

Table with columns: तपशील, संपलेली तिमाही (अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट), संपलेली तिमाही (अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट), संपलेली तिमाही (अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट), संपलेली तिमाही (अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट), संपलेली तिमाही (अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट). Rows include: प्रवर्तनात एकूण उत्पन्न, कालावधीसाठी निव्वळ नफा/(तोटा) (कर, अपवादक आणि/किंवा अनन्यसाधारण बाबींपैकी), कालावधीसाठी कर्तव्य निव्वळ नफा/(तोटा) (अपवादक आणि/किंवा अनन्यसाधारण बाबींनंतर), कालावधीसाठी कोरत निव्वळ नफा/(तोटा) (अपवादक आणि/किंवा अनन्यसाधारण बाबींनंतर), कालावधीसाठी एकूण सर्वसाधारण उत्पन्न (कालावधीसाठी नफा/(तोटा) (कोरत) आणि इतर सर्वसाधारण उत्पन्न (कोरत) धरून), सध्याची मार्जिल रक्कम (दरमिती मूल्य रु. १०/- प्रत्येकी), प्रति समभाग प्रामि (इंटीएस) (प्रत्येकी रु. १०/- दरमिती मूल्य), मूलभूत (रु.), सोमिकृत (रु.).

टीप : वरील माहिती म्हणजे सेबी (लिस्टिंग ऑब्लिगेशन्स अँड डिस्क्लोजर रिव्हायमेंट) रेग्युलेशन्स, २०१५ च्या रेग्युलेशन ३३ अंतर्गत स्टॉक एक्सचेंजकडे सादर केलेल्या ३१ डिसेंबर, २०२० रोजी संपलेल्या तिमाहीसाठी अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट वित्तीय निष्कर्षांच्या तपशिलवार विवरणाचा एक उतारा आहे. ३१ डिसेंबर, २०२० रोजी संपलेल्या तिमाहीसाठी अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट वित्तीय निष्कर्षांचे संपूर्ण विवरण स्टॉक एक्सचेंजच्या वेबसाईट (www.bseindia.com) व ऑलिम्पिया इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड (www.olympiaindustrieslitd.com) वर उपलब्ध आहे.

संचालक मंडळाच्या वतने आणि करिता ऑलिम्पिया इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड नविन पानसरी अर्थिक आणि व्यवस्थापकीय संचालक

दिनांक : मुंबई १३ फेब्रुवारी, २०२१

STEPHANOTIS FINANCE LIMITED

(Formerly known as VORA Construction Ltd)
CIN: L45200MH1985PLC036089
Regd Off : 3, Ground Floor, Durga Chambers, Veena Industrial Estate, Off Veera Desai Road, Andheri (West) Mumbai Mumbai City MH 400053.

STATEMENT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER & As per Schedule III Division III NINE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2020 (Rs. In Lakhs)

Table with columns: Sr. No., Particulars, Quarter Ended (31-Dec-20, 30-Sep-20, 31-Dec-19), Nine Months Ended (31-Dec-20, 31-Dec-19), Twelve Months Ended (31-Mar-20). Rows include: Total Revenue from Operation, Profit/(Loss) before Tax, Profit/(Loss) after Tax, Total Comprehensive Income for the period, Paid-up Equity Share Capital, Earnings per Equity Share.

Notes: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Results are available on the websites of the Stock Exchange(s) and Company's website.

By Order of the Board For Stephanotis Finance Limited S/D Sureshbabu Malge Managing Director DIN : 01481222

PARNAX LAB LIMITED

Registered Office: Gala No.114, Building No. 8, Jogaani Industrial Complex, Chunabhatti, Mumbai - 400 022. Tel:022-68252525, Fax: 24057708, Email: info@naxparlab.com, Website: www.naxparlab.com. CIN: L36912MH1982PLC027925

Extract Unaudited Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results for the Quarter and Nine Months ended December 31, 2020 (Rs. In Lacs)

Table with columns: Particulars, Standalone (Current Quarter Ended, Corresponding Quarter Ended, Current Nine Months Ended), Consolidated (Current Quarter Ended, Corresponding Quarter Ended, Current Nine Months Ended). Rows include: Total Income from Operations, Net Profit/(Loss) from ordinary activities After Tax, Net Profit/(Loss) for the Period After Tax, Equity Share Capital, Reserves, Earnings Per Share.

The above is an extract of the detailed format of standalone and Consolidated financial result for the quarter and nine months ended on December 31, 2020 filed with stock exchange under regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of standalone and Consolidated financial result for the quarter and nine months ended on December, 31, 2020 are available on stock exchange website (www.bseindia.com) and on the Company's website (www.naxparlab.com).

For Parnax Lab Limited sd/- Prakash M Shah Director & CEO DIN: 00440980

ECO RECYCLING LIMITED

CIN: L74120MH1994PLC079971 422, The Summit, near WEH Metro Station, Andheri-Kurla Road, Andher (East), Mumbai 400093

Extract of Standalone Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter & Nine Months Ended 31st December, 2020 (Rs. In Lacs)

Table with columns: Sr. no., Particulars, Quarter ended (31.12.2020, 30.09.2020), Un-Audited (Quarter ended, Nine Months Ended), Audited (Year ended). Rows include: Total Income from Operations, Net Profit/(Loss) for the period/year before tax and exceptional items, Net Profit/(Loss) for the period/year before tax but after extraordinary items, Total Comprehensive Income for the period/year, Paid-up Equity Share Capital, Reserves, Basic for discontinued & continuing operations, Diluted for discontinued & continuing operations.

Extract of Consolidated Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter & Nine Months Ended 31st December, 2020 (Rs. In Lacs)

Table with columns: Sr. no., Particulars, Quarter ended (31.12.2020, 30.09.2020), Un-Audited (Quarter ended, Nine Months Ended), Audited (Year ended). Rows include: Total Income from Operations, Net Profit/(Loss) for the period/year before tax and exceptional items, Net Profit/(Loss) for the period/year before tax but after extraordinary items, Total Comprehensive Income for the period/year, Paid-up Equity Share Capital, Reserves, Basic for discontinued & continuing operations, Diluted for discontinued & continuing operations.

Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly and Nine Months Ended Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly and nine months ended Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange website (www.bseindia.com) and company's website (www.ecoreco.com).

For Eco Recycling Limited B K Soni Managing Director

FOODS AND INNS LIMITED

CIN: L55200MH1967PLC013837 Regd. Office: Udyog Bhavan, 2nd Floor, 29 Walchand Hirachand Marg, Ballard Estate, Mumbai - 400 038. Phone No.: 23533103/04/05, Fax No.: 23533106/07, E-mail: writetous@foodsandinns.com; Website: www.foodsandinns.com

EXTRACT OF AUDITED STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020 (₹ in Lakhs except EPS)

Table with columns: Sr. No., Particulars, Standalone (Quarter ended, Nine Months Ended, Year ended), Consolidated (Quarter ended, Nine Months Ended, Year ended). Rows include: Total Income From Operations (Net), Net Profit/(Loss) from Ordinary Activities before tax, Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after Tax (after Extraordinary items), Equity Share Capital, Earnings per share, Basic, Diluted.

Notes: 1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2020, Results were filed with Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Year ended Financial results are available on stock exchange websites (www.bseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.foodsandinns.com) 2. The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on February 12, 2021. The statutory Auditors have carried out limited review of result.

By order of the Board For FOODS AND INNS LIMITED Bhupendra Dalal Chairman DIN:00061492

Place: Mumbai Date: February 12, 2021



PRIME PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

Regd. Off: 501, Soni House, Plot No. 34, Gulmohar Road No. 1, Juhu Scheme, Vile Parle (W), Mumbai 400 049. Tel.: 26242144 • Email : pddc.chairman@gmail.com • Website : www.pddc.com CIN : L67120MH1992PLC070121

EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER & NINE MONTH ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020 (₹ in Lakhs)

Table with columns: PARTICULARS, STANDALONE RESULTS (Quarter Ended, Nine Month Ended, Year Ended), CONSOLIDATED RESULTS (Quarter Ended, Nine Month Ended, Year Ended). Rows include: Total Income from Operations (Net), Net Profit/(Loss) from Ordinary activities after Tax, Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after Tax, Total Comprehensive Income for the period, Equity Share Capital, Reserve, Earnings per share, Basic, Diluted.

Notes: 1) The UnAudited Standalone & Consolidated Financial Results for the Quarter and nine month ended 31st December, 2020 in respect of Prime Property Development Corporation Limited (The Company) have been reviewed by the Audit committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on Saturday, the 13th Day of February, The Statutory Auditors of the Company have carried out a Limited Review. 2) The Consolidated financial result includes the financial results of the wholly owned subsidiary, Sea King-club Pvt Ltd. 3) During the quarter under review, company has entered into full and final settlement towards the project finance and balance amount not receivable has been treated as bad debts. 4) Provision for Current Taxation for the quarter/ nine month ended 31st December, 2020 not calculated being loss. 5) Deferred tax liability/ asset for the quarter/ nine month ended 31st December, 2020 has not been provided & will be accounted on Annual Audited Accounts, in accordance with Indian Accounting Standard - 12 on 'Income Taxes'. 6) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of Quarterly / Nine Month Ended Financial Standalone and Consolidated Results are available on the Stock Exchange website www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website: www.pddc.com 7) The Ministry of Home Affairs on March 24, 2020, notified a nation wide lockdown in India to contain the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic due to which there have been several restrictions imposed by the Government across the globe on the travel, movement of goods and transportation considering the public health and safety measures. In view of the lockdown across the country operations of the Company is not much affected.

For Prime Property Development Corporation Ltd P. L. Soni Chairman (DIN:0006463)

Place: Mumbai Date: 13/02/2021

अर्नोल्ड होल्डिंग्स लि.

सीआयएन : एल६५१३एमएच१९८७पीएलसी२८७८३ नोंदणी. कार्यालय : सी-२०८, रामजी हाऊस, ३० जंबुलवाडी, जे. एस. रोड, मुंबई-४०० ००२, फोन: २०२२१९६४००, ई-मेल आवडी: arnoldholding@gmail.com वेबसाईट: www.arnoldholdings.in

३१ डिसेंबर, २०२० रोजी संपलेल्या तिमाही आणि नऊ महिन्यांकरिता अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट वित्तीय निष्कर्षांचा उतारा (रु. लाखांत इपीएस वागवून)

Table with columns: अ. क्र., तपशील, संपलेली तिमाही (अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट), संपलेली तिमाही (अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट), संपलेली तिमाही (अल्लेखापरिशिष्ट). Rows include: प्रवर्तनात एकूण उत्पन्न, कालावधीसाठी निव्वळ नफा/(तोटा) (कर, अपवादक आणि/किंवा अनन्यसाधारण बाबींपैकी), कर्तव्य कालावधीसाठी निव्वळ नफा/(तोटा) (अपवादक आणि/किंवा अनन्यसाधारण बाबी पत्त्यान), कालावधीसाठी कालावधीसाठी निव्वळ नफा/(तोटा) (अपवादक आणि/किंवा अनन्यसाधारण बाबी पत्त्यान), कालावधीसाठी एकूण सर्वसाधारण उत्पन्न (कालावधीसाठी नफा/(तोटा) (करपत्रात) आणि इतर सर्व सामान्यक उत्पन्न (कोरत) धरून), सध्याची मार्जिल रक्कम (दरमिती मूल्य रु. २/- प्रत्येकी), प्रति शेअर प्रामि (इंटीएस) (प्रत्येकी रु. १०/- दरमिती मूल्य रु. १०/- प्रत्येकी) (अखंडित आणि खंडित परित्यागित), मूलभूत (रु.), सोमिकृत (रु.).

* ३१ मार्च, २०२० रोजी संपलेल्या वर्षाकरिता राखीव रु. २३३२.५३ लाख होती आणि ३१ मार्च, २०१९ करिता रु. २१७५.९२ लाख होती.

टीप : १. सेबी (लिस्टिंग अँड अदर डिस्क्लोजर रिव्हायमेंट) रेग्युलेशन्स, २०१५ च्या रेग्युलेशन ३३ अंतर्गत स्टॉक एक्सचेंजकडे सादर केलेल्या तिमाही/वर्षाविक वित्तीय निष्कर्षांच्या तपशिलवार विवरणाचा उतारा आहे. तिमाही/वर्षाविक वित्तीय निष्कर्षांचे संपूर्ण विवरण स्टॉक एक्सचेंजच्या वेबसाईट www.bseindia.com आणि लिस्टेड एंटीटीची www.arnoldholdings.in वर उपलब्ध आहे.

२. वरील वित्तीय निष्कर्ष ३१ डिसेंबर, २०२० रोजी झालेल्या त्यांच्या संपूर्ण लेखापरिष्कार सल्लेखीय पुर्विलोकन आणि विचारस करणाऱ्या आले आणि संचालक मंडळाद्वारे मूळ आणि अंतिमलिखित करणाऱ्या आले. ३. सेबी (लिस्टिंग ऑब्लिगेशन्स अँड डिस्क्लोजर रिव्हायमेंट) रेग्युलेशन्स, २०१५ च्या रेग्युलेशन ३३ अंतर्गत आवश्यक असल्यासार मर्यादित पुर्विलोकन कंपनीच्या लेखापरिष्काराचा पूर्ण केले आहे.

अर्नोल्ड होल्डिंग्स लिमिटेडकरिता सही/- मुरारी मल्लयार पृथ्वी संचालक डीआयएन: ०८८०९८४०

दिनांक : मुंबई १३.०२.२०२१ दिनांक : १३.०२.२०२१

जाहीर नोटीस

माझे अशील श्री. ललित प्रकाश बजाज यांनी दिलेल्या माहितीवरून ही जाहीर नोटीस देत आहे की, माझे अशील यांनी फ्लॅट क्र. ३०१, ३रा मजला, क्षेत्रफळ ५९६ चौ. फूट सोबत ओपन टेरेस क्षेत्रफळ २४१ चौ. फूट कक्षिण यांचे, मोजे देवळाची, ता. जि. नाशिक, सी. एस. नं. ४८/१/३ हा फ्लॅट श्री. मोहन मधुकर थोरात आणि सी. साहिका मधुकर थोरात यांना विकला आहे. माझे अशील यांच्याकडून सदर सदनिकेबाबतची खालील कागदपत्रे गहाळ झालेली आहेत.

१. कोमल कन्स्ट्रक्शन्स तर्फे प्रोग्रायटर श्री. मनोज घनश्यामदास केसवानी आणि श्री. ललित प्रकाश बजाज यांचे मधील डीड ऑफ अपार्टमेंट क्र. नसम२/२४४०/२०१३ तारीख २६.०३.२०१३

२. डीड ऑफ अपार्टमेंट क्र. नसम२/२४४०/२०१३ ची पावती क्र. ३१७८ तारीख २६.०३.२०१३ तरी सदर मिळकतीबाबत / कागदपत्राबाबत जर कोणा व्यक्तित्वा, संस्थेचा, बँकेचा किंवा अन्य कोणत्याही कंपनीचा दावा, बोजा, हक्क, अधिकार किंवा हरकत असल्यास माझ्या खालील पत्त्यावर या पत्रावर आपली हरकत १५ दिवसांच्या आत पुराव्यानिशी सादर करावी, अन्यथा सदरद्वारे दावे माझे अशीलवारे बंधनकारक राहणार नाहीत.

सही/- अँड. सुजाता आर. बाबर पत्ता: २६, गौरताज बिल्डिंग, २२१, डॉ. बी. ए. रोड, हिंदमाता, दादर (पूर्व), मुंबई ४०००१४ मोबाईल नं. ९८२११६९३०२

अर्नोल्ड होल्डिंग्स लिमिटेडकरिता सही/- मुरारी मल्लयार पृथ्वी संचालक डीआयएन: ०८८०९८४०

दिनांक : मुंबई १३.०२.२०२१ दिनांक : १३.०२.२०२१

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OF
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JeM man reced Doval's office, sent videos to Pak



NEW DELHI/JAMMU: The video clip of NSA Ajit Doval's office and several other top locations in Delhi were recovered from the phone of an arrested Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorist. The development has sent security officials into tizzy. (Report on Pg 7)

Coronavirus Cases
108,817,747
Deaths
2,396,143
Source - Worldometer

Medvedev in 5, finally, advances to 4th round in Australia



MELBOURNE: Daniil Medvedev finally worked out how to win a five-setter. All by himself. Medvedev was 0-6 in Grand Slam matches that went to five sets, and his Australian Open third-round match against No. 28-seeded Filip Krajinovic looked like it was going all the way. (Report on Pg 16)

J&K WILL GET STATEHOOD AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME: SHAH

■ Lok Sabha passes J&K Reorganisation Bill 2021 ■ Bill seeks to merge J&K cadre of civil services with the Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram Union Territory cadre

FROM OUR BUREAU
NEW DELHI:

Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday declared in the Lok Sabha that Jammu and Kashmir will get the status of a state at an "appropriate time." The Lok Sabha on Saturday passed the J&K Reorganisation Bill 2021.

Replying to a debate on the J&K Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill that was passed earlier on February 8 by the Rajya Sabha, he said: "I have said in this House and say it again that this Bill has nothing to do with the statehood of J&K."

Even at the time of bringing the J&K Reorganisation Act in August 2019 to abrogate Article 370 from the Indian Constitution, Shah had assured to grant the statehood to J&K after development works and restoration of normalcy.

The Bill is to merge the J&K cadres of IAS, IPS and Indian Forest Service in cadre of Arunachal Pradesh,



Home Minister Amit Shah in Lok Sabha on Saturday. Photo PTI

Goa, Mizoram and Union Territories, including Delhi, (AGMUT) to enable the government to depute the officers in J&K from other union territories.

Many opposition MPs said the Bill indicates that the J&K would never get back the statehood. "Nowhere it's written that J&K won't get statehood. Where are you drawing such a conclusion," Shah asked.

He went on to defend abrogation of Article 370, pointing out that devolution of power has been affected after that and the Panchayats have been given administrative and financial powers. "Nobody, not even our rivals can say that there was fraud or unrest during the elections (DDC). Everyone voted fearlessly and peacefully 51% votes were cast in the Panchayat elections. Jin-

hone Dhara 370 waapis laane ke aadhar par chunav lada tha, woh saaf ho gaye saaf (Those who contested on the basis of return of Article 370 were swept away), Shah said.

Shah as well as his junior G Kishan Reddy, who piloted the Bill, said the Government will connect the Kashmir valley with the Railways by 2022.

Raising objections to the Bill, Congress group leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury questioned as to what was the need to bring an Ordinance for this. He said the government had turned J&K into a large prison and blocked telecommunication services for over a year.

Hasnain Masoodi of J&K National Conference said the Bill is akin to an assault on the people of J&K. Calling for restoring the position prior to August 5, 2019, he said: "You are continuously increasing confusion and taking J&K towards uncertainty through this bill."

Public fumes as petrol touches Rs 95 in Mumbai

FPJ BUREAU / Mumbai

Petrol price in Mumbai came close to the record Rs 95 per litre mark on Saturday. Both petrol and diesel prices were hiked for the fifth day in a row. Petrol price was increased by 30 paise per litre and diesel by 36 paise a litre, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

In Mumbai, petrol price soared to Rs 94.93 per litre and diesel price jumped to record Rs 85.70 a litre. This took petrol price to an all-time high of Rs 88.414 a litre in Delhi while diesel rate climbed to Rs 78.74.

In five days this week, fuel price has gone up by Rs 1.51 per litre for petrol while diesel rate has risen by Rs 1.56 a litre. The relentless hike in prices has been criticised by the general public and opposition parties.



In a first, Oxford plans COVID drug test on kids

The trial seeks to recruit 300 volunteers between ages of 6 and 17

FPJ BUREAU & AP
London/Mumbai

For the first time, the University of Oxford is planning to extend the test of its COVID-19 vaccine in children and wants to assess the safety and immune responses of the drug in children and young adults.

Accordingly, the trial which was announced Saturday, seeks to recruit 300 volunteers between the ages of 6 and 17, with up to 240 receiving the COVID-19 vaccine and the remainder a control meningitis vaccine, Oxford University said.

Andrew Pollard, chief researcher on the Oxford vaccine trial, says that while most children don't get severely ill from COVID-19, "it is important to establish the safety and immune response to the vaccine in children and young people as some children may benefit from vaccination."

Regulators in more than 50 countries have authorised widespread use of the Oxford vaccine, which is being produced and distributed by AstraZeneca, for use in



people over the age of 18. "For most children, for themselves, COVID is really not a big problem," Pollard told The Associated Press. "However, it is certainly possible that wider use to try and curb the progress of the pandemic might be considered in the future, so here we're just trying to establish the data that would support that if indeed policymakers wanted to go in that direction." Grace Li, Paediatric Clinical Research Fellow, Oxford Vaccine Group, said, "This study will play an important role in helping to protect children in the future. We've already seen that the vaccine is safe and effective in adults."

Fast News

Earthquake hits Tokyo, no tsunami

TOKYO: An earthquake of magnitude 7.0 was reported near Tokyo, Japan on Saturday evening, according to India's National Centre for Seismology. The epicentre of the earthquake was 306 km northeast (NE) of Tokyo, Japan, the agency said. The earthquake struck at 7:37 PM IST at a depth of 60 km from the surface. There was no threat of a tsunami from the quake, and no immediate reports of major damage. More than 800,000 households were hit by blackouts, according to Tokyo Electric Power Co.

Desi origin staff at UN keen to be SG

UNITED NATIONS: An Indian-origin employee at the UN has announced her candidacy to be its next Secretary-General. Incumbent Antonio Guterres is seeking a second five-year term beginning January 2022. Arora Akanksha (34), working as an audit coordinator for the UNDP, said she will run for the post of the world's top diplomat. "People in my position aren't supposed to stand up to the ones in charge. We are supposed to wait our turn, hop on the hamster wheel, go to work, keep our heads down and accept that the world is the way it is," Akanksha said in a campaign video posted online.

7 face 30% pay cut for parent neglect

AURANGABAD: The Latur Zilla Parishad has started deducting 30% salaries of seven of its employees for not taking care of their old parents, its president Rahul Bondre said on Saturday. Notably, six of the 12 employees against whom the complaints of neglecting their parents were received, are teachers. The deducted amount is transferred in the bank accounts of the parents of these employees.

Parliament panel to visit Galwan

NEW DELHI: The parliamentary standing committee on defence intends to visit the Galwan Valley and the Pangong Lake in eastern Ladakh, which has witnessed violent standoff between Indian and Chinese troops, sources said. However, it may seek the permission of the government before visiting the strategically-located areas, they added. The 30-member committee is chaired by senior BJP leader and former Union Minister Jugal Kishan.

Golwalkar's disciples won't know Rajdharm, says Cong

Carries out veiled attack on PM Modi and BJP over Shiv Jayanti issue

SANJAY JOG
Mumbai

The Congress has attacked the BJP on the Shiv Jayanti issue saying that the disciples of MS Golwalkar (Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's second Sarsangchalak) who grow beard and compare themselves with Chhatrapati Shivaji will not know the Rajdharm.

They will also not know that the Chhatrapati Shivaji was the king of farmers who strived for their welfare and



progress, said Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee spokesman Sachin Sawant. He has also targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi without directly nam-

ing him in the attack. Sawant in his tweets has targeted Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Modi over its handling of the ongoing farmers' protest demanding repeal of three Central farm laws.

"Shivaji was the king of the ryots (farmers). He is our role model and in our hearts. The Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government is taking the same stand which Chhatrapati Shivaji would have taken when the farmers were in crisis," the Congress leader said. CONTD. ON P9

Right to protest cannot be anytime and anywhere: SC

FPJ BUREAU
New Delhi:

The Supreme Court on Saturday dismissed review petitions filed by 12 activists against its earlier verdict, which ruled that "the right to protest cannot be anytime, and everywhere." A three-judge bench of the SC, headed by Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Aniruddha Bose and Krishna Murari on February 9, 2021, had passed the order on the review petitions filed by 12 activists, in-



cluding that of Kaniz Fatima.

The top court also refused a request made by the petitioners, in their review petition, to list the matter in an open

court. The 12 petitioners had moved the SC and filed the review petition challenging the SC's earlier October 2020 order, holding that 'demonstrations expressing dissent have to be in designated places alone.' While dismissing the review petitions, SC said, "We perused the review petition and are convinced that the order of (October 2020), which review has been sought, does not suffer from any error." "The right to protest cannot be anytime,

and everywhere. There may be some spontaneous protests, but in case of prolonged dissent, or protest, there cannot be continued occupation of public places affecting the rights of others," the SC said in its order. It also said: "We have considered the earlier judicial pronouncements and recorded our opinion that the constitutional scheme comes with a right to protest and express dissent, but, with an obligation to have certain duties."

Justice Ganediwala takes oath as Addl Judge in HC

NARSI BENWAL
Mumbai

Justice Pushpa Ganediwala of the Bombay High Court, who penned down three controversial judgments in POCSO cases including the "skin to skin judgment" on Saturday morning took oath as the additional judge of the HC. This comes a day after the President extended her tenure by a year as the additional judge of the HC.

Justice Ganediwala was administered oath by Nagpur bench's senior most judge Justice Nitin Jamdar. Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and other judges from Mumbai and Aurangabad bench of the HC attended the ceremony via video conferencing.

Justice Ganediwala was in news for authoring three controversial judgments that raked up a huge debate. CONTD. ON P9

Sitharaman attacks Cong, terms Rahul as 'doomsday man of India'

FROM OUR BUREAU / New Delhi

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was on Saturday short in her reply to the general debate on the Budget in the Lok Sabha and instead attacked former Congress president Rahul Gandhi, who was not present in the House as he was away in Rajasthan, for building fake narratives, calling him a "doomsday man of India" joining the "break in-



dia" fringe elements and who is in a habit of constantly abusing the constitutional authorities of the nation, including the elected Constitutional authority. CONTD. ON P9

cluding that of Kaniz Fatima.

The top court also refused a request made by the petitioners, in their review petition, to list the matter in an open

Pooja Chavan death case

Probe will reveal the truth: Thackeray Shiv Sena on a backfoot as BJP demand Sanjay Rathod's arrest

SANJAY JOG
Mumbai

The ruling Shiv Sena is on a backfoot after its estranged ally BJP has demanded the arrest of the party minister Sanjay Rathod in connection with the suicide committed by Tik Tok star Pooja Chavan. BJP has called for a thorough investigation into the case and Rathod's re-

moval. The BJP has demanded that the police should file an offence against Rathod for culpable homicide.

The matter surfaced after several purported audio clips concerning the incident went viral. Incidentally, Rathod, who is a four-time legislator of Shiv Sena and comes from the Banjara community. He has not been reachable. The party has di-

rected its leaders not to make any comment.

However, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday, broke his silence. "A probe is underway into the case and the truth will emerge," he said. He further added that the suicide case will be thoroughly investigated and necessary action will be taken against the concerned. CONTD. ON P9

GN Saibaba, 4 others test positive for Covid

FPJ BUREAU
Mumbai

Naxal ideologue and former Delhi University professor GN Saibaba, who is serving a life term in Nagpur Central Prison for Maoist links, and four others tested positive for COVID-19 at the Central Jail here. They are being taken to the hospital. As per Anup Kumar Kum-

re, Jail Superintendent of the Central Jail, Saibaba is now being taken to the Nagpur government Medical college and hospital for an X-Ray and CT-scan. "Citing the pandemic-hit jail, he had sought bail last year.

On May 22, the Bombay High Court had dismissed Saibaba's parole application. In 2017, Saibaba was awarded life imprisonment.

cluding that of Kaniz Fatima.

The top court also refused a request made by the petitioners, in their review petition, to list the matter in an open



Ajinkya showed his class, says Rohit

AGENCIES / Chennai

Ajinkya Rahane has always made himself counted when the team has been in testing situation which is a testimony to his class as a batsman, feels second Test centurion Rohit Sharma. Rohit and vice-captain Rahane added 162 runs for the fourth wickets as India scored 300 for 6 at stumps on the first day of the second Test against England.

"Ajinkya, he is one of our top players. He has done extremely well and played some crucial knocks (over the years). He has time and again shown that when the team needs a batsman to stand up, he has done that many times," Rohit was all praise for his fellow Mumbaikar, who scored 67 on the day. DETAILS ON P16

Two white tiger cubs likely died of Covid in Pak Zoo

REUTERS
Lahore



Photo used for representation purpose

Two 11-week-old white tiger cubs that died in a Pakistani zoo last month appear to have died of Covid-19, officials said.

