

News Brief

5.7-magnitude earthquake jolts Philippines

Manila, An offshore earthquake measuring 5.7 on the Richter scale jolted the Davao Oriental province of the Philippines on Monday morning, authorities said. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said the quake, which struck at 8 a.m., hit at a depth of 44 km, about 211 km southeast of Governor Generoso town in the province, reports Xinhua news agency. The tremor, which was tectonic in origin, is not expected to cause damage and aftershocks, the institute said. Sunday's tremor came a day after an earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale jolted the Davao del Sur province.

1,300 turtles seized in Kanpur district

Kanpur (UP), The Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force has seized 1,300 Indian flap shell turtles from a truck in Kanpur while they were allegedly being taken to West Bengal for smuggling out of the country. Senior police official T.B. Singh said that the truck driver Rambrash Yadav and helper Vinod Kumar Savra have been arrested for their alleged involvement in the smuggling racket. The turtles, being smuggled to Bangladesh in West Bengal, were found stuffed in sacks on Sunday and some even lay scattered on the floor of the truck.

4,649 LoC ceasefire violations in 2020 by Pakistan

New Delhi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday informed the Rajya Sabha that in 2020 there were a total of 4,649 ceasefire violations by Pakistan on the Line of Control (LoC). The Defence Minister said that ceasefire violations have been increasing since 2011. He said that about 14,000 bunkers were being built and majority of them have been completed to save civilian lives. Singh said the Jammu and Kashmir government have been providing compensations to the victims families and incase of animals also the same parameter is adopted. The latest ceasefire violation took place on February 4 in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district in which an Indian Army soldier was killed.

Sasikala talks about plan to enter politics; AIADMK says she has nothing to do with party

Chennai, VK Sasikala, the expelled leader of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), said on Monday she will be involved in active politics. "I'm enslaved by your affection, Tamil people and cadre but I will not yield to oppression," she told her supporters and media in Tamil Nadu's Vaniyambadi. Asked if she would visit the AIADMK headquarters in Chennai, she said, "Please wait and see." Sasikala returned to the state after completing a four-year prison term in Bengaluru in a corruption case. A poster at the border illustrated a picture of late Tamil Nadu chief minister J. Jayalalitha placing a crown on Sasikala's head that is meant to signify that the latter remains the rightful heir to the legacy of "Amma". The AIADMK, meanwhile, reiterated that Sasikala and those with her had nothing.

MSP was there, MSP is there, MSP will remain in the future
In touch with farmers, no strain in relations

New Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today praised Congress veteran Ghulam Nabi Azad in parliament while taking a swipe at the opposition party's internal tensions and the letter controversy. In his reply in the Rajya Sabha to a debate on the President's Budget session speech, PM Modi referred to Mr Azad's comments on his native Jammu and Kashmir and recent local polls. "Ghulam Nabi ji always speaks decently, never uses foul language. We should learn this from him, I respect him for it. He praised elec-

India is clear on situation on LAC, we are not backing out: Modi in RS

tions held in J&K, but I am concerned. I believe your party will take it in right spirit and not make the mistake of doing the opposite by taking it as the view of the G-23," the Prime Minister remarked, using the term for a group of 23 in the Congress who wrote to party chief Sonia Gandhi last year demanding sweeping changes in the organization. Mr Azad, the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, is among the letter-writers

referred to in the President's Address takes place on a motion of thanks moved by a member and seconded by another member. The Prime Minister will reply to this motion in the Rajya Sabha today. On Friday, the marathon debate in the Rajya Sabha on the motion of thanks to the President's Address concluded with 50 speakers from 25 political parties taking part in the discussion which was spread over three days. The discussion was one of the longest such debates with high participation of members, said officials.

'Country doesn't run on trust': Rakesh Tikait on PM's 'MSP will stay' promise

New Delhi, Farmer leader Rakesh Tikait on Monday reiterated that a law is needed on minimum support price (MSP) for crops, dismissing the promise made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Parliament earlier. "Prime Minister said 'MSP hai, tha aurahoga' today but he did not say that a law will be formed on MSP," the country does not run on trust. It runs on the constitution and law," said Tikait, the spokesperson of

Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU). He had earlier said that business over hunger will not be allowed in the

Ready for talks, ask govt to choose date: Farmer leaders

New Delhi, Farmer unions agitating against the three agril laws on Monday asked the government to fix a date for the next round of talks, soon after Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged them to end their stir and invited them to resume the dialogue. They, however, objected to Prime Minister Modi's remarks in Rajya Sabha that a new "breed" of agitators, called "andolan jivi" has emerged in the country, and said that agitation has an important role in a democracy.

Accordingly. Those wanting business over hunger will be driven out of the country,"

Farmer leader Shiv Kumar Kakkia, who is a senior member of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha which is spearheading the ongoing stir, said they are ready for the next round of talks and the government should tell them the date and time of the meeting.



President Ram Nath Kovind paying floral tributes to former President of India, Zakir Hussain on his Birth Anniversary, at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi.

India, EU discuss possibility of opening new areas in trade cooperation

New Delhi, In its first high-level dialogue on bilateral trade and investment, India and the European Union exchanged views on the possibility of opening new areas of cooperation, especially on the resilience of global value chains and regulatory mechanisms besides key market access issues. India hosted the first India-EU high-level dialogue (HLD) on February 5 through virtual mode. The HLD was co-chaired by Union Minister of Com-

merce and Industry Piyush Goyal and European Commission Executive Vice-President and Trade Commissioner, Valdis Dombrovskis. The dialogue has been established as part of the commitment made during the 15th India-EU Leaders' Summit held on July 15, 2020, to provide ministerial-level guidance to the bilateral trade and investment relations. According to an official statement by the European Commission, Dombrovskis

and Goyal discussed trade and investment issues with an emphasis on the socio-economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic as well as vaccine production and distribution mechanisms, including value chain linkages. Amid the pandemic which has claimed over 2.30 million lives, India, the world's largest vaccine producer, in recent weeks have supplied Covid-19 vaccines to several countries including Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh.

Prima facie looks like hanging glacier broke away from main structure: DRDO team in Uttarakhand

New Delhi, A team of specialists from the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), which reached Uttarakhand early on Monday morning, conducted an aerial survey of the areas in Chamoli district which were devastated by flash flood triggered by glacier burst yesterday. The team said that it has collected data which will be analysed to understand the reason behind the natural disaster. "Our team did an aerial survey of the glacier where incident took place in Chamoli. Prima facie it looks like a hanging glacier broke away from the main glacier and came down in the narrow valley," Dr LK Sinha, Di-

rector, Defence Geo-Informatics Research Establishment of the DRDO told news agency ANI. "In the valley it formed a lake which burst later and caused the damage. The data is being analysed by our scientists in detail and if required, they would again go to get more details," Dr Sinha further said. At least 18 bodies have been recovered by the rescuers so far. Sunday's violent surge below Nanda Devi, India's second-highest peak, swept away the small Rishiganga hydro electric project and damaged a bigger one further down the Dhauliganga river being

built by state firm National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). Videos on social media showed water surging through a small dam site, washing away construction equipment and bringing down small bridges. The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) is helping the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), its state counterpart, the army and police in Uttarakhand. Police in searching for the missing people and rescuing the injured. The ITBP said that 13 villages have been cut off due to the incident. "After bridge collapsed in Raini village during glacier burst, around 13 villages have been cut off near areas such as Malari and Ghosai," said Manoj Rawat, ADG, ITBP in Joshimath.

20 dead as Yemen's Houthis step up military ops

Sanaa, Yemen's Houthi militia have intensified military operations against the government-controlled oil-rich province of Marib, leaving three people dead and several others wounded. On the other hand, the Houthi-affiliated Masirah TV reported that the Saudi Arabia-led coalition carried out four airstrikes against Marib's district of Serwah. But it mentioned no further details about the groups ongoing on-ground military operations in Marib. The Houthi's military escalation in Yemen followed Washington's indication to remove the group from the terrorist list, which will reverse the decision by the previous US administration under former President Donald Trump. Yemen has been mired in civil war since late 2014 when the Iran-backed Houthi rebels seized control of several northern provinces and forced the Saudi-backed government of President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi out of the capital Sanaa. The Saudi-led coalition intervened in the Yemen conflict in March 2015 to support Hadi's government. The war in Yemen has killed tens of thousands of people, displaced 4 million others, and pushed the country to the brink of famine.

Rajya Sabha passes Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill

New Delhi, The Rajya Sabha on Monday cleared the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2021 that seeks to replace the ordinance to merge the Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) cadre of civil services officer with the Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram Union Territory

(AGMUT) cadre. The bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha of Parliament last week. Minister of State for Home Affairs G Kishan Reddy said the Constitution of India is now fully applicable on Jammu and Kashmir, and that the bill will enable the availability of offi-

cials in Jammu and Kashmir who have experience of running union territory administration. He said around 170 central laws are being implemented in Jammu and Kashmir. He said the bill will increase the strength of officers in the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Leh.

Former Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavis slammed state Home Minister, Anil Deshmukh for ordering a probe into celebrities' tweets on the ongoing farmers' protests.

"Disgusting and highly deplorable! Where is your Marathi pride now? Where is your Maharashtra dharma? We will never find such 'ratnas' (gems) in the entire nation who order probe against Bharat Ratnas who always stand strong in one voice for our nation. Has this Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government lost all its senses?" Fadnavis said in a tweet.

"Actually, now it seems necessary to probe the mental state and stability of the ones who made such demand and of people who ordered a probe against our Bharat Ratnas," he added. Congress leader Sachin Sawant today informed that Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh has given orders to the Intelligence Department to probe the row over tweets by celebrities on the farmers' issue. He also hit out at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) alleging that national heroes were being intimidated by the ruling party. Celebrities like Sachin Tendulkar, Akshay Kumar, Sunil Shetty and Lata Mangeshkar among several others had tweeted calling for unity in the country after international pop star Rihanna, teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg and others extended their support to farmers protesting at the borders of India's capital against the three new agriculture laws.

Indian minister's remarks on transgressing LAC 'unwitting confession': China

New Delhi, Indian minister VK Singh's statement that India has transgressed the Line of Actual Control (LAC) more times than China is an "unwitting confession," the Chinese foreign ministry said on Monday. Singh, the transport and highway minister and former four-star general of the Indian Army, was quoted in Indian media on Sunday as saying that both countries had crossed their perceptions of the undemarcated LAC many times. "None of you come to know how many times we have transgressed as per our perception. Chinese media does not cover it," Singh was quoted as saying. "Let me assure you, if China has transgressed 10 times, we must have done it at least 50 times."



Police and Fireforce personnel cleaning the fuel poured by a last grade employee PSC rank holder to set ablaze in front of Kerala Secretariat demanding to solve their indefinite strike to take steps to appoint them in the existing vacancies, in Thiruvananthapuram.

From Editor's Desk



The new Washington

Under President Biden, US foreign policy offers change — and also continuity on key issues. Delhi must seize the possibilities

Remarks by US President Joe Biden and his national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, late last week give a sense of the new administration's foreign policy orientation. Unsurprisingly, Biden and Sullivan want to dissociate themselves from Donald Trump's foreign policy. If Trump seemed eager to pull Washington away from the world and seemed to repose little value in traditional diplomacy, Biden declared that "America is back" and ready to reclaim global leadership. Yet, it is equally clear that there will be a significant continuity between the foreign policies of Trump and Biden — especially on trade, China and Russia.

