

TIME AND US

DAILY

SRINAGAR, KASHMIR

WEDNESDAY

- OCTOBER, 18, 2017
- 27 MUHARRAM 1439 AH
- ISSUE: 242
- VOLUME: 03
- PAGES: 08

WEATHER TEMPERATURE		
STATION	MAX TEMPERATURE	MIN TEMPERATURE
	ACT	ACT
SRINAGAR	25.0	6.4
JAMMU	33.6	17.5
LEH	10.7	6.9
KARGIL	19.0	3.9

SUNSET WEDNESDAY: 05:56 PM
SUNRISE THURSDAY: 06:41 AM

LOCAL FORECAST OF SRINAGAR
Partly Cloudy Clear Sky. Maximum & Minimum temperatures will be around 25°C & 06°C respectively.

RNI NO: JKENG/2015/62397 • PRICE RS.3/- (AIR SURCHARGE FOR DELHI, JAMMU & LADAKH 50/- PAISA)

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ABDUL HAQ LAYS FOUNDATION OF STEEL GIRDER BRIDGE AT KHADANYAR BARAMULLA

PM MODI INAUGURATES AIIMS-LIKE INSTITUTE FOR AYURVEDA IN DELHI

WOMEN REPRESENTATION IN INDIA INC UP 5% THIS YEAR: STUDY

IMRAN TAHIR, KAGISO RABADA RESTED FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S T20S VS BANGLADESH

CM MEETS RAILWAY MINISTER

CM seeks early completion of Katra-Banihal sections, more trains to boost JK tourism

Also pitches for extending Rail link to Kupwara, Pir Panchal; completion of work on halt stations
Piyush Goyal announces cold storage containers for fruit transportation

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 17: Chief Minister, Mehbooba Mufti, who is in the national capital, called on the Railway Minister, Piyush Goyal here today. She brought several issues of the State pertaining to Railways with the Union Minister and sought their early redressal.

The Chief Minister strongly pitched for early completion of Katra-Banihal section of Jammu-Baramulla railway line to connect the State with rest of the country through an all-weather link. She also sought extension of rail link upto Kupwara in Kashmir and Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu province.

The Union Minister issued on the spot instructions to the Railway Ministry for a review and advancement of the completion date of the Katra-



Banihal section of the Jammu-Baramulla railway line.

Agreeing in principle to the extension of rail link to Kupwara in Kashmir province and Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu province, Piyush Goyal informed the Chief Minister that preliminary survey in this regard has been completed and the project is being examined for funding in the Central Government.

The demand for extension of rail link, it may be mentioned here, came during frequent visits Chief Minister conducted of Kupwara and Pir Panchal areas.

The Union Minister also informed Mehbooba Mufti that Railways would run cold store containers from Jammu to other parts of the country to ferry horticulture produce from the State. It was agreed upon in the

▶ See **CM**...Pg 02

With no let up in Braid Chopping incidents

People thrash suspects, observe shutdown and stage protest

Srinagar, Oct 17: Braid chopping incidents continue to baffle people in Kashmir even as many parts of Valley witnessed shutdown and protests demanding arrest of miscreants involved in such uncivilized acts.

Maisuma locality in the heart of Srinagar city and its adjoining areas observed a shut-

down while heavy presence of government forces was ensured there to maintain law and order. The movement of the people was restricted there using concertina wires. Shops and other business establishments remained shut in Maisuma, Gawkadal, Basant Bagh, Kokar Bazar, Budshah Chowk while Auqaf market too remained shut.

Protests erupted at Narparistan Fathekadal in old Srinagar city over an overnight braid chopping incidents. Witnesses informed news agency CNS that the braid of a woman was chopped off by miscreants while during confrontation, the victim suffered fracture in neck. "The victim's niece was earlier attacked

few days back and her braid was also chopped off," the witnesses said.

Large number of people took to roads at Botshah Mohalla Lal Bazar area of Srinagar city where the braid of a woman was chopped off on Monday evening. The protesters amid anti-police and anti-government slogans demanded the arrest of braid choppers.

Police lobbied tear smoke shells to disperse protesters at Ram-bagh Srinagar. The locals hit to roads and tried to disrupt the traffic after a braid chopping incident. Police swung into action and tear-gassed

protesters. Reports from North Kashmir's Bandipora district said that shopkeepers under the banner of Traders Federation and Employees Joint Action Committee (EJAC) took to roads and staged a massive protest against unabated braid chopping incidents.

The protesters amid anti-government slogans marched from Nowpora to Gulshan

▶ See **Protests**...Pg 02



Vehicle set on fire, TA men thrashed in Kangan

Locals beat army man in Uri

Srinagar, Oct 17: Agitated people thrashed three army soldiers and set their vehicle on fire after checking their identity cards at Akhal Kangan area of Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Tuesday.

Eyewitnesses told news agency CNS that three Territorial Army personnel traveling in a private Sento Car (JK01R-6187) were moving in a suspicious manner when a group of people stopped them and demand Identity cards from the persons on board.

They said as the Identity cards revealed that they work for Army, the agitated people mistook them as braid choppers and started thrashing them. The witnesses said that they were beaten to pulp before Army party from nearby 24 RR camp arrived on spot and fired some rounds in air to rescue them.

▶ See **Fire**...Pg 02

'BUDSHAH BRIDGE SHOWERS A NON-GOVT FOUNTAIN'

'City boy spent 10-years to see his dream coming true'

Srinagar, Oct 17: The water fountain installed on the Budshah Bridge might have brought a new charm to the bridge attracting hundreds, but there is a 10-years long story behind the completion of the project.

Surprising to know that

▶ See **Bridge**...Pg 02

Unite to foil 'evil designs' against J&K: Farooq to people

SRINAGAR: Opposition National Conference's president and Lok Sabha member Farooq Abdullah today asked the people of Jammu and Kashmir to rise above their differences and unite to foil the "evil designs" against the state.

The former chief minister made the remarks at the Charar-e-Sharif shrine where he had gone to pay obeisance at the tomb of Shiekh Nooruddin Noorani, the revered Kashmiri saint. "People of the state are



going through tough and trying times. It is, therefore, imperative for all of us to rise above our narrow needs and

come together as a united force to quell the evil designs of those who are hatching

▶ See **Farooq**...Pg 02

SLAIN PDP LEADER'S HOUSE SET ON FIRE IN SHOPIAN

Srinagar: A mob of 200 set ablaze the house of slain Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) leader on Tuesday, who was allegedly killed by militants Monday night at Humhuna in south Kashmir's Shopian district.

According to police officials, nearly 200 people attacked the house of Mohammad Ramzan Sheikh when his family and neighbours were mourning his death Tuesday afternoon.

"A mob attacked his (Sheikh's) house. We have unconfirmed reports that some militants were also with them. They set ablaze the house," said Shopian superintendent of police AS Dinkar.

Dinkar said the fire brigade reached a bit late as the house was isolated and had a narrow road to reach. "There was no water nearby to douse the flames. The family was rescued but a portion of the house was damaged."

▶ See **Slain**...Pg 02

Don't dismantle ICDS: Tarigami to Govt

Regularize all Anganwadi workers as Grade III, Helpers as Grade IV Govt employees

Srinagar, Oct 17: The recent announcement of Minister of Women and Child Development, Government of India that the Center intends to replace hot cooked meals in Anganwadi centres with 'ready to eat' packed dry mixtures and to introduce direct benefit/conditional transfers in place of take home ration given to children, pregnant women and lactating mothers indicates the intent of the BJP-led NDA government to weaken and ultimately dismantle the Anganwadi centres and to involve corporate food giants in the Integrated



Child Development Scheme (ICDS). If implemented, not only will it dismantle

▶ See **Tarigami**...Pg 02

DEATH OF FAMILY HEAD DURING ARMY RAID

Family demands thorough probe

Anantnag, Oct 17: A family from Verinag area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district who lost their family head in an army raid last year Tuesday alleged that police have closed the case without conducting any investigation.

The victim family from Halmullah Gawas in Kapran Verinag in South Kashmir that arrived here in Press Enclave Srinagar said that their 55 year old family head Abdul Gani Naik lost his life during a nocturnal raid conducted by Army's 119 Rashtriya Rifles while the probe that authorities had assured was never conducted.