The cubs died in the Lahore Zoo on Jan. 30, four days after beginning treatment for what officials thought was feline panleukopenia virus, a disease that zoo officials said is common in Pakistan and tar-

gets cats' immune system. But an autopsy found the cubs' lungs were badly damaged and they were suffering from severe infection. The pathologists concluded they died from Covid-19.

Although no PCR test was conducted, zoo deputy director Kiran Saleem told Reuters the zoo believes the cubs were the victims of the pandemic that has killed 12,256 people in Pakistan.

"After their death, the zoo administration conducted tests of all officials, and six were tested positive, including one official who handled the cubs," Saleem said.

It strengthens the findings of the autopsy. It may be mentioned here that Pakistan's zoos regularly draw the ire of animal rights activists, who say hundreds of animals have died due to poor living conditions.

UK media watchdog slaps 50K pounds penalty on Khalsa TV

AGENCIES
London

The UK media watchdog, Office of Communications (Ofcom) has imposed a fine of 50,000 pounds on Khalsa Television Ltd in Britain for broadcasting a music video and a discussion programme that contained an indirect call for Sikhs living in the UK to commit

violence. The Ofcom said in a statement that the programme also had a terror reference. "We have today fined KTV PS50,000 for airing content which had the potential to incite violence and cause harm. KTV also must not repeat the content concerned, and air a summary of our decision," Ofcom tweeted.



City's AQI improves from 'very poor' to moderate

MUMBAI: The city's Air Quality has improved to 'Moderate' from 'Poor' category in the last 24 hours. According to air quality monitor website, Iqair.com, the air quality of Mumbai stands at 176 on Saturday. Earlier this week on Friday the AQI had breached the 300 mark. The cleanest air quality has been recorded at Bandra (53 AQI) while the worse quality has been recorded at BKC (177 AQI). -STAFF REPORTER

REPUBLIC DAY VIOLENCE

Pawar alleges involvement of some BJP elements to discredit farmers' stir

Says during the UPA government rule the focus was laid on the timely procurement of produce

SANJAY JOG
Mumbai

Days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call that country needs to be protected against 'andolan jeevi' or those who survive on protests, former union minister and NCP Chief Sharad Pawar fired a fresh salvo against the ruling party at the Centre and accused a section of BJP's involvement in the violence that erupted in Delhi on January 26, to defame the ongoing farmers' agitation. He strongly defended the protesting farmers saying that they have been demanding due price for the agricultural produce. "Farmers have been sitting on the Delhi border for the last two and a half months for their demands. They want the central government to come up with a prudent policy on prices. The peculiarity of this movement is that the farmers have not taken the law into their own hands anywhere," said Pawar. He fur-



Farmers shout slogans during their ongoing protest against farm laws at Delhi-Ghaziabad border, in Delhi on Saturday. (ANI Photo)

"Farmers want the central government to come up with a prudent policy on prices. The peculiarity of this movement is that the farmers have not taken the law into their own hands anywhere."

- NCP CHIEF SHARAD PAWAR

ther claimed that no genuine farmer caused trouble during the Delhi agitation. "Farmers were not responsible for the violence in Delhi. However, some forces and especially a section of

the BJP were involved to discredit the farmers' agitation," he noted. Pawar was speaking at Solapur. "It is the farmers who produce wheat and rice. Today, the Food Corporation of In-

dia is the body to procure that crop. This body should take all the responsibility for the procurement of agricultural produce which was not in between done properly," said Pawar. He reminded that during the UPA government the focus was laid on the timely procurement of produce. Pawar suggested that farmers should pay attention to innovation and improvement in quality. While doing all this, he said the farmers should pay adequate attention on how the land will be maintained.

Pawar had recently blamed the BJP led government by calling agitating farmers as "Khalistani" and terrorists. He had lashed out at the government for putting nails on the streets to stop protesters from entering in Delhi.

Pawar had suggested that PM Modi and senior minister Nitin Gadkari should come forward and speak with the agitating farmers to find a solution.



Thane district's Covid-19 count surges by 290, death toll by 2

AGENCIES
Thane

With the addition of 290 coronavirus cases, the infection count in Thane district has increased to 2,57,112 an official said on Saturday.

These new cases were reported on Friday, he said. As the virus claimed the life of two persons, the death toll in the district rose to 6,198.

The mortality rate is 2.41 per cent, he added.

So far, 2,47,650 patients have recuperated from the infection, which took the recovery rate to 96.32 per cent.

There are 3,264 active cases in the district at present, the official said.

In neighbouring Palghar district, the COVID-19 case count has gone up to 45,450, while the death toll is 1,200, another official said.

Shiv Sena urges Centre to recall Maha Governor

The party said the Centre cannot use the gov's shoulders to take aim at MVA

AGENCIES / Mumbai

The Shiv Sena, which is in power in Maharashtra, on Saturday accused state Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari of toeing the BJP's line, and said that if the Centre wants the Constitution to be upheld, it should recall him.

The party also asserted that the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) dispensation is stable and strong, and added that the Centre cannot use the governor's shoulders to take aim at the state government.

"Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari is back in news again. He has been in politics for the last many years. He was a Union minister and also the chief minister of Uttarakhanda.

However, ever since he became the Maharashtra governor; he has always remained in news or landed in controversy," the Sena said in an editorial in mouth-piece 'Saamana'. "Why he is always landing in controversy is a question. Recently, he is in news over the use of a



File photo of Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray meeting Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari.

state government's plane. The governor wanted to go to Dehradun using the state aircraft. But the government denied permission to it. He sat in the aircraft on Thursday morning, but as the plane did not have approval to fly, he had to disembark and take a commercial flight to Dehradun," it said.

The opposition BJP is creating an issue out of it. But why did the governor sit in the plane even as the government had not given its approval for it to fly, the party asked. It was a private tour of the governor and as per the

law, not only the governor, but even the chief minister cannot use a state plane for such purposes. The Chief Minister's Office (CMO) has acted in accordance with law, it said.

"But Leader of Opposition Devendra Fadnis accused the state government of being egoistic. The country knows who is indulging in politics of ego. Despite the death of over 200 farmers on Delhi borders over the three farm laws, the government is not ready to withdraw them. Isn't that ego?" the Uddhav Thackeray-led party asked.

BIRD FLU IN MAHARASHTRA

151 more birds found dead

Over 5L poultry birds were killed in Navapur alone to contain the spread

SANJAY JOG
Mumbai

A total of 151 birds including 134 poultry birds have been found dead due to avian influenza in Maharashtra. The samples are being sent to National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases in Bhopal and Disease Investigation Section, Pune for testing.

So far, 7,12,172 poultry birds including 5,78,360 birds from Navapur have been scientifically destroyed from the 1 km radius of infected zones. The department of animal husbandry said 19,68,181 eggs



and 72,974 poultry feed have also been destroyed from infected zones across the state.

The state government has stepped up the vigil in Navapur which has been a poultry hub with 27 farms. The Nandurbar district administration has deployed more than 100 special teams

to carry out culling of nearly 9 lakh poultry birds in phases in Navapur.

The state government has delegated powers to the district collectors under the provisions of Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animal Act, 2009 for the prevention, control and eradication of avian influenza.

The state government has urged the poultry farmers to follow strict biosecurity measures while the chicken shop proprietors have been directed to use gloves, mask, covering mouth and nose, strict hygiene practices in the shop.

Today's breed of sadhus is unworthy: Wadettiwar

Says they are keen on making money and in building properties. BJP slams the minister, seeks apology

SANJAY JOG
Mumbai

Congress minister Vijay Wadettiwar stoked controversy after he termed sadhus as mentally handicapped and busy in making money for themselves. Wadettiwar claimed that the new breed of sadhus are unworthy.

Wadettiwar, who has been under attack from various pro-Maratha organisations for creating a divide between them and OBC on the

reservation issue, however, said there has been a huge difference between sadhus and saints. "Maharashtra has a rich cultural background in which saints have played a major role in the state's development. Saints devote their lives for society and they are guides for the people. On the other hand, sadhus extract money from the people as they are interested to build property," noted the minister.

He called upon the OBC community not to follow



sadhus but chart their path on the principles laid down

by saints. "Don't believe in sadhus. Today's sadhus keep the people engaged in blind faith and bigotry," he reiterated.

Wadettiwar was attacked by BJP for making derogatory remarks against sadhus. The party has demanded that the minister should apologise or face the consequences.

However, Wadettiwar said he will stick to his statement saying those who want to criticise him are free to do so.



Now, ED questions bizman Sachin Joshi in money laundering case

STAFF REPORTER / Mumbai

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) which is investigating several money-laundering cases questioned businessman Sachin Joshi on Saturday.

While the agency has not disclosed the exact details, the questioning is likely done in connection with the Omkar group probed under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA). Joshi from JMJ group had come to the limelight in 2017 when he had purchased businessman Vijay Mallya's Kingfisher Villa in Goa.

To recall, the ED arrested Babul Varma and Kamal Kishore Gupta, promoters of M/s Omkar Group, under the provisions of the PMLA.

The anti-money laundering agency has initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Aurangabad police, Maharashtra under Section 34, 406 and 420 of Indian Penal Code against promoters of Omkar Group.

According to the FIR, Omkar Realtors and Developers Pvt Ltd and its directors bought a firm M/s Surana Construction which had SRA rights for redevelopment of Anand Nagar SRA Cooperative Housing Society, Wadala, Mumbai. However, M/s Omkar and its promoters did not pay back the amount due to the seller and also mortgaged future FSI of the said SRA project and took huge amounts of loans.

"Investigation under PMLA revealed that the loans to the tune of ₹410 crores were diverted and not used for intended purposes," the agency has earlier stated. The Omkar group has earlier denied allegations of any wrongdoing.



NMMC ELECTION

Toll collection once again a major issue during polls

AMIT SRIVASTAVA
Navi Mumbai

The toll collection at Sion-Panvel highway in Navi Mumbai is going to be a major poll issue during the local body election of Navi Mumbai. The third front, formed with 13 political parties are going to raise this issue during the election campaign, and it has promised to remove the toll collection within 40 km in Navi Mumbai if it comes to power.

Afsar Imam, chief of Samajwadi Party Navi Mumbai unit says that during the one-day mind-boggling session at Vishnudas Bhawe auditorium in Vashi held early this week, it was decided to focus on education, health, slum rehabilitation and the toll issue. "All the 13 parties representatives including their

workers present during the session, we all echoed in the same voice to work on education, health, slum rehabilitation and the toll issue," said Imam.

Abu Azmi of Samajwadi Party said that the despite the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) being rich, common citizens have to rely on private hospital for treatments. "We will work on education and health primarily in Navi Mumbai," said Azmi.

Earlier, the front also claimed that their stalwart leaders would campaign the local body election. Well-known orator Kanhaiya Kumar, who is the national executive council member of the Community Party of India (CPI) is likely to campaign during the civic election of Navi Mumbai.

Ulwe plot sold for ₹2,13,786 per sqm, 6 times of base price

CIDCO earns ₹346 crore by auctioning 15 plots in four nodes

AMIT SRIVASTAVA / Navi Mumbai

The City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) has churned out Rs 346.76 crore by selling 15 residential cum commercial plots in Kharghar, Kalam-boli, Sampada, and Ulwe node of Navi Mumbai. A plot admeasuring 4,176.3 sqm in sector 19 in Ulwe received the highest bid of Rs 2,13,786 per sqm, almost six times of base price. The plots were sold through the e-auction process.

The planning agency made Rs 3,46,76,09,707 by auctioning 15 plots. In two consec-

utive auctioning, CIDCO earned Rs 677 crore by selling 19 plots across the city.

However, most of the plots were sold at double the price and one and a half times of the base price. In the past, such kinds of plot had attracted even seven to eight times of the base price. Developers say that the price is reasonable and this can be a stimulus for the real estate sector in the city.

Haresh Chheda, president of Builders Association of Navi Mumbai (BANM) said that the price is reasonable given the current market condition. "The good supply

of plots will tide over the scarcity of lands and it will help in stabilizing the price of homes," said Chheda. The base price of these plots offered through e-auctioning was between Rs 44,689 and Rs 95,074 per sqm. These plots can be developed with from 1.1 to 1.5 FSI. However, developers can use more FSI as per the rules by paying an extra premium.

The base price of Ulwe plot admeasuring 4,176.3 sqm located at sector 19 was 36,061 per sqm and it received the highest bid of Rs 2,13,786 per sqm from NMS Enterprises, that is almost six times.

MU declares BMS Sem 5 results

RONALD RODRIGUES
Mumbai

Over 15,090 students have passed as the results of Bachelor of Management Studies (BMS) programme semester 5 were declared on Saturday by the University of Mumbai (MU). The pass percentage of the winter semester results of BMS course is 97.51 per cent.

Out of 16,528 students who appeared for winter semester examination, 15,090 cleared the exam leading to a pass percentage of 97.51 per cent. The result of this examination is published on the university website <http://www.mumresults.in/>. Till now, MU has declared



results of 55 examinations of the winter session. According to directions of MU, affiliated degree colleges and universities conducted winter semester examinations of Arts, Commerce and Science programmes by December 31, 2020, and completed examinations of engineering, architecture, pharmacy and Master of Computer Applications (MCA) professional courses by January 15, 2021.

2 men drown after car falls into well in Jalna

AGENCIES
Jalna

Two persons were killed when their car fell into a well in a village in Jalna district, police said on Saturday.

The accident took place late Friday evening, when the car travelling towards Deulgaon Raja in Buldhana district veered towards the wrong side of the road in the dark and fell into a well at Jamwadi, an official said.

The two occupants of the vehicle Shaikh Abdul Manan Sager (26), a resident



of Pangri Road and Shahu Nagar resident Azhar Qureshi (23) died as a result of drowning, he said.

The well was full to the brim and it was difficult to fish out the bodies, the official said, adding that a crane was used to bring the car out of the well.

65% pvt hospitals in Thane lack fire safety measures, says TMC

AGENCIES / Thane

The Thane Municipal Corporation (TMC) on Saturday said that 65.20 per cent private hospitals in the city have not complied with fire safety regulations despite repeated reminders.

In an official release, the civic body said that there are 347 private hospitals in the city. The TMC recently conducted a fire audit of these facilities.

However, 28 of them were found to be shut. Of the remaining 319 hospitals, 111 found to have complied with the fire safety regulations and submitted the certificates, it said.

The remaining 208, which comes to 65.20 per cent are yet to comply with the fire safety norms and submit their certificates, the release said.

The civic body has given time till February 22 to these 208 hospitals for compliance, in the absence of which they will face severe action, it added.

Delhi-Mumbai expressway will ease traffic load: Gadkari

AGENCIES / Pune

Once completed, the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway will ease the current traffic load on the Pune-Mumbai Expressway, Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Saturday after reviewing various road projects in Pune and western Maharashtra.

Addressing a press conference after inspecting the un-

der-construction multi-level flyover project at Chandni Chowk in Pune, Gadkari said he had instructed officials concerned, contractors and local civic bodies to prepare a plan to ensure that the work gets completed during the next one year.

The BJP MP also reiterated that motorists would have to pay road tax if they need "good services". "The Delhi-Mumbai Ex-



pressway work is going on. (Once completed), it will ease the traffic load on

Pune-Mumbai Expressway as a bulk of traffic between northern and southern states currently pass through the Mumbai-Pune Expressway," he told reporters.

The Delhi-Mumbai Expressway is a proposed 1,250-km long controlled-access highway connecting the national capital with the commercial capital of the country.

Gadkari said the main reason behind heavy traffic on the Pune-Mumbai Expressway is that vehicles coming from northern states pass through this highway to travel further towards southern states.

"But the proposed 12-lane Delhi-Mumbai Expressway will ease the traffic congestion on Mumbai-Pune Expressway and other westerly highways," he said.

Tejas Express to halt at Andheri Stn till March 29

MUMBAI: For the convenience of passengers, Western Railway has decided to provide a halt to train no 82901/82902 Mumbai Central - Ahmedabad Tejas Express at Andheri station on a temporary basis till March 29. The train is

resuming its services from February 14 and will depart from Mumbai Central & arrival/departure time at Borivali station of train no 82901 and arrival time of train no 82902 at Borivali, have also been revised accordingly. — STAFF REPORTER



BACK ON CAMPUS

Some degree colleges set to resume offline from Monday

Other colleges play it safe; await a final nod from disaster management authorities

RONALD RODRIGUES
Mumbai

With no clarity about the process, some degree colleges said they will reopen offline lectures on February 15 while, others said they will wait for a final nod from the disaster management authorities. Degree colleges said they have not received a go-ahead from the Brihanmumbai MuniawaitCorporation (BMC) and the directorate of higher education to reopen offline lectures. Also, students are not yet allowed to commute by suburban train services during peak hours.

Degree colleges said they have initiated Covid-19 preparedness like sanitising classrooms, initiating body temperature checks, and placing signboards on campus to maintain distancing.

Pooja Ramchandani, in-charge principal of HR College, Churchgate, said, "We are prepared to reopen offline lectures from Monday as per directions of the



Colleges have sanitised classrooms and have initiated body temperature checks at entry/exit points — File Photo

Even though we are prepared to start offline lectures, we are not sure if students are willing to come to college amidst fear of the spread of Covid-19 infection

- Pooja Ramchandani, in-charge principal of HR College, Churchgate

state higher and technical education department. We

have sanitised classrooms, corridors and initiated

body temperature checks at entry and exit points."

Ramchandani further added, "Even though we are prepared to start offline lectures, we are not sure if students are willing to come to college amidst fear of the spread of Covid-19 infection.

"Also, we will continue conducting regular online

lectures for those who are unable to commute to college due to time restrictions in suburban train services."

In addition, degree colleges are awaiting a final nod from the BMC and directorate of higher education. Zariné Bhatena, principal of Bhavan's College, Andheri west, said, "We need clarity on standard operating procedures (SOPs), safety protocols and precautionary measures from local administrative authorities before reopening offline lectures. The University of Mumbai (MU) has released guidelines but, the disaster management authorities know the ground level situation so they need to give a final nod."

After 10 months of lockdown necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic, degree colleges and universities have been directed to reopen offline lectures from February 15, 2021, with 50 per cent attendance on a rotational basis by the state higher and technical education department.

Consent for sex invalid if boy doesn't tell girl that his parents won't accept her: HC

NARSI BENWAL
Mumbai

If a girl consents to have sexual intercourse after the man marries her but conceals the fact that his family won't accept her, then the consent won't be valid, held the Aurangabad bench of the High Court. The HC pronounced the ruling while dismissing a plea filed by a man, who sought quashing of the FIR filed against him under charges of rape.

A bench of Justices Tanaji Nalawade and Mukund Sewliker was dealing with a plea filed by a 30-year-old Patna resident seeking to quash the FIR registered against him on a complaint filed by a Latur-based woman. The woman claimed to have become friends with the accused while they were working together in a company at Kolkata. The accused later on took her to a trip to Shimla and there he made sexual advances, however, the victim refused to indulge in any sexual activity since they weren't married.

As per the FIR, the accused applied kumkum on the victim's head and even made her wear his own ring. Then, he claimed that since they were now married, they can have



sex. Accordingly, the victim consented to sexual intercourse and she was subjected to the same throughout the time they both stayed in Shimla. After their return from Shimla, the accused avoided marrying the victim on the ground that he wants his elder sister to first marry. But later on, revealed that he won't marry her since his family won't accept her as she belongs to a lower caste. Having considered the facts, the bench said, "At the relevant time,

he did not make her aware of the obstacles that could be created by his parents. He projected before her that he was ready to marry her and actually got married to her in the temple. Thereafter, she submitted herself to the desire of accused." "If he had made known to her that his parents would not consent for their marriage, she would not have submitted herself to his desire to have physical relations. This clearly indicates that he concealed this fact from her and obtained her consent projecting as if his parents would not go against his wish," the judges noted further.

The judges further noted that the accused did not tell the victim that her belonging to a lower caste would be a huge obstacle in their marriage as his parents won't accept her.

"These factual aspects clearly demonstrate that the consent was obtained by a misconception of fact. He had no intention to marry her right from the inception," the judges held.

"The position would have been different if he had made it clear to her that his parents might not give consent for their marriage and still she would have had submitted to his desire for sexual intercourse," the bench opined.

Phone-tapping legal for detection, probe of corruption cases: Court

BHAVNA UCHIL
Mumbai

Holding that interception can very well legally be done for detection and investigation of acts of corruption, special CBI court on Thursday rejected the application by an accused in a corruption case in which he wanted the court to reject the CBI's phone interception evidence as he claimed they violated the fundamental right of accused to privacy guaranteed by the Constitution. The court said provision Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act permits interception for 'preventing incitement to the commission of offence'. "The act



of soliciting bribe by or for a public servant for getting some favour does fall under the 'incitement for the commission of offence', it held and said that interception can very well legally be done for detection and investigation of such incitement and such offences. As per CBI's case, applicant and

accused Ravinder Kumar had booked to and fro flight tickets for Additional SP, CBI, EOW Mangat Rai Shori in exchange for the latter informing him details of action underway against Kumar, then an FIR named accused in another case.

Kumar in his plea also disputed that due procedure was followed in the interception of Shori's two mobile numbers. Special CBI judge Vivek V. Kathare said in his order that Kumar's prayer to disregard or discard prosecution evidence midway when the trial is on the verge of completion cannot be accepted. It further said that it appears even at this stage that interception was done following due procedure.

MEGA BLOCK

Launch of girders giving authorities jitters

Expect a 16-20 hours of long haul between Thane-Diva in March or April

SHASHANK RAO/ Mumbai

Every weekend the railways carry out 'blocks' on rail lines as they name them jumbo or mega for upkeep and maintenance of rail infrastructure. But there are some days when these works are humongous in nature requiring hours. One such block of 16-20 hours is expected next month or in April which is already giving jitters to the authorities. This is not just because of the nature of work but also due to the fact that it has the potential to disconnect Thane district with Mumbai for those many hours or force motorists to take a long detour via Navi Mumbai. We are talking about the last leg of the Thane-Diva fifth and sixth rail lines for which two 75 metre-long girders need to be launched over the highway amidst dense residential and commercial areas near Mumbra Bypass road. "We are trying to work out a feasible solution so that motorists face the least inconvenience and are in discussion with MRVC," said Balasaheb Patil, DCP, Thane Traffic



Police. At present, there is no alternative east-west connecting bridge for vehicles to pass apart from Mumbra Bypass. All the heavy containers coming and going towards JNPT take the Mumbra Bypass road. The railway officials said that they are hoping to complete work on Kopri road over the bridge by mid-March while the work of Diva ROB and at Kalyan is a long way to go. "There was hardly any space for keeping these two girders next to the tracks, on road. We require anywhere up to 16-20 hours of a block to launch them and install it as part of finishing 5-6 rail lines of Thane-Diva," said an official from Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation (MRVC) that is doing this Rs 550 crore project that started in 2008 at an initial cost of Rs 180 crore.

According to plans, the girders are ready; these have been brought from other parts of the country and assembled here. In November last year, the first metal girder was assembled and gradually shifted making space for assembling the second one. If this was not big enough, a big problem arose; it's raising and installation that would require shutting down road traffic from Nashik and Gujarat end vital to connect the JNPT port as well as Mumbai. "We are in talks with the local authorities for the block. We have completed 80 percent of the work and by December this year the work will be complete," said R Khurana, Chairman and Managing Director, MRVC. The rail authorities claim that they want to finish it in one go so that another such massive block isn't needed. They are looking at taking this block in March or April depending on the permissions that we will get and other factors too. Sources said that ideally, they are aiming to start work by 4 am or so and take until late evening. The rail and local authorities are discussing

ways to mitigate this issue so that in one go this work gets over and there is no need to make another block. Of the 10 kms stretch of these rail lines, work on 8 kms is already complete. "The project is already delayed for long. No doubt people will go through inconvenience for some hours during this block period but in the long run, it will only benefit lakhs of daily rail commuters," said Siddesh Desai, member, Mumbai Rail Pravasani Sangh. Once the girders are launched, they will connect it with the remaining portion and complete these two lines mainly meant for segregating long distance with suburban local trains. It will pave the way for the introduction of additional local services on the mainline. Thane-Diva is the CR's busiest section in the suburban network. The 9.9 km-stretch between Thane and Diva has four existing lines on which six lines (Diva-Kalyan and Thane-Kurla Lokmanya Tilak Terminus) converge, creating a bottleneck that obstructs and delays local suburban and outstation trains.

Labourer gets electrocuted in Malad, owner gets booked

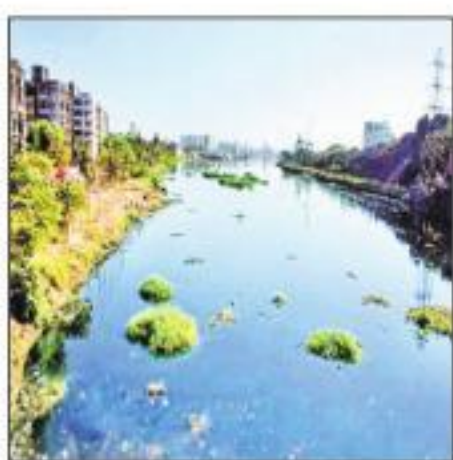
STAFF REPORTER/ Mumbai

A 40-year-old labourer was electrocuted to death in Malvani, Malad (W) during the repair work. Malvani Police have booked the owner for causing death due to negligence as he had not provided any safety measures or equipment to the worker. While police are yet to make an arrest, the search for the accused is underway. According to police sources, the incident occurred at around 11am on Friday, when the deceased, identified as Shivram Kale, was working on the repairs. Kale was employed by the accused, to work on the repairs of his house at Sadguri Society in Malvani. The accused, whose name has been withheld on request, had allegedly not given any safety gears to Kale, and during the work, Kale was exposed to a live wire on one of the walls, which electrocuted him. Before the locals could rush and intervene, in a bid to save Kale, he had died on the spot. Police were informed about the incident, who rushed to the hospital, where he was declared before admission.

Consultant to be appointed for Mithi River development project

PRATIP ACHARYA
Mumbai

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) will soon appoint a consultant for chalking out a master plan and drafting a detailed project report for flood mitigation measures and environmental protection along the Mithi River. Alongside this, the consultant will also guide the Mumbai civic body in transforming the river banks into a key tourist hotspot. This is a part of the civic body's 'Rejuvenation of Rivers' project, in which the process of widening the rivers, curbing water pollution levels, and desilting works will be carried out in a phased manner. Alongside the Mithi, for this project, BMC has also earned the Poisar, Oshiwara, and Dahisar rivers as well. In the 2021-22 municipal budget, BMC has allotted a provisional Rs 50 crores fund for this project and civic officials stated tenders for the appointing consultants have been floated already. "The consultant will study the topography and flow of the river and chalk out a plan for creating a sewerage network so that pollution level could be curbed," a senior civic official told FPI. "Alongside improving the water quality, we are aiming to beautify the banks of the river so that it can



be turned into a tourist hotspot as well," the official added. The civic official stated, 95 per cent of river widening and deepening have already been completed and the construction of retaining wall by the river have been finished by 80 per cent so far. The civic body is carrying out the Mithi River rejuvenation plan in four phases. In the first phase the BMC will carry out the construction of interceptors and sewage lines, in the second phase a retaining wall and service road will be constructed, in the third phase flood gates will be installed in some of the key flooding points in the vicinity of the river and in the fourth phase, a tunnel will be constructed between Ghatkopar waste facility and Bapat Nalla. Officials stated that the holding capacity of the retaining walls has increased by three times and the carrying capacity of the river has also increased by two times.

BMC to erect wall to prevent contamination of Thane Creek

PRATIP ACHARYA
Mumbai

In order to protect the Thane Creek from getting contaminated, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has decided to set up a boundary wall adjoining the creek. According to civic officials, Mumbai generates approximately 5,500 Metric Tonnes (MT) of garbage daily, of which nearly 4,100 MT is dumped at the dumping ground at Bhandup while the remaining 1,400 MT of garbage is dumped at Deonar dumping ground daily. From the dumping grounds, piles of garbage often collapse into the creek which contaminates the water. Local residents have also stated, toxic liquids from the garbage piles get spilled over the creek. Civic officials stated the proposed wall will be made with a vinyl coating so that it will prevent the toxic liquids from percolating from the sides of the wall into the creek surface. "With the help of synthetic coating, we could easily separate the liquids and dump it elsewhere for further treatment," said a senior official from the BMC, Solid Waste Management department.