Biden has been quick to reverse Trump's decisions on walking out of the 2015 Paris Accord on mitigating climate change, and on the World Health Organisation. But he is making no promises to renege with trans-Atlantic trade negotiations or rejoin the Pacific free trade agreement. He underlined the importance of ensuring that the rules of international trade are not stacked against the US. Biden also emphasised that "there's no longer a bright line between foreign and domestic policy." All external initiatives, he said, must keep the interests of "American working families in mind." Explaining the president's emphasis on a "foreign policy for the middle class," Sullivan argued that Washington's purpose should not be about opening the Chinese market for Goldman Sachs, but dealing with Beijing's "trade abuses that are harming American jobs and American workers." This is a significant difference from Trump's "America First" policy that fought against China's manipulation of the global trading system. Biden's tough China talk is not limited to trade issues. He insisted that his Administration will directly confront China's threat to US "prosperity, security and democratic values." While leaving the door open for cooperation when American interests demand it, Biden was equally harsh on Russia. Although Trump was widely accused of being a protégé of the Russian President Vladimir Putin, his Administration maintained relentless pressure on Moscow. Biden promises to maintain that pressure if not ratchet it up on a range of issues — from human rights to Moscow's meddling in democratic processes of the West and its covert cyber warfare.

Contrary to widespread Indian pessimism on Delhi's prospects with Washington under Biden, there is considerable space for productive cooperation. As the China challenge for Indo-Pacific security continues to grow, the imperatives for Delhi for deeper defence cooperation and regional strategic coordination with Washington have become stronger. There is also room for creative joint initiatives on reforming the global trading system and advancing the global effort against climate change. On the other side of the ledger, India will have to actively manage the likely negative impact of Biden's tensions on Delhi's bilateral ties with both Washington and Moscow. Delhi will also need to address the growing concerns in Washington about the NDA's government's illiberal turn and its democratic trajectory. Although these concerns might look marginal at the moment, they have the capacity to push, slowly but surely, the terms of American political discourse on India in a negative direction.

LS deadlock likely to end, Motion of Thanks to resume

By Rajnish Singh

New Delhi, Ending the deadlock on three contentious farm laws that hit the functioning of the Lok Sabha last week with opposition's protest, the House is expected to return back to its normal functioning on Monday and resume motion of thanks to the President's address as well as take other business. With indications of several parliamentarians — both from the opposition and treasury benches — it is learnt that there has been some sort of compromise among them on the issue

and they are now ready to support the proceedings of the lower House when it will assemble for the day at 4 pm. Over 10 key opposition parties, including the Congress, Trinamool Congress, Aam Aadmi Party, DMK, Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party, Nationalist Congress Party, RSP, YSRCP, have been protesting against the government seeking discussion on the three farm laws to repeal them. Ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) former allies Shiromani Akali Dal and Shiv Sena have been also staging protests against the government since the beginning of the Budget Session. While talking to IANS, several MPs, including Congress's senior leader Shashi Tharoor and Agriculture Minister Narendra Kumar said the opposition is expected to participate in the proceedings as per normal course. Question Hour, Zero Hour as well as other businesses of the House are to take place with proper coordination and support of all members. Written answers related to the separate questions sought by MPs from nine ministries will be

tabled by the concerned Ministers. Union Ministers Narendra Singh Tomar will lay answers on the table from Ministry of Panchayati Raj; Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' for the Ministry of Education; Arjun Munda for the Ministry of Tribal Affairs; Dharmendra Pradhan for the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas; Santosh Gangwar for the Ministry of Labour and Employment; Prashad Singh Patel for the Ministry of Culture; Raj Kumar Singh for the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Sanjay Samrao Dhore for the Ministry of Education, and

Anurag Thakur for the Ministry of Finance and Corporate Affairs. Besides, reports of the Standing Committee on Information and Technology will be presented by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and BJP MP Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma. BJP MP Lokket Chatterjee is to resume her speech on Motion of Thanks to the President's Address — a tradition in which all the members of both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha participate after the beginning of the session. The Rajya Sabha concluded its discussion on the motion of thanks on Friday but it got

stalled in the Lok Sabha due to protest by the opposition on the contentious farm laws, leading to adjournment of the House's early sittings last week with completion of very little business. The Lok Sabha list of business also mentions general discussion on Budget 2021-22. Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad is to move the The Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 2021 for the consideration and passage to amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. The Bill was introduced in the House on February 4.

Renowned educator, parenting expert, author Kim John Payne to address parents 1st time in India

New Delhi, The Heritage Group of Schools, in partnership with noted American parenting expert and author of the best-selling book *Simplicity Parenting*, Kim John Payne, is going to host a session for Indian parents on the topic "Mindful Parenting for Troubled Times" on February 12. A celebrated psychologist, a consultant and trainer to over 200 North American independent and public schools and a private family counsellor for twenty-seven years, Kim Payne will also be part of the launch of a new parenting forum called 'Centre for Conscious Parenting' intended to enable parents to be more conscious, secure, inclusive, and aware of the educational and developmental needs of their children. The webinar will begin at 6 pm and will comprise of a session led by Kim Payne followed by a panel discussion with Kim Payne, Vishnu Kartik, Director — The Heritage Group of Schools and Manjit Jain, Co-Founder — The Heritage Group of Schools as panelists. "Our vision to help children achieve their highest

potential cannot be accomplished in the absence of parents who want to raise themselves to a higher level of consciousness and awareness. We wish to create a community of parents who are able to support children emotionally and intellectually in every phase of their life and also seek action to create a more purposeful and forward-looking educational ecosystem. We feel that there is a need for a platform for parents that provides latest, credible research-based inputs on educational and developmental needs of school going children and also creates a space for interaction with international and Indian experts on various facets of parenting. We hope to empower parents to make better decisions for their children as well as we hope to empower students to make better choices," said Manjit Jain, Co-Founder, The Heritage Group of Schools.



Duty cut could bring down domestic steel prices by 10%: ICRA

New Delhi, Government's proposal to reduce import duty on steel products in Budget 2021-22 would make their imports more competitive and in turn exert near-term pricing pressures on domestic steelmakers, rating agency ICRA said. In its report on implications of duty changes on the steel industry, the agency, however, said that domestic steel demand may remain favourable in the coming months on the back of several positive announcements made in the Budget and this in turn is likely to keep domestic steel prices buoyant unless the international prices correct significantly from the current levels. "The reduction in duties will not affect imports from countries like South Korea and Japan, with which India has a Free Trade Agreement

(FTA). However, imports from China and other non-FTA countries would be more competitive now. Chinese export HRC prices have already witnessed a 10 per cent drop in January 2021 due to lower domestic demand during winter months of November-March, and at current prices, the landed HRC prices from China at new duty rates are trading at a 10 per cent discount to domestic HRC prices," said Jayanta Roy, Senior Vice-President & Group Head, Corporate Sector Ratings, ICRA. "Therefore, everything else remaining the same and considering the lead time of about two months for the imports to arrive at the Indian shores, domestic HRC prices could correct by up to 10 per cent by end-March 2021 to align with the international prices and re-

main competitive in the domestic market," he added. The budget action to cut duties followed a steep increase in domestic steel prices. Domestic hot-rolled coil (HRC) prices rose about 54 per cent during July-December 2020 from end-June 2020 level of Rs. 36,250 per tonne on the back of a

strong recovery in the domestic demand and a similar 56 per cent increase in steel from cost elevated steel prices. While the prices increased further in January 2021 to touch a record of Rs. 56,000 per tonne, resistance from the end-user industries led to a roll-back in prices, which are currently trading at Rs. 45,000 per tonne. The budget action to cut duties followed a steep increase in domestic steel prices. Domestic hot-rolled coil (HRC) prices rose about 54 per cent during July-December 2020 from end-June 2020 level of Rs. 36,250 per tonne on the back of a

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The government's Rs. 2.87-lakh crore allocation to the Jal Jeevan Mission (Urban) scheme and the allocation of 100 more districts to the city gas distribution network would also provide a fillip to steel pipe sales, ICRA said. Additionally, domestic steelmakers stand to gain from the urban infrastructure push in the form of a 1.75 per cent increase in capital allocation to Metro Rail infrastructure in multiple cities and launch of a new scheme to bolster public bus transport services, at a cost of Rs. 18,000 crore. "Short-term reduction in steel prices is expected to be more than counterbalanced in the medium term by a sharp increase in infrastructure spending by the Government and its effect on the domestic steel demand," Roy said. —IANS

US troops won't leave Afghanistan in May: Senator

Washington, Republican Senator Lindsey Graham has said that US troops will not leave Afghanistan by May as mentioned in the landmark peace deal inked between Washington and the Taliban. "We're going to leave when the conditions are right," Graham made the remarks in a CBS News interview on Sunday night when he was asked about the plan to withdraw of American troops from the war-torn country. Backing decision by President Joe Biden's administration to review the US-Taliban agreement which was signed on February 29, 2020, the South Carolina Senator said the militant group has "been cheating." "They haven't been complying," like what (Secretary of State Antony) Tony Blinken and the Biden administration is doing. They're re-

evaluating our presence in Afghanistan to keep the footprint low, but not to walk away and lose all the gains we've achieved. "If we leave too soon without a conditions-based withdrawal, (US Islamic State) and Al Qaeda will come roaring back. Women will suffer greatly," Graham told CBS News. The Senator's remarks come as no meeting has been held between the Afghan Republic and the Taliban negotiators in Doha over the last 19 days after the peace talks resumed between the two sides on January 5 following a break. The peace talks had stalled since September 12, 2020, following the US-Taliban peace deal to end the war, paving the way for the withdrawal of thousands of US forces in Afghanistan and facilitate the intra-Afghan dialogue.

Late last month in his first address to Congress, taking office, Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby claimed that the Taliban was jeopardising the landmark agreement. In response, a Taliban spokesman Mohammad Naem told an Afghan media outlet that the group remained committed to the agreement. "We will not be on the other side to stay firm on our commitments." The war in Afghanistan, which has caused about 2,400 US military deaths, is the longest one in American history. Former President Donald Trump had sought a full withdrawal of forces from the country, but some of his senior aides from the military and the Pentagon suggested a more cautious approach. Currently there are about 2,500 US troops in Afghanistan. —IANS

India directs Twitter to block 1,178 accounts in fresh notice

New Delhi, The Indian government has sent a fresh notice to Twitter in less than 10 days, directing it to block 1,178 more accounts believed to be linked to the Khalistan separatists and those backed by Pakistan as well. According to sources, the new notice was sent to Twitter on Thursday last week and the company was yet to comply with the directions. Earlier this month, the IT ministry had asked the micro-blogging platform to block 25 accounts using the #ModiPlanningFarmerGenocide hashtag amid the farmers' protest, under the Section 69A of the IT Act. The Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitIY) warned the social media platform of penal action over non-compliance of its order to remove accounts and tweets which alleged "farmer genocide" in the country. Content with the hashtag "#ModiPlanningFarmerGenocide" were posted on Twitter, which, according to the government, was designed to "inflame passions" and "hate". Citing that Twitter unilaterally unblocked accounts and tweets despite the government order, the notice said that Twitter is an intermediary and is obliged to obey the direction of the government and refusal to do so will invite penal action. Top Twitter management in India faces penal action which may include seven-year imprisonment and fine if the company does not comply with the Indian government's order to remove accounts and tweets as per the notice. The government said that the company, as an intermediary under Section 71(i) of the act, is once again directed to block access by the public to the said Twitter handles and also the said hashtag with immediate effect.