Zainab Begum, the wife of the deceased told CNS that Army raided two house of Abdul Gani Naik and Bashir

▶ See **Death**...Pg 02

Sheikh Ul Aalam showed us path of Tawheed, Godliness: Malik

'Be vigilant, cautious while dealing the menace of braid chopping'

Srinagar, Oct 17: Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), Muhammad Yasin Malik on Tuesday said that Sheikh Ul Aalam Noor-Ud-Din-Noorani (RA) showed us the path of Tawheed and Godliness.

"If we adhere to these teachings, success in this life and here-after is guaranteed. Attacks on our women folk are meant to terrorize us. As a living nation we will have to deal with this menace with magnanimity," Malik said, while addressing a gathering at Khankhal Chrar-I-Shaheef.

In a statement issued to KNS, the JKLF



spokesman said that Malik as per routine

▶ See **Malik**...Pg 02

DREDGING ON RAMBAGH FLOOD SPILL CHANNEL GOING AT FULL PACE: CONTRACTORS

Srinagar, Oct 17: A delegation of contractors Wednesday refuted the allegations that the dredging work on Rambagh flood spill channel is in limbo.

Terming the allegations malicious and an attempt to appease few, the contractors said that work on the Rambagh flood spill channel is going on full pace and those who resort to fake propaganda should themselves visit the channel to take the firsthand appraisal of ongoing dredging operation on the said flood spill channel.

"The bid for the dredging was allotted to a contractor in 2015. The said contractor started the dredging work as soon as he was given letter of authority. However, the work came to a grinding halt during 2016 summer unrest.

▶ See **Flood**...Pg 02

Governor chairs 175th State Managing Committee Meeting of Indian Red Cross Society

Srinagar, Oct 17: Governor N. N. Vohra, President, Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), J&K, chaired the 175th meeting of State Managing Committee (SMC) of IRCS, J&K, Branch here at the Raj Bhavan. Ms. Mehbooba Mufti, Chief Minister, Vice President of the IRCS participated in the meeting.

Governor Vohra reviewed the activities carried out by the Society during the last six months and re-iterated the importance of increasing First-



Aid Training programmes on a large scale, particularly in areas along the IB and LoC

in Jammu Region which are affected by Cross-Border firing. He advised Chief Secre-

tary to urgently issue clear directions for making First

▶ See **Governor**...Pg 02

Arrest of Kulgam duo:

'THEY ARE NOT MILITANTS, SAY LOCALS

Kulgam, Oct 17: Police on Tuesday used force to disperse the protesters at Soput Qazigund area of South Kashmir's Kulgam district who had blocked the road demanding the release of two villagers arrested by police for their alleged links with militants.

Khushid Ahmed and Haziq Ahmed, both residents of Soput Qazigund according to locals are not affiliated with any militant organization. "They are innocent while one of them is a Cancer Patient," the protesters who blocked Kulgam-Qazigund road for hours told news agency CNS.

Pertinently, both the youth were presented by police before Reporters on Monday during a press conference

▶ See **Locals**...Pg 02

MLA HOLDS PUBLIC GRIEVANCES REDRESSAL CAMP

POONCH, OCTOBER 17: To listen to the demands and issues of the people of Dhara, Faitypour, Kainu, Morban and other adjoining areas of his constituency, Member Legislative Assembly Haveli Shah Mohammed Tantray along with officials of administration held a grievances redressal camp at Faithpur.

Problems pertaining to road, shortage of food grains, water and power supply, availability of ration and kerosene besides

functioning of schools, Anganwari centres and other developmental issues were raised and discussed.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA assured them that their issues would be redressed in a time bound manner. He announced that three transformers and hundred electric poles would be provided to the area to upgrade power related infrastructure in this far flung region.

Tantray said that delivery of quality

public services in time is imperative and appealed the field staff members to meet their responsibilities diligently saying that their role is vital in addressing local problems.

He said that Government has given nod for various development projects in this area like 50 MV solar light at Loran and industrial estate for unemployed youths.

The MLA said he has started series of public grievances camps in his constitu-

ency in order to provide services to the people at their door steps.

Camp was attended by executive engineers, assistant executive engineers besides tehsil and block level officers and officials.

Earlier, MLA along with ADDC visited tehsil mini secretariat complex Mandi to inspect its functioning. He directed the Tehsildar for proper maintenance and cleanliness of the complex besides ensuring punctuality of employees.

JOINT TEAMS OF LMD, FCS&CA LAUNCHES MARKET CHECKING

JAMMU, OCTOBER 17: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, joint market checking has been started by Legal Metrology and FCS&CA Departments.

The checking being conducted in view of festivals during which various squads of 21 officials of Asstt. Controller Food, Legal Metrology, A.D FCS&CA are conducting market checking. The squads conducted extensive checking of areas including Satwari/ Karan bagh/ Chatha/ Nanak Nagar/ Gandhi Nagar/ Channi Himmat/ Bishnah/ Gangyal/ Old City Area/ Janipur/ Talab Tillo/ Roopnagar/ Bantalab/ Muthi/ Akhnoor and other rural areas.

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CM

meeting that the Secretary, Horticulture would pursue the matter with the Railway authorities in this regard.

Jammu & Kashmir being a tourist State, Mehbooba Mufti also sought running of more trains from Jammu to Mumbai, Kolkatta and Ahmedabad to get more tourists to the State. The Union Minister informed her that his Ministry has started a weekly train-Humsafar- from Kolkatta to Jammu in view of the tourist rush from the area. It was decided in the meeting that the Secretary, Tourism and Member, Traffic of the Railway Board would jointly explore the possibilities in this regard.

Piyush Goel assured all support from his Ministry to boost tourism in the State. He also informed the Chief Minister that specially designed trains would soon chug from Jammu to Katra while as such trains would be introduced in Kashmir from next spring.

The Chief Minister also raised other issues like giving employment to locals by IRCON, a halt station at Naina Batora, expediting work on other halt stations on the Banihal-Baramulla railway line and transfer back of land at Banihal for constructing a stadium there.

The Union Minister assured the Chief Minister of a positive approach and substantive action by his Ministry on the demands raised by the Chief Minister.

PROTEST

Chowk. The protesters alleged that government has miserably failed to expose the miscreants involved in braid chopping incidents. They said that Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti has lost the right to run the State affairs as she has failed to expose braid choppers.

Reports from Dachna Salamabad Uri in North Kashmir's Baramulla district said that agitated people caught hold of two alleged braid choppers and thrashed them. Witnesses said that police rushed to spot and rescued them from the wrath of agitated protesters.

Clashes broke out between police and protesters in Reddi Chowkibal and Kralpora areas of Kupwara district in north Kashmir on Tuesday after a woman's braid was chopped off.

Reports said that locals caught hold of a Territorial Army man, suspecting him to be the braid-chopper.

The TA soldier was severely thrashed by the locals. A video of the incident showed locals thrashing the TA soldier while army and police were trying to rescue him.

The incident triggered massive protests in the area. Later, the protesters pelted the forces with stones who retaliated by lobbing teargas shells.

Meanwhile, as the news of braid chopping incident spread to nearby Kralpora area, the locals staged a protest demonstration and closed shops.

Clashes erupted in Kralpora as the protesters started pelting the forces with stones.

Police lobbed scores of teargas shells and clashes were on as this report was being filed.

South Kashmir's Pulwama district observed a complete shutdown against the braid chopping incident. On Monday, the braid of a woman was chopped off at Dangarpura vicinity of the district.

Reports said that all the shops and business establishments remained shut while transport also remained off the roads.

Auqaf Committee Pulwama organized a protest march that was attended by a large number of people. The protesters alleged that government and district administration have failed to nab the culprits. They raised slogans against police and the government.

Meanwhile, sources said that locals from Kakapora area of the district Pulwama seized a vehicle with Punjab registration plate (PB10B-G3418) when a couple of persons from the vehicle alighted from it and tried to enter into a house. The locals raised hue and cry while unknown persons managed to escape from the spot, leaving the vehicle there.

Locals said that the abandoned vehicle was later on handed over to police. "We are investigating the matter," said a police official.