Anti-Narcotics Cell nabs 2 with 1,800 kg of ganja worth ₹3.5cr

STAFF REPORTER
Mumbai

As a part of a constant crackdown against drug and drug peddlers in the city, the Ghatkopar unit of Mumbai Police's Anti-Narcotics Cell (ANC) arrested two men and seized 1,800 kg cannabis aka ganja valued at ₹3.5 crore from them, which was being brought from Odisha. Police said that the arrests were made from Vikhroli on Friday evening, wherein they arrested two men, who were getting trucks loaded with the contraband under the guise of importing coconuts. Milind Bharambe, Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime), said that they had received a tip-off about a drug consignment being smuggled in the city, acting in which all routes in the city were put on high alert for contraband. On Friday evening, at around 5.20 pm, police spotted a Tata truck matching the description in the tip-off and intercepted it on the Eastern Express Highway near Vikhroli. Upon checking the vehicle thoroughly, police found a large amount of Cannabis aka Ganja stashed in the truck. "We found

1,800 kilograms of Ganja, valued at ₹3.5 crore from the truck. They were immediately booked under relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance (NDPS) Act. The contraband was being smuggled in Mumbai from Odisha, the probe has revealed," said Bharambe.

The arrested accused have been identified as Akash Yadav, 25, and Dineshkumar Saroj, 26, while the kingpin of the inter-state smuggling racket has been identified as Laxmikant Pradhan, a Ganjam resident in Odisha, added Bharambe. Revealing the modus operandi, police said that the accused used to bring five tonnes of Ganja in Maharashtra every month and it was distributed in Mumbai and neighbouring districts. Police also identified a man who distributed the contraband in the state as Sandeep Satpute, who supplied from a godown in Bhiwandi to Mumbai and suburbs, Thane, Palghar, Vasai, Virar, and Surat. A primary probe has revealed that at least 2.5 tonnes of cannabis used to be smuggled in the state every fortnight.



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BMC to accelerate Covid testing in G North ward

MUMBAI: As part of its routine testing drive, BMC has decided to accelerate testing to reach out to maximum number of citizens in the Dadar, Dharavi and Mahim areas. Local BMC ward level officials of G North ward will be carrying

out testing in 13 different locations between February 13 and 15. According to officials fever camps and mobile testing centers will be set up in some of the residential areas, where RT PCR and HRC testing will be carried out. —Staff Reporter

MUMBAI/STATE

MUMBAI | SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 14, 2021

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STEEP FALL IN CITY'S COVID DEATH RATIO

226 succumbed to the virus in January 2021 as compared to October 2020's 1,281 deaths

3,611 new cases in Maharashtra

SWAPNIL MISHRA
Mumbai

There has been a steep fall in the number of Covid-19 deaths across Mumbai in the last four months. According to the data provided by the civic health department, 1,281 people have succumbed to the deadly SARS-CoV-2 virus in October 2020 compared to 226 corona deaths reported in January. Officials have attributed this drop to the awareness amongst the citizens with respect to corona. Moreover, with the help of immediate investigation and treatment, doctors are succeeding in saving the lives of patients. However, the health experts have urged citizens to follow Covid-19 norms as the cases are increasing on a daily basis which is a matter of concern.

In the first week of April, there were 768 cases and 56 deaths in Mumbai. The mortality rate was 7 to 8 per cent, while the state's average was 8.46 per cent, which gradually came down to 5 per cent, and then fell further to 3 per cent.

Later in June, there was a problem of data reconciliation as some deaths were not



IN LAST 4 MONTHS

Month	Deaths	Fatality rate
Oct	1281	14.2%
Nov	535	5.20%
Dec	297	2.74%
Jan 2021	226	2.03%

accounted for in the city's Covid mortality figures, after this, the death rate rose sharply again. In September,

the fatality rate came down, but in October, it again rose to 3 per cent. In the last two months, it was around 2 per cent before coming down to 1.44 per cent last week.

Dr. Avinash Supe, head of the covid-19 death review committee said they had analysed cases and studied parameters and also observed data about the patients. Moreover, they had intensively studied 700-800

cases and realised that many patients were coming late and dying immediately. "In the initial phase of coronavirus, the patients used to take five to six days to reach hospitals after they felt symptoms. They used to wait for 2 to 3 days for getting tests done. In April and May, 63 per cent of the deaths happened in the first 48 hours, and this was a huge number. But now the scenario has totally changed as the patients are now understanding the important corona symptoms and they immediately consult their doctors before getting it too late," he said.

Dr. Mangala Gomre, Executive Health Officer, BMC said that presently the death rate of Mumbai has reached 1.4 per cent which was earlier very high. "In order to reduce the death rate, we did much planning and work was not done on it, but with the decrease in the number of new patients, the number of death have also fallen significantly," she said. Meanwhile, 80 per cent of the overall 11,407 covid-19 deaths were more than 50-years of age and had comorbidities following they succumbed.

65% of daily target inoculated on Friday

SWAPNIL MISHRA / Mumbai

Sixty-five per cent healthcare and frontline workers were vaccinated on Friday at the 23 vaccine centres of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). For the second consecutive day, the civic body had targeted to vaccinate 10,000 beneficiaries in a single day. According to the data shared by the civic body, 6,482 of 10,000 of Health Care Workers (HCWs) and Front Line Workers (FLWs) were inoculated in the last 24 hours. Overall, 65 per cent beneficiaries were vaccinated compared to the 61 per cent reported just a day before. Suresh Kakani, additional municipal commissioner in charge of BMC's public health department, said, "Initially, the speed of the drive was low and now it is picking up, and we will be able to complete the drive in the targeted time. BMC noticed that whenever senior doctors have not participated in the drive and taken vaccine shots, the turnout is low. Where senior doctors have also taken the vaccine, other HCWs

THE NUMBERS

Medical Officer: 11,679
Nurses, supervisors: 5,614
Other medical staff: 5,316
Scientist: 192
Medical students: 1,261
Regional Med staff: 1,896
Admin staff: 3,355
Other health workers: 9,270
Others: 38,583

are more confident and the turnout is high."

2nd round from Feb 15

The Maharashtra government will start giving the second dose of COVID-19 vaccine to the healthcare workers from February 15, an official said. Those healthcare workers, who have received their first dose of the vaccine and completed the four-week period, will be eligible for the second dose as per the standard guidelines laid down by central health ministry, the official from the state health department.

Maharashtra on Friday reported 3,611 new infections and 38 covid-19 deaths, pushing its overall count to 20,60,186, with 51,489 fatalities till now. It is the fourth day the state has recorded more than 3,000 cases. Meanwhile, the active cases in the state have slightly increased to 33,269 from 31,474 which was until Thursday. Mumbai, meanwhile, reported 529 corona cases and six covid-19 deaths in the last 24 hours, increasing its tally to 3,13,431, with 11,413 fatalities so far.

Experts are not comfortable with the overall progress, saying that the state is still in a dangerous situation as cases are not going down. They further warned that this situation may change for the worse as people have become careless about following Covid-appropriate behaviour.

Dr. Rahul Pandit, a member of the state covid-19 task force said the SARS-CoV-2 virus has not gone completely from the country for

which each and every individual needs to follow covid-19 protocols to protect themselves and the community. Moreover, it is shocking Mumbai has witnessed a surge in cases, while some parts of the state are still witnessing an increase in numbers.

"I agree the situation [Covid-19 cases] is not improving, but the position we are in is better than before. It is going to take some more time before we have full control of the situation. The vaccination drive, as it reaches the common people, will start showing positive effects," he said.

"Even though we are in a better situation than what we were in May and September, strict masking and social distancing need to be continued. Whatever we could achieve so far is because of the relentless efforts of our civic staff. We now want to focus on vaccination and ensure that we scale up our vaccine centres for a smooth implementation," said Suresh Kakani, Additional Municipal Commissioner.

Painting their way to swachhta!

SURESH GOLANI
Mira-Bhayandar

More than six years after the launch of central government's flagship project-Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) on October 2, 2014, all municipal bodies across the country have been striving hard to keep pace with the parameters of cleanliness including implementation of waste segregation and turning their respective areas into open defecation free (ODF) zone.

However, the Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation (MBMC) as a part of their ambitious campaign to beautify the twin-city has embarked on a silent yet significant and colourful mission which was deprived of much needed attention.

MBMC's sanitation department led by deputy municipal commissioner- Dr. Sambhaji Panpatte in association with local NGO's



MBMC takes a colourful route towards a swachh twin-city

municipal corporators, members of co-operative housing societies and alert citizens have started painting walls with picturesque designs themed on various social messages like- save girl child, protect trees, preserve the environment, save

water, stop pollution, promote cleanliness and hygiene.

"Apart from the routine cleanliness duties and tackling other sanitation issues, we have trained our attention on eliminating black spots (walls at dead ends

and corners of streets turned into garbage dumps) through the art of painting. We have also roped in students from Sir J.J. School of Art to brighten up the environment with their beautiful and eye-catching paintings," said, Dr. Panpatte.

"It's a very good move by the civic administration and we have received a positive response from the citizens as well. Society office bearers are coming out in support of the initiative," says municipal corporator-Hema Belani.

The MBMC claims to provide superior quality paint and other material to ensure that the work-of-art remains for a couple of years. Notably, the MBMC had climbed 111 steps from its 130th position in 2017 to clinch the 19th spot in the fifth edition of the Swachh Bharat Survey last year by scoring 4,608.14 out of 6,000 points in the pan-India ranking exercise.

Hafta havoc: Three women held for attack on hawkker

SURESH GOLANI
Mira-Bhayandar

Reveal names on behalf of whom the goons were seeking money, demand locals

Ten days after they allegedly attacked a roadside vegetable vendor in Mira Road for not paying them the monthly hafta (protection money), three women were arrested for their reported involvement in the crime on Thursday.

However, their six accomplices including the prime accused identified as Babu Babar are still absconding. In his statement to the police, the complainant identified

as Ajit Vijay Londhe, 31, said that the goons approached his vegetable cart near the Mira Road railway station with a demand of Rs. 4,000 per month as hafta if he wanted to continue vending on that spot.

Irate over Londhe's refusal, the goons mounted a violent assault on him, resulting in a fracture on his left hand and other injuries. The assault took place in broad daylight

on January 31, but the FIR was registered on February 6.

Local citizens have demanded the revelation of names on behalf of whom the goons were demanding extortion money. The incident has not only exposed the thriving multi crore hafta racket which flourishes in the twin-city, but also the inaction and failure of the police and the Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation

(MBMC) towards taking steps to weed out the menace.

It is learnt that in many areas, goons have been designated to collect hafta from hawkers and roadside stalls, as the collection runs into lakhs of rupees every month. The pick-and-choose policy of the civic administration to target particular hawkers who do not pay hafta is also under the scanner. In some markets, the money is paid on a weekly basis, while in others it is a daily bribe.

More parking spaces in Thane soon

THANE: Citizens may soon be allotted with more parking space in Thane. The announcement on the same was recently done by the TMC chief Dr Vipin Sharma, in coordination with Thane traffic police department.

The issue was highlighted in the meeting held between TMC commissioner and Thane Traffic police commissioner, Balasaheb Patil and along with other traffic officials, on Friday.

"The civic officials including assistant commissioners and executive engineers have been directed to carry out survey to list out open space within the city in order to provide pay and parking system for citizens," said a TMC official.

Besides, the officials also instructed to take action on big vehicles like school buses parked aside the road causing traffic snarls, informed an official.

"The survey will be carried out ward-wise and all the selected spaces within Thane wards will be finalized by March 15," said the TMC official.

EBIXCASH WORLD MONEY INDIA LIMITED
(Formerly Known As 'WEIZMANN FOREX LIMITED')
CIN: L65990MH1985PLC037697
Regd. Office : 8th Floor, Manek Plaza, Kalina CST Road, Kolkalyan, Santacruz (E), Mumbai 400098
Corporate Office : 2nd Floor, Manek Plaza, Kalina, CST Road, Vidya Nagri Marg, Kalina, Santacruz (East), Mumbai 400 098.
Tel:- +91-22-62881500 Website: www.indiaforexonline.com Email: corp.relations@ebixcash.com

SR NO	PARTICULARS	CONSOLIDATED		
		Quarter Ended 31 Dec 2020 (Unaudited)	Nine Months Ended 31 Dec 2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter Ended 31 Dec 2019 (Unaudited)
1	Total Income from Operations	32,357.89	80,264.74	1,36,575.15
2	Net Profit before Tax	1,927.07	5,153.81	3,116.60
3	Net Profit for the period after Tax	1,442.06	3,856.70	2,030.68
4	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive income]	1,440.56	3,870.19	2,029.95
5	Equity Share Capital	1,112.79	1,112.79	1,112.79
6	Other Equity (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year	-	-	-
7	Earnings per share (for continuing and discontinuing operations) (of ₹ 10 each) (not annualised)*			
	(a) Basic (Rs.)	* 12.96	* 34.66	* 18.25
	(b) Diluted (Rs.)	* 12.96	* 34.66	* 18.25

Notes :

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financials Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites. (www.bseindia.com / www.nseindia.com) and Company's website www.indiaforexonline.com.
- These results have been prepared in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standard (referred to as 'Ind AS') 34 Interim Financial Reporting prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules as amended from time to time. The above Statement of Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and Nine months ended December 31, 2020 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on February 12, 2021. The Statutory Auditors have conducted Limited Review of the results in terms of Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015, as amended.
- The Company has considered the possible effects that may result from COVID-19 in the preparation of these interim financial results including the recoverability of carrying amounts of trade receivables, inventories, and other financial assets and non-financial assets. The Company has assessed the impact for existing and anticipated effects of COVID-19 on the future cash flow projections on the basis of significant assumptions as per the available information. The Company has comfortable liquidity position to meet its commitments and in addition the funds are expected to be generated from the operating activities. The Company has undertaken various cost saving initiatives to maximise operating cash flows and conserve cash position in the given situation. Based on aforesaid assessment, management believes that as per estimates made conservatively, the Company will continue as a going concern. The Company continues to monitor any material changes to its COVID-19 impact assessment, resulting from the future economic conditions and future uncertainty, if any.
- The above financial result has been reviewed by the statutory auditors as required under Regulations 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015, as amended.

FOR EBIXCASH WORLD MONEY INDIA LIMITED
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS WEIZMANN FOREX LIMITED)

Sd/-
SATYA BUSHAN KOTRU
CHAIRMAN
DIN: 01729176

Mumbai, 12th February, 2021

Sunteck Realty Limited

CIN: L32100MH1981PLC025346
Email: cosec@sunteckindia.com

PRE-SALES GROWTH

75% (Q-o-Q)

COLLECTIONS GROWTH

79% (Q-o-Q)

SR NO	PARTICULARS	CONSOLIDATED		
		Quarter Ended 31 Dec 2020 (Unaudited)	Nine Months Ended 31 Dec 2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter Ended 31 Dec 2019 (Unaudited)
1	Total Income from Operations	20,464.74	40,076.31	17,114.27
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	3,051.62	4,579.71	3,165.88
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	3,051.62	4,579.71	3,165.88
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	2,214.77	3,290.23	2,513.31
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/ (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	2,080.42	2,795.74	2,621.01
6	Paid up equity share capital (Face Value of Re. 1 each)	1,403.72	1,403.72	1,403.72
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year	-	-	-
8	Earnings per share (of Re. 1 each) (not annualised) (for continuing and discontinued operations)			
	a) Basic	1.58	2.34	1.75
	b) Diluted	1.58	2.34	1.73

SR NO	PARTICULARS	STANDALONE		
		Quarter Ended 31 Dec 2020 (Unaudited)	Nine Months Ended 31 Dec 2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter Ended 31 Dec 2019 (Unaudited)
1	Total Income from Operations	11,455.92	23,911.04	6,653.70
2	Profit before tax	2,312.62	4,797.97	3,801.95
3	Profit after tax	1,687.96	4,093.00	4,093.92

Notes:

- The above unaudited results (Standalone and Consolidated) for the quarter and nine months ended 31st December, 2020 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 13th February, 2021. The unaudited financial results for the quarter and nine months ended 31st December, 2020 have been limited reviewed by the Statutory Auditors of the Company.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of standalone and consolidated Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended on 31st December, 2020 filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the standalone and consolidated Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended 31st December, 2020 are available on the Stock Exchanges Websites (www.nseindia.com, www.bseindia.com) and Company's website (www.sunteckindia.com)

For and on behalf of Board of Directors of Sunteck Realty Limited

Place: Mumbai
Date: 13th February, 2021

Kamal Khetan (DIN:00017527)
Chairman & Managing Director

Reg. Office : 5th Floor, Sunteck Centre, Subhash Road, Vile Parle (E), Mumbai - 400057 | www.sunteckindia.com | cosec@sunteckindia.com | 022 4287 7800

TENDER NOTICE
(issued without prejudice)

SEA FLAMA (DOSTI FLAMINGOS) CHS LTD.

Address: Dosti Flamingos, Tokeshi Jivraj Marg, Parel-Seewee, Mumbai 400015
Reg. no: MUMWF51HS/TC/9014/Year 2010.
Ph: 0224123007, Email: seafalama@gmail.com
Sealed Tenders are invited from organizations having relevant work experience for carrying out the repairs of the plumbing system and infrastructure of the building Sea Flama.
Tender Documents will be available at the Sea Flama CHS premises from 15th Feb 2021, 11:00 AM to 06:30 PM to 19th Feb 2021, 06:30 PM at a cost of Rs 1000.
Duly completed sealed Tender Documents are to be submitted to the Society Office latest by 23rd Feb 2021, 06:00 PM.
The Tender Documents will be opened on 26th Feb 2021 at 12:00 PM, and shortlisted companies will be notified & called for further representation(s).
The society reserves the right to reject any/all of the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

epaper of www.freepressjournal.in

Radio a fantastic medium that deepens social connect: PM

NEW DELHI: PM Modi on Saturday described radio as a fantastic medium which deepens social connect, as he extended his greetings to the countrymen on the World Radio Day.

Radio Day! Greetings to all radio listeners and kudos to all those who keep the radio buzzing with innovative content and music. This is a fantastic medium, which deepens social connect.

Tikait against SKM Rail Roko on Feb 18

SRAWAN SHUKLA Lucknow

Difference of opinion resurfaced within Sanyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) when the Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) chief Naresh Tikait opposed the 'Rail Roko' call given by the morcha to intensify farmers' agitation.

"We are not in favour of holding programmes to stop rails or buses. We should not indulge in any activity which causes problems to the general public. It is our duty to ensure that our agitation is peaceful and it does not affect the lives of people of the country," said Tikait.

During the informal talks with journalists, Tikait made mention of the violence during the tractor rally organised by the morcha on Republic Day. He feared agitating farmers will lose sympathy and support from the general public if their stir turns violent again and causes trouble to people.

Tikait claimed the union has raised this issue with the morcha leaders for reconsideration.



Mahatma Gandhi's granddaughter Tara Gandhi Bhattacharya with BKU spokesperson Rakesh Tikait in Ghazipur on Saturday.

eration. "Discussion is on within Morcha whether or not to go ahead with the proposed Rail Roko programme on February 18," he claimed.

The BKU chief, however, showed an unrelenting mood and reiterated their agitation will continue till all the three farm laws are repealed and a new law is framed to ensure minimum support (MSP) to farmers' produce.

He alleged the Centre has insulted agitating farmers by

calling them 'andolan-jevis'. "The government should keep in mind farmers will not give up or succumb to their pressure tactics. They cannot issue diktats to farmers. We are united all over the country and have shown our strength," he warned.

It is not the first time difference of opinion surfaced within the morcha. Earlier, morcha leaders had shown displeasure over BKU leader Rakesh Tikait announcing to



Iqbal Singh (C in blue turban) is taken to the Red Fort for a police investigation in New Delhi on Saturday.

keep Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Delhi out of morcha's call for Bharat Bandh on February 6 without consulting morcha leaders.

High-level judicial inquiry should be ordered into Jan 26 violence and cases against farmers: Protest unions

Protesting farmer unions demanded a high-level judicial inquiry into the violence during the tractor rally in Delhi on January 26 and the alleged 'false' cases slapped

on the peasants. In a press conference at the Singhu border, SKM leaders asked farmers who are getting police notices not to appear before the force directly and instead approach the legal cell constituted by the unions for any assistance.

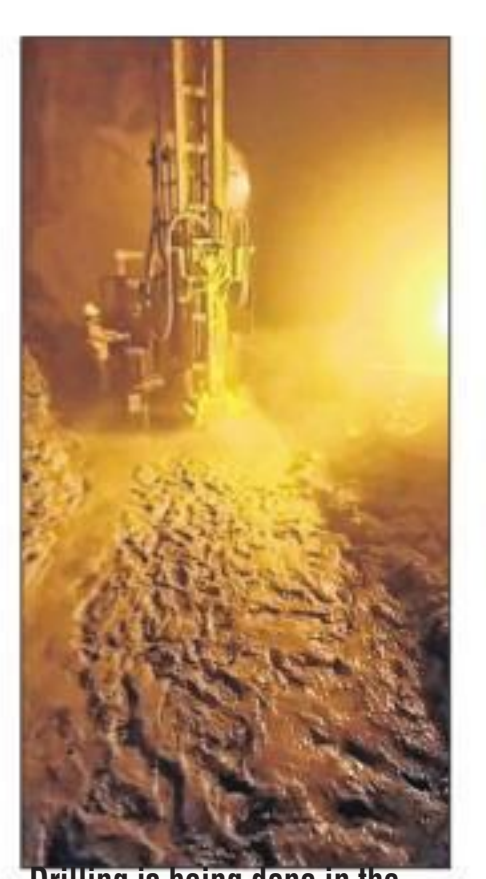
Kuldeep Singh, a member of SKM's legal cell, said a retired judge of the SC or HC should probe the incidents to unravel the "conspiracy" behind the January 26 violence

MEANWHILE ...

- A Punjab farmer, 72, taking part in the farmers' agitation died of cardiac arrest at Delhi's Singhu border. Hansa Singh was a Moga district resident. About the alleged illegal detention of Noddep Kaur, 23, a Dalit labourer and trade union activist, the Punjab and Haryana HC on Friday issued notice to the Haryana govt. People living near Ghazipur protest against farmers, saying locals have been facing problems due to their protest.

UTTARAKHAND DISASTER Rescuers start widening hole in Tapovan tunnel

JOSHIMATH: Rescue teams on Saturday began widening a hole drilled into an approach tunnel on the way to the possible location of over 30 people trapped inside a sludge-choked tunnel of the NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel project after a flash flood ravaged the area on Sunday.



Drilling is being done in the tunnel on the seventh day of the rescue operation in Chamoli district on Saturday.

"We are working under a 3-pronged strategy to reach to those trapped in the tunnel. The hole we drilled yesterday is being widened to 1 feet so as to reach a camera and a pipe inside the silt flushing tunnel where the trapped are said to be located," general manager of the NTPC project, RP Ahirwal, told PTI.

A hole with a diameter of 1 feet will help send in a camera to ascertain their location and a pipe to flush out accumulated water from the tunnel, Ahirwal said.

The other two parts of the strategy are clearing the desilting basin of the NTPC barrage through which muck is constantly flowing into the tunnels and restoring the flow of the Dhawli-ganga to the right which has tilted to the left after the flash flood hampering the sludge clearing operation, he said.

Describing the rescue of people as a priority, he said the NTPC has put more than 100 of its scientists on the job. Asked if an attempt could be made to send rescuers to the possible location of those trapped in the tunnel through the hole, the GM said it will need to be widened further. "More than 100 of our scientists are on the job. They are devising strategies and having them implemented," Ahirwal said.

CWC conducting simulation studies on new glacial lake The Central Water Commission (CWC) is conducting simulation studies on the artificial lake formed in the upper stretches of the Rishiganga river after the catastrophic Uttarakhand flood

early this week, and also examining the possibility of carrying out a controlled blast to drain out the water.

CWC chairman Saumitra Haldar on Saturday said studies are being conducted keeping in the mind the forecast of the India Meteorological Dept (IMD) the area could receive a rainfall of 1 cm and snowfall of 10 cm on February 15 and 16.

The CWC is also examining possibilities of what can be done if the water rises to "critical" level. Meanwhile, the SDRF has visited the lake formed near Raini village and informed it is not a danger zone, Uttarakhand DGP Ashok Kumar said on Saturday.

38 bodies have been recovered, 168 people are still missing

FAST NEWS 6 of family among 10 killed in 3 UP road mishaps

LUCKNOW: Eight people, including 6 of a family, died and 14 injured in 3 separate accidents in which several vehicles collided on Lucknow-Agra Expressway early on Saturday morning due to dense fog.

A senior Jammu cop told IANS. "The Jammu police arrested a person, Hidayat-Ullah Malik, on Feb 6. During the probe, he confessed he has done recee of Doval's office and other locations and sent it to the commanders of JeM in Pakistan."

He said Malik is a Shopian resident and was arrested. Malik is the chief of a Jaish front group, Lashkar-e-Mustafa, and was arrested

JeM man recced Doval's office, sent videos to his Pak masters

NEW DELHI/JAMMU: The video clip of National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval's office and other top locations in Delhi were recovered from the phone of an arrested Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorist.

A senior Jammu cop told IANS. "The Jammu police arrested a person, Hidayat-Ullah Malik, on Feb 6. During the probe, he confessed he has done recee of Doval's office and other locations and sent it to the commanders of JeM in Pakistan."

He said Malik is a Shopian resident and was arrested. Malik is the chief of a Jaish front group, Lashkar-e-Mustafa, and was arrested

from Anantnag. Police also recovered arms and ammunition.

He added during his interrogation Malik revealed he had taken a flight to Delhi in May 2020 and recorded a video of Doval's office and then passed it on to his Pakistani commander named Doctor through WhatsApp.

Malik during his interrogation confessed he had conducted recee of the Samba sector border area in mid 2019, along with Sameer Ahmad Dar, arrested by NIA in January last year for his involvement with the 2019 Pulwama terror attack.

In another development, a top terrorist affiliated with The Resistance Front (TRF), wanted in the killing of 3 BJP workers and a cop in south Kashmir last year, was arrested in Samba, police said. Zahoor Ahmad Rather alias "Sahil", "Khalid" was hiding in Samba. The TRF is an offshoot of LeT and the arrest comes a week after police arrested self-styled commander of Lashkar-e-Mustafa Hidayatullah Malik alias "Hasnain" from Kunjwani area of Jammu.

₹3,113 cr for 5 states as disaster relief

NEW DELHI: A high-level committee headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday approved Rs3,113 crore to 5 states that faced natural disasters and pest attacks in 2020.

The states and union territory that will get the additional central assistance from the National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF) are Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Madhya Pradesh, a home ministry statement said.

The committee, under the chairmanship of the home minister, has approved the

additional central assistance to the 5 states and UT, which were affected by floods, cyclones (Nivar and Burevi) and pest attack during 2020.

Andhra will get Rs280.78 crore and Bihar Rs1,255.27 crore for floods during the South-West monsoon.

Tamil Nadu will get Rs63.14 crore for cyclone 'Nivar' and Rs 223.77 crore for cyclone 'Burevi' — a total Rs286.91 crore. The UT of Puducherry will get Rs9.91 crore for cyclone 'Nivar'. Madhya Pradesh will get Rs1,280.18 crore for the pest attack during the Kharif season, the statement said.

COVID VACCINATION DRIVE

Over 7,000 get 2nd dose, 80 lakh vaccinated so far

NEW DELHI: Beneficiaries of the nationwide COVID-19 immunisation drive began receiving second dose with over 7,000 healthcare workers getting the jab on Saturday, 28 days after their first shot on the inaugural day.

The Union Health Ministry said the cumulative number of healthcare and frontline workers vaccinated against coronavirus in India surpassed 80 lakh on Saturday.

It said 80,52,454 beneficiaries have been vaccinated through 1,69,215 sessions, according to the provisional report till Saturday 6 pm. These include 59,35,275 healthcare workers and 21,17,179 frontline workers.

"The second dose of COVID-19 vaccination started from today for those beneficiaries who have completed 28 days after receipt of the first dose. The approval provided by DCGI accords a window of four to 6 weeks for the second dose. As many as 7,668 healthcare workers received the second dose of vaccine today," it said.