MG Motor India launches New ZS EV 2021 with a 419 KM* certified range

New Delhi, MG Motor India has launched the new ZS EV 2021 with a certified range of 419 KM*. The updated version comes with a best-in-class 44.5 kWh Hi-Tech battery and has a certified range of 419 KM*. Equipped with new 215/55/R17 tyres, the vehicle and battery-pack ground clearances have been increased to 177 mm and 205 mm respectively. Having expanded the charging ecosystem across the country with its partners, the ZS EV 2021 has now been made available for bookings in 31 cities. The car was initially launched in 5 cities during its launch in January 2020. The MG ZS EV comes with 143 PS power and 350 Nm torque and can reach from 0 to 100 kmph in 8.5 seconds. It is available in two variants — Excite & Exclusive. As India's first pure electric Internet SUV, it adopts MG

signature global design cues and comes loaded with features such as a panoramic sunroof, 17-inch diamond-cut alloy wheels, PM 2.5 Filter, and more. Along with the ZS EV, MG extends its customers a 5-way charging ecosystem including free-of-cost AC fast-charger at residences/offices, portable in-car charging cable, DC super-fast charging stations at dealerships, 24x7 charge-on-the-go facility (in 5 cities), and charging stations in



satellite cities and tourist hubs. Speaking on the launch, Mr. Rajeev Chhabra, President & Managing Director, MG Motor India, said, "We are proud to introduce the evolution of the ZS EV in a short span of 1 year, reiterating our commitment to the EV space. To extend our customers a superior ownership experience, we are building robust charging infrastructure in India along with our ecosystem partners."

Boundary issue with India will be resolved through diplomatic talks: Oli

Kathmandu, Nepal Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli on Monday said that the ongoing border disputes with India will be resolved through diplomatic talks. Although Nepal and India held ministerial level talks in New Delhi last month, the two sides sided did not hammer out the differences after the Himalayan nation unveiled a new map in May 2020. He made the remarks at a seminar titled "Nepal's International Border Security and Areas of Coordination among Border Management-related Agencies," organised by the Nepal Army. Oli, who is also the Defence Minister, argued that relations with neighbouring nations could be made cordial and emboldened only

on the basis of justice, equality, respect and facts and not on hegemonic measures. "In order to consolidate the Nepal-India ties in a cordial manner, we had to print the map and talk to India. Our relations could turn cordial by only returning our territory through dialogue. Border disputes are prevailing in Susta and Kanchanpur," he said. Nepal and India has had boundary issues since long in the Susta and Kalapani area and during the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Nepal in 2014, both sides had delegated to resolve the dispute at Foreign Secretaries level but they could not meet. In November 2019, New Delhi came up with a new political map in which it claimed Kalapani in its territory.

Nepal objected to the Indian move and offered talks at diplomatic level but India suggested face-to-face talks only once the Covid crisis was over. But in May 2020 after India opened up a new 80 km link road in Uttarakhand via Lipu Lekh that Nepal claimed as its own, the Himalayan na-

tion once again objected the move and offered talks. After New Delhi failed to respond to the repeated calls, Nepal on May 20, 2020, unveiled a new political map of the country incorporating the disputed territory. India immediately rejected the move and called it a "cartographic assertion". A discussion Monday's seminar, Oli further said that open and friendly dialogue would be held between the two sides on the issue of Limpiadhura,

Lipulekh and Kalapani based on facts and evidences. "We must retain our territory. Both the nations should consider fact and truth in maintaining relations. Are both the countries in position to claim other's territory?" he queried. "There have been some historically-unresolved border problems. The issue of Limpiadhura, Lipulekh and Kalapani has been addressed for the past 58 years. We were forced to get displaced silently when the ruler did not dare to speak up against the intrusion."

It is also true that our move has increased misunderstanding with India, Oli said, adding: "We need to assert our claim on our territory at any cost."

Hindu holy sites in Pak a picture of neglect: Report

Islamabad, A report submitted at the Pakistan Supreme Court has revealed that most of the Hindu holy sites across the country were a "picture of neglect." It was reported on Monday. The report was submitted on February 5 by the one-member Shoaib Siddique Commission, which was set up by the apex court. Dawn news said in a report. It regretted that the Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB), which maintains Hindu and Sikh places of worship in Pakistan, "failed to maintain most of the ancient and holy sites of the minority community." On January 6 and 7, the Commission visited the Katar Raj Mandir in Chakwal and Prahlaad Mandir in Multan, respectively, and in the report it depicted a general picture of decay and obliteration of two of the four most revered evacuee sites in Pakistan. The Commission also requested the Supreme Court to direct the ETPB for the reconstruction of the desecrated Teri Mandir/Samaadhi in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, which was destroyed after being forcibly occupied by a Muslim cleric in 1997. The report also suggested the establishment of a working group for rehabilitation of the holy sites belonging to the two minority communities, Dawn news reported. Of the 428 Hindu temples in Pakistan that existed before Partition, only around 20 have survived, according to an official survey.

It regretted that the Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB), which maintains Hindu and Sikh places of worship in Pakistan, "failed to maintain most of the ancient and holy sites of the minority community." On January 6 and 7, the Commission visited the Katar Raj Mandir in Chakwal and Prahlaad Mandir in Multan, respectively, and in the report it depicted a general picture of decay and obliteration of two of the four most revered evacuee sites in Pakistan. The Commission also requested the Supreme Court to direct the ETPB for the reconstruction of the desecrated Teri Mandir/Samaadhi in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, which was destroyed after being forcibly occupied by a Muslim cleric in 1997. The report also suggested the establishment of a working group for rehabilitation of the holy sites belonging to the two minority communities, Dawn news reported. Of the 428 Hindu temples in Pakistan that existed before Partition, only around 20 have survived, according to an official survey.

'Hum Shaan Se JalneNikleHai' - the original soundtrack of 1962: The War In The Hills released

Mumbai, After a series of cast reveals, the makers of 1962: The War In The Hills have released the original soundtrack from the show 'Hum Shaan Se JalneNikleHai'. With music composed by Hitesh Modak, the heart-touching music video is an emotional narrative of the many sacrifices of a soldier who sets off to serve his country without fearing for his own life.

Singers Vijay Prakash, Salim Ali and Hitesh Modak, with their soulful vocals, have effortlessly weaved in multiple emotions associated with the story. Lavraj has penned the lyrics which are an embodiment of true patriotism. The six other songs that play throughout the series have been sung by some of the finest singers in India -

Sukhwinder Singh, Vijay Prakash, Salim Ali, Shahid Ali, and Shahjahan Ali. The entire album is a diverse collection of tunes, with each song signifying a different feeling - be it grief, happiness or honour. Working on this project has been a truly magical experience and I hope people are able to relate to the emotions strung in these melodies."

Bengaluru, India's fastest growing fintech start-up, Khatabook, has unveiled the first edition of its India MSME Index, showcasing the credit and recovery behavior of India's MSME segment. The MSME segment spread across the country with 110 million employees, and a 30% GDP share is the backbone of the country's economy.

Khatabook platform represents India's MSME segment, hosting over 9 million monthly active users spanning across 95% of districts in India. In 2020, the Khatabook platform recorded 1.038B+ transactions with a cumulative value of more than \$99Bn. Representing close to 4% of India's GDP, this makes the Khatabook platform a strong indicator of the MSME ecosystem in India.

In the first edition, the India MSME Index by Khatabook highlights the credit and recovery behavior of the MSME ecosystem and other nuances like variations in categories and regions. The index also looks into the pandemic-induced lockdown impact, with 2020 being a diametrically different and challenging year for small businesses across the country.

As recognized in the provisions of the MSME Development Act, 2006, the issue of delayed payment to small businesses often severely hinders their growth. This makes it imperative to assess MSMEs' credit and recovery behaviour to understand the overall health of this segment.

Mumbai, Actor Aparshakti Khurana says he is not pressured by the idea of maintaining a certain level of popularity. "I normally don't stress over things that are not in my control. Having a position in the industry is something you can't control. Filmmaking is a different art form that you can't have a process in place. I have always gone with the flow and done things that make me feel happy and satisfied," he tells IANS.

GE Aviation Partners With Etihad Airways on GE 360 Foam Wash Jet Engine Cleaning System

ABU DHABI, GE Aviation and Etihad Airways have partnered to launch GE 360 Foam Wash, a groundbreaking jet engine cleaning system, to optimise performance of Etihad's GE90 and GEnx-1B engines on its Boeing 777 and 787 fleets.

Working with Etihad as a launch partner for the Etihad Greenliner programme to innovate, develop and test aviation decarbonization technologies, GE has awarded Etihad technical licenses to use GE's patented 360 Foam Wash system on its GE90 and GEnx-1B aircraft engines. These technical licenses allow Etihad Airways to perform the engine foam wash on its fleet of 777 and 787 aircraft completely in-house.

GE's 360 Foam Wash is an alternative to the water wash method, and restores engine performance leading to reductions in fuel consumption. The process involves injecting a specially-formulated, proprietary solution that removes dust and dirt particles in the engine. The system is self-contained, allowing it to be used inside maintenance hangars or outdoors.

The airline's collaboration in the trial process was important to the product's development, contributing to GE's data collection and analysis, and improving reliability of 360 Foam Wash equipment.

"GE Aviation shares a commitment to develop innovative solutions in aircraft engine maintenance with the team at Etihad Airways," said Jean Lydon-Rodgers, Vice President and General Manager of GE Aviation's After Market Strategic Solutions. "We are learning more about how our engines operate and how they respond in hot and harsh environments than ever before, and our longstanding relationship with Etihad has been integral to that process. The research that has gone into producing GE's 360 Foam Wash is a shining example of

that."

During technology trials with its GE90 and GEnx engines, the foam wash solution allowed Etihad to improve engine performance by reducing build-up of deposits in the engine, lowering engine exhaust temperatures, and improving engine compressor efficiency. These improvements led to reduced fuel consumption and increased engine time on wing.

Paul Kear, Senior Vice President Technical, Etihad Airways, said: "Our partnership with Etihad Airways' Greenliner programme is a prime example of industry collaboration that will have a significant impact on Etihad's efficiencies and provide a case study for the broader industry. Through 2021 alone, we expect to realise significant fuel savings and a reduction of more than 7,000 metric tonnes of CO2 for the combined GEnx-1B and GE90 engine fleets, compared to water wash methods.

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TEJAS EXPRESS 82902/82901 BETWEEN AHMEDABAD AND MUMBAI TO RESTART OPERATIONS FROM 14TH OF FEBRUARY 2021

Ahmedabad, IRCTC will be soon starting its reputed Tejas Express over Ahmedabad-Mumbai route from the 14th of February 2021. The train will be running in place including, providing safety kits to all passengers and disinfecting the train before departure from Ahmedabad as well as from Mumbai Central. Passengers shall be once again able to relish the multi-cuisine/ regional food preparation produced delicately and hygienically.

IRCTC has now decided to run the train 4 days in a week, i.e. Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday with the same enroute stoppages and timings. Insurance Cover for late running is also a first of its kind initiative by IRCTC.

With Premium Services at affordable Prices and Punctual and Speedy Running, make Tejas as your preferred Travel between Ahmedabad-Mumbai - Ahmedabad.

Body of 25-yr-old found on rly track in Anand

Ahmedabad, The body of a 23-year-old man was found on a railway line near Rajpura in Anand on Thursday. The police said Akshay Bhabhor, a resident of Prathampara of Dahod, did not appear to have fallen off a train and was likely run over by one.

His body was first spotted by Gujarat Railway Police (GRP) officials early Thursday. He was identified by the Aadhaar card and identification documents found from his clothes.

The police said that Bhabhor had pursued civil engineering and was looking for a job. Five days ago, he informed his family that he was going for job hunting. The last spoke to his mother on Wednesday night, said an officer of Anand Railway police station.

The case has now been transferred at the Anand Town police station. A postmortem examination was conducted and the body was handed over to his parents. An accident report has been filed, said a B Parmar, sub-inspector and investigating officer of the case.

GTU VC on Vidyaipith VC search panel

Ahmedabad, The University Grants Commission has appointed Navin Sheth, vice-chancellor of Gujarat Technological University, as the member of a search committee to appoint the new vice-chancellor of Gujarat Vidyaipith.

The development came after UGC rejected the appointment of former registrar Rajendra Khimani as the new VC of the varsity, which was founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920. The commission was of the view that his appointment had been made without the presence of UGC representative in the search committee formed by Vidyaipith.