Police lobbed tear-smoke shelling to disperse protesters at Gangoo Pulwama who were protesting against fresh braid chopping incident in the village. The protesters had blocked the road prompting police to resort to tear-gas shelling.

Pertinently, over a 100 incidents of braid chopping have occurred in different parts of Kashmir Valley during the past month while police is still clueless.

The victims have told their families and police that unknown persons cut their hair after knocking them unconscious with some spray.

The police have formed Special Investigation Teams to probe the incidents. However, so far the police and the authorities have been clueless.

The police have announced a reward of Rs six lakh for credible information leading to arrest of any person behind braid chopping incidents. So far, no arrests have been made.

At several places, vigilante mobs have thrashed innocents mistaking them for braid choppers.

FIRE

The army action infuriated the agitated protesters who set the Sentro Car on fire. Police rushed to spot, however, people pelted stones on them, prompting them to lob tear-smoke shells.

As the news spread in Kangan town, shopkeepers downed their shutters while youth took to roads and pelted stones on

government forces.

A police official wishing anonymity said that three Territorial Army personnel led by one Fareed Tenda of Wangat Kangat were on way to a house to attend a marriage ceremony when people checked their identity cards and thrashed them. He confirmed that mob set their vehicle on fire.

Meanwhile, locals at Baghna Noorkhaw area of Boniyar Uri of North Kashmir's Baramulla district alleged that Army stationed at Lachipora camp rescued a 'braid-chopper' when they caught him.

"Four armed men in uniform appeared in Baghna Noorkhaw area of Boniyar Uri and were moving in suspicious condition. When locals stopped them the army men claimed they are militants. However, people doubted their version and caught them. The three men fired in air and managed to escape while fourth one was caught and thrashed mercilessly. The Army party arrived on spot and rescued the man from people," said a group of locals.

When contacted a police official said that they are investigating the matter.

BRIDGE

the project has not been set up by any government agency or department, but it is a pure volunteer work of a local youth. It is an outcome of 10-years long efforts of Old City boy Waseem Hassan Raja, who completed the project without any help from the government.

But even after two months of its installation, no government agency or department has so far owned the project. It continues to remain a property of Waseem.

"The concept of bridge fountain was submitted to the commissioner SMC in the year 2007. We were asked to collect the NOCs from almost every department - R&B, P.H.E, Irrigation and Flood Control, Traffic department and PDD. It took us around two years to collect all the NOCs," Waseem Raja told KNS.

On 23rd April 2008, he presented the idea in the "Review meeting with regard to the beautification of Srinagar City".

"It was appreciated by the then Mayor, and it was unanimously decided to install the fountain on the Budshah Bridge by the developer. However that time I didn't get the chance to install due to certain obstructions," he said.

Later, Waseem Raja continues his efforts and approached numerous departments and well off persons for funding. "I failed at every level. But I continued the struggle," he said.

Recently in the month of July 2017, Waseem discussed it with one of his friend Mohammad Afzal who showed his interest to help him financially.

"We started the work and it's done. The fountain is lively seen on the Budshah Bridge during the day and evening times which has changed the scene of Budshah Bridge. It has been appreciated by general public at large," he said.

Waseem Raja said the fountain gives a cooling effect especially when the sun hits the highest point. "The water used for the operation of fountain is purely river water being lifted by the submersible motors. We have paid Rs 10,000 to PDD for electricity charges," he said.

Now he wants the government to appreciate his initiative and allow him to install more fountains on the other bridges so that the city of Srinagar looks like a smart city in one or the other way. "I want financial help from the government to continue with these projects," he said.

He said the SMC has assured him that the Corporation would own the Budshah bridge fountain.

Talking to KNS, SMC Commissioner Shafiqat Khan said they have not owned it yet. "It has been done by someone voluntarily. I have no idea who made it. We will see if we can own it, if it comes in our budget competence," he said.

FAROQ

conspiracies to harm J&K and its people," Abdullah told reporters in Budgam district.

Abdullah prayed for sustained peace, stability and development of the state and well being of the people.

He also interacted with devotees and inquired about the upkeep of the shrine before offering prayers.

Abdullah emphasised on the need for imbibing the teachings of the revered saint, saying "this spirit has to be maintained at all costs".

SLAIN

He did not comment why the people set ablaze the house but sources suggested that the people were blaming the family for the death of the militant, Shaukat Kumar, from Shopian.

According to the police, three militants had turned up at the PDP worker's house Monday night. As Sheikh's family resisted, one of the militants opened fire, which killed Sheikh and Kumar.

Local reports said the militant purportedly opposed the plan to kill Sheikh and wanted to only shoot his leg. The police, however, have not confirmed this.

Director general of police SP Vaid tweeted that the mob acted on the "instigation of terrorists". "Strong action under law is being taken against the perpetrators," he said.

TARIGAMI

the entire ICDS, but jobs of over 26 lakh Anganwadi workers and helpers, mostly from poor and oppressed sections of the society, will be under serious threat. The cash transfer will sound the death knell of ICDS, which has earned worldwide recognition for its role in reducing severe malnutrition

and bringing down infant mortality rate across the country.

The ICDS is a unique outreach programme to meet the nutritional needs of crores of children under the age of six and to improve the nutrition levels of pregnant and lactating mothers from the most vulnerable sections of our society. ICDS plays a vital role in a country which is home to 190 million undernourished people - the highest in the world.

In the past, there have been attempts by the corporate sector to enter the ICDS programme by substituting packed readymade food for freshly cooked meals. This is contrary to the spirit of the programme as well as the Supreme Court's directives which prioritize decentralized, locally produced food made by women's groups, thus providing both fresh food to children and employment to women. The weakening of ICDS can lead to over all weakening of the trade union movement, particularly among the women and rural workers. Considering all these aspects, it is important to fight and defeat this move.

The Government must:

1. Immediately stop the move to introduce direct/conditional cash transfers and packaged food in ICDS, regularize all Anganwadi workers as Grade III and helpers as Grade IV government employees,
2. Pay minimum wages of skilled workers to Anganwadi workers and that of semi skilled workers to helpers,
3. Remuneration should be linked up with consumer price index,
4. Social security benefits, including gratuity, pension, provident fund and medical facilities should be provided to Anganwadi employees.

The announcement of PDP-led government in last Budget session to enhance the honorarium of Anganwadi workers by Rs 500 has also not been fulfilled. The promise, like the most promises made by the incumbent Government have remained limited to promises only.

DEATH

Ahmad Thoker in April 2016. "The army raid on our house scared Naik and he suffered heart attack. We after informing the police shifted him to nearby hospital where doctors declared him brought dead," she said.

As the word about his death spread in the area, agitated people hit to road and clashed with police. "The authorities assured probe and even officials at Police Station Dooru Shahabad promised us that an FIR will be lodged after the completion of inquiry. We were shocked yesterday, when the police officer informed us that the case has been closed," she said.

"We moved from pillar to post but justice has been deluding us. We request and appeal authorities to conduct a probe into the incident and bring guilty to justice," the family members told CNS.

MALIK

managed to reach the sacred shrine today and addressed thousands of devotees.

In his speech, Malik said, "Kashmir has been an abode of spirituality and spiritual saints like Sheikh Noor-ud-din Noorani (RaH) have led us on every front of life be it social life, political life or economic life."

"Sheikh Ul Aalam who is also known as Alamdar-I-Kashmir (Flag bearer of Kashmir) through his spiritual poetry and works, showed us the way of Tawheed, Godliness and other virtues. He asked us to be brave, resilient, passionate and God-fearing and above all upright, in our lives. He is known as flag bearer of Kashmir which actually indicates to our freedom and liberty," Malik said.

Malik said that "today when miseries and ill-fortunes have over taken us we will have to go to these teachings and lead our lives according to the teachings of these great men and women."

He said that Sheikh ul Aalam was a leader who had unshakable faith in Allah, unparalleled love of Allah's messenger (PBUH). "He always cared for the humanity and human dignity and if we today claim to be his disciple; we will have to follow this great human being in every step of our lives," he said.

On growing incidents of attacks on women and braid chopping, Malik said that from about two months Kashmiri mothers, sisters and daughters are under attack from some unknown enemy. "We as a society are living in a continued fear and apprehension but rulers and their police are clueless," he said.