On Saturday, 84,807 beneficiaries were inoculated till 6 pm, the 29th day of nationwide COVID-19 vaccination as per provisional data. As many as 4,434 sessions were organised on Saturday till 6 pm, the ministry said. 34 states and UTs conducted COVID-19 vaccinations on Saturday. 12 states UTs have vaccinated over 70% of the registered healthcare workers. Total 34 people have so

MEANWHILE ...

- Over one-third of UP's active cases in just 5 of its 75 districts. 47 of Bengaluru nursing college test positive, most are from Kerala. Schools to reopen for Classes 6 to 8 in Gujarat from February 18

far been hospitalised after being administered vaccine. It comprises 0.0004% of the total vaccinations.

Of the cases of hospitalisation, 21 were discharged after treatment, while 11 died and two are under treatment, the health ministry said.

In the last 24 hours, no person has been hospitalised, it stated. "Total 27 deaths have been recorded till date. These comprise 0.0003% of the total vaccinations. Of these, 11 died in the hospital while 16 fatalities were recorded outside the hospital.

In the last 24 hours, 3 new deaths have been reported. A 38-year-old person of Harda in MP died due to myocardial infarction 9 days after vaccination. Another is a 35-year-old resident of Panipat in Haryana who suffered from pneumonia with acute respiratory distress syndrome and died 8 days after vaccination. A 58-year-old resident of Dausa in Rajasthan, who had received vaccine, collapsed on duty and was brought dead to a hospital. Post-mortem details of all are awaited.

Mahua Moitra writes to Delhi Police chief

NEW DELHI: Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra on Saturday took strong exception to the stationing of 3 armed security men at her home in the national capital, wondering if she was under "some sort of surveillance" and asked Delhi Police chief to withdraw them.

In the letter to Delhi Police Commissioner SN Shrivastava, she said the SHO of Barakhamba Road police station had come to meet her at her residence on February 12 and shortly thereafter, around three Border Security Force personnel armed with assault rifles had been deputed outside her house."

"The conduct of these armed officers indicate that they are making notes of movements to and from my residence, it appears to me

that I am under some sort of surveillance. I wish to remind you that Right to Privacy is a Fundamental Right guaranteed to me, as a citizen of this country, under the Constitution of India, 1950" she stated.

She said, "Upon making inquiries, I was informed that the armed officers had been deputed from Police Station Barakhamba Road for my protection. However, I being an ordinary citizen of this country, did neither ask nor want any such protection. Therefore, you are requested to kindly withdraw these officers," she said in her letter.

First phase of Budget session concludes; Lok Sabha to reconvene on March 8

Lok Sabha was adjourned on Saturday, ending the first phase of the Budget session which reported close to 100% productivity and witnessed 13 privilege notices filed by MPs. The House will reconvene on March 8 after recess.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said the Budget session ran smoothly and transacted important business even beyond midnight. In the first part, Lok Sabha sat for 49 hours and 17 minutes against the stipulated time of 50 hours. The house lost 43 minutes due to disruptions.

The Budget session usually is held in two phases. In the first phase, the President addresses the Houses as it is the first session of the year.

The session would conclude on April 8.

No April date fixed for resumption of all trains

OUR BUREAU / New Delhi

The Railway Ministry on Saturday clarified no date was fixed for resumption of all passenger trains. The clarification was felt necessary in view of reports of the resumption of full passenger train services from a given April date. No such date has been fixed yet, it said.

The ministry said the Railways has been increasing the number of train services in a graded manner. Already, over 65% trains are running and over 250 plus were added in January alone.

"All are requested to avoid speculation. Media and public will be duly informed as and when such a decision is taken," the ministry added.

Meanwhile, IRTC will restart the first set of "private" Tejas Express trains,

the Delhi-Lucknow and Mumbai Ahmedabad Tejas Express trains from Sunday. The two Tejas Express services are the first set of trains run by a corporate entity, IRTC, a subsidiary of the Indian Railways.

HIGHEST FLYERS: Meanwhile, Minister of Civil Aviation Hardeep Singh Puri claimed the highest domestic passengers since resumption of flights from May 25.

He said the number of domestic passengers on Friday rose to 2,97,102 on 2,349. With air travel emerging as a preferred mode of travel due to safety, efficiency and time saving, the numbers are almost touching Pre-Covid levels, Puri said.

Total flight movements on Friday were 4697 and the total number of footfalls on the airports was 5,93,819.

Wrestling coach wanted for 5 murders in Rohtak held in Delhi

NEW DELHI: Sukhwinder, the main accused in the murder of 5 people at a wrestling academy (akhara) in Haryana's Rohtak was on Saturday arrested from Samaypur Badli by the Delhi Police in a joint operation with Haryana Police.

"He would be produced in court and then handed over to the Haryana police," said a senior police officer. The Haryana Police were tailing the accused, himself a

wrestling coach and there were inputs he is hiding in the national Capital. The Delhi Police, along with members of the Haryana Police, succeeded in identifying the location of the accused and finally arrested him.

Coach Manoj Malik, his wife Sakshi Malik and 3 other wrestlers were allegedly gunned down at an akhara on Friday evening by wrestling coach Sukhwinder in a fit of rage over his sus-

pension from the job. Police said the preliminary investigation indicated Manoj had got Sukhwinder terminated from the job on a complaint.

The dead include Manoj, a resident of Saragthala village in Sonapat, his wife Sakshi, Pooja, wrestling coach Satish Kumar and Pradeep Malik. Sakshi's 3-year-old son and Amarjit were injured. Earlier, Haryana Police had announced a reward of Rs1 lakh for Sukhwinder.

Tension mounts in Rampur over arrest of Farhat Jamali, 3 others

SRAWAN SHUKLA / Lucknow

Tension is brewing in Rampur district of UP after the police arrested Shah Farhat Ahmad Jamali, Head of famous Hafiz Shah Dargah, and 3 others on Saturday in large scale violence during anti-CAA protest in the district on December 21, 2019.

1 person was killed and scores injured when people, gathered at

Hathi Khana on a call given by local Muslim clerics, started pelting stones on cops and torched several vehicles to protest against CAA on December 21, 2019. Police had resorted to lathicharge and used tear gas shells to disperse the mob.

In connection with FIRs lodged against rioters and those who incited the violence, the Rampur police had issued notices to local Muslim clerics, including Farhat Jamali, on February 6 to record their statement. But Jamali, who heads one of the oldest and internationally-acclaimed Dargah Hafiz Shah Jamal Ullah, ignored police notice to record his statement. This forced the Rampur Police to arrest Jamali and 3 others

from their residence on Saturday. The police claimed Jamali was the main conspirator who incited Muslims for violence. They were taken to an unknown destination for questioning on their role during violent anti-CAA protest on December 21 2019 in the district.

Maulana Tauqir Raza Khan, head of Dargah Ala Hazrat, Bareilly, who had visited Rampur 2 days ago, had warned police of countrywide agitation if he arrested Farhat Jamali. After his arrest, local Muslim clerics have given a call for holding protests at Dargah Hafiz Shah. Heavy police force has been deployed at the dargah and other sensitive areas of Rampur to check any untoward incident.

UP GOVT CLEAN CHIT TO LOCKDOWN VIOLATORS

SRAWAN SHUKLA / Lucknow

After traders, UP CM Yogi Adityanath issued directives to withdraw over 2.5 lakh cases lodged against people for violating Covid-19 lockdown. The CMO issued the order on Saturday directing the senior district and police officials to begin the process for withdrawing cases lodged against over 2.5 lakh people for violating lockdown rules. Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in the country to order the withdrawal of cases. Earlier, UP Law Minister Brijesh Pathak had issued notifica-

tion for withdrawal of cases against traders and businessmen. Over 1 lakh traders were booked for lockdown violations.

The UP government's order will give reprieve to those booked for minor offences during lockdown. As per the Law dept data, over 2.5 lakh such cases are pending for investigation and filing of chargesheets. "The number may go up as data from few districts are yet to be received," said a senior bureaucrat. An officer said the govt move will give a relief besides bringing down the number of pending cases.

ISRO chief son's appointment raises eyebrows

SHANKAR RAJ / Bengaluru

A complaint has been filed with the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) over allegations of irregularities in recruiting Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman and secretary, Dept of Space (DoS), Dr K Sivan Sivan's son S Sidharth in ISRO's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) in Valiamala, Thiruvananthapuram.

The CVC subsequently registered the complaint, setting into motion a preliminary process, according to media reports.

The complaint alleges Sidharth's recruitment was not just a case of conflict of interest, but also a case of "favouritism and conspiracy to benefit the secretary DoS and Chairman ISRO (Sivan) and his son". The complainant has named LPSC director Dr V Narayanan who allegedly showed haste in the appointment anticipating a transfer to Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre. Dr Narayanan is a rocket propulsion expert who joined ISRO in 1984 and has been LPSC director since January 2018.

The petition also states Dr Narayanan was in a hurry to fill the post as Dr Sivan was then supposed to retire on January 14 (his tenure was subsequently extended).

It is also alleged Sidharth's appointment was not taken up in the general recruitment through ISRO's Central Recruitment Board, which conducts screening, written test and interview. Instead, only an interview was held in the case of Sidharth.

RTI norms' violation: Raj official fined Rs 10,000

JAIPUR: The Rajasthan Information Commission has imposed a fine of Rs10,000 on the superintendent of Maharana Bhupal government hospital in Udaipur for not providing information to an applicant under the RTI Act,

sources said on Saturday. The commission also slapped penalties of Rs10,000 on the commissioner of Baran Nagar Parishad and Rs5,000 on village development officer of Goyenda in Kota for the violation of RTI norms, they said.

TMC's 'Didir Doot' to counter BJP's Rath Yatra

The vehicle will trumpet Mamata govt's work, hear people's grievances

ARITRA SINGHA / Kolkata

A week after BJP national president JP Nadda and Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the five phases of 'Rath Yatra' across the state calling it 'Parivartan Yatra', the ruling Trinamool Congress on Saturday launched 'Didir Doot' (Didi's messenger) - a vehicle that will travel across the state to showcase the works done by TMC in the last five years. The messenger will also hear complaints of the people.

The vehicle was launched by Abhishek Banerjee, TMC MP of Diamond Harbour, at Sonarpur of South 24 Parganas. Alongside the vehicle, the ruling party had also launched an app where the common people can see all the works of the Mamata Banerjee-led TMC government and can also place their grievances directly to the Chief Minister.

According to TMC sources,



BJP MP Rupa Ganguly during party's 'Poriborton Yatra' at Bolpur in Birbhum district of West Bengal, ON Saturday. -PTI

TMC cadres were in Left Front march: Roopa

A day after the 'general strike' called by the Left Front and the Congress, BJP's Rajya Sabha MP Roopa Ganguly, taking part in Parivartan Yatra, said CM Mamata Banerjee had sent TMC cadres to join the Left Front in its march towards the secretariat on February 11 to instigate violence in the city. Ganguly said that the Left Front has lost its base in West Bengal and also that the CPI (M) rally got filled by Mamata supporters just to create violence. "There is an unsaid pact between TMC, Left Front and Congress to beat the BJP. The TMC leader is just fooling people by saying that the Left Front had created violence but the truth is that it was the TMC cadres who joined the Left's student wings. People of West Bengal are aware of every move and will definitely make lotus bloom in the upcoming election," mentioned Ganguly. -FPJ Correspondent

over one lakh people have installed this application ever since it has been launched.

CM Mamata Banerjee earlier this week was heard saying that the 'Rath Yatra' of the BJP is a 'luxury hotel' which the outsiders are using to travel in West Bengal.

Earlier, nephew of Chief Minister Abhishek in two different public rallies said that the upcoming assembly poll is important not just to re-elect Mamata Banerjee as the chief minister but also to show the 'outsiders' their original place.

"BJP West Bengal chief Dilip Ghosh has insulted Goddess Durga. The BJP who talks of building Sonar Bangla doesn't even respect the Gods and saints of Bengal. In the upcoming polls they need to be shown their actual place," said Abhishek before inaugurating the 'Didir Doot' vehicle in which he had travelled almost four kilometres in South 24 Parganas.

Left calls for Furfura Serif cleric to attend a meeting

ARITRA SINGHA
Kolkata

Weeks after Congress leader Abdul Mannan had written to Congress National Chief Sonia Gandhi about inclusion of Furfura Serif cleric Abbas Siddiqui with their alliance with Left Front to capture minority votes, CPI (M) sources on Saturday said that senior CPI (M) leader Biman Bose had asked Abbas to join a closed door meeting with them.



Furfura Serif cleric Abbas Siddiqui

Worried about the minority votes, the opposition leader of West Bengal Assembly, Abdul Mannan on February 4 in a letter to Sonia Gandhi had written that minority voters have shifted away from the Congress which was evident from the last parliamentary election 2019.

Senior politburo member Biman Bose had asked Abbas Siddiqui to join them during their meeting.

However, till the time of reporting Abbas Siddiqui was unable to contact.

Prevented from moving out of house, says Mehbooba Mufti

AGENCIES / Srinagar

Former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday said she was prevented from moving out of her residence on the Gupkar Road in Srinagar for going to South Kashmir's Pulwama district to meet the family of Athar Mushtaq, killed in encounter with the security forces, on the outskirts of Srinagar on December 30, 2020.

In a video tweeted by Mufti, she is seen arguing with a security officer at the gate of her residence asking reasons for stopping her from moving out.

"Placed under house arrest as usual for trying to visit family of Athar Mushtaq, killed allegedly in a fake encounter. His father was

Policemen stop vehicles near the house of PDP president Mehbooba Mufti, in Srinagar on Saturday. -Sajad Hameed



booked under UAPA for demanding his dead body. This is normalcy GOI wants to showcase to the EU delegation visiting Kashmir," Mufti tweeted.

"This reign of suppression and terror in Kashmir is the unvarnished and unpalatable truth that GOI wants to hide from the rest of the country. A 16 year old is killed & then hurriedly buried denying his family

the right and chance to perform his last rites."

Three persons, Aejaaz Ganai from Pulwama, Zubair Lone from Shopian and Athar Mushtaq from Pulwama were killed in an encounter at Lawaypora in Srinagar. The Army said they were repeatedly given a chance to surrender which they did not do and instead fired at the security forces and threw grenades.

TN govt rolls out ₹12,110cr crop loan waiver scheme

AGENCIES
Chennai

Marking the rollout of the Rs 12,110 crore crop loan waiver scheme for over 16 lakh ryots in Tamil Nadu,

Chief Minister K Palaniswami on Saturday gave away certificates to nine farmers here.

The certificates state that loans taken from cooperative banks and due on January 31, 2021 have been waived.

Deputy Chief Minister O Panneerselvam, Agriculture Minister K P Anbalagan and senior officials led by Chief Secretary Rajeev Ranjan participated in the event at the state secretariat, a govern-

ment release here said.

On February 5, Palaniswami had announced waiver of Rs 12,110.74 crore crop loans availed by 16,43,347 farmers from cooperative banks.

The move was considering damage to crops following back to back cyclones 'Nivar' and 'Burevi' last year, besides the heavy unseasonal rains.

The waiver would pave the way for farmers to continue cultivation without any hassles, Palaniswami had said.

Following the announcement, Government Orders were issued on February 8, setting the stage for the scheme's implementation.

DDC polls held in two districts of Kashmir

SRINAGAR/JAMMU:

Elections for posts of chairperson and vice-chairpersons of the District Development Council (DDC) were held in two districts of Kashmir in the final phase on Saturday, while a lack of quorum forced adjournment of polls in three of the four districts in Jammu region.

In the fifth and the last phase of the polls, the chairpersons and vice-chairpersons for the DDCs in Baramulla and Bandipora, both in north Kashmir, were elected on Saturday, the officials said.

They said that People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) won the election for the post of the chairperson in Bandipora and an independent candidate won from Baramulla.

C'garh: IX-XII classes to start from Monday

AVDHESH MALLICK / Raipur

The Bhupesh Baghel government on Saturday has decided to open schools from classes IX to XII from Monday. Meanwhile, offline classes in universities and colleges will also start from Monday.

The decisions were taken in a cabinet meeting presided over by the Chhattisgarh CM at his official residence, an official communique said on Saturday.

The cabinet also decided to restart all skill development training programmes in the state.

All the guidelines and Covid-19 protocols issued by the central and state governments will be strictly followed in the classrooms.

The cabinet also has decided to form "Bastar Fighters" special forces in all the districts of Bastar Division.

The government will implement the "Rajiv Nagar Awas Yojana" in all the districts. Under the scheme, government land will be made available to the Chhattisgarh Housing Board at Re1 per sqft to build 1 lakh residential buildings for the homeless.

The Cabinet decided to make Gauthan samities and self-help groups self-reliant under the Godhan Nyaya Yojana.

To develop good educational institutions in Nava Raipur Atal Nagar, it was decided to decrease the premium rate for educational purposes in such sectors from Rs3,706 per sqm to Rs2,475 per sqm and allocate land through tender.

To encourage investment, employment and settlements in Nava Raipur Atal Nagar, the proposal for allotment of land at a discounted premium rate was approved.

Andhra holds rural polls in disputed Odisha territory

BHUBANESWAR/KORAPUT:

Despite opposition from the Odisha government, neighbouring Andhra Pradesh on Saturday conducted gram panchayat polls in Kotia area of Koraput district, the region on which both the states have been staking their claim.

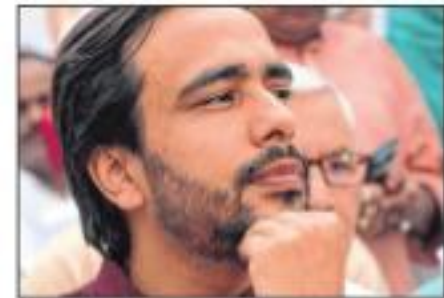
Even though district magistrate of Koraput Abdaal Akhtar wrote a letter to his Vizianagaram counterpart requesting not to conduct elections in the disputed Kotia region as the matter is sub-judice in the Supreme Court, the Andhra government set up polling booth at Potu Senari and voting was held under a thick security cover, official sources said. "Our poll was conducted peacefully and out of 1025 voters as many as 615, including 306 females, exercised their franchise," said a polling official from Andhra Pradesh. The second phase of polling for 2,786 panchayats took place in Andhra Pradesh during the day.

Ambani, Adani are PM's hum do hamare do: Jayant Chaudhary

SRRAWAN SHUKLA
Lucknow

Supporting Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on his 'hum do hamare do' remark against the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) Vice-President Jayant Chaudhary came out with a different version claiming that Ambani and Adani are his two arms.

Addressing RLD's another Kisan Mahapanchayat series in Agra, Jayant commented that Ambani and Adani are the PM's 'hum do hamare do'. "Any tender, be it for the airport or any big project, it goes to only these two. Ever since the BJP came to power in 2014, business and wealth of Ambani and Adani have gone up manifold. They are the one pocketing all projects and reaping benefits of government policies," he charged.



Comparing BJP with 303 rifles, he said that they had won 303 seats in 2019 Lok Sabha polls. "Today all BJP MPs have become outdated like 303 (three not three) rifles. They are all frustrated due to the anti-farmer policies of their own government. Today they stand nowhere. They don't have any face to go to farmers who voted them to power," he claimed.

He said that Modi was a good administrator till he was Gujarat Chief Minister but after becoming PM he has done nothing to improve conditions of the farmers in

the country.

Taking a dig at the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath also, the RLD leader claimed that Yogi had formed a separate Commission for farmers to double their income. "He himself is the Chairman of the Commission but did not hold a meeting till date in the last four years," he alleged.

During the panchayat, he recalled his father Ajit Singh's tenure as the minister in the Union Cabinet. "The government had proposed to bring farmers under taxation but he (Ajit Singh) was the one who had opposed it forcing the government to withdraw the move," he claimed.

Buoyed by the presence of sizable participation of farmers, Jayant urged his supporters to be united to force the government repeal Farm Laws.

NCP faction quits LDF, to join UDF

KOCHI: Ahead of the Assembly poll in Kerala, the opposition UDF on Saturday got a shot in its arm with a faction in the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), a constituent in the ruling LDF, announcing its decision to part ways with the CPI(M)-led alliance and join the Congress-led Front.

Mani C Kappan MLA, who is heading the faction, said he would attend the 'Aiswarya Kerala' Yatra led by senior Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala when it reaches his constituency Pala in Kottayam district on Sunday.

Kappan, who won the Pala seat as an LDF candidate in the bypoll held in 2019, claimed support of seven district presidents and nine state office bearers of the NCP.

He revolted against the state LDF leadership following the reported move by the CPI(M) to hand over Pala Assembly seat to Kerala Congress (M)-led by Jose K Mani which recently joined the ruling front after severing its decades old alliance with the UDF.

Continued from Page 1

Golwalkar's disciples won't know...

This was Chhatrapati Shivaji's Rajdharma. Golwalkar's disciples, who grow beard and compare themselves with Shivaji will not know it, Sawant added.

In another tweet, Sawant said, "BJP which sells the forts and indulges in corruption in the construction of Chhatrapati Shivaji memorial should not teach us about Shiv Jayanti. They should celebrate Modi's birthday. Let's not forget that there is a Covid 19 crisis."

Sawant's scathing criticism came after the BJP lashed out at the Shiv Sena-led MVA government allowing only 100 people to gather during the Shiv Jayanti (birth anniversary of Chhatrapati Shivaji) on February 19 because of the on-going coronavirus pandemic. This is the second time Congress has targeted the BJP for comparing Modi with Chhatrapati Shivaji. Last year, Congress had claimed that comparing Modi with Chhatrapati Shivaji was a height of sycophancy.

The state government in its guidelines had earlier allowed gathering of 10 people during the Shiv Jayanti celebrations. However, in the wake of criticism from various quarters, the Home Department came out with fresh do's and don'ts permitting the gathering of 100 people for celebrations. This had further promoted BJP to fire a fresh salvo against the MVA government.

BJP legislator Ashish Shelar took a swipe at the state government on the curbs imposed on the Shiv Jayanti celebrations. "There is an invitation from the state government to visit the Byculla zoo on February 16 to see the penguins. But be careful if you gather to celebrate Shiv Jayanti. May sound strange but follow the rules," he taunted.

State BJP chief spokesman Keshav Upadhye said the government has lifted restrictions on the functioning of permit rooms, liquor shops and the commencement of night life but has imposed curbs on organisation of rallies and cultural programmes to celebrate the Shiv Jayanti.

Justice Ganediwala takes oath as...

In one of her judgments of January 19, the judge had held a man pressing the breast of a minor without there being any skin-to-skin contact cannot be convicted for sexual assault under the stringent POCSO law. The other ruling that invited sharp criticism was the one wherein she ruled that holding hands of a minor girl and unzipping himself in front of her won't be sexual assault.

The Free Press Journal was the first newspaper to report all these judgments of Justice Ganediwala.

Soon after the reportage, the SC collegium withdrew its recommendation to the Union law ministry to appoint Justice Ganediwala on a permanent basis. With this, Justice Ganediwala would have had to step down from her judgeship as her tenure was to end on Friday. However, the President extended her tenure by one more year.

Sitharaman attacks Cong, terms Rahul...

Congress MP from Kerala TN Prathapan retaliated with a privilege motion against her for abusing an elected member of the House, challenging her on what basis she had accused Rahul of being a "destructive force in the country" and charging him for "an attack on the pride and privilege of Parliament."

"We cannot entertain a tendency of branding dissent voices and criticism as fringe or destructive or anti-national," Prathapan said in his privilege motion. The first part of the budget session was shut on Saturday and so the privilege motion goes to the Speaker to decide on it in the second part that starts on March 8.

Sitharaman equally attacked the Congress with her 10 expectations that were belied, including the waiver of the agricultural loans to the farmers in Madhya Pradesh when it was in power as also in Punjab and the complaints are still pouring in from Rajasthan on the promise given in the elections.

She said her expectation was that Rahul will give some relief to the Punjab farmers who are agitating on the Delhi borders for almost three months and she expected that he would show at least one point in the three contentious farm laws that is against the farmers, but he had none to point out.

Sitharaman mocked Rahul for talking about the farm laws when the Congress party itself does not know where it stands on the issue, a reason why he and his party colleagues keep calling them as "black laws," without pinpointing any fault that should be rectified.

Referring to the Prime Minister narrating, in reply to the motion of thanks to the President, on how his government is helping out the small farmers, Sitharaman said she had expected the Wayanad MP to react by making his mother's "Damad" to return the land forcibly acquired from the small farmers.

The finance minister went on to decry Rahul for the tendency of building fake narratives, use abusive language and run away levelling allegations. "His trust in the elected Parliament system is completely 'khatm' (finished) and noted how the Congress under his leadership lost faith in India so much so that it is signing a "memorandum of understanding" with the Chinese ruling party," she said.

Forget Rahul insulting Prime Minister Modi, he even debunked the doctrine of former PM Manmohan Singh, Sitharaman said, recalling how a copy of the anti-corruption bill brought by the then United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government was torn to pieces by Rahul at a time when Dr Singh was abroad.

Ridiculing him for claiming the government's onslaught on the Mandis, the wholesale food grain markets, she said Rahul could not show a single Mandi closed down. Instead, she has given Rs 30,000 crore to the states for development of infrastructure of the Mandis. This money through the new agriculture cess will help improve the Mandi (APMC) infrastructure.

"The government is pumping money in the Mandis, but Rahul is spreading the lie that it wants to shut them," she asserted.

The cess was imposed in the Union Budget on various products, including petrol and diesel, to promote the infrastructure in the agriculture sector that will help the farmers, she said.

Probe will reveal the truth: Thackeray

Thackeray has reportedly sought a report from Pune Police Commissioner Amitabh Gupta.

Thackeray has thereby hinted that Rathod will not be axed or made a sacrificial lamb before the investigation is complete. "There will be no attempt to hide the truth. Whatever the truth, it will be revealed to the public through a thorough investigation," he said.

Rathod, who is not reachable, has sought appointment with the CM to put his side of the story but the latter has not given him time. Pooja's brother-in-law has claimed he did not think Rathod was responsible for her suicide. The Banjara community leaders and various organisations have alleged that it was a conspiracy to defame Rathod and the community in general.

Thackeray's close confidante and urban development minister Eknath Shinde came to Rathod's defence saying that it was not proper to drag a minister's name before the police investigation is completed. Higher and technical education minister Uday Samant said it would be improper to comment since the CM has asked for a police report.

The National Commission of Women in letter to the Maharashtra Director General of Police has called for an inquiry into the incident and submit a report to it.

Chavan, who hailed from Beed district, had gone to Pune a week before her death last week. She was attending an English-speaking course and was living with two youth, said to be her brother and his friend. She allegedly committed suicide by jumping off in Wanawadi on February 8. The Wanawadi Police had registered an accidental death case and are scanning her social media audio messages.