"The appointment was rejected as the search committee formation violated UGC norms. The process of selecting a VC will be carried out again," said a source aware of the development.

The term of outgoing VC Anamik Shah, which was supposed to end in December, has been extended till the new vice-chancellor takes charge.

EC revises election expenditure limit

Gandhinagar, The Gujarat State Election Commission (SEC) has revised the maximum limit of election expenditure set by for the candidates of various institutes of self governance during the elections. The revised expenditure limits were declared by the SEC in a press statement on Friday.

For the municipal corporations, a candidate will be able to spend maximum Rs 6 lakh. Earlier, the limit was Rs 4 lakh.

For a candidate fighting election of a nagar palika with more than nine wards, the limits has been revised to Rs 2.25 lakh from the earlier Rs 1.5 lakh. The same limit for a candidate contesting election from a nagar palika of less than nine wards has been revised to Rs 1.5 lakh from the earlier Rs 1 lakh. A candidate of taluka panchayat was restricted to spend maximum Rs 1.25 lakh which has been increased to Rs 2 lakh.

Indian independent software vendors fast moving to Oracle Cloud

New Delhi, A large number of Indian independent software vendors (ISVs) including GOFUGAL, Medexpert, Ameyo and Information Dynamics, among others are choosing to turn their business critical applications on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) to improve application performance and accelerate business growth, the company said on Monday.

Other midsize independent software vendors that have moved to Oracle Cloud include Jocate, IBSFINetech, Invensoft, TecWink, QuarkCube IO, amongst others.

Oracle has two local cloud regions in the country — in Mumbai and Hyderabad — and promises independent software vendors "guaranteed" high performance with enterprise Service Level Agreement (SLAs) and "best-in-class" security, along with autonomous data management capabilities.

Indian ISVs are redefining the global technology landscape, helping organizations improve agility, accelerate innovation and boost productivity," Shalinder Kumar, Regional Managing Director, Oracle India, said in a statement.

"Many are running their cloud-based software as a service (SaaS) offerings on OCI have been able to significantly improve application performance and unlock more value for their customers."

Google 1st tech firm to comply with new S Korean Internet law

Seoul, South Korea's ICT ministry said on Monday that tech giant Google will take measures to provide stable services, becoming the first company to come under the country's revised law that holds online content providers accountable for service errors.

On December 14 last year, multiple Google services, including YouTube, Gmail and Google Calendar, went down for around an hour globally, prompting the Ministry of Science and ICT to look into the matter.

According to the ministry, Google experienced an authentication system error for approximately 50 minutes that day as it did not allocate storage space for the system during a previous maintenance session.

The company told the ministry last month that it has yet to receive any compensation claims globally for the service error.

The ministry said Google will pursue measures to preemptively detect and prevent such errors. The service errors, the company will notify local users through its Korean social media channels, reports Yonhap news agency.

The move comes after South Korea last year passed a revision to the Telecommunications Business Act, requiring large online content providers to report service errors and take measures to provide stable services amid growing.

4 schools told to refund Rs 1-crore surplus fees taken from students

Vadodara, The Fee Regulation Committee (FRC) of Vadodara has asked four schools to refund Rs 1.09 crore of surplus fees collected from students in the academic year 2019-20, in its order on petitions by parents seeking action against the violation of their agreement, submitted by the schools to the state government.

The four schools are two DPs: Public Market, Panchises in Kalali and Harni, Poddar World and Poddar International School, Poddar World School has been directed to refund Rs 2.23 lakh, while Poddar International School has been directed to refund Rs 27 lakh as surplus fees during the year.

The order explains that

the school had submitted the figures of the class-wise fee structure for the academic year 2017-18 after the implementation of the Gujarat Fee Regulation Act in 2017 and thereafter cited an annual raise of five per cent to the free structure in 2018-19 as well as another five per cent in the consecutive year of 2019-20, in which the petition has been filed. However, the schools charged fees in excess of the stipulated raise.

The DPS schools have been directed to refund Rs 80 lakh of surplus fees charged in the last academic year. The FRC also slapped a fine of Rs 1 lakh on Poddar International School to be paid within 30 days of the order issued on January 29, while Poddar World School has been fined Rs 2

lakh.

Advocate Kishore Pillai of Vadodara Parents' Association said, "The orders are in favour of the parents. Our petitions were for the year 2019-20 as well as the ongoing academic year. While Poddar schools charged excess fees, Delhi Public Schools charged late fees amounting to Rs 7,000 per student for two terms. They had discussed and agreed to charge the sum only for one of the two terms, but now with the current order of the FRC, they will have to refund the entire amount. All four schools have conveyed that they will appeal against the order."

This is the third such order against private schools violating conditions of the Gujarat Fee Regulation Act of 2017.

Clusters soon to boost toy manufacturing

Ahmedabad, In a bid to boost toy manufacturing in India, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on Friday announced setting up of toy clusters in various states.

Speaking on the third day of the Ahmedabad Design Week (ADW), Dr Guruprasad Mohapatra, DPIIT secretary, said, "Some of the toy clusters will soon be announced in various states. Coordinated efforts are needed to boost toy manufacturing in India. The Indian market comprises of 85 per cent of imports. Emphasizing creating mega toy and game clusters to create world class infrastructure, Mohapatra said, "A national toy fair will be held on February 27 virtually. Some 1,100 leading manufacturers and sellers of toys have registered for the five-day fair. Lakhs of school children and their parents will also visit the fair."

Anju Sharma, principal secretary education, said, "It is time for the design fraternity to gear up for designing toys for India. We must enter into mass production and class production."

The toy sector has been dominated by a few multinational that have been sourcing toys from abroad."

Drawing a distinction between digital and physical games, Dr PVM Rao of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, said, "If digital games are addictive, physical games and toys are even more addictive; it helps in collaborative learning when played with multiple players. We can see a lot of manifestation of technology in the form of toys."

A virtual exhibition of traditional Indian toys from across the country was also held at the design week on Friday.

The exhibition showcased traditional toys from Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Assam.

On January 12, it was reported about the first national toy fair from February 2 to March 2 where the Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar's (IIT-GN) Centre for Creative Learning (CCL) will be participating.

Medical store owner found 'selling intoxication tablets without doctor's prescription in Surat

Surat, The Special Operation Group, accompanied by Food and Drug Control Administration (FDCA) officials, Friday caught a medical store owner who was allegedly selling intoxication tablets and syrups without doctor's prescriptions to the customers in Surat. Police seized intoxication tablets and syrups worth Rs 51,000.

As part of a drive, Surat Police Commissioner Ajay Kumar Tomar had started had instructed police personnel to keep a tab on the

medical stores where intoxication tablets and syrups are being sold to the youths without prescriptions.

The Special Operation Group officials Friday seized a quantity of intoxication tablets and syrups from Daruwalla Medical store at Umarwada tenement in Salabatpura area to get into intoxication tablets and syrups without a doctor's prescriptions.

The shop attendant sold him the tablets and syrups and collected the amount. The SOG department police officials along with two offi-

cials found that medical

store owner was selling medicines and syrups for customers without a doctor's prescription.

The FDCA officials had seized tablets and syrups of different companies. They also noted down the purchase stock and sold stock of the intoxication medicines from the shop. He have taken statements of the firm owner. In coming days we will slap the showcause notice to the shop owner and later on the bases of his reply and pour findings we will take strict legal actions."

The case involved a couple from a village of Mehsana district. They had immigrated to the US few years ago without valid immigration process. They had a son, who was sent to India for proper care because the couple was facing difficulties in raising the kid for want of their citizenship status. A year after the child was born, their relationship broke apart. The woman obtained custody rights till August 12, 2021 from a US court and wanted to enforce them, but she could not return to India to get her

son's custody.

Two days later, the high court summoned the child's maternal grandparents. They appeared before the court through video conferencing. They told the court that the child was with them only for most of the time ever since he came from the US. The paternal grandparents had taken him away from the mother, but the child would be sent to the US, but they did not follow their word.

After hearing the case, the bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kumar observed, "Without entering into any kind of allegations, noticing the need for the child to be sent to the mother, initially for a period of four weeks, the custody.

Two days later, the high court summoned the child's maternal grandparents. They appeared before the court through video conferencing. They told the court that the child was with them only for most of the time ever since he came from the US. The paternal grandparents had taken him away from the mother, but the child would be sent to the US, but they did not follow their word.

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No Muslim candidate: 'neglected' workers register their protest

Ahmedabad In its list for the upcoming elections to the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC), the state BJP has not chosen any Muslim candidate. Hurt by the 'neglect', two party workers from the community registered the protest at the BJP office in Khanpur.

"We have met our party leaders today to tell them that we are hurt. There are Muslim dominated areas such as Gomtipur, Jamalpur, Makampura, and Danilimda. But no ticket to a Muslim candidate. We feel hurt. We have been working for the party for years. If not us, any other Muslim candidate should have been given the ticket," said Farooq Sayed, a 40-year-old party worker from Gomtipur ward of Ahmedabad, who

runs a provision store. "This is communalism. It seems the party thought that the Muslim votes in these areas will be divided by candidates of parties such as Congress, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) and so, there is no need to give ticket to a Muslim," he added.

Sayed was joined by another Muslim BJP worker from Jamalpur, Sarfaraz Shalkh, who said, "We feel that Muslims have been neglected by the party (in Ahmedabad). Not a single Muslim candidate for 192 seats. In Muslim dominated areas such as Jamalpur, with division of votes between Congress, AAP, NCP and AIMIM, the BJP had a golden opportunity to win (with votes of Hindu and sections of Muslims). In Jamalpur, there are 95,000 votes, out of which 80,000 are Muslims and 15,000 are Hindus, similar to Gomtipur."

"We want Muslim representation in the party. If the party talks about Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas then they should also give representation to Muslims, at least in Muslim dominated areas. The party has given ticket to five Muslims in Jamnagar,

son's custody.

Two days later, the high court summoned the child's maternal grandparents. They appeared before the court through video conferencing. They told the court that the child was with them only for most of the time ever since he came from the US. The paternal grandparents had taken him away from the mother, but the child would be sent to the US, but they did not follow their word.

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Nishwarth gets entry into World Book of Records, UK

Ahmedabad, The Nishwarth Seva Sangathan and Charitable trust has made an entry into the World Book of Records, United Kingdom, for 'Rituals of farewell ceremony of Covid-19 dead bodies.'

The president of the trust, Niten Thakore, said that the group had sent the report and recording and the trust was surprised when they got the message that their entry was accepted by the World Book of Records.

Thakore said that other parts of the state were remembered for the corona funeral protocol and the limits on the number of mourners and rituals, but the trust, an NGO based at Palanpur organized a mass send-off which they focused on the comprehensive rites for those who have already been cremated.

The group said that corona victims from Banaskantha, Ahmedabad and other parts of the state were remembered and their final rituals performed. Thakore said that the group wanted to ensure dignity for the dead. "Even priests are not willing to oversee funerals because of the corona fear," he said.

His texts allow funeral rituals for a large group of people if their last rites have not been performed," Thakore added.

It was on November 8, that the rituals such as pind daan, tarpan, and Narayan Baht were performed with the help of 10 priests in Palanpur town, he said. During the lockdown, the bodies were taken directly to crematoriums and families are not allowed to touch the bodies, let alone perform the last rites.

The group, apart from the rituals, has been taking care of the elderly in an old age home in the district for long. Thakore said that other parts of the state were remembered, and their fit that much before the first case of corona was reported in the state on March 17, the group had started distributing masks in the district and had urged people to always wear masks.

Manaro samples test -ve for bird flu

Ahmedabad, Following an outbreak of bird flu in the state, the Secretary (Animal Husbandry) N B Upadhyay confirmed that the samples of carcasses sent from Ahmedabad have tested negative for bird flu.