He said that somebody is calling this 'mass hysteria' and someone else calling it a 'mere hoax' but no one is coming with any clear proof. "Hundreds of our sisters have been left shaken by some unknown assailants and police and forces who take no time to identify even masked stone-pelters, who take no time in finding the hidden faces behind every happenings and act faster than light while crushing the peaceful political activities claim to have no knowledge of any attacker," he said.

"This ignorance has actually turned this entire affair as doubtful and situation alarming," he said.

JKLF chief said that while dealing this menace, "we will have to be very vigilant, cautious and deal it with magnanimity. We cannot become unruly and rude and push our whole society towards anarchy in the name of braid chopping."

"We can fight this hidden enemy by enhancing our society based vigil that is under the command of elders and if during our vigilantism somebody suspicious is caught, we should bring him to local Masjid and let our elders investigate him or her with wisdom and never resort to mob torture or lynchings as that is detrimental to our cause," he said.

Condemning the plight of thousands of young and old, men and women, elderly and kids, Malik said that especially from last two years, Kashmir has been turned into a big jail where every little space on peaceful political activities has been choked in the name of the democracy.

"Today more than ten thousand young and old, men and women and even juvenile are languishing in jails and police stations and no one is paying any heed to their plight. People languishing in jails and police stations are our heroes and we stand by them," he added.

Meanwhile, JKLF expressed its heartfelt grief and sorrow over the sad demise of Tariq Ajaz Dar of Batamaloo who died of an accident today at Budgam.

JKLF vice chairman Mushtaq Ajmal participated in the funeral prayers and burial of the deceased and expressed solidarity with his grief stricken family.

FLOOD

But as soon as situation improved, the work was restarted and presently it is going on in full speed," they told news agency CNS.

They said being Kashmiri and being the flood victims themselves they know the importance of dredging.

"Even the officials of Irrigation and Flood Control Department are satisfied but we fail to understand which elements are spreading the lies," they said adding that dredging that is going on full pace surely will help in increasing the carrying capacity of water in this Flood Spill Channel to a large extent, which will help in quick discharge of water during floods.

GOVERNOR

Aid Training an essential pre-condition for the issuance of driving licences to drivers of all categories of commercial vehicles and School buses. DGP was directed to institutionalize such training programmes for Police recruits who undergo in the Police Training Schools.

Governor emphasized that Donation Boxes should be placed at all Airports, Railway Stations, Hospitals, Universities, Hotels and important market places to attract fund collection for the humanitarian activities carried out by the IRCS. He advised the benefit of institutionalisation of provision of required fund support for the treatment of poor who suffer from serious and terminal illnesses and emphasised the need for arrangement of patient care facilities at Jammu and Srinagar. Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti assured that MLAs will be sensitized to provide for the treatment of the poor sections of the society suffering from life threatening diseases and other serious illnesses from their Constituency Development Funds. Secretaries, School and Higher Education and General Secretary IRCS were directed to involve CBSE Schools for enrolment of their students as Junior Red Cross/Youth Red Cross and also tap the Universities, Bar Associations, Hotels etc for enlarging the resource base of Red Cross Funds.

Governor directed Secretary R&B to direct JKPC to ensure that the construction work on the Red Cross Bhavan at Srinagar is expedited and completed latest by summer 2018. The Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu were asked to identify Red Cross Volunteers who have done commendable humanitarian work and recommend them for State level Awards to acknowledge their contributions.

Governor directed General Secretary, IRCS to bring out an annual calendar for the training of State and District Disaster Response Teams and stock sufficient quantity of relief material such as tents, blankets, first aid kits at appropriate locations where these could be used immediately and managed efficiently, during any disaster/emergency situation.

While reviewing the present status of the Jan Aushadi Scheme, the Committee unanimously agreed upon the need for creating wide spread awareness about the availability of generic drugs at the Jan Aushadi Generic Drug Stores. Governor urged Sh. Bali Bhagat, Minister for Health & Medical Education, to ensure opening of a large number of Jan Aushadi stores in the State and also ensure adequate availability of medicines.

Sh. Bali Bhagat, Minister for Health & Medical Education; Sh. B. B. Vyas, Chief Secretary; Dr. S.P. Vaid, DGP, J&K; Sh. Umang Narula, Principal Secretary to the Governor; Sh. R.K. Goyal, Principal Secretary, Home; Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Principal Secretary, Health & Medical Education; Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Sh. Baseer Ahmad Khan, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Sh. Sajad Ahmad Khan, Commissioner/Secretary Social Welfare; Sh. Ravi Deep Singh Sahi, IGP CRPF Kashmir participated in the meeting. Besides, Sh. A.M. Mir; Dr. B.B. Gupta; Dr. Tsering Ladol and Sh. Mehraj Ahmad Kakroo; Members of the State Managing Committee, IRCS and Deputy Commissioners of Kashmir Province participated in the meeting.

LOCALS

at Police Control Room Srinagar.

IGP Kashmir Zone, Munir Ahmed Khan in his presser said that Haziq and Khurshid were arrested while they were riding on a motor cycle. "A pistol with live ammunition was recovered from them," IGP had said.

However, local protesters refuted the police claim and said that both the youth have been implicated in a false case.

As the protesters didn't budge and disrupted traffic, police swung into action and lobbed tear-smoke shells to disperse them. The clashes continued for hours while the area observed a complete shutdown against the arrest of the duo.

Abdul Haq lays foundation of Steel Girder Bridge at Khadanyar Baramulla

Says Govt has prioritized road connectivity as focus area

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 17: Full infilling the long pending demand of the people of Khadanyar Baramulla, Minister for Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Law and Justice Abdul Haq Khan on Tuesday laid the foundation stone of Steel Girder Bridge on Loori Nallah in Baramulla district.

The Minister was accompanied by MLA Baramulla Javid Hassan Baig. The bridge will be constructed at the cost of Rs 56 lakh and will be completed by the end of March next year. Speaking on the occasion minister directed the officials to start work immediately so that the work will be completed within stipulated time.

The construction of bridge was the long pending demand of the vil-

lagers of Khadanyar and adjoining areas and will bring much relief to the inhabitants of dozens of villages. The villagers had to walk extra miles to reach nearby villages in absence of a bridge over the Loori Nallah.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister the government lead by Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti has prioritized the rural connectivity sector and stress is being laid on increasing road connectivity in rural areas. He said better road connectivity in rural areas is vital for socio-economic transformation.

After laying foundation stone at the site, Minister interacted with the local population who had assembled to welcome the minister. During interaction, the locals put



forward their grievances with regard to road connectivity, water supply, electricity, availability of ration and other basic amenities. The Minister gave patient hearing to the people

and assured them that he will take up their grievances with the concerned quarters for early redressal.

Speaking on the occasion MLA Baramulla Javid Hassan Baig said

the government is keen to ameliorate the socio-economic condition of these people in rural areas through various developmental initiatives with focus on improving road connectivity. He said under the leadership of Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, several innovative measures have been taken to transform the developmental profile of the state.

Later the Minister also visited the family of former Law Minister Sheikh Maqbool who passed away last week. Minister expressed condolence with the bereaved family and prayed for the departed soul. While recalling the contribution of Late Sheikh Maqbool, He said the services of former Law Minister will be remembered for a long time in the state.

INSTITUTIONS LIKE HARIJAN SEVAK SANGH DOING YEOMAN SERVICE AND DESERVE A HELPING HAND: VICE PRESIDENT

New Delhi, October 17: The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu has said that Institutions like Harijan Sevak Sangh doing yeoman service and deserve a helping hand from philanthropists, corporate and other resource persons. He was addressing the gathering at an event to rededicate Thakkar Bapa Vidyalyaya, unveiling the renovated Statue of Thakkar Bapa and unveil the plaque for pile foundation of Didi Nirmala Deshpande Nilayam, in Chennai, Tamil Nadu today. The Governor of Tamil Nadu, Shri Banwarilal Purohit and the Minister for Fisheries, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Tamil Nadu, Shri D. Jayakumar were present on the occasion.

The Vice President said that Didi Nirmala Deshpande, who headed this organization till her last breath, was a dedicated Gandhian, who set an example to thousands of people not only in India but all over the globe. He further said that she had participated in the Bhoodan Movement and undertook 40,000 km padayatra along the length and breadth of the country to popularize the message of Mahatma Gandhi's Gram Swaraj. She was a true messenger of peace and also strove for communal harmony, he added.