RESPONSIVE INDUSTRIES LIMITED				
CIN No. : L65100MH1982PLC027797				
(Regd. Office : Village Betagan, Mahagan Road, Boisar - East, Dist. Thane - 401 501.)				
Email Id: investor@responsiveindustries.com Website: www.responsiveindustries.com				
Tel No. : 022-66562821 Fax No. : 022-66562798				
Extract of Consolidated Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter / Nine-months ended 31st December, 2020				
Particulars	(Rs. in lakhs)			
	Quarter ended 31.12.2020	Quarter ended 31.12.2019	Quarter ended 31.12.2020	Nine-months ended 31.12.2020
Total Income from operations	20,285.42	12,410.48	54,844.60	
Net profit from ordinary activities before tax	(2,059.93)	798.44	(29.78)	
Net profit from ordinary activities after tax	(1,036.30)	595.41	1,263.94	
Net profit for the period after tax and Other Comprehensive Income	(1,080.37)	595.41	1,281.31	
Equity Share Capital	2,624.95	2,624.95	2,624.95	
Earnings per share (before extraordinary items) of Re. 1/- each (not annualised):				
(a) Basic	0.15	0.22	1.09	
(b) Diluted	0.15	0.22	1.09	
Extract of Standalone Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter / Nine-months ended 31st December, 2020				
Particulars	(Rs. in lakhs)			
	Quarter ended 31.12.2020	Quarter ended 31.12.2019	Quarter ended 31.12.2020	Nine-months ended 31.12.2020
Income from operations	10,342.07	9,969.66	25,815.51	
Net Profit before tax	1,316.81	790.58	783.69	
Net Profit after tax and Comprehensive Income	987.58	594.63	574.58	

SARTHAK INDUSTRIES LIMITED					
CIN: L99999MH1982PLC1366834					
Regd. Office: Room No. 4, Anna Bhuvan, 3 rd Floor, 87C Devji Ratanji Marg, Dana Bunder, Mumbai, (Maharashtra) 400009.					
Contact No.: 022-2374718, Email: sarthakindustries@yahoo.in, website: www.sarthakindustries.com					
Extract of Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter ended 31st December, 2020					
Sr. No.	Particulars	(Rs in Lacs)			
		31.12.2020	30.09.2020	31.12.2019	31.03.2020
(Refer Notes Below)		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
1.	Total Income from Operations	4055.56	4028.38	1844.29	9556.04
2.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	78.44	136.94	220.12	509.04
3.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	78.44	136.94	220.12	400.95
4.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	57.15	98.46	271.95	270.99
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	47.99	(34.65)	213.66	202.80
6.	Equity share capital	696.89	696.89	696.89	696.89
7.	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year	-	-	-	2758.23
8.	Earnings per share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations):				
1.	Basic:	0.82	1.41	3.90	3.89
1.	Diluted:	0.82	1.41	3.90	3.89

Note: 1. The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and taken on record by the Board of Directors of the Company at their meeting held on February 13, 2021.
2. The statutory auditors of the company have carried out limited review of the financial results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2020.
3. In view of the Covid-19 pandemic, there have been several restrictions imposed by governments across the globe on the travel, goods movement and transportation considering public health and safety measures. The company is primarily engaged in business of manufacturing of LPG cylinders and trading of Agri and Non-Agri Commodities. This Covid-19 pandemic has impacted the operations of the Company during the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2020, based on the facts and circumstances existing as of that date, the company does not anticipate any material uncertainties which affects its liquidity position and also ability to continue as a going concern. However, the impact assessment of Covid-19 is a continuing process given the uncertainties associated with its nature and duration. The management will continue to closely monitor the evolving situation and assess its impact on the business of the Company.
4. Previous period/year figures have been regrouped/ recasted wherever necessary.
5. The above financial results are available on company's website www.sarthakindustries.com and also on the website of BSE.

Date: 13th February, 2021
Place: Indore

For SARTHAK INDUSTRIES LIMITED
Y.M. SHARMA
Whole-time Director
DIN: 03644480

Iran state TV: fuel tanker explodes at Afghan-Iran border

TEHRAN: A fuel tanker exploded Saturday at the Islam Qaleh crossing in Afghanistan's western Herat province on the Iranian border, Iranian state TV reported. Several trucks were engulfed in flames after the explosion, the report said. It wasn't immediately clear what caused the blast and there were no immediate reports of casualties. Fire spread to the Dogharoon customs facilities on the Iran side and first responders, including the fire department, the Iranian army and border forces were assisting in extinguishing the blaze. Trucks carrying natural gas and fuel were directed to leave the scene.

FATF deadline approaches, Pak ramps up its deception game

AGENCIES
Paris

As the deadline for Financial Action Task Force (FATF) listing approaches Pakistan has once again ramped up its deception games to convince the financial watchdog that it has tightened anti-money laundering and counter financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) regimes.



FATF will be deciding the fate of Pakistan regarding the listing in the last week of February. In a special report of the Center of Political and Foreign Affairs on 'Anti-Terrorism Task Force (CPFA)', Ronald Duchemin wrote that Pakistan is pushing a propaganda effort to convince the FATF to take Islamabad out of the grey list and not push

it into the black list. However, the facts on the ground merit Pakistan being 'black-listed' for failing to deliver on its high-level political

commitments to FATF, wrote Duchemin. "Worse, Pakistan has been deceiving the Task Force by pretending to take action

against internationally designated terrorist groups and their financial networks but only on paper. In practice, these terror groups continue

to function openly and are collecting funds publicly," he added.

In June 2017, FATF referred Pakistan to the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) and sought a report to address concerns that Pakistan was not fully complying with curbs against terrorist entities designated under the UNSC 1267 committee. This was followed in February 2018 with the US, along with its close European allies, proposing that Pakistan be placed on the FATF 'grey list' for failing to comply with FATF guidelines on AML/CFT.

FATF placed Pakistan in the 'grey list' in June 2018. Since that time, Pakistan has adopted a three-pronged approach to get out of the FATF

watchlist, and prevent itself from sliding into the 'black list'. The first prong is passing a slew of laws, changed rules, regulations and procedures, making a show of acting against the UN proscribed individuals and organisations to fulfill its 'high-level political commitment', said the report.

The second prong is Pakistan playing the victim card by trying to blame its predicament on India. Pakistan has accused India of politicising the FATF, a tack it has routinely adopted on the eve of every FATF or APG meeting.

The third prong of the Pakistani strategy has been to launch a propaganda offensive that aimed to pressure, even shame, the FATF to cut some slack for Pakistan.

WORLD TROTTERING

Thailand's pro-democracy protesters clash with police

BANGKOK: Followers of Thailand's recently revived student-led pro-democracy movement clashed with police Saturday night as they held a protest seeking the release of four comrades jailed pending trial for defaming the monarchy, an offense known as lese majeste.

Fuel tanker blast causes massive fire at Afghan-Iran border

HERAT: A fuel tanker exploded Saturday at the Islam Qala crossing in Afghanistan's western Herat province on the Iranian border, injuring at least seven people and causing a massive fire that consumed more than 500 trucks carrying natural gas and fuel, according to Afghan officials and Iranian state media.

Sri Lanka says it scrapped port deal as Indian firm rejected terms

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka has said it scrapped the trilateral deal with India and Japan to develop the Colombo Port's Eastern Container Terminal (ECT) as the Indian firm involved in the project refused to agree to its new terms.

Tensions high as mass protests in Myanmar enter second week

YANGON: Mass street demonstrations in Myanmar entered their second week Saturday with neither protesters nor the military government they seek to unseat showing any signs of backing off from confrontations. (AP)

Biden will try to close Guantanamo after 'robust' review

WASHINGTON: President Joe Biden will seek to close the prison on the US base at Guantanamo Bay following a review process, resuming a project begun under the Obama administration, the White House said Friday.

US charges son in civilian Navy staffer's killing in Bahrain

DUBAI: US prosecutors have charged the son of a civilian Navy staffer in Bahrain over her stabbing death in the Mideast island kingdom. Federal court documents accuse Giovanni Z. Pope, 27, of stabbing his mother to death at her off-base apartment on January 31. Contact details for Pope could not be immediately found and his listed public defender did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

-Agencies



A member of the security forces walks past wreckage at the scene of a bombing in Mogadishu, Somalia on Saturday.

6 injured in explosion near presidential palace in Somalia's Mogadishu: Report

AGENCIES
Mogadishu

At least six people suffered injuries after an explosion close to the presidential palace in Somalia's Mogadishu on Saturday morning, Sputnik reported citing government spokesperson.

The damage was minimized, 6 people injured," Moalimu tweeted, adding that the attacker was confirmed dead.

Local media outlets reported that seven people were wounded and the death toll is likely to increase. Mogadishu is regularly targeted with attacks by the Al-Qaeda linked Al Shabaab terror group.

Local media outlets reported that seven people were wounded and the death toll is likely to increase. Mogadishu is regularly targeted with attacks by the Al-Qaeda linked Al Shabaab terror group.

The blast hit the Sayidka junction on the main road towards the palace. The explosion occurred at 9 am (local time) and was followed by gunfire.

According to the government spokesman, the security forces had thwarted a "potentially massive suicide attack" near the Sayidka junction after the perpetrator ignored orders to stop at the Dabka checkpoint.

"Soldiers fired at the car before the blast went off.

WHO CHIEF WARNS OF COMPLACENCY AS GLOBAL VIRUS CASES DROP

AGENCIES / Geneva

The head of the World Health Organization has said that the drop in confirmed COVID-19 infections around the world was encouraging, but cautioned against relaxing restrictions that have helped curb the spread of the coronavirus.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on Friday said the number of reported infections globally has declined for the fourth week in a row, and the number of deaths also fell for the second consecutive week.

"These declines appear to be due to countries implementing public health measures more stringently," Tedros said. "We should all be encouraged, but complacency is as dangerous as the virus itself."

"Now is not the time for any country to relax measures or for any individual to let down their guard," he added. "Every life that is lost now is all the more tragic as vaccines are beginning to be rolled out."

While the figures reported by countries to the WHO for the week ending Feb 8 are still incomplete, the global body said so far about 1.9 million newly confirmed cases were registered worldwide, down from more than 3.2 million the previous week.

Tedros said members of a WHO expert mission who recently visited China to investigate

the possible source of the outbreak would publish a summary of their findings next week.

Chinese scientists and the WHO's team of international researchers said this week that the coronavirus most likely first appeared in humans after jumping from an animal, and an alternate theory that the virus leaked from a Chinese lab was unlikely.

Peter Ben Embarek, the leader of the WHO mission, said Friday the labs in Wuhan that his team visited stated they had not been working with the virus that causes COVID-19, or had it in their collections before the outbreak. But he said it was possible the virus could still be present in samples that haven't yet been analyzed.

He said the team had gained a much better insight into the early stages of the outbreak and concluded there was no large cluster of the disease in Wuhan or elsewhere around the city in the months prior to the first cases in December 2019.

But he added that scientists are still "far away from understanding the origin and identifying animal species and, or the pathways from which the virus could have entered the human in December." Tedros, the WHO's director-general, said that the Geneva-based body had this week held its first meeting to help define and diagnose what he called post-COVID condition, also known as long COVID.



Insurrection incitement charge against Trump a 'monstrous lie', his lawyers tell Senate



BY LALIT K JHA
Washington

Donald Trump's insurrection incitement charge is a "monstrous lie" and the impeachment proceedings against the former president a "politically motivated witch hunt" by the Democrats, his lawyers said as they presented evidence in the US Senate. Trump, a Republican, is accused of inciting riots in the US Capitol on January 6 which left five people, including a police officer, dead.

Trump's lawyers Bruce Castor, David Schoen and Michael van der Veen each took turns addressing the Senate members on Friday, a day four of Trump's impeachment trial, to describe Trump as a staunch supporter of law and order, not someone who incited the chaos at the Capitol.

His attorneys had up to 16 hours over the course of two days to push back on House impeachment managers case that Trump should be convicted and barred from running for future office for inciting the attack on the Capitol to try to stop Joe Biden's presidential election victory being certified.

There is a complete lack of evidence on the article of impeachment against Donald Trump, his lawyers told the United States Senate. "We have a complete lack of evidence for the article of impeachment presented by the House managers," Trump's lawyer Castor said. The impeachment by the House, the case for which was laid out by the House managers in the Senate during the last two days, was political. "Their goal is to eliminate a political opponent, to substitute their judgment for the will of the voters," he said as he showed clips of various Democratic leaders. Castor said that the critical issue in this case is the very narrow issue that is charged against the 45th president. "That issue is did the 45th president engage in incitement of — they continue to say — insurrection. Clearly there was no insurrection," he said. Trump's lawyer van der Veen used his opening remarks to dispute the Democrats' case that the former president had incited violence during his speech to supporters on January 6.

Trump had made allegations of voter fraud and urged his supporters to converge at the Capitol building a short while before the riot broke out. "To claim that the president in any way wished, desired or encouraged lawless or violent behaviour is a preposterous and monstrous lie

EU calls on China to reverse ban on BBC World News channel

AGENCIES
Beijing

The European Union on Saturday called on China to reverse its ban on the BBC World News television channel imposed in apparent retaliation for Britain's pulling of the licence of state-owned Chinese broadcaster CGTN.

The EU said in a statement that Beijing's move further restricted "freedom of expression and access to information inside its borders," and violated both the Chinese constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The statement also said that Hong Kong's announcement that its public broadcaster would also stop carrying BBC broadcasts added to the "erosion of the rights and freedoms that

is ongoing" in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory since the imposition last year of a sweeping new national security law.

"The EU remains strongly committed to safeguarding media freedom and pluralism, as well as protecting the right to freedom of expression online and offline, including freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information without interference of any kind," the statement said. While Britain is no longer in the EU, it remains a member of the Council of Europe, which oversees a 1989 agreement linking broadcasting licenses. Britain, the U.S. and foreign correspondents based in China have also



expressed dismay over the BBC ban. China's move Thursday was largely symbolic, because BBC World was shown only on cable TV systems in hotels and apartment compounds for foreigners and some other businesses. However, it comes against the backdrop of growing conflict between Beijing and Western govern-

ments over a slew of issues ranging from human rights to trade and the COVID-19 pandemic in which Chinese criticisms over foreign media coverage have played a prominent role.

China's National Radio and Television Administration said BBC World News coverage of the country violated requirements that news

reporting be true and impartial, reflecting complaints over BBC reports about the government's initial response to the virus outbreak in China. Other complaints were over allegations of forced labor and sexual abuse in the north-western Chinese region of Xinjiang, home to Uighurs and other predominantly Muslim ethnic groups. The EU statement specifically linked the ban to BBC reporting on those topics.

It wasn't clear whether BBC reporters in China would be affected. Last year, Beijing expelled foreign reporters for The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times amid disputes

with the Trump administration and complaints over media criticism of the ruling Communist Party.

Britain's communications watchdog, Ofcom, revoked the license for CGTN, China's English-language satellite news channel, on Feb. 4, citing links to the Communist Party, among other reasons.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said Ofcom acted on "political grounds based on ideological bias." Losing its British license was a major blow for CGTN, which is part of a global effort by the party to promote its views and challenge Western media narratives about China, into which it has poured enormous resources. CGTN has a European operations hub in London.

Pakistan reported highest incidence of violence against women during peak of pandemic in 2020: Report

AGENCIES
Islamabad

During the peak of COVID-19 pandemic between January and December last year, when people were forced to stay inside their homes, Pakistan reported 2,297 cases of violence against women from 25 districts across the country, according to a report by the women's rights organisation based in Islamabad.

The Aurat Foundation revealed the grim data in its report titled, "Violence against women and girls in the time of COVID 19 pandemic" in collaboration with a non-governmental organization, under the project Jazba-Democracy and Empowered Women. Geo News

reported.

The research is based on a review of data on the incidents of violence against women collected from various newspapers in Pakistan, which was verified by local police in 25 selected districts.

Aside from this, the data includes an analysis of 14 case studies of violence against women and the analysis of multiple interviews from government officials in Provincial Commissions.

As per the findings of the report, a total of 57 per cent were reported from Punjab, 27 per cent from Sindh, 8 per cent from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 6 per cent from Gilgit Baltistan (illegally occupied), and 2 per cent from Balochistan.

Another Chinese vax gets nod for emergency use in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drap) has issued emergency use authorisation to the Covid-19 vaccine by Chinese company Cansino Biologics Inc, officials said, adding the supply of the doses will begin in a few weeks. It will become the fourth vaccine to be allowed for emergency use in Pakistan, the Dawn news reported. Cansino Biologics Inc is the only company that has conducted clinical trial in Pakistan, with around 18,000 volunteers participating from across the country. The analysis, which was released by the Independent Data Monitoring Committee (IDMC), showed that it had 74.48 per cent efficacy rate in preventing symptomatic cases and 100 per cent in preventing severe disease. The authorisation for emergency use has been issued on Friday just a day after Mexico decided to use Cansino Bio's vaccine to immunise its citizens. In another development, Drap's Clinical Trial Committee allowed another company to hold clinical trial in Pakistan. During the trial, around 9,000 volunteers will be vaccinated through the University of Health Sciences (UHS) and Aga Khan University (AKU).

Out of the total incidents of violence, Punjab reported the highest number of murder, rape, suicide, acid burning, kidnapping, domestic violence and forced marriage. Meanwhile, Sindh had the most number of honour killing.

According to a 2020 report cited by Geo News, at least 11 rape incidents are reported in Pakistan every day, with over 22,000 cases filed across the country in the last six years.

As many as 22,037 cases of sexual abuse have been registered since 2015, of which 4,060 cases are pending in the courts.

Unfortunately, only 18 per cent have reached the prosecution stage.

SPORTS CAPE



Russell Westbrook (4) of the Washington Wizards drives to the basket in front of Alec Burks (18) of the New York Knicks during the first half at Capital One Arena on Friday

Three walkers make Olympic cut

RANCHI: Three Indian race walkers qualified for the upcoming Tokyo Olympics during the National Open Race Walking Championships here on Saturday, with Sandeep Kumar and Priyanka Goswami shattering national records in the men's and women's 20km events respectively. With the three new entrants, the total number of Indian race walkers who have qualified for the Tokyo Games has swelled to five as K T Irfan (men's 20km) and Bhawana Jat (women's 20km) have already made the cut earlier.

India colts begin training for Asia Cup

BENGALURU: With their focus on the men's junior Asia Cup, India colts began training on Saturday following a week-long quarantine. The 37-member junior men's core group reported to SAI, Bengaluru on February 6 and underwent mandatory quarantine followed by a RTPCR swab test before resuming training from Saturday.

Ruturaj Gaikwad to lead Maharashtra

PUNE: Young opener Ruturaj Gaikwad will lead a 20-member Maharashtra squad in the upcoming Vijay Hazare Trophy, the state's cricket association said on Saturday. The Maharashtra Cricket Association (MCA) announced its squad for the national ODI championship, beginning February 20, on its Twitter handle.

Navdeep, Arvind strike gold

DUBAI: Para-athletes Navdeep and Arvind secured quotas for the upcoming Tokyo Paralympics as India's gold medal tally swelled to nine after the third day of competitions at the 12th Fazza International World Para Athletics Grand Prix here. Overall, India has claimed 17 medals including nine gold, with four of them coming on Friday.

India's campaign ends in Oz Open

MELBOURNE: Veteran Rohan Bopanna crashed out of the mixed doubles event with a straight-set loss in the opening round to draw curtains on India's campaign at this year's Australian Open here on Saturday. Bopanna and his Chinese partner Yingying Duan lost 4-6 4-6 to the pair of American Bethanie Mattek-Sands and United Kingdom's Jamie Murray in a first round match that lasted an hour and three minutes.

Gough, Illingworth to officiate in PSL VI

KARACHI: ICC elite panel umpires Michael Gough and Richard Illingworth of England will officiate in the sixth edition of the Pakistan Super League to be held in Karachi and Lahore from February 20 to March 22. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Friday confirmed that Aleem Dar and English duo of Gough and Illingworth from the ICC Elite Panel of Umpires will join seven domestic umpires in the league.

Atlanta United signs Santiago Sosa

ATLANTA: Atlanta United has bolstered a week spot by signing defensive midfielder Santiago Sosa on a transfer from Argentina's River Plate club. The 21-year-old Sosa represented Argentina at the 2019 FIFA U-20 World Cup and could be in line to play for his home country in the Tokyo Olympics.

Hall of Famer Jordan set for biggest leap

DAYTON BEACH: Michael Jordan may take his biggest leap yet, and he's trying to change the game again. Jordan enters NASCAR not just as the first Black principal owner of a full-time Cup Series team in nearly 50 years. The Hall of Famer is trying to reach the rarified air of celebrity owners who found crossover success in the sport.

Perth Scorchers extend Tye's contract

PERTH: Jason Behrendorff, Josh Inglis, Ashton Turner and Andrew Tye who all played crucial roles in Perth Scorchers' surge into second on the big Bash League (BBL) season 10 ladder, extended their association with the club on Saturday.

Bologna, Benevento swap places on table

BOLOGNA: Coach Filippo Inzaghi returned to his former Bologna club and watched his Benevento side recover a 1-1 draw in the snow and leapfrog the host in the Serie A table. Inzaghi was fired by Bologna in 2019. Bologna made a perfect start on Friday when the unmarked Nicola Sansone scored after 55 seconds, pouncing on Musa Barrow's blocked shot.

WHAT'S ON

05.30: Australian Open; 4th Round; Sony Six
9.30: India vs England 2nd Test; Star Sports 1
12.30: Australian Open; Mid Show; Sony Six
13.30: Australian Open; 3rd Rd; Sony Ten 2
18.00: Australian Open; Post Show; Sony Six
18.30: Premier League; Star Sports 2
01.30: PGA Tour - AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am; Eurosport

2016 THIS DAY, THAT YEAR

While the senior West Indies side was embroiled in yet another payment dispute with the board, this time putting their participation in the World T20 in doubt, their Under-19 team brought respite to beleaguered fans by winning the junior World Cup in Mirpur. Fast bowlers **Alzarri Joseph** and Ryan John took three wickets each to bowl out India for 145 and then batsman Keacy Carty led the chase with a patient 52 not out. It was India's first Youth ODI defeat since their quarter-final exit from the 2014 World Cup.



ROHIT, FAST & FURIOUS

Ton-up Rohit sweeps on Chepauk turner, puts on 161 runs alongside Rahane on day one as India retire 300 for six

FPJ NEWS SERVICE
Chennai

India's Rohit Sharma has always liked challenges, and that was what he did on the first day of the second Test against England at the Chepauk stadium here on Saturday.

He oozed class with an aesthetically pleasing 161 on a challenging track, helping India seize the initiative with a solid opening day score of 300 for 6, in the 88 overs of the day.

He along with his Mumbaier, Ajinkya Rahane put on 162 runs for the fourth wicket, after India lost three wickets with 86 on-board.

The Indian, deputy Rahane looked equally attractive during his knock of 67, making it worth the effort for the 12,000 who flocked the Chepauk as Indian cricket welcomed its fans back in the stadium amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The key was to use good footwork. We had the strategy (on the sweep shot), we did discuss the game plan on this, and wanted to make them bowl to our strengths, good that the plans

came off," Rahane said at the end of the day's play.

A score of 350 plus in the first innings will be equivalent to 550 plus on any other track and Rishabh Pant's (33 batting) dangerous presence could also take India well beyond the magic figure on this track. At stumps, he

had debutant Axar Patel (5) for the company.

Rohit had scored six Test hundreds prior to this knock but he will be the first to admit that in terms of conditions on offer and the quality of attack he faced, the seventh one would be at the top of the list.

Kohli's duck connection

Chennai: Moeen Ali bowled a stunning delivery and it turned to rattle the stumps of Virat Kohli (0) in the first session on day one of the ongoing second Test between India and England here at the MA Chidambaram Stadium.

This is the 11th time that Kohli has been dismissed for a duck in Tests.

The bowlers involved...

1. R Rampaul
2. B Hilfenhaus
3. L Plunkett
4. J Anderson
5. M Starc
6. S Lakmal
7. S Broad
8. P Cummins
9. K Roach
10. Ahy Javed
11. Moeen Ali



India 1st Innings

R Sharma c Ali b Leach 161
S Gill lbw b Stone 0
C Pujara c Stokes b Leach 21
V Kohli b Ali 0
A Rahane b Ali 67
R Pant batting 33
R Ashwin c Pope b Root 13
A Patel batting 5
TOTAL: (88 overs) 300-6
FoW: 1-0 (Shubman Gill), 2-85 (Cheteshwar Pujara), 3-86 (Virat Kohli), 4-248 (Rohit Sharma), 5-249 (Ajinkya Rahane), 6-284 (Ravichandran Ashwin)
BOWLING: Stuart Broad 11-2-37-0, Ollie Stone 15-5-42-1, Jack Leach 26-2-78-2, Ben Stokes 2-0-16-0, Moeen Ali 26-3-112-2, Joe Root 8-2-15-1

Rohit did two things at one go. Firstly, he put India in a commanding position on a track which was way more difficult for batting than he made it look with 18 fours and two sixes in his 231-ball knock.

Secondly, he put all the naysayers in their place by scoring runs when it mattered the most. The team is aiming for a comeback after a crushing 227-run loss in the first Test.

Joe Root was marvellous with his sweep shot during the first Test but Rohit was simply magnificent with his execution on a doubly difficult track on which he gave England spinner Moeen Ali (26-3-112-2) a lesson in controlled aggression.

The way Rohit put a big front-foot stride outside the off-stump to sweep deliveries off both Moeen and Jack Leach (26-2-78-2) will not be forgotten by all who were fortunate to witness the innings.

Rohit's defence was spectacularly solid and offence as assured as a safe house.

It started with a cover drive off Stuart Broad and then there was a pulled six over mid-wicket off Ben Stokes.

'Chepauk pitch beach'

AGENCIES / Chennai

As the Chepauk pitch continues to provide assistance to the spinners on the very first day of the second Test between India and England at the MA Chidambaram Stadium, former Three Lions skipper Michael Vaughan termed the wicket as a "beach" on Saturday.

"If England wins this week having lost the toss on this beach ... it will be a remarkable Victory ... #INDVENG," tweeted Vaughan. The wicket in the first Test of the series hadn't provided this much assistance to the spinners, but the second Test is turning out to be a completely different story on the same ground in Chennai as spinners are having a field day on the very first day of the Test.

At the lunch break, India's score reads 106/3 with Rohit and Ajinkya Rahane currently unbeaten on 80 and 5 respectively. The first session saw 106 runs being scored from 26 overs.

Earlier, skipper Kohli had won the toss and he opted to bat first.

England made four changes as the side brought in Moeen Ali, Stuart Broad, Ollie Stone, and Ben Foakes in place of Dominic Bess, Jofra Archer, James Anderson, and Jos Buttler.

Third umpire in focus

PTI / Chennai

A Decision Review System (DRS) referral was on Saturday restored to England after an error by the third umpire on the opening day of the second Test against India here.

England were left frustrated and their captain Joe Root miffed after a blunder by third umpire Anil Chaudhary denied them the wicket of India vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane and a DRS review.

However, a few moments after it became clear that Chaudhary had erred, England's review was reinstated.

The incident took place in the 75th over of the day when a Jack Leach delivery brushed Rahane's gloves on the way to the forward short-leg fielder Ollie Pope.

As England appealed for a catch off the gloves, it was turned down by the on-field umpire before Chaudhary, failing to read the correct passage of play, also rejected the review thinking that the ball had landed outside the leg-stump and that the visitors had appealed for an LBW.

However, the visitors appeared to clarify that they were appealing for a catch off

the glove and not the bat.

Seeing the replays on the big screen, Root was left unimpressed and the skipper also raised the matter with the on-field umpires. Chaudhary turned down that also as England lost a review.

The review was later restored to England as per ICC playing conditions.

As per 3.6.8 of the ICC's playing conditions: A Player Review categorised as 'Unsuccessful' may be reinstated by the ICC Match Referee at his/her sole discretion (if appropriate after consultation with the ICC Technical Official and/or the television broadcast director) if the Player Review could not properly be concluded due to a failure of the technology.

Rahane, though, was dismissed six balls later; bowled by Moeen Ali for 67.

There was also some issue over a stumping attempt by Ben Foakes against Rohit Sharma when he appeared to drag his backfoot to a Leach delivery. Though TV replays showed Rohit's backfoot to be on the line, the third umpire reckoned some part of it was behind the line and ruled him not out.

Medvedev wins a thriller

ASSOCIATED PRESS
Melbourne

Daniil Medvedev finally worked out how to win a five-setter: All by himself.

The fourth-seeded Medvedev was 0-6 in Grand Slam matches that went to five sets, and his Australian Open third-round match against No. 28-seeded Filip Krajinovic looked like it was going all the way.

After some angry outbursts from an increasingly animated and chatty Medvedev directed at his box in an otherwise empty Rod Laver Arena, fans have been banned as a COVID-19 precaution, his coach, Gilles Cervara, got up and left.

"He said just before leaving that he's sure I'm going to win the match. He's going to leave me alone to be more calm," Medvedev explained in his on-court TV interview after Saturday's 6-3, 6-3, 4-6, 3-6, 6-0 win.

"It was a good thing to do. Luckily I won."

He'll have to face unseeded American Mackenzie McDonald in the next round. After that could be a quarterfinal against No. 7 Andrey Rublev, who helped him win the ATP Cup title for Russia last week. No. 2-ranked Rafael Nadal, a 20-time major winner, is also in his half of the draw.

Nadal extended his win-

ning streak against fellow left-handers to 16 with a 7-5, 6-2, 7-5 victory over No. 69-ranked Cameron Norrie, reaching the fourth round at Melbourne Park for the 14th

ready this year are through to the Round of 16.

Top-ranked Ash Barty, who won the Yarra Valley Classic last week for a title in her first tournament back from



time in 16 trips.

In his immediate future is No. 16 Fabio Fognini, who had a straight-set win over Australia's last hope in the men's draw, 21st-seeded Alex de Minaur.

Seventh-seeded Rublev had a 7-5, 6-2, 6-3 win over Feliciano Lopez, ending the 39-year-old Spaniard's 75th consecutive major tournament.