Fear had gripped Narol gam since Wednesday when dead pigeons began raining down near Akriti Township. The officials said that avian flu is a highly infectious respiratory disease caused in birds by the influenza virus.

Official said, "Now that the samples have tested negative, we will conduct a post-mortem of the birds to find the exact cause of death." The officials said they suspect the birds had consumed insecticide-laced grains. They added that surveillance of the area, which had begun on Wednesday, will be stopped on Saturday.

As on Friday about 70% of the 4.33 lakh registered healthcare workers in Gujarat and 23% of the 6.93 lakh registered frontline workers have got vaccinated. With 37,031 vaccinations on Friday, the total number of vaccinations in Gujarat reached 4.9 lakh.

Till February 4, 2.39 lakh healthcare workers and 1.57 lakh frontline workers had got vaccinated — which is about 66% and 34% of the total vaccinations," said a senior state health department ratio among the healthcare workers is less where the medical colleges

are not functional. The majority of healthcare workers in government-run hospitals have got the first shot of vaccine."

In Ahmedabad, 3,774 persons got the vaccination at 53 centres. With the addition of various schools, the scope of vaccinations will be expanded in the next few days, said health department officials. The officials, however, refused to divulge district-wise data and compliance (vaccination against the daily registration of beneficiaries). Sources aware of the development said the number could be close to 80%.

Man stabs former mother-in-law to death in Anand

Ahmedabad, A man in an Anand village allegedly killed his former mother-in-law with a sword in front of around a dozen residents who overpowered him and handed him over to the police.

The police said Nikunj Barot, a resident of Chaklasi

town in Kheda, stabbed Ranjanben Patel, 65, multiple times on Friday afternoon in Lambhvi village.

According to police, Barot, in his thirties, was married to Tanvi, a youngest daughter of Ranjanben Patel, but the couple divorced eight

months ago. Three months ago, Tanvi got married to one Chintan Patel and moved to Pune in Maharashtra.

Police said Barot had been a habitual troublemaker and used to assault villagers in Lambhvi in a drunken state. On Friday

noon, he reached outside Ranjanben's house, demanding to see Tanvi and started hurling abuses.

"When the victim stepped outside, she was stabbed multiple times with a sword. Barot then tried to run away but was held by the local residents.

UK records another 15,845 Covid cases, 373 deaths

London, Another 15,845 people in Britain have tested positive for Covid-19, bringing the total number of coronavirus cases in the country to 3,945,680, according to official figures released on Sunday.

The country also reported another 373 coronavirus-related deaths. The total number of coronavirus-related deaths in Britain now stands at 112,465. These figures only include the deaths of people who died within 28 days of their first positive test, Xinhua news agency reported.

The figures recorded on the weekends are usually lower due to the delay in reporting in some regions.

Earlier on Sunday, the British Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) said on Twitter that "surge testing" is being deployed in more areas where cases of coronavirus variants have been found.

The DHSC said additional surge testing and sequencing is being deployed to targeted areas around Worcestershire, an area in Sefton, and areas in Bristol and South Gloucestershire.

"Surge testing is in addition to existing extensive testing and in combination with following the lockdown rules and remembering hands-face-space, will help to monitor and suppress the spread of the virus," the department said in a statement. Meanwhile, more than 12 million people in Britain have been given the first jab of the coronavirus vaccine, according to the latest official figures.



Huma Qureshi from Walsall in the West Midlands, married Richard, a non-Muslim. The couple have three children together and have been married for ten years. Here she tells her story of how she met her husband on the dating website Love-struck and how her parents reacted. The couple are pictured left on their wedding day and top right with their children.

US could return to full employment in 2022: Yellen

Washington,

The US could return to full employment in 2022 if President Joe Biden's \$1.9 trillion Covid-19 relief package is implemented, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said.

"There's absolutely no reason why we should suffer through a long, slow recovery," Xinhua news agency quoted Yellen as saying in a CNN interview on Sunday.

"I would expect that, if this package is passed, that we would get back to full employment next year."

Citing a recent analysis from the Congressional Budget Office, Yellen said the US unemployment rate is going to "stay elevated for years to come" without additional support.

"It would take until 2025 in order to get the unemployment rate down to 4 per cent again," she said.

US employers added just 49,000 jobs in January, after slashing downward revised 227,000 jobs in December 2020, the Labour Department reported.

The unemployment rate, meanwhile, fell by 0.4 percentage point to 6.3 per cent in January, still well above the pre-pandemic level of 3.5 per cent in February 2020.

Yellen also downplayed the potential inflation risk from the \$1.9 trillion Covid-19 relief package, named the "American Rescue Plan."

"My predecessor has indicated that there's a chance that this will cause inflation to rise. And that's also a risk that we have to consider. I have spent many years studying inflation and worrying about it," she said.

"We have the tools to deal with that risk if it materialises. But we face a huge economic challenge here and tremendous suffering in the country. We have to get to address that. That's the biggest risk," she added.

Yellen's remarks came after both chambers of Congress on January 5 passed a budget resolution, a key step which would allow Democrats to push through Biden's relief package without Republican support.

Businesses with more than 50 employees are now able to access lateral flow tests, which can produce results in less than 30 minutes, Xinhua news agency reported.

London,

Covid-19 testing has been expanded to more companies in England for staff who cannot work from home amidst the ongoing lockdown, as the UK government has urged businesses and employees to also help stop the further spread of Covid-19 in the country.

Businesses with more than 50 employees are now able to access lateral flow tests, which can produce results in less than 30 minutes, Xinhua news agency reported.

Previously only firms with more than 250 staff qualified for testing.

Health Secretary Matt Hancock urged businesses and employees to take up the offer to "stop this virus spreading."

"When you consider that around one in three people have the virus without symptoms and could potentially infect people without even knowing it, it becomes clear why focusing testing on those without symptoms is so essential," he said in a statement on Sunday, adding that firms should regularly test staff.

The government said the wider criteria would "hugely" increase the number of different businesses that are able to sign up, with small and medium-sized companies now able to take part.

Meanwhile, Business Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng said the expanded workplace testing regime would complement the rollout of Covid-19 vaccines in the drive to "reopen the economy and recover our way of life as soon as it is safe to do so."

The Chambers of Commerce said it would be "working hard to ensure that eligible businesses take up this opportunity."

Hancock has confirmed that the UK remains "on track" to complete the vaccination of the top priority groups, which cover 15 million people, by mid-February.

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On Sunday, the government-owned corporation also announced the rehabilitation of 100 of its rail tank cars by the company's workers, who also rebuilt many of the company's damaged buildings and equipment, Xinhua news agency quoted the local al-Sabah newspaper as saying in a report.

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Advertising board falls on Dom Bess' head during media interaction

Chennai, England off-spinner Dom Bess had a funny moment during a virtual media interaction at the end of the third day's play in the first Test against India here at the MA Chidambaram Stadium when he was knocked on the head by the advertising board.

Bess, who had a memorable day into the middle on Sunday as he picked up four Indian wickets, was interacting with the media persons at the stadium when the advertising board fell on him. The England off-spinner, however, kept his calm and continued with the interaction.

Bess scalped the wickets of Cheteshwar Pujara (73), Virat Kohli (11), Ajinkya Rahane (1) and Rishabh Pant (91). "It's certainly up there with the most satisfying wickets of my career," Bess said while talking about Kohli's dismissal. "Obviously he's a phenomenal, world-class player. But it was special more for what my process was."

"It wasn't about bowling that magic ball. It was about smashing in 10-15 balls in a good area. Then something will happen. It's the process of getting there. I was really pleased that I kept the record, then one has gone and it's straight to Ollie Pope," he added. Meanwhile, India on Monday were bundled out for 337 in reply to England's first innings score of 578, thus conceding a hefty lead of 241 runs.

'The Record': Documentary on Australia's journey at 2020 Women's T20 WC

Sydney, Cricket Australia on Monday launched the trailer of a documentary 'The Record' which depicts Australian women's team journey at the 2020 Women's T20 World Cup where they defeated India in a pulsating final to emerge as champions.

The documentary follows the heroic exploits on the field and the equally daring off-field campaign to 'fill the MCG' for the final on International Women's Day 2020. It goes inside the most dramatic World Cup in history — and gives voice to the players who belong on this stage.

Produced by Her Films, the documentary has voices of Meg Lanning, Rachael Haynes, Australia head coach Matthew Mott, Beth Mooney, Megan Schutt, Alyssa Healy, Ellyse Perry, Molly Strano, Harmanpreet Kaur, Heather Knight, Dane van Niekerk and Sonnarin Tippoch. Cricket Australia interim CEO Nick Hockley said 'The Record' is a production that the cricket board is extremely proud of and excited to see come to life.

"The documentation of Australia's ICC Women's T20 World Cup campaign has given us the opportunity to reflect on what was a monumental occasion for cricket," he said.

ACB signs contract for 2nd phase construction of stadium in Nangarhar

Kabul, The Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) has signed an official contract with Noor Matoon Construction Company for the second phase construction of Najeib Tarakai Cricket Stadium in Nangarhar.

In a statement, ACB informed that the second phase construction activities will consist of surrounding walls, oval ground, borrowell, water tanks as well as the levelling of the ground.

The construction will start from February 13 and will be completed in a period of seven months, the statement added.

Last year in December, ACB had secured land for a new state-of-the-art stadium in Kabul.

Afghanistan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani had allocated 120,000 square meters of land in Akohai area of the capital city for the construction of the stadium. Afghanistan used to host teams in Sharjah (2010-16) after their inception in international cricket. Then they had their adopted home ground in India in Greater Noida (2017) and Dehradun (2018-19) which was the last time to the Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow in 2019. — IANS

RB1 tightening supervision of largest NBFCs to avoid systemic spillovers: Moody's

New Delhi, India's risk-based internal audit requirement for non-banking financial companies is credit positive, Moody's Investors Service said.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued guidelines for the country's largest non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) to implement a risk-based internal audit framework, in line with banks. The framework requires an NBFC's internal audit function to assess risks independently of its existing risk-management functions.

The requirement is credit positive because it adds another layer of risk monitoring and improves the companies' resilience to unexpected shocks, Moody's said.

The guidelines will apply to all deposit-taking NBFCs or NBFCs with assets of more than Rs 500 billion as of March 31, 2022. The framework's application to the largest NBFCs reflects the RBI's ongoing efforts to strengthen and harmonise regulatory norms between NBFCs and banks. The NBFC sector has been increasingly important to credit growth in India.

U'khand project damage may not be material as per SEBI norms: NTPC

New Delhi, A day after an under-construction NTPC hydro-electric project was damaged in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district, the state-run power major said on Monday that the damage may not be considered material or significant as per SEBI norms in the light of overall size of the company's operations and its total capacity.

Noting that flash flood triggered by a glacier break near Tapovan in Uttarakhand damaged a part of the Tapovan Vishnuvard (520 MW) project, the PSU said that appropriate insurance cover is available for the losses or damage it suffered.

Cutting off-budget borrowings has raised fiscal deficit guidance

New Delhi, Government's more transparent stand in terms of its accounts has resulted in country's fiscal deficit taking a longer glide path towards consolidation.

According to a research report by Crisil, with off-budget expenditures, such as Food Corporation of India's (FCI) loans from the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF) and government fully serviced bonds now getting accounted for when calculating the fiscal deficit in the more transparent scheme, the fiscal consolidation path may stretch longer.

Excluding these two items, fiscal deficit could have been lower by 0.5-1.0 per cent in fiscal 2021 and 0.6 per cent in fiscal 2022, the rating agency's research report said. Talking about the impact of higher deficit on economy, the report suggests though a large fiscal deficit could be inflationary, spending and augurs well for jobs.