The Vice President expressed his happiness over unveiling the plaque of Shree Geeta Bhavan Trust for their kind contribution. He congratulated all the awardees who have extended their help to revive and continue this service on the path shown by Mahatma Gandhi.

The Vice President said that Harijan Sevak Sangh and its units are participating in a big way on the Swachh Bharath Programme launched by Prime Minister. He congratulated them for taking up this noble cause with enthusiasm and vigor.

RM TO VISIT ANDAMAN & NICOBAR COMMAND

New Delhi, October 17: The Raksha Mantri Smt Nirmala Sitharaman will be visiting Andaman & Nicobar Command on 18 and 19 October 2017. On her maiden visit to the Command, she will be celebrating Diwali with troops and interacting with the families during various events over the two days. During her schedule, the Raksha Mantri will be visiting the operational area of the Command and Air Force Station Car Nicobar. She will be laying wreaths at the Swatantra Jyoti in Cellular Jail and Tsunami Memorial at Car Nicobar.

MLA HOLDS PUBLIC GRIEVANCES REDRESSAL CAMP

POONCH, OCTOBER 17: To listen to the demands and issues of the people of Dhara, Faitypour, Kainu, Morban and other adjoining areas of his constituency, Member Legislative Assembly Haveli Shah Mohammed Tantray along with officials of administration held a grievances redressal camp at Faithpur.

Problems pertaining to road, shortage of food grains, water and power supply, availability of ration and kerosene besides functioning of schools, Anganwari centres and other developmental issues were raised and discussed.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA assured them that their issues would be redressed in a time bound manner. He announced that three transformers and hundred electric poles would be provided to the area to upgrade power related infrastructure in this far flung region.

Tantray said that delivery of quality public services in time is imperative and appealed the field staff members to meet their responsibilities diligently saying that their role is vital in addressing local problems.

He said that Government has given nod for various development projects in this area like 50 MV solar light at Lorán and industrial estate for unemployed youths.

The MLA said he has started series of public grievances camps in his constituency in order to provide services to the people at their door steps.

DY CM HOSTS DIWALI MILAN



JAMMU, OCTOBER 17: Deputy Chief Minister, Dr Nirmal Singh yesterday hosted Diwali Milan at his residence. Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs and Information, Chowdhary Zulfkar Ali, Minister for PHE, Irrigation and Flood Control Sham Lal Choudhary, Advisor to Chief Minister Prof Amitabh Mattoo, Minister of State for Tourism, Culture and Education, Priya Sethi, Vice Chairman,

State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans Daljit Singh Chib, Vice Chairman, State Advisory Board for Welfare and Development of OBCs, Rashpaul Verma, Chairperson State Social Welfare Board, Dr Nirmal Gupta, former Union Minister Chaman Lal Gupta, MPs, Legislators besides senior government functionaries, and prominent citizens, journalists from media organizations were present on the occasion.

Zulfkar reviews stock supply position of Kerosene

Stresses on rationalization, streamlining of supply system

JAMMU, OCTOBER 17: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Information, Chowdhary Zulfkar Ali today chaired a meeting of officers to discuss measures for further streamlining of Kerosene supply and its rationalized distribution.

While reviewing the procedure and distribution mechanism, he called for Aadhaar based transaction while making allocations to the stockiest and retailers. He said information of stockiest/retailers about allocation/bank accounts and other details shall be posted on the department's web portal. He also directed the officers to ensure that all stockiest should fulfill criteria for license and other norms.



Zulfkar Ali stressed on maintaining complete transparency in distribution and abolishing the practice of subletting of distribution by the stockiest and retailers.

He also stressed on allocating kerosene to different

areas on the actual consumption to check black-marketing. He stressed upon the concerned officers to take necessary measures to rationalize the allocation and distribution so that the areas with high consumption are compen-

sated. The Minister stressed upon ensuring that the allocated quantities of kerosene reach the eligible beneficiaries in time. He stressed on following the laid out norms to check pilferage, black-marketing and regulation of the supply.

Zulfkar also underscored the need for making the public distribution system especially kerosene Oil more effective, efficient and prompt.

The meeting was attended by Director FCS&CA Kashmir, Nisar Ahmad Wani, Director FCS&CA Jammu R A Inqlabi, CAO FCS & CA Ziaur-Rehman, Joint Controller Legal Metrology V. S. Sambyal, Deputy Controller Legal Metrology Manoj Prabhkar and other officers of FCS & CA and Legal Metrology.

Basharat Bukhari visits Kargil, reviews horticulture scenario

KARGIL, OCTOBER 17: Minister for Horticulture, Syed Basharat Bukhari Tuesday said the Government has undertaken a holistic programme to ensure sustainable development of horticulture sector in the State, besides formulating vision document to revamp the sector.

The Minister said this while addressing various gatherings during his extensive tour to Kargil district of Ladakh region. Chairman Legislative Council, Haji Anayat Ali was

also present on the occasion.

Secretary Horticulture, Manzoor Ahmad Lone, Director Horticulture Planning, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, Additional Deputy Commissioner Kargil, Barkat Ali Lone and other officers accompanied the Minister.

Bukhari said that multi-pronged approach needs to be adopted for ensuring better yield, brand building and marketing of the walnut produce from across the State.

The Minister said the Govern-

ment is committed to achieve the objectives to enhance the production and productivity of quality fruit crops in the State to compete in the national and international markets with highest employment opportunities in the horticulture sector.

He stressed on better marketing practices of horticulture produce of the State and said the Department needs to work towards improving marketing facilities and building a strong brand.

He said the Department should

work together with farmers for promoting use of new technologies and better farming practices and assured that the Government will support the efforts of the department to develop the horticulture sector on modern lines.

Bukhari along with the officials visited Kargil Apricot village, Chani Gund and interacting with the growers there. The growers apprised the Minister about various issues pertaining to their businesses and demanded that they be given dedi-

cated places in Srinagar and Jammu region to showcase and market their apricot produce.

Bukhari said that the Government is keen to bring the Kargil villages on the horticulture map of the State. He assured them that a team of experts would be soon deployed to the Kargil for overall mapping of the region.

Later, the Minister interacted with the various delegations and assured them timely redressal to their grievances.

Knowledge Initiative in Education:

MATTOO PITCHES FOR INDUSTRY-ORIENTED COURSES

Discusses scope, prospects with industrialists, students



JAMMU, OCTOBER 17: Advisor to Chief Minister, Prof. Amitabh Mattoo today pitched for introduction of industry oriented courses at various levels to increase employability of educated unemployed youth in the industrial sector.

Prof. Mattoo was speaking at an interactive session of Industrialists and student union representatives convened as part of the state government's initiative to broad base the scope of education to bridge critical gaps in qualification and employability.

In this regard, govt has constituted a working group-

Knowledge Initiative headed by Prof. Mattoo for preparation of a vision document to recommend certain reforms to meet these goals.

Financial Commissioner (Coordination) Resident Commission, J&K Government K.B Aggarwal, Principal Secretary Higher education department Dr Asgar Hassan Samoon, Registrar University of Jammu Meenakshi Kilam, were present in the meeting.

"There is a need to create a bridge through education to enable the youth to become stakeholders in industrial sector as entrepreneurs and

employers and employees" he suggested. For this, he said there was a need to broad base the scope of education to suit the current employment market in all fields, including the industry.

He said government's target is to prepare a vision document through this Knowledge initiative. He stressed upon the participants to think on the lines which would pave the way for them to capitalize on each-others abilities. He stressed on working towards realizing the dream of Former Chief Minister late Mufti Mohammad Syed to

make the state a hub of education of international standard. He said for this government has been making progressive policies, issuing guidelines and launching various schemes. "To mention a few, establishment of over half a dozen universities including latest in the list - the cluster universities - bear the testimony to the government's seriousness towards achieving this goal," he added.

The industrialists and student union representatives gave valuable suggestions to make education and industry sectors complimentary for each other.