The Russian men had one loss on Day 6, with No. 19 Karen Khachanov beaten by No. 9 Matteo Berrettini 7-6 (1), 7-6 (5), 7-6 (5). Berrettini will next play fifth-seeded Stefanos Tsitsipas, a 6-4, 6-1, 6-1 winner over Mikael Ymer of Sweden.

Two women with titles al-

most 12 months on the sidelines, beat Ekaterina Alexandrova of Russia 6-2, 6-4.

Barty next faces American Shelby Rogers, who beat No. 21 Anett Kontaveit 6-4, 6-3.

Elise Mertens, a 2018 Australian Open semifinalist who won the Gippsland Trophy tuneup tournament last week, had a 6-2, 6-1 victory over 11th-seeded Belinda Bencic.

No. 25-seeded Muchova rallied before she beat No. 6 Karolina Pliskova 7-5, 7-5.

No. 61-ranked Jessica Pegula had a 6-2, 6-1 win over Kristina Mladenovic and will next play No. 5-seeded Elna Svitolina, a 6-4, 6-0 winner over Yulia Putintseva.

Ranjane propels D Y Patil to big win

FPJ NEWS SERVICE
Mumbai

Shubham Ranjane hogged the limelight with a quick-fire 169 (20x4,7x6) to power D.Y. Patil SA to a comprehensive 199 runs victory against Islam Gymkhana in a first round Group-A clash of the D.Y. Patil Group sponsored, this edition of 73rd Police Invitation Shield Cricket Tournament, at the Islam Gymkhana ground on Saturday.

This prestigious tournament, is organized under the auspices of the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA), and is the first cricket competition in the city since the lockdown due the Covid-19 pandemic.

DY Patil Group also tasted success as they inflicted a six-wicket defeat on MCA Colts in a Group-D encounter: Century knocks from Aashay Sardesai 122 and Sumit Ghadigaonkar 105 anchored DY Patil Group surpass their target scoring 296 for the loss of just four wickets in 42.5 overs. MCA



Param Bir Singh (centre), Commissioner of Police, Mumbai along with the other officials inaugurating the championship

Colts had scored 294 for 9 wickets from 45 overs.

Defending champions MIG Cricket Club suffered a shock defeat at the hands of Parsee Gymkhana in another Group-A match.

Meanwhile, last year's runners-up Parkophene Cricketers made a winning start defeating hosts Mumbai Police Gymkhana 57-runs in a

Group-B encounter at the Mumbai Police Gymkhana ground.

Brief scores

Group-A: Parsee Gymkhana: 314-5 (N Patil 102 n.o., A Gomei 63, S Pradhan 47) bt MIG Cricket Club: 253 (A Tendulkar 47, P Kanpillewar 43; P Khanapur 3-32); Dr D.Y. Patil Sports Academy: 363-5 (S Ranjane 169,

Surjan Athawle 75, Yogesh Takawale 43) bt Islam Gymkhana: 164 (U Cutlerwala 61; K Kothari 4-49); Group-B: Parkophene Cricketers: 214 (S Mishra 81; Y Chavan 3-22) bt Mumbai Police Cricket Club: 157 (Yash Chavan 57; Sagar Mishra 5-27); Cricket Club of India: 259-9 (A Anand 49, K Hanagavadi 45 n.o., R Dhanday 44, A Bangar 41) bt Bombay Gymkhana: 243 (P Kela 90, S Thakkar 40; P Dake 4-30, V Mali 3-31). Group-C: New Hind Sporting Club: 87 (S Adhatrao 40; Jitendra Paliwal 6-22) lost to PJ Hindu Gymkhana: 89-3 (Karan Nandey 35 n.o.); Karnataka Sporting Association 265-8 (R Ghuman 65, S Mangela 62) bt National Cricket Club: 188 (V Dhagaonkar 53, P Pawar 50); Group-D: Payyade Sports Club: 261-8 (R Sharma 63, M Khan 53, S Lad 44; V Jojode 3-49) bt Shivaji Park Gymkhana: 220 (B Khan 5-51); MCA Colts: 294-9 (N Patil (Jr.) 96, Shashank Attarde 49 n.o., A Rajput 42) lost to DY Patil Group (Sponsors XI): 296-4 (A Sardesai 122, S Ghadigaonkar 105)

Double for St. Teresa's

FPJ NEWS SERVICE
Mumbai

St. Teresa's Convent, Santacruz clinched a grand double winning the girls' under-14 and under-16 titles in the Lawrence Bing organised Winter Rink hockey tournament, approved by Hockey India and played at the Dominic Savio HS hockey turf, Andheri on Saturday.

This is the first hockey tournament to be played in

the city following the Covid-19 lockdown.

In the under-14 final, St. Teresa's had things much their own way and sidelined Canossa Convent, Andheri by a 3-1 margin to emerge champions.

The girls' under-16 final, between St. Teresa's and Gokuldham, Goregaon witnessed a high-scoring and absorbing contest for supremacy before the former managed to scrape through by a close 6-4 margin.



Shaadi se pehle...

...couples are opting for pre-marriage counselling. Disha Prashant takes a look at this new trend, which is gaining momentum among millennials

Love comes to those who possess the patience to share and accept a plethora of amorousness. Love is not just in the air, but precisely in every living particle of this planet thanks to Valentine's Day. What makes Valentine's Day different from previous years is that this romantic carnival is more evolved with couples taking it slow and being extra cautious before they take the plunge on the palisade of "I DO". An increasing number of couples are opting for pre-marriage counselling, which has become the new talk of the town.

Dismantling peer pressure

Talk about Indian social stratification and the concept of peer pressure tops the list, especially when it comes to marriage and merging of two families. Sakshi and Shantanu have been childhood sweethearts and have always desired to be forever partners in crime, but long distance love has its own set of pros and cons which led them to opt for pre-marriage counselling to analyse their compatibility. Elucidating this decision Sakshi said, "Shan and I have been together since childhood, but work and academic priorities led us to choose long distance love. As chimerical as it may sound, it was quite difficult to cope with the crossover

timings and keeping up the spark. Back home, family was going gaga over our wedding talks. Somewhere down the line I was airily aware about this concept thanks to a few online articles and shared my inhibition with Shantanu. We decided to take a crack at pre-marriage counselling and have been glad ever since."

Couples often undergo immense encumbrance from family over marriage and have to auscultate odious opinions. From "things will fall in place to you will



soon gel" these statements tend to put a couple in double thoughts. Highlighting their counselling experience Shantanu said, "Considering the typical parental mentality opening up to them about pre-marriage counselling was a taboo in itself. So we decided to do this discreetly and later open up to the family. We laid out pointers, which will also help in explaining to our families how they can help build our relationship without a third party involvement. Things came out in a refined manner because the conversation was precise. We jotted down our issues as guided by the counsellor and accordingly worked on our alterations."

their own and varied perspectives towards living life. These perspectives and other requirements need to be discussed openly before couples get married." Despite the growing popularity, this therapy is still limited to the crowd of metro cities thanks to the reach of social media. But it is yet to reach the remotest town or village in the world. Western countries have evolved with regards to this therapy while in India it still is a work in progress feels Chandan.

"People are still uncomfortable with the idea of pre-marital therapy, but fail to understand that it is actually playing a pivotal role in ensuring there is no chaos post-marriage. Couples undergoing this therapy find it easy to understand each other and make the necessary additions and subtractions to help build a strong foundation for marriage. This therapy needs more social reach and must be campaigned across every town and village. Since it is yet to find its way into every home, it is restricted to metro cities for now," says Chandan.

Elucidating her opinion, she said, "As a counsellor I am completely in favour of pre-marital counselling. Today, times are different and both, the man and the woman, are financially and intellectually independent. Each one has an opinion of

Going by its definition, pre-marriage counselling or pre-marital counselling, is a form of therapy which couples undergo to analyse their past impressions and its effect on their future bonding. Pre-marital counsellors play a pivotal role in identifying the issues and trying to find solutions to help couples into taking apt relationship decisions.

Mental health denotation

In a country where physical appearance is considered as a ground breaking element for marriage, importance of mental health in a relationship is a subject that is considered the least important. Despite being in its nascent stages pre-marital counselling is gradually changing the concept of marriage thereby also resulting in low divorce rates feels counselling psychologist Chandan Raj Shekhawat.

Elucidating her opinion, she said, "As a counsellor I am completely in favour of pre-marital counselling. Today, times are different and both, the man and the woman, are financially and intellectually independent. Each one has an opinion of

Parental opinion

For Shyam and Sanjivni Dixit, it was an eyebrow raising moment when their son broke the idea of pre-marital therapy to them. Belonging to an era where parents took the call on the future of their kids, the parents of the groom found it difficult to swallow this new-found reality. "Like they say every new cuisine begins with a pinch of salt and that is exactly how we reacted when our son opened up about going for pre-marital counselling. To be honest, we were not in the favour of this idea but then times are changing and so are mindsets. Back in our times we never dared question our parents' decisions even if that meant meeting your future partner. But with changing times we need to accept what is coming our way as parents and we are glad we decided to give it a shot," feels Sanjivni.

The Dixits not just went for a couple therapy, but positively got involved in the session to understand priorities at both ends. The opening up helped them not just understand their son better, but also what the pros and cons were.

Sharing his experience Shyam said, "We were quite amazed at how things were unravelling because many times we are oblivious to our hidden behavioural clauses and how they might affect our kids. As a parent, I would insist that not just couples but also both set of parents indulge in this therapy for a better understanding of marriage."

Taking in the overall scenario, pre-marital counselling is still in its 50-50 phase considering its reach. The social media reach of this concept is limited making it difficult for people to understand and accept this therapy. The curiosity around the subject and the intention to have a successful marriage is the magnetic element which is attracting new-age couples into opting for it. Thanks to the world wide web, pre-marital therapy will soon find its wings spreading over every nook and corner of the world.



'To me, Antariksh meant boundless, infinite and all encompassing...'



Music composer Varun Rajput speaks to Simran Khan about Antariksh, and collaboration with American guitarist Marty Friedman for new album

Music composer Varun Rajput's brainchild, Antariksh, which was born out of an experiment, is rated by MTV as one of the best Hindi-Rock artists from India. The premier Hindi-Rock project based out of New Delhi, recently released their latest single *Quest*. Featuring popular guitarist Marty Friedman, it is an out and out progressive-rock meets fusion track, where Antariksh seamlessly blend their Indian as well as western Influences.

In an exclusive conversation with The Free Press Journal, Varun Rajput spoke about the inspiration behind *Quest*, their upcoming album, collaboration with American guitarist Marty Friedman and more. Excerpts from the interview:

How did you come up with the name - Antariksh?

Honestly, there's no fascinating story behind the name. I always joke about it that the name Antariksh stemmed out of our inability to come up with a better, non-cheesy name.

Antariksh's inception happened in 2012 when I set out on a quest to fulfil my dream of becoming a full-time musician after quitting my job as a management consultant in the corporate world. When my friends, Mridul, Gurtej and I tried to name the project, we came up with some absolutely ridiculous options—I mean some of the names were way too serious and the others a bit too lame. After a lot of dilly-dallying, I literally put my foot down and we decided to go ahead with the name, *Antariksh*, which I felt resonated with our ideology.

To me, *Antariksh* meant boundless, infinite and all encompassing, and that's how I imagined our music to be—not limited or restricted by any particular style, form or language. I guess that was probably the only thought and logic that helped us finalise the name back then.

Tell us something about the inspiration behind the lyrics of the bi-lingual song *Quest*.

Generally, I have a knack of writing lyrics which are a bit more on the questioning and introspective side of the spectrum. It's something that happens organically and I feel there's a lot of honesty in it as most of the lyrics come from personal experiences or analysis of real-life situations. If someone asks me to write something humorous or let's say a love song—I think it'll be a struggle.

The inspiration behind the lyrics for *Quest* was incidental. I remember being stuck on the road, where the traffic was stopped by the cops to allow some VIP's vehicle to pass through. That feeling really irritated me as I felt that someone out there had the audacity to think that their time is more important than everyone else's. To me, it felt like a misuse of power and almost as if the person inside that vehicle was exercising dominance and authority.

I've always been of a very strong opinion that there should be absolutely no VIP treatment for politicians so that they witness and understand the problems an ordinary citizen goes through in their daily lives, and hopefully get inspired to do their jobs better. I mean, isn't it their job anyway to work for the development and welfare of the society rather than becoming privileged and turning a blind eye to all the problems that exist?

Well, one thought led to another, and I had this realisation that no matter how much authority or control one may try to exercise, we really do not have control over our lives in the true sense. Come to think of it—we can't even control the number of breaths we are supposed to breathe or what's coming up in our lives tomorrow. Most of the time, life is just happening and we're a mere witness to it. To me, the feeling of being in control is nothing more than a thought—a mere illusion. I guess, we're just too scared to look at it that way. So, with that thought I came up with the lyrics for *Quest*, which talk about how our brain, ego, lust and desire fool us into believing that we're in control and how it's just a mirage. The fact that the song is set in an arena Prog Rock space where we experiment with nuances from both Indian classical as well as Western Rock music works really well as we're able to explore a

Marty Friedman



lot of unique and eclectic soundscapes in line with the lyrical idea. Next, I'm coming up with an animation video for *Quest*, which will hopefully help take the audiences deeper into the concept and the theme of the song.

How did you approach guitarist Marty Friedman for the collaboration?

Oh! This is one hell of a story. I was returning to Delhi after performing at the 2019 edition of Bacardi NH7 Weekender festival in Shillong, where Antariksh had played on Day 1 and Marty was the headliner on Day 2. It was almost surreal to find Marty and his band sitting two rows ahead of us in the aircraft. I got a chance to interact with them when we landed in Delhi and while we were waiting for our equipment at the luggage belt. I spoke to Marty about his experience of playing at the festival, some of his recent music and his collaboration with Keshav Dhar of Skyharbor a few years ago.

Ever since, I had heard him play live, I'd been imagining how epic it'd be if he were to play on our song, *Quest*, which we were in the process of recording at that point in time. After playing the thought almost a hundred times in my head, I finally went ahead and asked him. He asked me to write to him.

Once he returned to Japan, I sent him some of our music including *Kaaha Re* and a few songs from our first album, *Khof*. Marty not only took the time to listen to a lot of it—he even liked and appreciated. It was when I sent him a demo of *Quest*, he agreed to play on it. It took him less than five days to send across his guitar part.

The phenomenal musician that he is, Marty's played one of the most amazingly constructed and unique guitar solos I've ever heard and I firmly believe it's taken the song to another level.

Were you always a fan of Marty Friedman? How did he inspire your journey?

Oh yes! I was introduced to his music with Megadeth and Cacophony back in 2003. Over the next few years, I spent a lot of time listening to his music as a solo artist as well as analysing his guitar playing technique. In fact, during my early guitar playing days, two instructional DVD's I used to swear by were Marty's *Melodic Control* and John Petrucci's *Rock Discipline*. I think I've learned immensely from his unique style of playing as well as his approach towards writing music where most of the emphasis is always on writing an interesting melody line.

What's next for Antariksh?

2020 saw us putting out a lot of music with consistency and I'm so grateful for the amazing reception and all the love we received for *Raahiya*, *Fanaah*, and *Je Le Zara*. I think I'd want to continue the streak in 2021 and put out new music throughout the year with a similar consistency. We have a really cool animation video lined up for *Quest* in February. Thanks to all the appreciation *Quest* is receiving, it has made it to a couple of really massive international metal playlists on Spotify as well some really cool playlists on Apple Music, Gaana and some of the other streaming platforms. I'm planning to follow it up with another one of our heavier singles called *Kaisi Ye Jeet* and then the full album.

On the concerts front, we're just aching to get back to playing live again. Have our finger crossed, hoping that the pandemic situation improves soon so that we can get back to tours and gigs to promote our new music. I guess until then we'll have to make do with digital concerts.

CHANAKYA THOUGHTS

Show them with love, care

Love is in the air. And with Valentine's Day being celebrated today, romance will be at its peak. Everyone will be forced to think how to make the person you love feel special and cared. Buying gifts, going out for a romantic candle light dinner or just surprising the one you love in some mysterious ways — all these are on almost everyone's mind today.

While many Valentine's Day celebrations would be about that special girl or boy, some have gone to expand the concept of love to their other near and dear ones — parents, grand parents, siblings and friends.

Expression of love need not be limited to a particular person of the other gender. It can be very vast and all inclusive. The very basis of love means being limitless and forever.

How would a person like Chanakya install the feeling of 'love' and 'care' among us? Let us take a glimpse into Kautilya's *Arthashastra*: "The horse attendant shall receive from the treasury and the magazine a month's allowance (for the horse) and carefully look after it." (2.30.3)

Here we are talking about a horse attendant, who probably is one of the lowest rank employees in the government list. However, Chanakya cares for even a person like him. He is speaking about paying him the required money so that he can do his work properly.

The attendant is given advance allowance so that he does not have to shell out money from his own pocket. And, when given finan-



Dr. Radhakrishnan Pillai

cial power he will do his work of taking care of the horses carefully.

But, if that person is not paid he will cut corners and may even steal from the fodder that's kept for the horses to fill his pockets. Thus, the person will become corrupt and the horses will not be taken care of.

Is this not a message for us to take care of our people at home and work places? That is a true expression of 'love' and 'care' and they will be committed to the work allocated to them. Here are some ways in which you can show your love and concern to near and dear ones.

Pay them more than required

This may look odd, but paying a person more than expected is an expression of love, care and concern. We always give people what they need.

But give them something more than required and they will be thrilled.

It is not the 'extra' money that matters. But the 'freedom' to spend that extra money in whatever they want. I have a request to all members of a family where there are women who are not earning. Such dedicated homemakers are always undervalued.

If you have a sister, wife or a mother who is not working, pay her more than the amount required for home expenses. Let her spend it on herself a bit. Let her feel happy and cared for. Remember, she will give back that love to you many times multiplied. A good way to practice women empowerment.

Rewards and recognition

Another way to show concern to people is giving

them awards and rewards. Many companies have the 'best employee' or such awards given to performers. These awards are usually presented during annual events or important gatherings. And, the recipients of the awards feel quite elevated with the recognition.

Even the governments do that. Awards like Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, Bharat Ratna, etc., are recognitions that stay with you forever. The nation has recognised your contribution and appreciates you through these rewards and awards.

Spend quality and quantity time

Love is all about spending time with your loved ones. Nothing can replace that. Take out an hour everyday and spend it with your family; go out once in a week;

go on a vacation with your loved ones once a year — all this amounts to quality and quantity time.

We stay in the same house, but we are never connected at all. The heart-to-heart connection between members of the family is what makes a 'house' a true 'home'. House is made of bricks, while a home is made of feelings and emotions. So, if you truly someone, be with that person through thick and thin, in good and bad times.

As Swami Chinmayananda said, "To love everyone, and being loved by everyone, is the greatest achievement of life."

(The writer is Founder Director of Chanakya Aanvikshiki Pot Ltd, a best selling author and an expert on Chanakya's teachings. He can be followed on his twitter @rchanakypillai)

SPIRITUALITY FOR MILLENNIALS



Secret tips for lasting relationship

As the Valentine day gets closer, is your heart somersaulting or is it palpitating? Are you agitated thinking whether your first valentine will remain your 'last valentine'? Or do the pre-Valentine days drive you desperately in hunt for a valentine?

Here are some thoughts that you could preserve as your valentine day secret tips.

Loving relationships thrive on acceptance and strangle on expectations. They begin with acceptance and end with expectations. When the focus changes from acceptance to expectation, the focus is effectively shifting from 'we' to 'me'.

In the *Ramayana*, we find that the love story of Dasaratha and Keikeyi grew when they set aside their personal needs and focused on each other's needs. Keikeyi was ready to risk her life to assist Dasaratha in wars. When he gave her two boons, she was so focused on his needs that she couldn't even think of her personal wants. But what made her change so much later? A change in the external of relationships occurs when there is change in motto or

loyalty on the internal level. Between two people, the common center has to be selfless love. When this common center is displaced by individual selfish centers, mutual love turns into self-centered love and lovers turn into strangers.

In love, conditions and satisfaction are inversely proportional to each other. The more conditions you put on one another, the lesser you experience satisfaction in the relationship. The more you have loyalty towards personal satisfaction, the lesser you have the ability for reciprocal appreciation.

Relationships have to be treated like a kite. For it to soar high, you have to pull the string towards yourself. If you tug the string away from yourself, the kite will soon come falling down. Every human has some shortcomings. Every time you accept the other's shortcomings, you are pulling the string of relationships towards yourself. And every time you expect others to align with your needs, you are pushing the string of relationships away from yourself.

Why don't we find any mention of Duryodhana's love story with Bhanumati

in the *Mahabharata*? Because for Duryodhana, relationships were never a need, they were strategies to satisfy his needs. Any relationship that helped him achieve his ambition, he prioritized and those that didn't, remained hidden and neglected forever.

We will do good to remember that relationships don't need us, it is we who need relationships. If there is any need we can be self-ish about, it is this need. And to satisfy this need, all other needs can be sacrificed. Valentine Day essentially is symbolic of periodic sacrifice to celebrate eternal love.

TAKE NOTE!

- Love thrives on acceptance and is strangled with expectations. A shift from acceptance to expectations implies a shift from 'we' to 'me'.
- In love, conditions and satisfaction are inversely proportional. More the conditions, less satisfying is the relationship.
- Need for personal satisfaction has to be sacrificed to fulfill need for a loving relationship because our need for relationship cannot be done away with. It is over and above all needs.

(The writer is an author, Tedx speaker, story-teller, corporate trainer and visiting faculty in several premier management schools)

SEX AND THE CITY

Finance's shocking confession

A day before engagement, my fiancé told me that he is a bisexual and that he wants an open relationship. I was devastated but went ahead with the engagement function as everything was planned. It has been a year and I have been having panic attacks. My fiancé is in another city because of work, and I keep imagining him having sex with strangers. I have cried my eyes out but not told my parents as his parents have been family friends and my fiancé has been my best friend since childhood. If I disclose this, I will lose my friend, my parents will be devastated and also lose their family friends, it may ruin things in his family for him. If I go ahead I will always be unsure of his commitment and also fear sexually transmitted diseases. What should I do?

Ans: The challenge in life is to choose between two categories of pain and misery since discomfort is both an inevitability and a right of passage towards smarter thinking - that all individuals go through. You had to choose between the pain of social embarrassment before you marry him (if you'd called it off) and currently there's the pain of anxiety because you've married someone who wants an open relationship (you worry what he's up to when he's away). Realistically speaking, you can't control how your husband thinks and behaves but you can certainly manage what you expect from him and how you negotiate with him. If you're concerned, tell him you're



concerned. If you're uncomfortable, tell him that you're uncomfortable. You both are childhood friends and such communication could be a great jump off point to help him see how vulnerable and dis-

appointed you're feeling. The idea is to communicate and appeal to the care he feels for you (as a friend and a husband). The panic attacks are an indicator of suppressing emotions.

Do you judge yourself for wanting what you want and feeling what you feel? It's important to have clarity and communicate clarity as well. STDs are a common occurrence and risk if a person sleeps with multiple partners and you need to discuss this with your partner. To really get through to him, make

sure you've planned what you're going to say to him so you can work through an agenda of ideas and place your needs in front of him.

Whether your concerns shall be met with denial or a rebuttal or with a heartfelt apology are entirely dependent on the kind of man your husband is and how much your happiness means to him. If he didn't want to be in a committed relationship with you and only wanted an open relationship, why did he marry you? Perhaps the answer to this question may indicate what he sees in you to want to be with you and yet simultaneously pursue open relationships too.

What do you represent for him in his life? If you disclose the current state of affairs to others, no doubt there will be several emotional reactions you'll have to be ready for. Denial and disdain commonly

follows disbelief.

However, you must stick to your guns and not water down what you want just to make your dreams for yourself more palatable to other people. If you continue to suffer by keeping mum and not reaching out for help, your pain and anxiety will compound. The price to be paid in life for speaking our mind and wanting what we want is the dismissal and frustration of other people.

We can't help being who we are and wanting what we want and they can't help having something to comment about what we want and who we are.

It doesn't matter what they think. What matters is our plan and adaptability to difficult situations so that we can live with dignity. Your dignity should be non-negotiable. You owe yourself peace and clarity.



Dr. Aman Rajan Bhonsle, Ph.D Consulting Relationship Counsellor & Youth Mentor

Here's to a stress-free V-Day!

Five tips to enjoy a no-pressure day of love, which will not only encourage to engage in self-care, but also boost mental and emotional well-being



Kanchan Rai

Valentine's Day is finally here! And it is very typical of people clamouring to make dinner reservations or gifting the perfect valentine's card. Similarly, if you struggle to have a loved one to share the festivities with, this day can be suffused with inner isolation or dismay. It is important to calibrate what love really means to you, no matter what category you fall into.

Mindfulness and meditation help to provide us with gateways through which we can interact with the kind of love that nurtures inner attachment, self-reliance, and kindness. Although there are many tips on celebrating the day of no pressure Valentine's, one of the most meaningful ways to look after your emotional well-being.

Our brain is a social organ and we are bound to connect and interact with each other. And, with this pandemic, it can make for a stressful and lonely day for those who may be single or away from loved ones. This Valentine's day let's take a mindful will facilitate you with few ways to celebrate self-care and self-compassion:

Having an abundance mindset: While the scarcity mindset typically focuses on what we don't have, abundant thinking on the other hand is an attitude that emphasizes on what we do have. It facilitates us to witness possibilities rather than limitations thus shifting our perspective. It can aid us in leading more resilient and creative lives and help our brains to function at their highest levels of productivity and collaboration.

Also termed as hedonic adaptation, it explains that when our expectations are met, we tend to return to the same level of happiness we had before the gains. Retelling yourself of all that you have and understanding that more will never fill you up will allow you to understand just how privileged you are.



Alongside engaging in gratitude also activates dopamine in your brain, which facilitates you to feel content, healthier and cultivates a more expansive mindset.

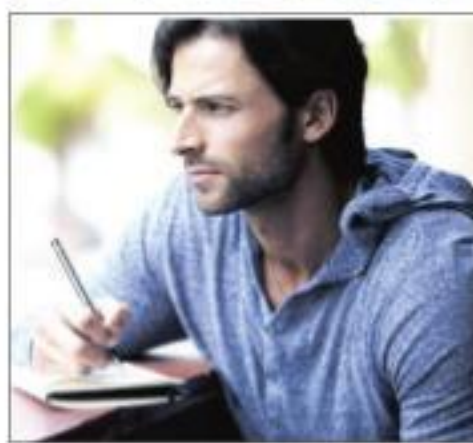
Emanate love with no strings attached: Our heart has the biggest electromagnetic field in the body and is roughly about sixty times greater in amplitude as compared to the brain. We interconnect non-verbally through the electromagnetic field of the heart.

Breathing, meditation, and gratitude practices can aid you to nurture empathy and self-love while also altering your heart rhythm and the way you interact.

Encourage faith: When you feel as if the whole world is against you, it can be very easy to lose faith in a better path. We require the necessary tools to bring us out of that state and to run by us that we have control over our lives.

When you get caught up in such a scarcity mindset, mind healing tools like yoga, meditation, spending time amidst nature, reading an inspiring book, or conversing with a trust-worthy person or a mental health expert can help cultivate faith in you.

Awaken to susceptibility: Feeling a sense of love in your life tends to



start from the inside out. For you to be able to produce the space for a reliable love in your life, it's important that you learn about your blind spots through vulnerability. You must recognize that a part of being human implies having blind spots.

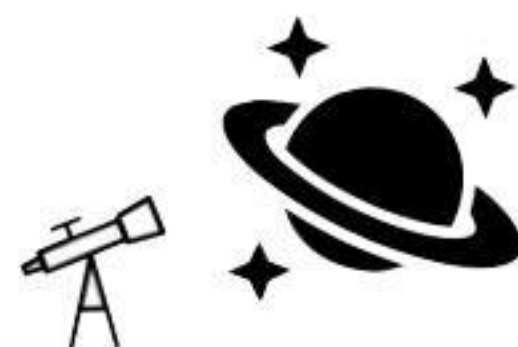
Cultivating awareness of maladaptive patterns tends to create freedom from the bonds of our destructive default modes of communicating. But it takes openness to shift into authentic love. Psychotherapy, meditating, journaling, self-examination, and conversing with loved ones all brace the process of heart-opening and healing. **Practice universal love:** Interdependence is one of the primary tenets of mindfulness. When we feel interrelated with the world, our sense of parting tends to melt down and what is left is airiness for love to the surface.