Serena Williams has turned heads after she wore a one-legged catsuit to her match with Laura Siegemund on Rod Laver Arena. Williams wore the brightly coloured catsuit to play against the German player and won in less than an hour, and will next play Serbian world No.99 Nina Stojanovic.

Ishant Sharma 3rd Indian pacer to pick 300 Test wickets

Chennai, Ishant Sharma on Monday became only the third Indian fast bowler to scalp 300 wickets in Test cricket.

He achieved the feat on Day Four of the first Test here at the MA Chidambaram Stadium when he got the wicket of England's Daniel Lawrence in their second innings. Lawrence scored 18 runs off 42 deliveries he

faced before he got out lbw against Ishant.

Kapil Dev and Zaheer Khan are the other Indian fast bowlers to reach 300-wicket milestone in the longest format of the game.

Ravichandran Ashwin, Anil Kumble and Harbhajan Singh are the other Indian bowlers to scalp 300 or more wickets in Test cricket.

Ishant, however, is the

slowest Indian bowler to

scalp 300 wickets. He reached the milestone in 98 Test matches, whereas Ashwin — having scalped 300 wickets in 54 Tests — is the fastest. Ashwin is followed by Kumble (66), Harbhajan (72), Kapil Dev (83) and Zaheer (89).

Kumble remains the highest wicket-taker for India in Test cricket.

Rishabh Pant wins ICC Player of the Month award for Jan 2021

Chennai, India wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant on Monday won the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for January 2021.

Pant won the award for his performances in the two Tests against Australia where he scored a 97 in Sydney and an unbeaten 89 in Brisbane that led India to a historic 2-1 series win Down Under.

"I am delighted to be receiving the inaugural ICC Men's Player of the Month Award. For any sportsperson, contributing to a team win is the ultimate reward but such ini-

tiatives help motivate youngsters such as myself to do better each time," said Pant as per an ICC media release.

"I dedicate this award to every member of Team India that contributed to our victory in Australia and also thank all my fans who voted for me," he added.

Meanwhile, South Africa's Shabane Ismail was named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for her performances across three ODIs and two T20Is. Ismail took seven wickets in the victorious ODI series against Pakistan, before

taking five wickets in the second T20I against the same opposition.

"Winning the ICC Women's Player of the Month in January just shows that all the hard work I put in during the lockdown has paid off for me. This accolade would not have been achieved if it were not for my teammates and I am grateful and thankful for all your support," said Ismail. On January 27 had announced the introduction of the 'ICC Player of the Month' awards to recognise and celebrate

the best performances of both male and female cricketers across all forms of international cricket throughout the year. The three nominees for each of the categories are shortlisted based on on-field performances and overall achievements during the period of that month (the first to the last day of each calendar month). This shortlist is then voted on by the independent ICC Voting Academy and fans around the world.

Edtech firm BYJU's becomes ICC's global partner for 3 years

New Delhi, The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Monday announced edtech firm BYJU's as its global partner from 2021 to 2023.

In addition to the integrated brand presence at some of the world's biggest sporting events, BYJU's will work closely with the ICC to deepen engagement with fans through the creation of innovative campaigns.

The company became the official jersey partners of the Indian cricket team.

"We are excited to have BYJU's on board as one of our global partners and look forward to having a great innings together. Cricket is a sport where resilience, perseverance and conviction are crucial qualities and the partnership with BYJU's will allow that to be fostered by a wider audience both young and old," said Manu Sawhney Chief Executive, ICC.

The three-year agreement will see BYJU's partner all ICC events over the period, including the forthcoming ICC Men's T20 World Cup in India, and the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup in New Zealand.

As a global partner, BYJU's will have extensive in-venue, broadcast, and digital rights across all ICC events, the top cricketing body said in a statement.

"It's a matter of pride for us as an Indian company to represent our nation on a global platform like this. Just as cricket inspires billions across the world, we too as a learning company hope to inspire the love of learning in every child's life," said Byju Raveendran, Founder and CEO, BYJU's.

BYJU's currently has over 80 million registered students and 5.5 million annual paid subscriptions.

With an average time of 71 minutes being spent by a student on the app every day from over 1,700 cities, the app is creating a new way of learning through visual lessons.

BYJU's last year acquired White Hat Jr, a Mumbai-based programming startup focused on empowering children with coding skills.

— IANS

Man City win in Anfield to strengthen lead as rivals all falter in PL

London, Manchester City have taken a huge step towards the Premier League title with their recent 4-1 win away to Liverpool — a triumph that owed a large amount to their impressive finishing and two bad errors from Liverpool keeper, Alisson Becker, who gifted their second and third goals with dreadful passes from the back.

The result leaves Liverpool 10 points behind Manchester City, who have a game in hand over them and over Manchester United and Leicester, five and seven points behind respectively, reports Xinhua news agency.

Two goals from Ilkay Gundogan (also missed a penalty) and one each from Raheem Sterling and Phil Foden on Sunday gave Pep Guardiola's men a record-equalling 14th consecutive win in all competitions.

Although Mohamed Salah's second-half penalty cancelled out Gundogan's 90th-minute opener, two awful passes out from Alisson helped to gift Gundogan and Sterling with the last kick of the game saw it end 3-1.

Wolves and Leicester City produced an entertaining goal despite the final score of 0-0. Leicester keeper Kaspar Schmeichel made a fine save from Silva.

United took a 2-0 first-half lead thanks to Edinson Cavani but two goals in three minutes at the start of the second half from Abdoulaye Doucoure and James Rodriguez.

Scott McTominay's header with 20 minutes left to play looked to have won the game for United but Dominic Calvert-Lewin's 95th-minute equalizer with the last kick of the game saw it end 3-3.

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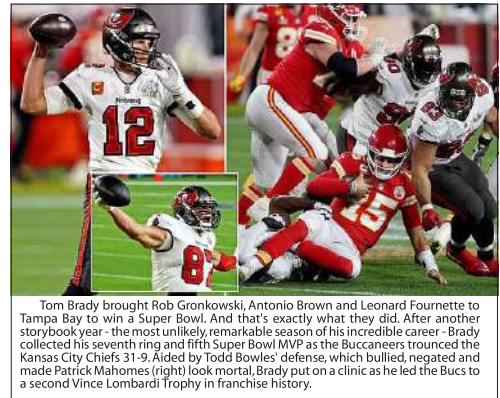
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Tom Brady brought Rob Gronkowski, Antonio Brown and Leonard Fournette to Tampa Bay to win a Super Bowl. And that's exactly what they did. After another storybook year — the most unlikely, remarkable season of his incredible career — Brady collected his seventh ring and fifth Super Bowl MVP as the Buccaneers trounced the Kansas City Chiefs 31-9. Aided by Todd Bowles' defense, which he led, negated the made Patrick Mahomes (right) look mortal, Brady put on a clinic as he pulled the Bucs to a second Vince Lombardi Trophy in franchise history.

Serena, Venus, Osaka cruise into Australia Open second round

Melbourne, Serena Williams, in search of a record-tying 24th Grand Slam title, started her Australian Open campaign in an emphatic manner as she zipped past Laura Siegemund of Germany, 6-1, 6-1, on to notch her opening-round win on Monday.

With the win, the seven-time Australian Open champion improved her flawless record in first-round matches at Grand Slam events to an astounding 76-1.

Serena is contesting a milestone 20th Australian Open, and her 56-minute win over Siegemund was her 100th career match at the event.

"This was a good start. Definitely vintage 'Rena', the 39-year-old said after the match. "It's definitely good. I think I'm pretty good at pacing myself in a Grand Slam."

"Last year was very crazy for the world, and to be able to do what I love and to be able to come out and compete and play at a Grand Slam, after the last 12 months, it makes me appreciate the moment even more," she added.

The American will next face Serbia's Nina Stojanovic on Wednesday.

Earlier in the day, Serena's elder sister Venus also registered a straight-set win in her opening round contest, defeating Kirsten

Flipkens of Belgium 7-5, 6-2, at the Margaret Court Arena.

Meanwhile, three-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka defeated Russian Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-1, 6-2 in her opening round contest which lasted 68 minutes at the Rod Laver Arena.

"I feel like for me the most recent memory I have of playing her was in the Osaka final. I won the title in 2019, so it's always really hard to play someone that good in the first round," Osaka said after the match.

She will next look horns with former world number four Caroline Garcia from France, who overcame Slovenia's Polona Herczeg, 7-6(6), 6-3.

Football Delhi to begin competition calendar from March 15, 2021

New Delhi, Football Delhi has decided to start the competitions from March 15 with Senior Division League in order to meet the deadline for nominating clubs from the national capital to National 2nd Division League.

Women's league will kick off from March 25, followed by Corporate Futsal League in April. The new season 2021-22 will kick start in

June 2021 with a Delhi Cup, a knock-out competition, open to all affiliated clubs of the association, followed by C-Division League.

The association had suspended all its activities on March 15 last year due to Covid-19 pandemic and thus exactly after a year local competitions will be resumed in Delhi following covid-19 protocols.

In the Executive Committee meeting, which took place on Sunday, it was also decided to hold selection trials for Sub-Junior Girls (Under-15) Delhi state team from February 20 in order to start the preparation for National Sub-Junior Championship as girls from this competition will be scouted to be part of India U17 Women's team which would play in FIFA U17 Women's World Cup 2022, India.

Shaji Prabhakaran, President Football Delhi,



LIVERPOOL 1-4 MANCHESTER CITY - MARTIN SAMUEL AT ANFIELD: And that's why they're champions. Not yet, of course. But one day soon, surely. Manchester City are in rare form right now and this was the emphatic win that confirms their dominance in this strangest of seasons. What once looked open, is now closed. There may only be five points in it, between City and the team below, but that will stretch to eight if they win their game in hand. And City are better than Manchester United, we know that. Liverpool, still, were seen as their prime challengers. And that debate was settled across 45 minutes. The first-half was disappointing. The second, a rout.

Indians said 'I Love You' to Alexa 19K times a day in 2020

Bengaluru, Amazon Alexa trended three in India on Monday and the customer interactions with the voice assistant increased 67 per cent in 2020. The customers said "I love you" to Alexa 19,000 times a day, up a massive 1,200 per cent from 2019, according to the company.

More customers in non-metro cities brought home an Echo device, accounting for over 50 per cent of India's Alexa users.

"Be it the Echo device in the living room, 100+ Alexa built-in devices or your favourite smartphone, it is heart-warming to see users across the length and breadth of the country across age groups find value and adopt Alexa in their daily lives," said Puneesh Kumar, Country Leader for Alexa, Amazon India.

"For us, it is always Day 1 as we learn from our customers and continue to add

new features, improving Alexa's understanding on topics that matter to users locally," he added in a statement.

Customers from over 85 per cent pin codes purchased Echo smart speakers in 2020. On Alexa's third anniversary, Amazon said it will make the digital assistant affordable, more accessible for customers looking to welcome the voice service in their homes.

"Starting 12 midnight on February 15, for 24 hours, sellers on Amazon.in will have blockbuster offers on best-selling Echo Devices, smart home bundles and more. Customers can also shop from a curation of smart-home accessories from some of India's biggest consumer electronics brands," the company announced.

Leading smartphone brands in India now offer Alexa built-in phones. Currently, there are six smartphones including

Redmi Note 9 Pro and OnePlus Nord that offer built-in Alexa.

In 2020, Alexa debuted on the Amazon Shopping App (Android only) and responded to over 5.8 lakh requests every day to search for products, best deals, and groceries.

Last year, customers in India asked Alexa to control a smart home gadget 8.6 lakh times every day, preferring voice to control their smart home gadgets.

Led by Amazon Echo devices, the shipments of smart home speakers were expected to cross 7.5 lakh units in India by the end of 2020, which is an all-time high, according to market research firm techARC.

CHANGE OF NAME
I have changed my name from BHAVNABEN HARSUKHLAL PANSURIYA to new name BHAVNA HARSUKHLAL PANSURIYA A-26-B, Lad Society.