Lal Singh inaugurates building of GDC Mahanpur

Announces 2 Buses for college, aid under PMAY, distributes aid for IIHL among beneficiaries

KATHUA, OCTOBER 17: Jammu and Kashmir possesses unique and incredible natural wealth and cultural heritage, besides has huge potential for growth of various tourism sectors, including wellness, heritage, cultural, spiritual, wildlife, adventure and sports tourism.

This was stated by Minister for Forests, Environment and Ecology Choudhary Lal Singh while visiting the ancient fort at Hiranagar of Kathua district, which is also known as Jasmergarh Fort.

Underlining that the tourism industry can contribute significantly in generating permanent employment opportunities and eliminating poverty, Lal Singh said in our State too the livelihood of a large number of people can be linked to the industry. Citing the place as an ideal spot for heritage as well as spiritual tourism, the Minister directed the Officers of Forest Department to prepare a comprehensive plan for the renovation of this ancient heritage of erstwhile Dogra Kingdom which also houses a famous temple which remains full of devotees throughout the year.



The Minister also said that fencing along the boundary of the fort besides evolving parks should be included in the plan for refurbishing this fort as the place was thronged by numerous devotees during special religious functions.

Later, the Minister inaugurated the newly constructed building of Mahanpur Degree College which was completed by PWD(R&B) Department with an estimated cost of Rs 9.78 crore.

Addressing a large gathering at Mahanpur, the Minister said that earlier the College students were taking their classes in the building of Higher Secondary School Mahanpur but from today

onwards they have their own building with all the facilities and experienced staff. He also said that the present dispensation is concerned about the education sector and is taking path breaking steps to modernize this field along with imparting pragmatic knowledge to make the students self reliant.

For ferrying students to the newly constructed Degree College, Lal Singh announced two new buses so that students from remote areas can also enroll themselves in this college. Besides, financial assistance of Rs. 50000 under PMAY was given to 12 BPL beneficiaries whereas, 31 beneficiaries were provided fi-

ancial aid for Individual House Hold Latrines (IHHL), by the Minister.

On the spot services and certificates which include Permanent Resident Certificates, Caste Certificates, RBA certificates, Mutations, Revenue Extracts, Income Certificates, Marriage Certificates, Character Certificates, Aadhar verification, Legal Heir certificates, and other certificates were also provided by the Minister.

For strengthening rural connectivity, the Minister kick started blacktopping on Marapatti - Kelhari road which is to be executed by PWD(R&B) Department.

The Minister also inaugurated several lanes and drains work which were completed by Rural Development Department.

CCF Jammu, Farooq Gilani; ADC Basohli, Sanjay Gupta; Principal GDC Mahanpur, Dr Nutan Rasotra; ACD Kathua, CEO, Tehsildar, BDOs, Engineers of PHE, PDD & RDD, DFOs, teachers, Sub Divisional level officers and students in large numbers were present on the occasion.

DAILY Editorial
Time and US
SRINAGAR J&K

SECURING SOMALIA

In the deadliest terrorist attack in Somalia, an explosives-laden truck collided with a fuel tanker in Mogadishu, killing more than 300 people and injuring many more. Mogadishu has seen a number of attacks and suicide bombings on "soft targets", mostly hotels and restaurants, and military targets orchestrated by the terrorist group al-Shabaab in recent years, but none as horrific as this one. The Islamist organisation has not yet claimed responsibility for the attacks but government spokespersons have blamed the al-Qaeda-allied group. A weakened Al-Shabaab has managed to revive itself as a guerrilla force lately. Reports suggest that it has not claimed responsibility for Sunday's attacks as yet because of the scale of the toll, as it did not anticipate the truck colliding with a fuel tanker. If it is indeed al-Shabaab's doing, it would signal a dangerous reversal. Somalia must immediately work towards building a sense of civic solidarity among the various clans in the country and use the popular revulsion following the bombing to isolate al-Shabaab and its backers. Al-Shabaab had retreated from Mogadishu in August 2011 following intense joint offensives led by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Somali federal government. The increased involvement of Kenyan and Ethiopian military forces, as part of AMISOM, in the conflict had pushed al-Shabaab fighters even further into interior Somalia, particularly to rural areas in the south. Beyond military help from AMISOM, logistical support from the U.S. government, which was stepped up after Donald Trump became President, has helped the Somali government fight al-Shabaab.

Yet the group's defeat is predicated not just on military strategy but also on isolating it from the levers of power in Somalia's clan-driven society. Al-Shabaab still has the capacity and wherewithal to carry out terror attacks as it is emboldened and aided by divisions within Somali society. The country has been slowly limping back from a state of anarchy that began in the 1990s, with warlords controlling various parts of the country; now it has a functional presidential government. It was the long spell of anarchy that enabled al-Shabaab to attain a position of prominence as an offshoot of the conservative Islamic Courts Union, which promised a semblance of order through the implementation of Sharia law and the capacity to fill a vacuum in governance. Early this year, President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed was elected through an indirect polling process by an electoral college of parliamentarians nominated by society elders. The state of civil war prevented the conduct of elections through universal adult franchise, but the Somali President seems to carry a positive reputation among the people. It is vital that he capitalises on this beginning.

Votaries of democracy, beware of those propagandist tricks



► Swami Agnivesh

Politics must be bridled by spiritual principles. In a democratic polity, those who are spiritual have to be political in the true sense of the term. It suits the interests of the corrupt and oppressive players in politics to sustain the myth that politics is a den of scoundrels. Politics is sacred. A Swachh Bharat will be possible only through swachh politics.

Commitment to truth is the core that spirituality and politics should share. Truth operates on the ground as justice. Justice addresses human dignity and welfare. Wherever truth is compromised, people's welfare has suffered and oppression has bared its fangs.

It is politics that contextualises commitment to truth and makes it concrete. Those who care for truth in politics remain continually vigilant against every measure, every propagandist trick, meant to hypnotise the masses. Commitment to truth, if genuine, creates a national culture marked by scientific temper and rational thinking.

THE RIGHT TO QUESTION

Consider the following argument. The people have voted for us. Therefore, you have no right to criticise or question whatever we do by way of governance.

This could seem reasonable. But what is the truth? The argument chooses to be blind to the fact that the capacity of the masses to think rationally can be disabled by a variety of factors such as lack of education, their inability to think rationally, their vulnerability to propaganda, the non-availability of relevant data, the creation of hype and waves, and so on. Democracy, especially, is under a duty to educate and empower citizens to think rationally and choose

objectively. Oppressive regimes are averse to spreading education and free thinking.

Or, consider the dogmas of patriotism and nationalism. Surely, both are valuable to the extent of serving as catalytic agents to galvanise people's energy for nation-building. But that is not how these concepts have been used in history. They have served, mostly, to spread hatred among nations and, within them, between castes, groups, communities.

Commitment to truth on the part of citizens requires that they see through the motive in overwhelming public consciousness with an avalanche of issues. An illusion of upholding accountability is created by the daily belabouring of issues. A new issue is ushered in sensationally even before the current one settles down. So we have a frenetic public parade of issues and allegations. Nothing is followed up to the extent of establishing the truth of issues. Nothing changes.

MUTUAL HARMONY

It is basic to a democracy that its citizens remain in harmony with one another. At the very least, they should not treat each other as enemies. Enmity is spread only by vested interests that hope to thrive by polarising citizens. The incompatibility between professed love for the country and infecting the people with hatred remains ignored. There is no instance in history of the policy of 'divide and rule' promoting people's welfare.

The true patriot, wrote Aristotle two millennia ago, in a democracy ought to take care that the majority are not too poor. With extraordinary foresight, he prescribed that the fruits of development should be distributed preferentially among the poor. He does so to ensure that the oligarchic

element, which lurks in every democratic polity, does not become powerful enough to scuttle democracy. The corporates of today are the successors of yesteryear oligarchs. The threat that the oligarchic elements hold out to democracy becomes ominous when the media—the chief arbiter of public opinion—play a partisan and propagandist role. When this process crosses the Lakshman rekha, it imperils democracy.

Finally, the dogma of stability and its implications for the dynamic of democracy needs to be watched. Every centre of power is apt to deem itself to be the sole and legitimate custodian of national destiny. It views prospects for change with extreme intolerance. This keeps the dividing line between 'freedom of choice' and 'sedition' continually fluid. Attempts and advocacies aimed at influencing citizens' right to choose, purporting to bring about a regime change, are mistaken for sedition. This brings 'the right to choose' under extreme stress and strain.