This Valentine's day, love yourself and uphold good care of your mind. The above-mentioned tips will offer you a golden opportunity to dedicate a day to practising self-care, to understand your mental and emotional well-being.

(The writer is a mental and emotional well-being coach and the Founder of Let Us Talk)

CALIFORNIA: The American social networking service company Facebook is building an Android-based smartwatch with messaging, health, and fitness features. According to The Verge, it is unclear whether Facebook intends for the smartwatch to run Google's Wear OS. Apart from the upcoming smartwatch, Facebook is also working on building its own operating system for hardware devices and future iterations of the wearable may run that software instead. The

smartwatch would join Facebook's Oculus virtual reality headsets and Portal video chat devices as part of the social network's growing hardware ecosystem. The company is also working on branded Ray-Ban smart glasses expected to come out later this year and a separate augmented reality research initiative known as Project Aria, which is part of the company's broader AR explorations, which it has been working on for some time now.



How harmless gut bacteria 'turn bad'

AGENCIES/ London

Researchers have determined how harmless E.coli gut bacteria in chickens can easily pick up the genes required to evolve to cause a life-threatening infection. The study, published in the journal Nature Communications, warns that such infections not only affect the poultry industry but could also potentially cross over to infect humans. "Previously we thought that E. coli became pathogenic by acquiring specific genes from other bugs, often packaged in mobile elements called plasmids. But our study compared the genomes of disease-causing and harmless E. coli in chickens and found that they can 'turn bad' simply by picking up genes from their environment," said Sam Sheppard from the University of Bath in the UK. "Bacteria do this all the time inside the guts of chicken, but most of the time the scavenged genes are detrimental to the bacteria so it becomes an evolutionary dead end." However, there are 26 billion chickens worldwide, representing around 70 per cent of all bird biomass on earth.

First impression indeed matters on a first date

According to a study, it is possible for people to assess personality of their potential suitor in a romantic outing, than a casual setting

FROM OUR BUREAU New Delhi

It may be more difficult to get an accurate first impression of someone on a first date than in a casual setting, research finds. We generally rely on first-date impressions, though, the research shows. While previous studies have shown that people can form accurate impressions of new acquaintances in platonic settings — like casual conversations with new classmates — the researchers wanted to find out if the same was true for higher-stakes situations like first dates. To find answers, they invited 372 participants to partake in speed-dating events in Montreal in 2017 and 2018. Participants were asked to complete a questionnaire assessing their personality and well-being. A close friend or family member also completed a questionnaire on the participant's personality. Participants then had a series of brief, three-minute first dates; after each interaction, they rated their date's personality. On average, people did see their dates' personalities accurately, but



some dates were easier to read than others. "Some people are open books whose distinctive personalities can be accurately perceived after a brief interaction, whereas others are harder to read," says co-author Lauren Gazzard Kerr, a PhD student in the psychology department at McGill University under the supervision of professor Lauren Human. "Strikingly, people who report higher well-being, self-esteem, and satisfaction with life tend to make the task easier," she says. The researchers

note that one explanation could be that some individuals engage in more effective self-presentation. "Perhaps people that have greater well-being behave in ways that are more in line with their personality — being more authentic or true to themselves," says assistant professor Human. In a previous study, the researchers also found evidence of this in platonic settings. Alternatively, it may be that people who are perceived more accurately come to experience greater well-being — not necessarily that greater well-being leads to being perceived more accurately. Both are plausible, according to Human. As next steps, the researchers hope to explore why those who report greater well-being are seen more accurately on first dates. The researchers will also examine the consequences of accurate first impressions and how they influence romantic interest. "Understanding why some people are able to be seen more accurately could help us determine strategies that other people could apply to enhance how accurately they are perceived," says Human.



Here's how you can help your dog to shed holiday pounds

AGENCIES New Delhi

The festive season has come and gone, leaving us with a heady mix of fun, food and frolic and a host of resolutions for the new year. As is the case with every year, health and fitness features on most resolution lists. While we take care of our health, it is very easy for us to forget about the health of our four-legged pets. A responsible pet parent always takes care to feed the pet the right meal, but the festive time does allow for many a slip in the diet plan. As we don't want our dogs to feel left out, most parent slide a piece of the festive goodies their dog's way. Yes, while we realise that certain food groups are not meant for our canine family members, we do indulge them every once in a while. So what to do if your pet has gained a few pounds? Most pet parents feel that just putting their dogs back to their old diet is enough. Unfortunately, it is not. The food groups that the dog has consumed during this festive season have to be neutralised, the same way we would do for ourselves. So, how does one get their doggy back to a healthier diet? In addition to a healthier diet, it is imperative to help them reverse any detri-

mental effects the diets could have manifested in their bodies. Ishmeet Singh Chandiok, Founder, Harley's Corner, shares a few tips to neutralise the effects of 'diet cheats' doggies went through during the festive season: **Cut out all food items that contain sugar:** Even products with a low glycaemic index eg: no white bread, no white rice, no maida, etc. Having allowed your pooch to partake in a few sweets has already taken your dog's sugar levels high, so this will help bring it under control much faster. **Add Olive Oil to your dog's food:** 1 capful, twice a week to the food will help strengthen the roots of their coat. This will help prevent any hair fall in the event you overdid the sugary treats. **Add fish to your dog's diet:** Use white, flaky fish like basa, pomfret, tilapia, etc. This will give your dog natural Omega oils. **Give your dog cooled curd:** Curd as a probiotic is a great digestive system cooler. A bowl of curd once a day for a week will help settle any disturbances in the digestive tract of your dog. **Exercise:** Besides these tips, do remember to exercise your dog a little more. It is easy for dogs to put on weight and as we all know, shedding those extra pounds is a nightmare.

Amazing Ayurveda

Madhumehnashak Churn

Key property: It reduces and controls the glucose levels in the body and is helpful in managing diabetes.

Ingredient: Gurmar (Gymnema Sylvestre), java plum seed, bilwa leaf, bitter gourd, lemon leaf, karanj beej (Pongamia pinnata and mingi).

Quantity: 2 to 3 grams. It should be taken with water, twice a day. Or as per directed by the physician.

Raktshodhak Kalk

Key property: It increases haemoglobin and improves blood circulation. It is also effective against constipation.

Ingredient: Red sandalwood, coriander plant, gaajwan, rose, manjistha (rubia cordifolia), anisoon, vishfaiz, suranjaan sweet, gorakhamundi, harad, gooseberry, baheda, unnay, sanay, jarawind and sugar.

Quantity: 3 to 5 grams. It should be taken before going to bed along with water. Or as per directe by the physician.

(To know more about Shri Mohta Ayurvedic Rasayanshala, call: 011-25232271 / or reach at mohtarasayanshala@gmail.com)

Disclaimer: The description of the above-mentioned products is an excerpt from a booklet, Sankshipt Aushad Parichay Patrak. Please consult your doctor/ or contact the clinic before taking them.

This app can be the key to enhanced personality

AGENCIES London

A team of researchers have developed a smartphone app that may help people who are looking to work on their personality. The majority of participants, who used the app for three months, said that they wanted to reduce their emotional vulnerability, increase their conscientiousness or extraversion. Those who participated in the intervention for more than three months reported greater success in achieving their change goals than the control group who took part for only two months, indicated the findings. "The participants and their friends alike reported

that three months after the end of the intervention, the personality changes brought about by using the app had persisted," said researcher Mathias Allemand from the University of Zurich in Switzerland. "These surprising results show that we are not just slaves to our personality, but that we can deliberately make changes to routine experience and behaviour patterns," Allemand added. According to the study, personality traits such as conscientiousness or sociability are patterns of experience and behaviour that can change throughout our lives. Individual changes usually take place slowly as people

gradually adapt to the demands of society and their environment. However, it is unclear whether certain personality traits can also be psychologically influenced in a short-term and targeted manner. For the study, the team included around 1,500 participants, who were provided with a specially developed smartphone app, called PEACH, for three months. The five major personality traits of openness, conscientiousness, sociability (extraversion), considerateness (agreeableness), and emotional vulnerability (neuroticism) were examined. The app included elements of knowledge

transfer, behavioural and resource activation, self-reflection, and feedback on progress. All communication with the digital coach and companion (a chatbot) took place virtually. Close friends and family members also observed changes in those participants who wanted to increase expression of a certain personality trait. However, for those who wanted to reduce expression of a trait, the people close to them noticed little change. The app was developed as a research tool. In the future, however, it is thought that research apps such as PEACH will be made widely available, the researchers said.

Simply Su-Jok

Secure yourself against slip disc

The condition which is often triggered by weakness or injury may be cured with nothing but simple self-healing techniques, such as ayurvedic acupressure, know how...

The spinal cord is a long, fragile tubelike structure that begins at the end of the brain stem and continues down almost to the bottom of the spine. The spinal cord consists of nerves that carry incoming and outgoing messages between the brain and the rest of the body. It is also the center for reflexes, such as the knee jerk reflex. The spinal cord and its nerves facilitate communication between the body and the brain. Together, the brain and spinal cord make up the central nervous system. Like the brain, the spinal cord is covered by three layers of tissue (meninges). The spinal cord and meninges are contained in the spinal canal,



Prof. G B Luthria

which runs through the center of the spine. In most adults, the spine is composed of 33 individual back bones (vertebrae). Just as the skull protects the brain, vertebrae protect the spinal cord. Spinal column is made up of a series of bones (vertebrae) stacked onto each other. From top to bottom, the column includes seven bones in the cervical spine, 12 in the thoracic spine, and five in the lumbar spine, followed by the sacrum and the coccyx at the base. These bones are cushioned by discs. The discs protect the bones by absorbing the shocks from daily activities like walking, lifting, and twisting. The vertebrae are separated by discs made of cartilage, which act as cushions, reducing the forces generated by movements such as walking and jumping. The vertebrae and disks of cartilage extend the length of the spine and together form the vertebral column, also called the spinal column. Slip disc is a phenomenon where disc materials between vertebra coming outwards and compress associate ligaments, nerve and other structures. It occurs when the outer ring becomes weak or torn and allows the inner portion to slip out. This can happen with age. Certain motions may also cause a slipped disc. A disc can slip out of place while you are twisting or turning to lift an ob-



ject. Lifting a very large, heavy object can place great strain on the lower back, resulting in a slipped disc. If you have a very physically demanding job that requires a lot of lifting, you may be at increased risk for slipped discs. Overweight individuals are also at increased risk for a slipped disc because their discs must support the additional weight. Weak muscles and a sedentary lifestyle may also contribute to the development of a slipped disc. As you get older, you are more likely to experience a slipped disc. This is because your discs begin to lose some of their protective water content as you age. As a result, they can slip more easily out of place. You can have a slipped disc in any part of your spine, from your neck to your lower back. The lower back is one of the more common areas for slipped discs. Your spinal column is an intricate network of nerves and blood vessels. A slipped disc can place extra pressure on the nerves and muscles around it. **Symptoms of a slipped disc include:** Pain and numbness, most commonly on one side of the body, pain that extends to your arms or legs, pain that worsens at night or with certain movements, pain

that worsens after standing or sitting, pain when walking short distances, unexplained muscle weakness, tingling, aching, or burning sensations in the affected area etc. The types of pain can vary from person to person. An untreated, severe slipped disc can lead to permanent nerve damage. In very rare cases, a slipped disc can cut off nerve impulses to the nerves in your lower back and legs. If this occurs, you may lose bowel or bladder control. Most people can relieve slipped disc pain using an exercise program that stretches and strengthens the back and surrounding muscles. A physical therapist may recommend exercises that can strengthen your back while reducing your pain. Taking over-the-counter pain relievers and avoiding heavy lifting and painful positions can also help. While it may be tempting to refrain from all physical activity while you're experiencing the pain or discomfort of a slipped disc, this can lead to muscle weakness and joint stiffness. Instead, try to remain as active as possible through stretching or low-impact activities such as walking. While yoga is very good to keep your

Here are a few acupressure tricks that can help heal your slip disc situation. Ayurvedic Acupressure has treatments for every vertebra and the same are given on www.artofselfhealing.in, but general treatment is given below:

(i) Slip disc at L3, 4, 5 (Left side) Lt RF - 2 nd Spr - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑ Lt IF - V Jt - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑	(ii) Slip disc at L3, 4, 5 (Right side) Lt RF - 2 nd Spr - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑ Rt IF - V Jt - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, 0 ↑
(iii) Slip disc L 1, 2, D 12 (Right side) Lt RF - 3 rd Spr - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑ Rt IF - P Jt - 2, 4, 5, 9 ↓, 3, 7, 0 ↑	(vi) Slip disc L 1, 2, D 12 (Right side) Lt RF - 3 rd Spr - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑ Rt IF - P Jt - 2, 4, 5, 9 ↓, 3, 7, 0 ↑
(v) Slip disc at C 7, D 1, 2, (Left side) Lt RF - 7 th Spr - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑ Lt RF - K Jt - 2, 4, 5, 9 ↓, 3, 7, 0 ↑	(vi) Slip disc at C 7, D 1, 2, (Right side) Lt RF - 7 th Spr - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑ Rt RF - K Jt - 2, 4, 5, 9 ↓, 3, 7, 0 ↑
(vii) Slip disc at C4, 5, 6 (Left side) Lt RF - 8 th Spr - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑ Lt SF - V Jt - 2, 4, 5, 9 ↓, 3, 7, ↑	(viii) Slip disc at C4, 5, 6 (Right side) Lt RF - 8 th Spr - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑ Rt SF - V Jt - 2, 4, 5, 9 ↓, 3, 7, 0 ↑
(ix) Slip disc at C 1, 2, 3 (Left side) Lt RF - 9 th Spr - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑ Lt SF - K Jt - 2, 4, 5, 9 ↓, 3, 7, 0 ↑	(x) Slip disc at C 1, 2, 3 (Right side) Lt RF - 9 th Spr - 2, 4, 5 ↓, 3, 7, ↑ Rt SF - K Jt - 2, 4, 5, 9 ↓, 3, 7, 0 ↑
a) Slip Disc - RMM ΔΔ 2, 5, 6, 9 ↓, 1, 7, 0 ↑	b) Degenerative Lumbar Spine with Osteophytes RMM ΔΔ 2 (Br) N flow - 4, 5, 9 ↓, 3, 6, 0 ↑
c) Cervical Slip Disc at C 2 - C 3 RMM ΔΔ 9 (Br) N flow - 2, 5, 6, 9 ↓, 1, 7, 0 ↑	

body and spine flexible, there may be situations when you may be advised against it. It may not be possible to prevent a slipped disc, but you can take steps to reduce your risk of developing a slipped disc. **These steps include:** Use safe lifting techniques: Bend and lift from your knees, not your waist. Maintain a healthy weight. Do not remain seated for long periods; get up and stretch periodically. Do exercises to strengthen the muscles in your back, legs, and abdomen. **How can you confirm if you have slip disc?** Well, there are several ways we conform patients' disc prolapse. Patient usually complain that the pain become worse in the early morning, coughing or sneezing aggravate pain on back, and testing straight leg raising while lying on back. In fact, you may assess by a physical therapist or a physician to conform about diagnosis. Usually, a physiotherapist or manipulative physiotherapy practitioner can assess accordingly. Besides, a lot of other manual therapy protocols are followed to relief pain and associated symptoms. **If you have slip disc:** Take relative rest but not for long time, use pain free position while lying, avoid travelling and long walking, try not to lift object in bending position, use hot compression for 10 to 15 minutes in back, be careful during coughing or sneezing. Finally, to prevent your back pain or slip disc, do some exercises regularly or you may take suggestion from a physiotherapist about the type of exercise you can perform.

(The Free Press Journal along with the Lions Club of Mumbai ACTION would like to guide people on how to treat self through non-invasive, therapies like Sujok, Ayurvedic Acupressure and Mudra Yoga. This is complementary and will not override the treatment given by doctor. Please share your problems by writing to us at features@fpj.co.in; lionsclubofaction@gmail.com. You can also share the problem on WhatsApp at 9323178565.)

Mohit Malik

How has your relationship and the concept of love changed over the years for you?

Both of us are understanding each other much better. Last year was really tough. But Addite and I have been together in our lows and highs.

What is your most precious Valentine's Day memory?

Your love should be universal. It should be expansive like the ocean. My most memorable Valentine's Day was last year in Kerala clinic, I was recuperating in the hills. I was away from Addite for 14 days — the longest time since we got married. But we both realised that you get to learn some things about yourself only when you are alone. On Valentine's Day, after my morning yoga, when I came back to my room I was pleasantly surprised to see a bouquet of flowers and a 'I miss you' note.

If your love story was a book what would the title be and where would it begin?

The title would be, *Love is for us, it's a beginning with no end.*

How was the lockdown period for you as a couple?

My father-in-law was unwell. So lockdown *se pehle hi hamara lockdown ho gaya tha.*

What were the three new things you discovered about your partner during this time?

Addite is selfless and compassionate. And she is a great business woman.

And what were the three things about your partner that annoyed you the most?

Addite procrastinates a lot. And she likes to sleep till late. She has made amends in the latter.

What was your favourite activity in this phase?

Running and gymming at home.

Stuck in the same house, how would you ensure your 'me time'?

We share a good rapport and tell each other when we need 'me time'.

Are you starting 2021 on a very strong bond?

Fatherhood is knocking. So, 2021 is special.

What are your Valentine's Day plans for your partner?

I want to give her a gift that she will remember for life.



Addite Malik and Mohit Malik

Five actors speak about what the day of love means to them, and how the lockdown has made an impact on their relationship with their spouses

ANITA RAHEJA-HEENA AGARWAL



Bhamini Oza and Pratik Gandhi

Pratik Gandhi

How has your relationship and the concept of love changed over the years for you?

With every passing day in your life, the concept of love and relationship also grows. I feel love is very karmic and spiritual too.

What is your most precious Valentine's Day memory?

I had no idea of Valentine's Day before college. So I did not understand much about Valentine's Day. Now it is an occasion to express one's love for each other.

If your love story was a book what would the title be and where would it begin?

The book's title would be *First Look*. It would begin with 'I looked in the audience from the stage and life changed'.

How was the lockdown period for you as a couple?

Amazing. We ate our meals together, watched films together. We experienced Covid together and fought it together too.

What were the three new things you discovered about your partner during this

in this phase?

Cooking.

Stuck in the same house, how would you ensure your 'me time'?

There wasn't much of it. We enjoyed being with each other. And if at all we required space we knew when to just give each other the time for it.

Are you starting 2021 with a stronger bond?

Definitely. We have become inseparable. We both got to know each other much better.

What are your Valentine's Day plans for your partner?

I'm planning a sundowner this year.



Pooja Banerjee and Sandeep Sejwal

Shefali Jariwala

How has your relationship and the concept of love changed over the years for you?

It has morphed into mature everyday love. The kind that doesn't need status updates to validate itself; the kind that doesn't need to hold hands to feel together; the kind that doesn't need expensive gifts to feel valued. We have graduated to that golden phase of love that warms the heart and lights up the soul.

What does Valentine's Day mean to you?

To me, a man's actions throughout the year are more important than just that one day. Love must be celebrated every day.

If your love story was a book, what would the title be and where would it begin?

The madness of Parag and Shefali...

How was the lockdown period for you?

Wonderful, more so because just before the coronavirus pandemic I was in a lockdown for three and a half months in the *Bigg Boss* house away from Parag. In the current lockdown while Parag watched TV or played video games. I would read and sketch. Parag even learned to



Shefali Jariwala and Parag Tyagi

cook. The slow pace and the simpler things in life were wonderful.

What were the three new things you discovered about your partner during this time?

We have been together for 10 years now, so I know him completely.

And what were the three things about your partner that annoyed you the most?

I'm borderline OCD about cleanliness as Parag is a bit messy, especially about his wardrobe and he also is very forgetful about his keys.

What was your



Manasi Joshi Roy and Rohit Roy

Rohit Roy

How has your relationship and the concept of love changed over the years for you?

You can either mature like fine wine or hang on to your youthful thoughts of love and be disillusioned. Manasi and I have known each other for years, we even understand each other's silences.

What is your most precious Valentine's Day memory?

When I was in my teens, it meant a lot. But now I feel it is pointless to fight with your spouse and once in a year bring her flowers on Valentine's Day. Every other day should be a celebration of love. My precious Valentine's Day memory is of Manasi organising a surprise dinner for me. She had lit candles and laid out a wonderful spread of

food — there was just us.

If your love story was a book what would the title be and where would it begin?

I haven't thought on these lines because my life has just begun.

How was the lockdown period for you as a couple?

I'm not going to lie about it. It was both good and bad because you put a couple of people in the same house and room for three months without letting them even air or vent their feelings it is bound to frustrate you. The everyday exasperations get exaggerated. But God's been kind, our skirmishes were very limited. While watching love stories on OTT channels we saw a little bit of us in all those stories. We shot five films five short films also based on love during the lockdown from our house and I realised what a fantastic actor she is.

What were the three things about your partner that annoyed you the most?

Her impatience annoys me. She wants everything to happen her way and that's not possible in a household of four-five people right? Also, I'm not so much a cleanliness freak like she is. She is too perfect unlike me who is prone to make mistakes. She's absolutely perfect hardly known her to be wrong in any department, which is irritating because I make mistakes like every other human being.

What was your favourite activity during this time?

Watching films on OTT as that is the future medium.

Stuck in the same house, how would you ensure your 'me time'?

I really don't need me time. I'm very happy being with my wife, my child my mother. Besides I can easily slip into my own shell.

Are you starting 2021 with a stronger bond?

2020 has not made a major difference to my relationship. My relationship has always been very solid. But this pandemic made me realise that I'd be at sea if she wasn't around; I felt I had been taking for granted earlier. I am blessed to have her in my life.

What are your Valentine's Day plans for your partner?

Working together with Manasi.

1980s: The decade of charming debuts and love stories

Cinema as an art of storytelling is ruled by love stories and every new generation has its own cult love story finding an instant connection with the youth. Hindi cinema has witnessed numerous adorable films about young lovers in its hundred years of history, but the decade of '80s deserves a special mention among them all for a reason.

Widely considered a forgettable decade of Hindi cinema for various debatable elements, 1980s was actually the decade releasing trendsetting love stories exploring the cinema of the next generation. It was the period when most of the star kids were introduced, along with the unknown faces, offering exceptionally hit soundtracks in their films winning hearts all over. A few of these actors rediscovered themselves after playing small roles and some couldn't hit the right note even after getting the big opportunity. However, many did experience phenomenal success, literally ruling the box office in the decades that followed.

Beginning with 1981, we had *Ek Duije Ke Liye* introducing Kamal Haasan, Rati Agnihotri, Madhavi and Sunil Thapa, along with Sanjay Dutt's Rocky. The year also had another mega hit, *Love Story*, introducing Kumar Gaurav and Vijayta Pandit, besides Kunal Kapoor coming up with his mainstream release *Ahista Ahista*.

The following year, an unusual debut by Salma Agha as a singer-actress won over the masses in a socially relevant love story *Nikaah*, raising a valid question.

In 1983, Sunny Deol and Amrita Singh announced their arrival through *Betaab* followed by Jackie Shroff and Meenakshi Sheshadri setting the box office on fire with their *Hero*. Sunny also did a period love-saga Sohni Mahiwal in the following year. On the other hand, when Anil Kapoor successfully made a breakthrough in mainstream cinema with *Woh 7 Din*, Rajiv Kapoor-Divya Rana, Rajiv Goswami-Meenakshi and Kunal Goswami-Komal couldn't leave the desired impact with their *Ek Jaan Hain Hum*, *Painter Babu* and *Ghungroo*, respectively.

The lukewarm response to new love stories and debuts



Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak



Ek Duije Ke Liye



Maine Pyar Kiya



continued in 1984. These included Mohnish Bahl and Ayesha Dutt's *Teri Baahon Mein*, Karan Shah and Neelam's *Jawaani*, Tapas Paul and Madhuri Dixit's *Abodh* and Suneil Anand and Natasha Sinha's *Anand Aur Anand*. In 1985, Rohan Kapoor and Farah also failed to impress in their *Faasle*, but a surprise hit turned the tables for both Kimi Katkar and Hemant Birje with *Adventures of Tarzan*.



Raj Kapoor's *Ram Teri Ganga Maili* was all over the press and theaters in 1986 featuring *Mandakini* in a bold avatar, but Raj Tandon and Rubina couldn't make it big with *Ek Main Aur Ek Tu*. The same was the result of an attempt to cash in on the young spirit with *Love 86* featuring all fresh entrants as Govinda, Rohan Kapoor, Farah and Neelam. Here a deserving mention has to be made of K. Asif's *Love and God* — an incomplete film that finally



got released with the efforts of K. C. Bokadia, sadly witnessing a discouraging response from the audience.

In 1988, Asif Sheikh (of *Hum Log* fame) and Kimi Katkar tried their best in *Rama O Rama*, but the year truly belonged to *Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak* featuring Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla. Both the excellence in music and execution on screen continued in 1989 with another classic *Maine Pyar Kiya* re-introducing Salman Khan with Bhagyashree playing the new-age couple. The same year also witnessed an unexpected musical success in the video circuit achieved by a small film *Lal Dupatta Malmal Ka* with Sahil Chadha and Veverly in the lead. Thankfully, a hat-trick of musical love stories got completed with *Aashiqui* releasing in 1990 that eventually took the Hindi Cinema into its next phase.

In comparative terms, though all the hit films mentioned above have their own importance in the history of Hindi films and music, the one name that still stands tall is *Ek Duije Ke Liye*. The reason being that the film not only introduced Hindi film viewers to an exceptionally gifted artist like Kamal Haasan, but also made way for an extremely blessed and versatile singer-performer S. P. Balasubrahmanyam, who later became one of the key reasons of success for many blockbuster love stories as *Maine Pyar Kiya*, *Saajan*, *Roja*, *Hum Aapke Hain Koun* and more.

Interestingly, *Ek Duije Ke Liye* wasn't actually the first Hindi film of both Kamal Haasan and S. P. Balasubrahmanyam as widely quoted. The talented singer sang for many Hindi films earlier, but they were mostly dubbed Hindi films having a limited release. But then he also sang for R. D. Burman in *Mangalsutra* (1981) that got scored months before *Ek Duije Ke Liye*. Revealing the lesser-known cameo of Kamal Haasan, he was there in a few seconds scene in K. Balachander's *Aaina* (1977) as a young assistant talking to his director while shooting a song featuring Dharmendra and Neetu Singh.

No doubt the '80s, full of debuts and love stories, wasn't really a decade that can easily be forgotten.

(The writer is a critic-columnist, an explorer of cinema and author of 'Did You Know' series on Hindi films also active at bobbytalkscinema.com)

So long, farewell; it's hard to say goodbye...

I'm a writer, but I am at a complete loss of words when expressing the pain I'm feeling after losing my best friend Rajiv Kapoor, writes Vinta Nanda

Sunday Read

He was lovingly called Chimpu by one and all in the film industry. Many, many years ago, his brother invited me over to his house for lunch and I accepted the invitation. After an electric meeting over the best Punjabi food I have ever eaten, in the city of Mumbai, with his wife Neetu Kapoor and him, I was invited by Rishi Kapoor to visit RK Studios a few days later, to meet his brothers.

RK Studios — the place where dreams were once manufactured and released to a universe starving for more and more from the auteur — where a body of work incomparable was accomplished by the greatest Indian showman ever, Raj Kapoor.

A few days later, it was on the dot of time that I reached RK Studios for the appointment. Rishi Kapoor and Randhir Kapoor were busy in a meeting. I was led into a very beautifully designed office and asked to wait for them. About ten minutes later walked in Chimpu Kapoor. He looked at me straight in the eye and asked me who I was.

I told him my name and he immediately welcomed me saying that he was a fan of my work and loved the series I was producing and writing at the time, which was very popular, Tara. He recalled scenes and dialogues from my show and had me in splits for the next two hours while we waited for his brothers to get free. We were like a house on fire within moments and it seemed like we had been friends forever.

The meeting with his brothers happened and when I was leaving, Chimpu asked me where I was going? I told him that Zee TV (the network I was making the show for) was hosting an event at the Leela Kempinski Hotel and I was going straight home, and getting ready to go there. The glorious event was underway that night and suddenly a junior manager from the hotel walked up to me and gave me a handwritten note on a paper napkin. It was from Chimpu and it read, "I'm at the nightclub in the basement, see you soon!" Those were not the times of mobile phones you see.