Mr. Nagesh Bhugade, Bodekdev, Ahmedabad. S230A

Hyundai says no longer in talks with Apple for electric car

Seoul/New Delhi, In an apparent setback, Hyundai said on Monday that it is no longer in talks with Apple for the joint development of an autonomous vehicle.

In a statement, Hyundai said that it "has received requests to co-develop an autonomous electric vehicle from multiple companies but they were in the early stages and nothing has been finalised."

On the joint development of autonomous electric vehicles with Apple, Hyundai clearly said that it was "not conducting consultations with Apple on the development of 'autonomous vehicles'."

Earlier reports mentioned that Apple was also discussing similar plans with other automobile manufacturers like Hyundai.

Last month, Hyundai confirmed that it was in talks with Apple to develop an electric car.

After initially naming Apple in its statements, it

removed the name of the tech giant from its further statements.

The setback came as an Apple report said that the first Apple electric car will be built on Hyundai's electric vehicle platform and the initial model could lead to new vehicles built in association with General Motors and European manufacturer PSA.

In a note to investors, TF Securities analyst Ming-Chi Kuo said that Apple's deep collaboration with current automakers (Hyundai Group, GM and PSA) who have extensive development, production, and qualification experience will significantly shorten the Apple Car development time and create a time-to-market advantage. "We believe that

Apple will leverage current automakers' resources and focus on self-driving hardware and software, semi-conductors, battery-related technologies, form factor and internal space designs, innovative user experience, and the integration with Apple's existing ecosystem," he added.

Kuo believes that the earliest possible date for an Apple car to hit the market is 2025.

The Apple car is rumoured to feature LiDAR technology, which could add a lot of depth to onboard AI functions. The vehicle is expected to use a "C1" chip based on the A12 Bionic processor with in-cabin AI capabilities such as eye-tracking.

Business Brief

S Korea to spend over \$549M on space projects this year

Seoul, South Korea's science ministry said on Monday it will spend \$549 million in space projects this year, including launching its long-awaited homegrown rocket and developing new satellites.

The country plans to launch its first locally built Nuri rocket in October this year, committing 189.7 billion won this year to acquire technology to independently build space launch vehicles, according to the Ministry of Science and ICT.

While the country sent its 140-ton Naro rocket into space in 2013 after two failed attempts, the first-stage, main rocket on that launch vehicle was built in Russia.

The country aims to launch the new 200-ton Nuri rocket with a mock payload later this year, while a second launch, carrying a real satellite, is slated for May next year.

The science ministry said it will also spend 322.6 billion won on developing technology and services for new satellites, reports Yonhap news agency.

The ministry said it plans to launch its next-generation mid-size observation satellite next month in Kazakhstan and is working on developing a new public communications geostationary orbit satellite.

The country will invest \$2.6 billion now on space exploration, which includes its lunar orbiter project that is currently preparing for a launch next year.

Rapid on-site drug detection using wearable sensor

Seoul, Researchers have developed a wearable sensor that can detect illegal drugs in sweat.

The drugs can be detected by using nanomaterials technology that amplify the optical signal of narcotics to a flexible, body-worn material.

The technology enables fast and highly sensitive drug detection — the sweat patch is attached to the skin for a certain period of time and then irradiated with light for testing.

According to the researchers, it only takes one minute without requiring additional process.

"The developed technology would overcome the technological limitations of current drug testing and prohibited substance use and enable drug detection without invasive and ethical problem," said researcher Ho Sang Jung from the Korea Institute of Materials Science (KIMS).

For the study, published in the journal ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces, the researchers focused on sweat which is not invasive and relatively free from human rights issues.

However, only a small amount of substances is discharged in sweat, even though sweat contains various drugs taken so a highly sensitive sensor technology had to be developed for better detection.

The team's highly sensitive sensing utilized the surface-enhanced Raman scattering technology capable of enhancing the Raman signal of chemical substances by 1010 times and more.

TikTok takes on Facebook with US e-commerce push: Report

San Francisco, Chinese short-video making app TikTok is reportedly planning an expansion into e-commerce in the US, where it will go head-to-head with Silicon Valley giant Facebook.

The company has briefed advertisers on a number of new features for 2021, according to several people who have seen its plans, such as a tool that lets its most popular users share links to products and automatically earn commission on any sales.

"It's old-school affiliate marketing," one senior advertiser executive said, adding that brand marketers would be able to link to any products they liked, even if they were not formally sponsored by the brand, the Financial Times reported on late Sunday.

TikTok, which is owned by China's ByteDance, is also set to roll out the ability for brands to store case catalogues of their products on the platform, the report said.

The app is also said to be rolling out "livestreamed" shopping, a mobile phone version of television shopping channels, where users can buy goods with a few taps after seeing them showcased by TikTok stars.

This follows testing of the live shopping feature with Walmart announced late last year.

The tools will bring TikTok, which has already announced a partnership with e-commerce platform Shopify, further into competition with Facebook.

Last year, Facebook introduced tools on its photo-sharing app Instagram in some countries to make it easier for people to buy goods, and a digital shopping channel on its main Facebook site.

Instagram has meanwhile made a copy of TikTok's scrollable video feed called Reels.

Short video app Josh's parent VerSe Innovation raises Rs 728 cr

Bengaluru, VerSe Innovation, the parent company of homegrown short video platform Josh, on Monday said it has raised over \$100 million (nearly Rs 728 crore) in a Series H funding round.

The round was led by global investors Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), the sovereign wealth fund of the State of Qatar and Glade Rock Capital Partners.

Aban Valley Capital and existing investor Sofina Group also participated in this round, VerSe Innovation said, adding that the new investment shows confidence of investors in the potential of Josh.

The multi-million-dollar investment follows close on the heels of over \$100 million fund raise from Google, Microsoft and Alphawave in December 2020.

VerSe Innovation, which became a unicorn last year, said it plans to deploy this capital steadily in the continued scaling up of Josh.

This will include the augmentation of local language content offerings, the development of its content creator ecosystem, innovation in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning and creation of opportunity for India's vast talent pool.

VODAFONE IDEA LIMITED
Formerly Idea Cellular Limited

Regd. Office: 5/10, Tower 1, 1st Floor, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400013. Tel: 022-26568000. Fax: 022-26568001. Email: investor@vodafoneidea.com

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015, that a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled for Tuesday, 9th February 2021, at 11:00 AM, to consider and approve the Unaudited Financial Results of the Company for the quarter ended on December 31, 2020.

The information contained in this notice is also available on the Company's website www.vodafoneidea.com as also on the website of the Stock Exchanges i.e. BSE Limited and the National Stock Exchange of India Limited - www.nseindia.com.

For Vodafone Idea Limited
Sd/-
Hitesh Kapadia
Managing Director
(DIN 01603345)

Place: Mumbai
Date: February 8, 2021

Bio Science Research Centre
Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University Sardarkrushinagar-385 506.

SHORT TENDER NOTICE
NO.: SDAU-BSRC-PUR-2.1 to 2.2/2020-21

On-line tenders through e-procurement are invited from the manufacturers/authorized dealers for supply of **Laboratory Instruments/Equipment/s** and **experienced parties for establishing harden Unit for plant tissue culture** at BSRC, SDAU, Sardarkrushinagar. For more details visit the website www.nprocure.com, www.sdauniversity.ac.in and www.statelenders.com. The last date for on-line submission of tenders along with relevant fees and documents is **17.02.2021**.

Date : 06.02.2021 Head of Unit
No.DD/PAL/51/2020-2021

WESTERN RAILWAY - RAJKOT DIVISION
ELECTRICAL WORK AT WIND MILL/TJTE
Tender Notice No. DRM/RJT/TE-Tender/2020-2021/12 (EL) DL2020-2021 Tender No. DRM/RJT/TE-Tender/2020-2021/12 (EL) Name of Work: Wind Mill station: Electrical work in connection with Development of Wind Mill station. Approx. Cost: ₹ 30,78,434/- (iii) EMD: ₹ 61,800/- (iv) Date and time for on line apply on 04-02-2021 at 15:00 hrs. (v) Last date for on-line submission of tenders along with relevant fees and documents is 17.02.2021.

CHANGE OF NAME
I have changed my name from HARSUKHLAL NANUBHAI PANSURIYA to new name BHAVNA HARSUKHLAL PANSURIYA A-26-B, Lad Society.

Mr. Nagesh Bhugade, Bodekdev, Ahmedabad. S230

WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION
SUPPLY OF SIGNALING MATERIAL IN CONNECTION WITH ADDITIONAL ROAD LINE AND EXTENSION OF ROAD LINE DRMS & Tading for and behalf of the President of India under the Government of India. Tender No. DRM-SAD/AD-56 of 2020-21 (EL) Name of Work: Design, Supply, Installation, Programming, Testing and Commissioning of Electronic Interlocking (E.I.) system at Chhatrapati Bhoirpada station in Ahmedabad Division in connection with extension of additional road line and the extension of road end of line no. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 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NOTICE
This is to inform to the public by this Notice that, our client Mr. Virendra Kanubhai Patel, Sonal Virendra Patel and Sharda Ben K. Patel who are the owner of Plot No. 11, Plot No. H, Plot No. I, Priya Park Society, Near Akshar Farm, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Anand, F. Plot No. 212, 213, 211 T. P Scheme No. 6, the sale deed of the said Plot (1) sale deed No. 401 dated 29-01-97 (2) Sale deed No. 6117 dated 31-07-2007 (3) Sale deed No. 6122 dated 31-07-2008.

The said documents are misplaced by my client and after many efforts it is not found. And the said matter is also informed to the Police Station, Anand.

Our Client has availed home loan and created charge Viz. Mortgage on basis of certified copy of the mentioned title deed in the name of SBI Chikhoda Branch (Branch Code 188000).

So, it is informing to the public by this Notice that, if this document are lying with anybody person, Institution, Bank of Govt./Semi Govt. If anybody found this documents or anybody is having such kind of information or if the said documents are lying with some body then it should be inform us to the below mentioned address within 7 days of publishing of this notice.

SHREE HARI POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
(Approved by AICTE & Affiliated with GTU)
Managed by Shree Hari Charitable Trust

Address: At Jaydevpur, Nr. Nanikadi, Ta. Kadl, Dist. Mehsana 382715 Email: shriharikadl67@gmail.com
Phone: 0276-263770 / 6351434359

Appointment of Principal

Sr. No.	Post	No. Of Vacancy	Qualification & Pay Scale
1	Principal	01	As Per AICTE & GTU norms

Interested candidate could send his / her resume with all necessary documents and passport size photograph to above mentioned address or email : shriharikadl67@gmail.com on or before 19/02/2021

SAWACA BUSINESS MACHINES LIMITED
Regd. off: 45, Chinniholi Towers, Admard Road, Ahmedabad 380 009, Ph: 079 26563305. Email: sawacabusiness@yahoo.com
Website: www.sawacabusiness.com CIN: L65910G1994MCO29326

Notice of Board Meeting
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015 that the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Saturday, 13 February, 2021 at 01:00 PM, at the Company's Registered Office, inter alia, to consider and approve Unaudited financial results of the Company for Quarter ended 31st December, 2020. The said Notice may be accessed on the Company's website (www.sawacabusiness.com) and may also be accessed on the Stock Exchange website (www.bseindia.com).