This accounts for the difference between a corrupt government and a tyrannical one. The former knows itself to be a bird of passage. Its managers are, therefore, fixated on reaping a bumper harvest in quick time. A tyrannical government is obsessed not with megabucks but with self-perpetuation. It substitutes the money with monopoly. The corrupt do not wish to be caught. The tyrannical do not wish to be shown the door. Both additions harm democracy. And both skip on thin ice.

agnivesh70@gmail.com

CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ARGUMENT. THE PEOPLE HAVE VOTED FOR US. THEREFORE, YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO CRITICISE OR QUESTION WHATEVER WE DO BY WAY OF GOVERNANCE.

SPEAKING IN TONGUES

"Hi Amma. Konichiwa!", said the little son as he pranced home from school. "Konichiwa?" "It means Hello! in Japanese," said the fellow, beaming. "Oh that's nice. It sounds like a tinkling wind-chime." "Ni Hao is Hello in Chinese," said the expert. "How did you know these things? Did they teach you in school?" I asked.

He showed me a beautiful children's book, Say Hello, by Rachel Isadora, that he had picked up from the library. That night we snuggled into bed with

the inclusive book that follows a little girl walking through town saying Hello to people she meets. The As-Salaam-Alaikum-s, Ni Hao-s and Konichiwa-s roll out with ease.

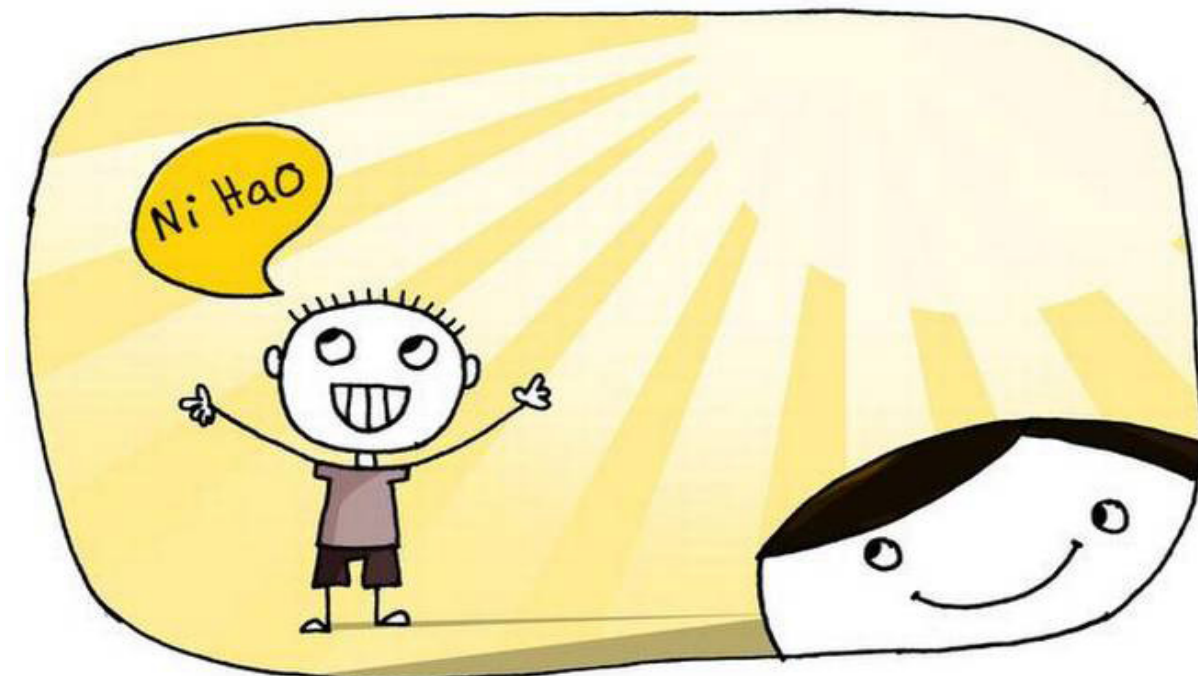
The older and supposedly wiser daughter sometimes joins us for story-time, and this time the two-minute read turned into a 12-minute reminiscence of what is lovingly known as The Hola Snafu At Mexico.

In Mexico We were visiting Cancun, Mexico a few months ago. The fellow at the gates to the resort in Cancun was looking morose, and seemingly wondering whether there was any purpose in going on sitting at the resort gates, when our van approached. I stuck my head out and gave him the room number allocated to us at the resort, so he could let us pass, "Hola! Uno nuevo nuevo deus."

My performance in Spanish seemed to have uplifted his spirits, and he waved us in cheerfully. I said in perfect Spanish,

"Thank you Amigos. Have a très bien day!" But I turned around to see the daughter, who learns Spanish at school, laughing heartily. "Did you just think you spoke Spanish?" she gurgled when I asked her what the matter was.

Our van was trundling in toward the resort, so I must have said all the right



things, I said 'Oui' with confidence. "Have a tres bien day! Tres bien is French, Amma, not Spanish!"

Proximate areas I had not considered the possibility that French and Spanish occupied the same area in the old brain. Amazing what all happens inside the walnut, isn't it?

"Well, Spain is near France, so I am sure they will understand," I said, miffed that my marvellous attempt at Spanish was getting the rip-down. "Yes! But Mexico isn't near France," she said. She had me there, but that did not stop me.

I hola-ed and tres bien-ed and buenos nachos and muchos gracias-ed my way through the Mexican resort, much

to the delight of the staff. Some of them taught me that Buenos Nachos means 'Good Chips', not 'Good Night' but indulged me in my dreams of Spanish fluency.

We all laughed, but the husband said the important thing was that I made the effort to communicate with them, and they understood that. Even when I said

Muchos Nachos Tres Bien, and Google translator had no clue what that meant, the server who had laid out dinner for us knew I meant well, and bestowed an avuncular smile on me.

The lone wolf

In other news, the recent mass shooting at Las Vegas has horrified America and the world yet again, and the media have since dubbed the terrorist a Lone Wolf.

I read a book by Daniel Byman, a Professor and Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution where he conducts research on terrorism. One study tried to find a correlation between how terrorist organisations targeted recruits and any other factor (economic, academic, geographic), but came up with no correlation whatsoever. It was baffling.

There was only one unifying factor among each of the recruits: They were all Lone Wolves.

Every time we spot someone feeling lonely in our community, why not send a Hello or Hola or Konichiwa or Ni Hao or As-Salaam-Alaikum or Namaste their way? We never know when a simple smile and word can change the course of one's day. A smile is as universal as loneliness, after all.

saumya.bala@gmail.com

PM Modi inaugurates AIIMS-like institute for ayurveda in Delhi

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday inaugurated the first ever 200-bed ayurveda hospital on the lines of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in New Delhi and said his government plans to establish such traditional medical institutes in every district of the country. (Highlights)

"There is a strong need to integrate traditional and modern systems of medicines. This ayurveda hospital, which is like AIIMS, is equipped with most advanced technologies needed to treat patients," Modi said as he launched the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) on the National Ayurveda Day.

The AIIA, which will function under the ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy or AYUSH, aims to offer quality patient care and become a research hub in generating scientific information about quality, safety, and efficacy of ayurvedic products. Modi said a country cannot move



forward if it is not proud of its legacy. "We forgot our legacy for a long time... But now we have started remembering it again," the Prime Minister said.

He said there's a long list of benefits of ayurveda and added that people are showing interest in traditional medicines.

"People are attracted not only to good health but also wellness... [There is a] need to strengthen ayurveda,"

the Prime Minister said. "Like the IT revolution a few years ago, the time has come for a 'health revolution' under the aegis of ayurveda," he added.

"More investment is needed in this sector for better growth," Modi said as he appealed to private companies to contribute a part of their corporate social responsibility funds towards developing yoga and ayurveda. The AIIA's outpatient department

(OPD) facility started functioning a few months ago and deals with neurological and degenerative diseases, rheumatology and musculoskeletal conditions, diabetes and metabolic disorders, allergic disorders, yoga, panchakarma, kriyakalpa, diabetic retinopathy and infertility among other conditions. The first phase of the hospital was built with a budget of Rs 157 crore. The hospital has a panchakarma therapy clinic that provides personalised care, laboratories, and diagnostic labs that conduct specialised pathology, biochemistry, microbiology tests and radiology scans.