Much as I was taken aback, I was thrilled to bits, so when my duty towards the event I was attending was over, I took leave and went to the bar in the basement. It was a popular nightclub called Cyclone and when I entered, I found Chimpu settled at the bar waving to me. Here started a romance that was never to turn into a love affair. Reason: I was hitched.

I call it a romance because from the moment we hit the dance floor that night, I had stepped into a movie and Chimpu was to make me live a long one, the story of which was going to span across many seasons and many seasons.

The two of us



Vinta Nanda with Rajiv



Rishi Kapoor with Rajiv Kapoor



Randhir and Rajiv clicked during Christmas last year



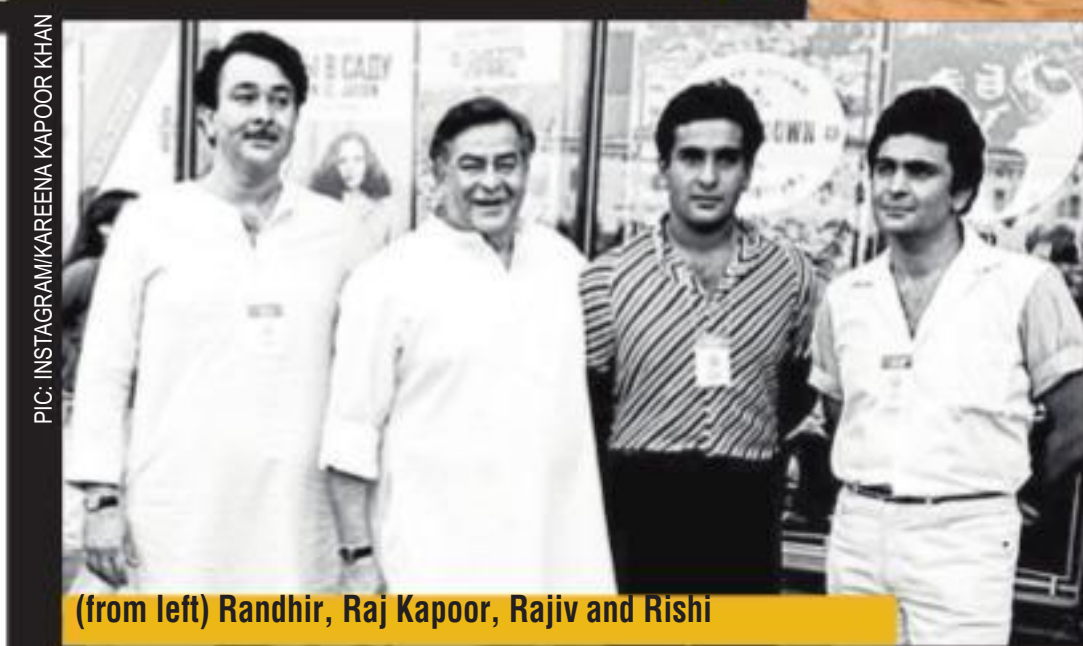
Rajiv Kapoor

were twins and we knew it in an instant. Chimpu was a good drinker and loved his Scotch and I my Vodka. We would meet almost every other evening, barring those when either he or I were busy. And, as soon as he'd pick me up, we would hit the road. We would drive around town in his car, which had a mini bar and he would play all the music that I loved. It didn't take him more than a week to know my likes, my dislikes and also the things that made me laugh and he would design every evening that he spent with me around the things that would thrill me.

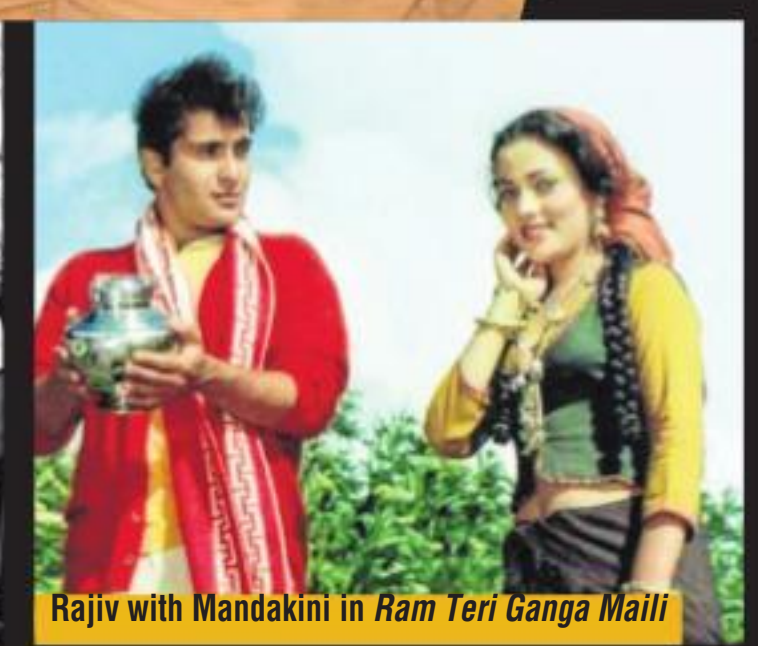
We would go to the 1900s at the Taj Hotel, dance the evening away and then park the car at Marine Drive where Chimpu would blast the music on his car stereo and we would leap out, on to the promenade, and dance until the wee hours of the morning. If the cops turned up, we'd promise to leave in just a few more minutes and often times, they would be ecstatic to meet Rajiv Kapoor, therefore leave us alone.

Else we would go to Cyclone or to the many other nightclubs in the suburbs, dance until they would shut down and land up at and take over the floor at a discotheque called Avalon at Bawa Hotel, near the airport, which would remain open until 5am in the morning. When the season was of

Monsoons, we would just park the car anywhere we chose to in the Bombay of those days when you could do anything you liked, blast the music on his car stereo in the middle of



(from left) Randhir, Raj Kapoor, Rajiv and Rishi



Rajiv with Mandakini in Ram Teri Ganga Mailli

the night, and dance in the pouring rain. When I go by those places now, I smile to myself as I recall those unbelievably beautiful times. Many times we would land up at coffee shops of hotels where we'd find our friends because folks would converge there after nightclubs would shut past midnight, and we'd fuff around with them until daybreak.

It was usually dawn by the time he would drop me home and make way to his own. This went on for two to three years and then Chimpu got married and the spell broke. We remained friends and we would go out often with his wife of that time, but it was never the same. He would be reserved and so would I be, and after a somewhat stilted evening, he and his wife would drop me home and go back to their own. Chimpu's marriage didn't last long and by the time he came out of it, he was somewhat bruised. He would binge at times and more often than not, he would not want to stop until he was fully wasted.

My friendship with him remained. Many things happened in my life and many in his — and we both

have overcome the hurdles in our own respective ways. That the friendship just became stronger helped. He lost many of his friends but his partner Sunita came into his life some years later and she looked after him with much care. We didn't meet in person as often as we'd have liked to, but modes of communication had become manifold — so we bonded even more.

But he's gone. The very bright and intelligent friend of mine is no more. The hero of several blockbusters and a household name in the country, a person the industry loves, the man who was one of the first to reach out and help the workers during the COVID crisis, the director of the epic *Prem Granth*, a film unmatched for its images, its style and form — a man emotionally fragile but the best friend to all the people he loved, including me, just walked away into the sun this early morning, leaving me bereft, leaving every single friend of his bereft, leaving his family bereft.

(The article is a part of collaboration with The Daily Eye.)

B'wood Birthdays this week

Picking out celebs whose birthdays fall today and in the following week, astrologer Pradeep Kiradoo makes yearly predictions for our Bollywood stars

Ashutosh Gowariker

(Born: February 15)

Your personal magnetism is great, and your need for loving, harmonious and balanced surroundings perhaps greater. You are a good orator as you can convey things to people in an appropriate manner. Your profession needs you to put your best foot forward. You will take life as it comes without any demands and complaints. You are creative, and you also have a strong sense of business. If you are planning to do something new, wait for Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Spiritual time will be May and June.



Sajid Nadiadwala

(Born: February 18)

You are generous and well-liked. Your spiritual and idealistic side is well-developed. You have very close ties with your friends and family. Monetary gains will come your way. On the flip side of life, there might be some tension that will affect your peace of mind. Still, you have a stronger spirit for change and adventure this year. While you should watch for haste, healthy risk-taking might simply serve to enliven you. Boosting time period: February and March.



Patralekhaa

(Born: February 20)

Sensitive and concerned, partnerships mean a lot to you. You are always aware of others' needs, and this is factored into your own decisions. You thoroughly enjoy being there for someone you love. Creative and intuitive, you are able to make something of your talents, but were not meant to focus on only one or two paths. As much as you crave security, you also need movement and small changes to keep you inspired. You are likely to have many projects and ideas going on at this time in your life — you are hungry for variety, knowledge, and mental excitement.



Annu Kapoor (Born: February 20)

You possess tremendous poise and grace and while you may come across as very patient and calm, you can be impulsive and restless. Count of your admirers might show a downward trend which might bother you as you may feel lack of supporters to boost you up. At times, you could feel quite restless or irritable. Journey to a sacred place will fill you with peace and placid feelings. You will move to and fro from your workplace to other places.



Randhir Kapoor

(Born: February 15)

Forgiving and tolerant, few people so easily accept others for exactly who they are. You are also very perceptive and pick up on all the subtleties of human interaction. Someone will knock on your door for help. Series of ups and downs are what you encounter in your life. You may be more emotional this year, and should watch for unnecessary conflicts and making hasty decisions as a result.

Arunoday Singh

(Born: February 17)

Your ability to develop consensus with proper monitoring and guidance takes you far beyond your imagination and will bring never ending fame to you. Your life will change in part because of a deep inner need to reinvent yourself from time to time. Your birthday occurs around the Third Quarter Moon this year, and you are reaching an important turning point in terms of personal growth. You may be more emotional this year, avoid unnecessary conflicts and making hasty decisions. Enlightened time for you is October and November.



Weekend Binge List

Interactive series and supernatural drama leave you wanting for more

From spine-chilling crime buster thrillers to comedies and college romance, the week has been buzzing with excitement. What's really remarkable is that all the OTT platforms have been vying to give good quality content, so the winners are... the viewers of course. Let's analyse the new releases and find out how good the digital world of OTT is honing themselves into

SUMITA CHAKRABORTY

Title: Your Honor (finale)
Platform: Voot Select
Language: English



This is one of those racy web series that keep you hooked till the end. Based on the Israeli series *Kivodo*, *Your Honor* stars Bryan Cranston who plays Michael Desiato, a New Orleans judge who is forced to cover up a shocking crime when his teenage son Adam (Hunter Doohan) suffers an asthma attack while driving and gets into a car accident. In a panic, Adam runs away from the scene, allowing the other boy to bleed out on the road. The show spotlights the emotional dilemma a parent faces and is definitely a must watch.

Title: Buried by the Bernards
Platform: Netflix
Language: English



When things revolve around death, it becomes a little morbid, but this web series is so much fun as it captures the lighter side of things as well as the drama. In 2017, Ryan Bernard opened the doors to R Bernard Funeral Services, offering complete, yet affordable, funeral packages to help his community deal with exponentially high funeral costs. With family dramedy at the centre, this web series is a giggle with its tongue-in-the-cheek elements. Pretty enjoyable!

Title: Live Telecast

Platform: Disney + Hotstar
Language: Tamil with subtitles
There's been quite a buzz about this web series more so as there is the popular actor Kajal Aggarwal making her digital debut. Directed by Venkat Prabhu, this web series has a supernatural element which is a big hit on the digital platform. The tale is of the protagonist (Kajal) and her TV crew being trapped in a haunted house which has angry spirits flying around. A tad eerie perhaps, this seven-episode series holds the attention to a point.



Title: The Right Click

Platform: MX Player
Language: Hindi
This is an interactive short film called *The Right Click* that enables you to decide on the course of the story, making it the only homegrown OTT platform to introduce viewers to this new wave of storytelling. The *Right Click* is a tale of two college going students set against the backdrop of the new normal in 2020 with online lectures and a budding digital college romance. Starring Yashaswini Dayama and Prit Kamani as Dia and Ajay, it allows viewers to decide the progression of the film by giving them a series of incidents and options from a young college boy's daily life and his journey of getting to know his crush. This is new and the interactive progression is fun.



Title: Xico's Journey
Platform: Netflix
Language: English

This animated series is cute and quite entertaining. A simple tale of a girl, her dog and her best pal who set out to save a mountain from a gold-hungry corporation. But the key lies closer to home, with her sidekick pup Xico. The adventures they go through, especially little Xico, are very sweet. Your li'l one is sure to love this!

Title: Vida
Platform: Sony LIV
Language: English

This is the third season of this emotional melodrama. Featuring Melissa Barrera, Mishel Prada and Ser Anzoategui in the lead, Vida narrates the tale of two sisters who never want to set their eyes on each other until circumstances force them to reunite and move back to their childhood neighbourhood after the death of their mother. After that hidden secrets keep tumbling out of their family's closet. Can the sisters cope with so many disturbing secrets that threaten to destroy their existence? Will their deep-felt hate consume everything between them? Watch it...



ABHAY K., author of *The Bloomsbury Book of Great Indian Love Poems*

What is romance?
Romance comes naturally to us. I think one just has to be alive to one's true feelings to be a romance writer. What is romance? It is a feeling of mystery, feeling of strong attraction towards a person or things. True feelings show up in one's poetry or prose. One does not need any special skills for it. I come across a lot of people from around the world. Most of them are strangers, just passing by, reminding me of this



poem of Walt Whitman:
*Stranger; if you passing meet me
and desire to speak to me,
why should you not speak to me?
And why should I not speak to you?*

I draw inspiration for my love poems from these strangers, who keep coming into my life as comets come to Earth, for a brief interlude, and pass by hurtling into deep space, or as flowers blossom in spring and wither away quickly.

Evoking feelings in the written word
I think here the dictum 'honesty is the best policy' applies. When I'm honest to my feelings, romance automatically comes out in written words. Please remember, our words are our thoughts and emotions and if they are not preachy or lustful, our written words too would not be preachy or lustful.

Is romance dead?
I don't think so, otherwise how would so many love poems/stories, romantic novels be written and romantic movies be made. I think romance can never be dead. It lives in our heart and will live until there is life on Earth. What is life without romance? Romance is all around us. It is not just strong attraction towards another human being, but a general sense of connection with everything animate or inanimate around us like flowers, stars, clouds, mountains, wind, trees, lakes, rivers, oceans. Romance is a way of looking at life in a mystical way. Each of us is gifted with it. We should keep the child within us alive to feel the sense of wonder alive within us. I think the best way to do it is to stay connected with our inner self, to play, to laugh often and to take pleasure in small things in life, to live every moment of one's life.

ANUJ TIWARI, author of *Give Your Heart a Break*

Drawing inspiration from real life stories
Being real is the most romantic and the rarest thing one can have. If you have it, you feel content. To add, it becomes the most comfortable way out to connect to people when you are genuine in nature. There is nothing else required to become a successful writer or a successful romantic person in a relationship. I have written stories inspired by real lives. My inspiration comes from people I meet, people I talk to, and people I see. I am just a medium to convey their stories by un-

In pursuit of romance!

Four romance novelists and a poet share with Manasi Y Mastakar what it takes to be a romance writer, where they draw inspiration from, and decipher the most important question that is plaguing many millennials: Is romance dead?

wrapping their feelings that sometimes we hide to share it with others. I just write what I personally feel good about without feeling preachy or lustful. However, there is always the first calling when you feel "it is not right" I just stop and press backspace. Writing is the easiest thing for an introverted person like me and many others there, so I write what I want to speak to the world through my books.

Is romance dead?
Absolutely, and I sometimes feel sad about it. There is a difference between romantic feeling and romantic drama. Things you see on social media are drama, and I think most of us are influenced by it and then stuck in real life even after having the most charming person. You need to accept that the relationship you have is the most special somehow, so stop comparing it, knowingly or unknowingly. To keep romance alive, one must stay away from social media and stay connected to your loved ones in real life. Nothing can be more romantic than sitting with your love and talking



random stuff. Being romantic is not a responsibility; it is the most precious feeling that connects two people most powerfully.

ANDALEEB WAJID, author of *The Crunch Factor*

Being a romance writer
A genuine love for the genre. Not just because you want to hop on to a bandwagon because romance supposedly sells well. Key skills would be reading other romances out there, across various subgenres, and observation of people around us. Inspiration comes from a variety of places — memories, dreams, people I see, and general observation of people around me. It's all right to sound lustful! And, most of the evoking of romance in written comes from depicting good chemistry, dialogue, reactions and inner thoughts of the characters.

Is romance dead?
Not at all. But honestly, I write romance but I'm not necessarily a romantic person in the way of grand gestures. So, for me, romance lies in the small things, the day to day gestures where you learn to live with someone. It's not the



happily ever after. It's what comes after that which is what I like to focus on (in my books too).

NIKITA DESHPANDE, author of *It Must've Been Something He Wrote*

Love for escapism
I don't know about skills required for being a romance writer, but it takes a certain amount of delusion, daydreaming and a shameless love for escapism. You have to enjoy watching your character have certain ideas about love and the world and then coming up with ways to thwart them. I think you also need a deep understanding of your own nature and the unlikely/out of character things we do when



we come up against the possibility of rejection. I draw inspiration from anywhere and everywhere. I'm shameless. Sometimes I'll watch two people arguing on Twitter and think, oh these two should totally kiss.

Evoking feelings of romance in written word
It's very funny because in real life romantic situations, someone could say the cheesiest thing and 'ruin' the moment. But being able to capture the truth of moments like that makes it more real and less preachy, I think. As for lust, I would love to learn to sound lustful. Navigating sex and desire is a very regular part of romance that has been taboo for so many years that many of us grew up thinking that reading or fantasizing about it is 'icky'. I enjoy reading novels that normalise that.

Is romance dead?
No. I think romance has transformed. Earlier romance equalled grand gestures and big spending. I love that that has changed. I find us gravitating more towards gestures that are small, private, thoughtful and defiant of social norms and gender roles. Think Prince Harry hand picking the flowers for Megan Markle's wedding bouquet, or walking out on the Royal Family to stand against the racism she experienced. Think Alexis Ohanian bringing his baby daughter to watch mum Serena Williams' tennis game and making sure she gets her bottled feed. Think of the number of people, whether romantic partners or not, who have nursed each other to health during this pandemic. To me, romance has expanded to include love and friendship and is expressed through curiosity, care, effort, and the willingness to be vulnerable, brave, silly or cheesy. Through deep attention, curiosity, vulnerability and care, one can keep romance alive.

RIVA RAZDAN, author of *Arzu*

What does it take to be a romance writer?
A love for reading great romances is the most necessary skill, of course. Personally, I enjoy reading love stories with strong female protagonists. I would recommend reading Georgette Heyer, Jane Austen, Margaret Mitchell because they are the masters of romantic-feminist fiction in my opinion. To learn how to contemporise your story into a modern romance, I'd say Lianne Moriarty or Jill Mansell or Cecelia Ahern are wonderful at creating urban heroine-centric love stories. Like all fictional stories, its facts plus imagination. I won't be



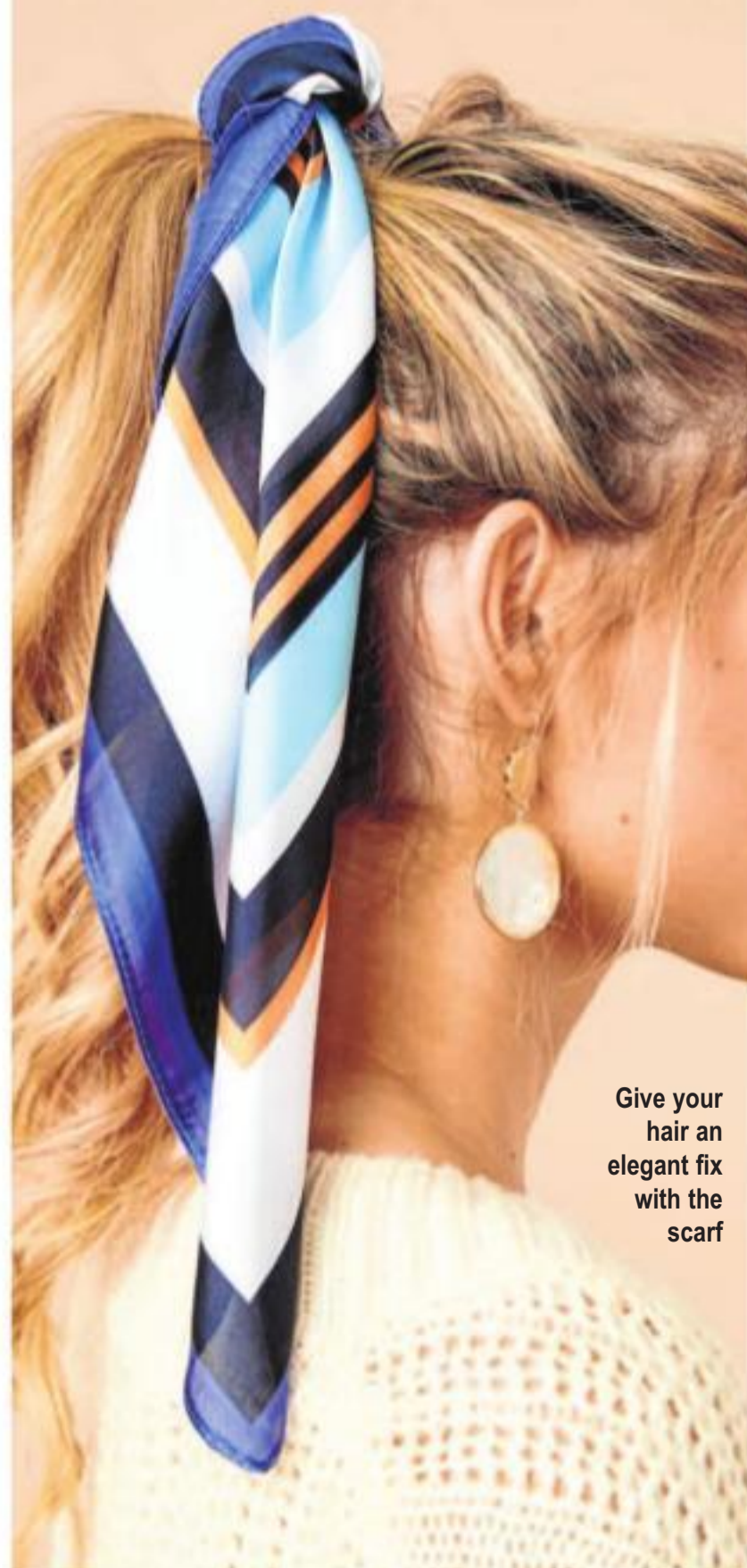
at a liberty to say how much is fact or whose life the fact belongs to. But I am fairly certain that the story is rooted in enough truth to resonate with many young girls.

Writing romance
My style is neither didactic nor lewd so I find neither a problem. I focus on the construction of my characters, trying to make them as human and yet, heroic, as possible so that they become the sort of people you'd either want to be, or want to fall in love with. You fill a world with interesting and admirable men and women and the romance inevitably follows.

Is romance dead?
Romance is only as dead or alive as your imagination allows it to be.

Drive away last-minute blues

Didn't get a chance to visit the salon? Gita Hari speaks to experts to help you out with some last min prep to look your best as you step out to celebrate Valentine's Day



Give your hair an elegant fix with the scarf

Maybe work from home is keeping you tied-up; or you are feeling a bit lazy in your PJs to 'Get Up and Glam'. Whatever the reason, this special occasion demands you to look stunning! And, you need not get tensed about being a last-minute hustler! says Anita Golani, Founder, iORA, a DIY Salon Kit Series, who comes to the rescue with some simple, amazing and effective skin-care grooming hacks. She advocates a cold therapy that merely translates to running ice cubes all over your face. She adds, "Doing this will eliminate puffiness (especially near the eyes), soothe a sunburn, ease out your acne, will tighten your skin and make it look plumper. Moreover, your face will get a healthy glow."

Magic lurks in the kitchen

To look presentable or dress up for the occasion is imperative for everyone. To be well groomed means paying attention to everything right from your footwear to personal hygiene. It is essential to practice a skin care routine, and adorn oneself in a way that elucidates your personal style. In case you run short of time this V-Day, do not panic! Use kitchen ingredients to give yourself a quick makeover.

Every kitchen shelf has coffee and it is an excellent scrub to remove dead cells. It hydrates without clogging the pores and is also ideal for sensitive skin. Grab some apples from the fridge and extract their juice. Mix it with oats and some besan to form a thick face-pack consistency. Apply it on your face and let it do its magic for 10-15 mins. Wash off with cold water later. Ingredients used in the making have skin whitening properties and the apple juice contains collagen that provides elasticity to your skin, points out Golani who further suggests dead skin remedy for face from kitchen essentials. "Baking soda is a great facial cleanser. A mixture of baking soda and warm water is excellent to remove dead skin instantly. Prepare this into a paste-like consistency and apply it to your face. Scrub this mixture once it is semi-dry to gently exfoliate the dead skin off. Wash your face post this stage and get a radiant skin."

Beauty bar

Dr Bharti Magoo, Dermatologist and Aesthetician at Golden Touch Clinic, Mumbai, offers



some quickie beauty tips:

- Go for a quick facial steam to retain your skin's suppleness and radiance.
- For a dewy skin, keep oil and shine at arm's length with a blotting paper.
- Hide the dreadful flaws that appear in the eleventh hour with a concealer and you are good to go.
- If you are too tied up to wash your hair, use dry shampoo to combat oily strands, and to add volume.

Body basics

Do not just focus on your face, show your body some love and pampering too. Take a warm shower to open up skin pores to help absorb body deo for that fresh-as-a-daisy feel. Anita Golani's simple recipe extols the virtue of "Besan, rosewater, oats, almond, aloe vera gel to form an excellent body scrub. Use it on damp skin in gentle circular motions. This is a great exfoliator and helps you get rid of dead skin while giving you visibly glowing skin."

Party-perfect in a jiffy

Time to take out the silken scarf/wrap lying in the closet. Give your hair an elegant fix with the scarf. The messy bun look is trendy to present thin, long hair while it gives the illusion of volume. Sweep your hair to one side or give it a rope twist for that stylish feel. Surprise your Valentine with faux bangs – twist your hair from behind, bring

the ends of your hair over the forehead and pin them up neatly to lend a faux appearance of your bangs. Make sure the ends of your hair are evenly cut.

Forgot to shape your eyebrows? Drag the eyebrow pencil just above your eyes, blend in to give an arched eyebrow expression – and lo! You have a chic air about you.

Blend in two colours of lipstick and create full lips for that sensuous pout. Accessorise appropriately – in case your dress is simple, adorn with chunky earrings or neck piece; on a heavy outfit, keep the accessories to the minimum. Pay attention to the footwear – elegant yet comfortable. Lastly, don't forget to spray a long-lasting perfume.

Dr. Simal Soin, Founder & Chief Dermatologist, AAYNA suggests these tips:

- Apply face mist to instantly bring out the glow.
- A clay face mask is suitable for those with oily skin and a hydrating sheet mask works wonders for those with dry skin.
- For silken smooth skin, exfoliate gently with a body scrub before shaving and follow it up with a calming body lotion with aloe and shea butter.
- Smear on a little petroleum jelly to immediately seal and soothe razor burns.
- For instantly soft lips, use a clean soft toothbrush to exfoliate your lips and apply a nourishing lip balm.

QUIRKY DATE IDEAS FOR V-DAY

Didn't get the time to plan in advance? Thinking what to do? Where to go? Don't worry we have got you covered with some fun exciting things to do with that special someone.

- **Bundle up and look at the stars:** Pack a blanket, some snacks and some good questions that would help the conversation flow for a low-key date that has plenty of romance.
- **Go chocolate tasting:** Chocolates are a major part of Valentine's Day as we know it. A good hamper of chocolates or going chocolate shopping together would bring a smile on your partner's face!
- **Plant something:** The most sensitive and thoughtful gesture would be planting a tree together and watching it grow as you do in every relationship. Plant a tree and make a wish!
- **Have a three course date:** Spend the entire day together and talk about the years gone by. Eat the three course each at a place where a milestone in your relationship took place like your first date.
- **Make a dessert buffet:** Baking a cake or preparing some desserts, together can be one of the most romantic date ideas. Skip dinner and indulge in all of your favorite sweet treats! Try making some desserts at home with some simple recipes.





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