FOR, SAWACA BUSINESS MACHINES LIMITED
Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR (DIN: 02148909)

Place: Ahmedabad
Date: 06.02.2021

HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED
Ground Floor, 28th House, Keshavnagar Bungalow, Mahalaxmi, Mumbai - 400034 Tel. No.: +91 22 49316300

FINAL AUCTION CUM SALE NOTICE FOR GOLD ORNAMENTS

The borrower(s) [whose details are provided in the table below] and the public, in general, are hereby informed that the below mentioned assets are overdue, and the borrowers/auction holders have not responded/complied with the communication, and notice sent by HDB Financial Services Limited (the "Company") requesting the borrower to clear his/her/their dues as per the documents in respect of the below mentioned loan(s) accepted by the borrower(s) [both documents, collectively: "Loan agreement"] and therefore defaulted in terms hereof. The Company has in exercise of its rights as a pledgee, decided to auction the pledge and therefore hold a public auction of the gold ornaments pledged to the company as security for the purpose of settling the dues and securities pertaining to the dues owed by the borrower(s) to the company. The auction will be conducted on 15-02-2021 at the below mentioned local branch of HDB Financial Services Limited from 11:00 am onwards on the date and branches mentioned in the table below:

Sr. No.	Loan No.	Customer Name	Date of Exp.	Overdue Amount Rs.	Branch Name
1	2812208	Dharmajyoti K. D. D.	15-Nov-19	112399	Ahmedabad-Naranga
2	8717922	Hemant H. Mahajan	10-Jul-19	15539	Ahmedabad-Naranga
3	1212615	Maheshkumar Chhabhai Patel	24-Aug-19	246063	Ahmedabad-Naranga
4	12139094	Anand Aksh Sharma	8-Sep-20	7088	Ahmedabad-Manager
5	12131138	Harshvardhan Sharma	10-Sep-20	9885	Rajkot
6	7268831	Lalitha Sushil Kumar	15-Sep-19	11688	Rajkot
7	12188191	Kanubhai Kishorji Patel	15-Sep-20	24188	Ahmedabad-Lahar Bazar
8	12122839	Harshvardhan Sharma	21-Aug-20	11339	Rajkot
9	12129973	Kishorji Kumar (Harshvardhan) Gehel	31-Aug-20	17873	Ahmedabad-Lahar Bazar
10	886131	Harshvardhan Sharma	25-Sep-20	249326	Donda
11	12068434	Arav Vignya Gopal	25-Sep-20	6379	Gandhinagar
12	12120778	Chaitanya Anandhali Ramesh	18-Aug-20	8087	Gondal
13	920447	Harshvardhan Sharma	25-Sep-20	21099	Rajkot
14	12123668	Parth Shalabh Shah	8-Sep-20	7322	Rajkot
15	12124477	Parth Shalabh Shah	26-Aug-20	7422	Junagadh
16	12125292	Kishorji Kumar	26-Aug-20	9014	Rajkot
17	7799188	Asif Daudhaji Gopal	20-Apr-19	10550	Junagadh
18	12127752	Farukh Nihal Gopal	15-Sep-20	12553	Morbi
19	12126824	Farukh Nihal Gopal	15-Sep-20	12553	Morbi
20	9797808	Jagdishbhai Premilal Chavda	26-Nov-19	8941	Rajkot
21	12020065	Baldevbhai Vithalbhai Amara	26-Nov-19	2275	Rajkot
22	10107931	Nimish Nandhaji Rathod	23-Dec-19	1861	Rajkot
23	12111344	Kishorji Kumar	8-Aug-20	14076	Rajkot
24	12104417	Borshabhai Ramji Patel			

News in a Nutshell

Rahul Gandhi on two-day Rajasthan tour

Veteran Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will be on a two-day tour to Rajasthan on February 12 and 13 and will be addressing a number of Kisan Sammelan in Hanumangarh and Shri Ganganagar districts.

On February 12, he will address farmers in Hanumangarh district's Pilibanga town at 11 a.m. Then at 2 p.m., he will address farmers in Padampur in Shri Ganganagar district. State Congress president Govind Singh Datasara on Sunday took a tour of Hanumangarh to make arrangements for the Kisan Sabha to be addressed by Gandhi.

India emerged as pharmacy hub during Covid-19: Modi

Replying to the Motion of Thanks in the Rajya Sabha on the President's address, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said today scientists are working on 'mission mode' as a result of the world's largest vaccination drive is taking place in the country and India is emerging as a pharmacy hub for the world during the Covid-19 pandemic. He said, "Earlier small-pox and polio posed a grave threat. A lot of hardwork was done to bring out a vaccine for these diseases. Today, we have made vaccines for coronavirus in short span of time. The world's largest vaccination drive is going on in India."

Madrasa teacher arrested in Kerala for killing son

Thiruvananthapuram, A madrasa teacher has been arrested in Kerala for allegedly killing her 6-year-old son by slitting his throat, the police said. The shocking incident took place in Palakkad in the early hours of Sunday. The arrested teacher, Shahida, 30, is said to be pregnant. The deceased has been identified as Amil. The woman was booked under section 302 of Indian Penal Code, Palakkad Superintendent of Police RVSwanathan told IANS. "We have arrested the lady and booked her under Section 302 of IPC. However, we are probing all aspects of the case and will press more charges on her if required."

Iggy Azalea wishes she had longer legs

Los Angeles, Iggy Azalea wishes she had longer legs. The rapper shared her desire with fans in a tweet she has posted. "I wish I had long a** legs but all I got is this long a** back," joked the singer in her post on the microblogging website. Azalea, who is known for tracks such as "Fancy," "Kream" and "Lola," also shared that she has problems with her hair. In an earlier tweet, she revealed that she fears she will pull it out by accident. "I absolutely hate trying to get glue out of my hair without going bald," wrote the 30-year-old, who has over seven million Twitter followers. Last month, the rapper had revealed she owes her success to her mother. "The reason why I achieved anything in life is because my mom always gasped me up and down, doing the same for my baby whatever he does I'm his #1 day one fan."

Yogi reviews development projects in Varanasi

Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has directed officials to ensure that all 123 projects in Varanasi are completed within the specified time, maintaining the quality and initiating all safety measures.

The Chief Minister reviewed the progress of projects worth Rs 9,175.77 crore at a meeting, late on Sunday evening, and said that new mile will be completed by Festoones of development were being set in Kashi, the constituency of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which is now emerging fast on the global canvas.

Officials informed the Chief Minister will be completed by Finister Jaunt 10 projects worth Rs 137.87 crore have already been completed in January while 14 projects of Rs 201.69 crore will be completed by February end and 28 projects worth Rs 1,166.65 crores, including Rudraksh International Convention Centre being built with the cooperation of Japan, will complete by March end.

The national highway widening projects, including the Varanasi-Jaunt 10 (part of Lucknow highway), Varanasi-Ghazipur and Varanasi-Azamgarh will complete in June and July, while the rail over bridge



Students leave from school after attend for classes 6-8 to reopen due to coronavirus pandemic, in Patna.



Anganwadi Workers protesting under the banner of CITU to press their demands, in Shimla.

Delhi cop saves senior citizens trapped in fire

New Delhi, A Delhi Police constable risked his life to save two senior citizens, who were trapped on the terrace of a building that caught fire in South Delhi's Greater Kailash.

Constable Vikram was in the rescue team of the police station that responded to a fire call in a building on Sunday in Greater Kailash.

On reaching the spot, he found that the fire was on the first floor of N-170 and it was very intense and the main gate of the road leading to the Block was locked.

Constable Vikram brought a hammer from the nearby shop and broke the lock so that the fire tenders could reach the spot to douse the fire, and also using his presence mind he cut the supply of the PNG in the house.

The crowd gathered near the spot told Constable Vikram about the presence of two senior citizens couple stranded on the terrace of the house that was on fire.

"He quickly reached the roof and managed to

evacuate both the senior citizens. He lifted the female senior citizen on his shoulders," Atul Thakur, Deputy Commissioner of Police said.

"My son-in-law Vinayak and Constable Vikram showed courage after we were stuck at the terrace of the building when the fire

got massive. Constable Vikram carried me on his shoulders to rescue me to safety," said the elderly woman.

He also helped other residents on the second and third floor of the burning building to escape the raging flames.

Union government has

spent huge amount on providing 40,000 machines to the states but they are used seldom. The wind during September to November is eastward due to which the pollution increased in Delhi, the minister added.

The government said that the problem of Delhi is that it has alluvial soil which results in the dust while the city's like Bangalore have rocky soil.

The AQI on Monday in Loni, Ghaziabad and Delhi was reported to be 456 and 393 respectively, which falls under hazardous category.

Out of 74,230 tests conducted, 3,671 were through rapid-antigen detection and 70,559 through RT-PCR method.

Positivity rate for the day was 0.65 per cent and case fatality rate 0.61 per cent from across these state on Saturday.

Meanwhile, 1,758 healthcare workers took the vaccine, accounting for only 11 per cent of the 16,697 targeted beneficiaries during the day.

The highest number of vaccinated was in Bengaluru, with 433 of the targeted 1,315 beneficiaries taking the shot, while Koppal reported the lowest number of 129 healthcare workers taking the jab and accounted for only 3 per cent of the targeted 3,962 people.

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Name baby elephant born in Dudhwa & win gift

Lakhimpur Kheri (Uttar Pradesh), An elephant calf was welcomed in the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve and DTR officials welcome suggestion for her name. The calf was born on February 3, more than two years after 10 elephants were translocated from Karnataka to Dudhwa tiger reserve's South Sonapur range. The Dudhwa forest staff are ecstatic with the camp arrival and are getting ready to name the calf born to Teresa.

The birth is a sign that these pachyderms have finally settled in their new environs. The Dudhwa staff said that elephants have acclimatized to different weather, food conditions and have even learnt to respond to commands in Hindi instead of Kannada.

Officials have invited suggestions for the new born's name from tourists and wildlife enthusiasts. A surprise gift is being offered for the best name suggested. DTR's Field Director Sanjay Pathak, said, "Anyone can suggest a name for this calf. Our veterinarian is keeping a constant eye of the condition of the new born and its mother. All the facilities needed are being provided."

Teresa is the first cow to conceive after the translocation in May 2018. Last year, a wild bull elephant who had gone 'musth' came near the camp searching for a mate. Teresa was released and returned after four days.

Telangana police resort to lathicharge after chaos on disputed land

Hyderabad, The Telangana police on Sunday resorted to baton charge to disperse BJP workers after they attacked sheds on a disputed land in Suryapet district.

The incident occurred during BJP state president

Bandi Sanjay's 'Girijan Bharosa Yatra'.

Trouble broke out when Sanjay along with BJP workers landed the land at Peddaveedu in Mathampalli. The party workers removed the sheds erected on the land by a pri-

vate company. When police tried to stop the BJP activists, they resorted to stone pelting, injuring four police officers.

Police then resorted to baton charge to disperse the protesters.

Meanwhile, Sanjay condemned the BJP lathi charge. He said that BJP will continue to fight for the rights of tribals of Gurrampodu Thanda whose lands were illegally occupied by TRS leaders.

Sanjay said BJP will support KCR led government to suppress people's voice.

The BJP leader took to Twitter to mount a scathing attack on TRS. He suggested to Chief Minister K. Chandrabab Naidu to present a separate budget for lathis and jails. "TRS government calls it friendly police but in practice it is lathi police," he said.

Referring to TRS election symbol car, Bandi Sanjay said the time has come to scrap the car. "The central government has made a legislation to scrap car which have become 20 years old. TRS car is also completing 20 years. This should also be scrapped," he said.

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आपली आव
मंगणपत्र
त.वि. ६-२-२०२१



मेष:- आपे आपने संतांणे सारो मताने धरुन तेमच पणाली मुख्तीलो पछ वरणे.

वृषभ:- गंधर्व धुवनमो वाणी पद संयम सावणी मंगलनी काय दया योग दे.

मिथुन:- नोकर, हाथ लीला कर सावणी.

कर्क:- तामर सकर्मचरणभोना कारले नुसुताना थरो.

सिंह:- आपाना संतांणेना कामोमो सकादत थारो तेमच विधाना कामोमो मुख्तीलो वरले.



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