It also teaches post-graduate students, PhD courses, and skill development programme.

"The idea is to popularise integrated medicine system. So far, allopathic doctors and those practising traditional systems of medicine have been working in silos, however, there is a need to break that practice and encourage them to work in tandem," a senior AYUSH ministry official said.

Mamata wins, Calcutta HC stays Centre's plan to pull out forces from Darjeeling

KOLKATA: The Calcutta high court temporarily restrained the Union government on Tuesday from withdrawing paramilitary reinforcements from the north Bengal hills, where the situation is yet to return to normal after a summer-long unrest triggered by the Gorkhland secessionist movement.

Judge Harish Tandon said the reinforcements - roughly 20 companies of the Central Reserve Police (CRPF) Force and the Sashstra Seema Bal (SSB) in all - will remain in place till the next hearing which will take place after the court vacation ends. The Union home ministry had earlier informed the state that 15 of the 20 companies will be withdrawn, beginning with 7 this week. The decision triggered anger from the state government, which saw a political motive in the pull-out.

Darjeeling, in the northern hills of Bengal, has been on edge since June 8 when protests by the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) - an ally of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) - flared. The unrest has killed 13 people, including civilians and police. Much of the region was in a shut down for four months, with the situation brought under control with the help of massive paramilitary reinforcements along

with state police. On Sunday, the Union government said 10 of the 15 companies will be withdrawn since the situation was calm and the men were needed for election duty in Himachal Pradesh. "The decision was unfortunate, unethical, undemocratic and unconstitutional," Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee said on Monday, after which the centre pared back the withdrawal to 7 companies. Hearing a petition by the state government, Justice Tandon said the Centre could not cite sufficient reason for withdrawal of the forces. He also observed that the deployment of the central forces was done by an order from the Supreme Court. The judge clarified that the order is an interim stay, and the matter will be heard when the court resumes after vacation. In a separate development, the state government announced its decision to release an additional Rs 500 crore for the hills to partly compensate for the losses incurred there due to the indefinite bandh. "According to our estimates the loss on account of the strike has been around Rs 1,000 crore. So an additional amount of Rs 500 crore will be disbursed by the state government so that the losses can be compensated," said an official.

Search on for 11 Indian crew members after cargo ship capsizes off Philippines



NEW DELHI: The government was using aircraft and vessels to search for 10 Indian crew members, who went missing after their cargo ship sank in the Pacific off the Philippines last week, the external affairs ministry has said. They also said that five Indian crew members of 'Emerald Star' are in Irene, the Philippines, and the country's mission is bringing them to Manila before repatriation to India. On Friday, the 33,205-tonne cargo ship Emerald Star with 26 Indian nationals on board sank off Okinawa. While 16 Indians were rescued, a search for the missing crew members was launched by Indian missions in the Philippines, Japan and China to locate them. "Officials from our Guangzhou Consulate visited the injured Indian crew of 'Emerald Star' in a Xiamen hospital. 11 crew

members are in Xiamen. Search for missing 10 crew members still ongoing using aircraft and vessels. We will keep posting regular updates on further developments," ministry spokesperson Raveesh Kumar tweeted on Monday. Separately, external affairs minister Sushma Swaraj,

in a series of tweets, said there were 26 Indians on board the ship, of them 16 have been rescued and 10 are still missing. "Indian Embassy in Japan has informed me that a helicopter and 2 patrol vessels of Japan Coast Guard are engaged in search/rescue operations," she has said. The minister said the Indian Navy's P81 aircraft has reached Manila and joined the search and rescue operation for the missing Indians. P81 is a long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft.

Odisha Maoists kill NREGS worker after branding him police informer

NEW DELHI: The bullet riddled body of a 'Gaon Sathi' was found Tuesday near a village in Kandhamal district, 400 km west of Bhubaneswar, two days after he was abducted allegedly by Maoists two days ago, police said. A few posters bearing the name of BGN (Bansadhara-Ghumusar-Nagavali) division of Maoists were found near the body with a message that Basant Kumar Bhatt, a Gaon Sathi of Durgapanga village was killed because he was a police informer.

"The Gaon Sathi of Durgapanga was engaged in providing information to police about Maoists' activities. Other police informers would also face similar fate if they continue to work for police," the posters read. Kandhamal superintendent of police Mitrabhanu Mahapatra said Maoists had never issued any threat Bhatt. "The area had not seen any Maoist movement for quite some time," said Mahapatra. The Gaon Sathis are local youths who facilitate smooth implementation and execution of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and have been hired by the Odisha government. With their strength depleting and their area of influence shrinking in the face of concerted action by security forces, Maoists are venting their ire on villagers, branding the police informers



if they don't follow their diktats. Last week, the rebels left posters and letters in Badatekguda area under Kalimela block with directions that at least 10 people from each village join the Maoist camps and join the organisation at Helkanur hill on October 25. They threatened that the 'police informers' will not be spared at any cost. A similar warning was issued to the surrendered rebels for leaving the cadre. Police officials said this year alone the Maoists have shot dead over a dozen civilians including tribal labourer, a sarpanch and a Gram Rozgar

Sevak terming them as 'police informers'. In Malkangiri district, where Maoists are under siege after last year's setback in cut-off area, the red rebels have killed seven civilians so far, including two this month. In February this year, Maoists abducted five people in Malkangiri district on suspicion of being police informers and thrashed them at praja court injuring them grievously. Malkangiri's superintendent of police (SP) Jagmohan Meena said the killing of innocent civilians reflected the rebels' desperation. "None of the people killed by Maoists this

year were our informers. They target anyone who is doing good work in village and bump him off. If there is no development in the area it suits their agenda," said Meena. The Maoists' have also been threatening tribal families who they think are sympathetic to police, to leave their homes. Last month, 9 members of a tribal family of Pamel village in Malkangiri fled their homes due to Maoist threat. In April this year, seven tribal families of Elkanur village under Kalimela police limits in Malkangiri district had to flee their village due to Maoist threat.

AADHAAR CAN BE SOLE ID PROOF FOR VOTING EX-CEC KRISHNAMURTHY

HYDERABAD: Former Chief Election Commissioner TS Krishnamurthy on Tuesday favoured doing away with voter ID card and said Aadhaar can be the sole identity proof for voting. At present, the Election Commission allows a number of documents, including passport, as identity proof in the absence of voter ID card. "Today, we are having too many cards leading to so many complications. Don't introduce too many complications in the system. Time has come we should think of only one card, whatever be the card," Krishnamurthy said. "ID proof may be Aadhaar card when you are using it for all other purposes. It can be used for election also," he said.



"Aadhaar itself can be made as an election ID card. Why do you want to have election ID card as well as Aadhaar? If all voters are covered by Aadhaar, then you should eliminate voter ID card and make Aadhaar the only ID for electoral purposes," Krishnamurthy told PTI. He said till the entire country is covered by Aadhaar, both the cards should be allowed as ID proof for voting. "You can set a particular cut-off date, may be 2019 or 2020 or whatever, everybody should have Aadhaar card (for voting)," the former CEC said. He also said there was no need for the Election Commission to "delink" Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat Assembly polls, and termed

it an "avoidable controversy". Krishnamurthy argued that Himachal Pradesh election could have been postponed by a few days to club it with that in Gujarat. "I don't know why they should be delinked because it was an avoidable controversy, I thought. There was no need to delink them," the former CEC said. "When the convention (holding elections to Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat si-

multaneously) has been so, it could have been easily followed, or even if there was difficulty, the Himachal elections could have been postponed by four or five days," he said. The EC had on October 12 announced that the Assembly elections in Himachal Pradesh would be held in a single phase on November 9 and the results would be declared on December 18. The poll panel did not announce the dates for Assembly elections in Gujarat, but Chief Election Commissioner A K Joti had said that the elections will be held before December 18. On BJP MP Varun Gandhi reportedly terming the poll panel a "toothless tiger", Krishnamurthy said, "There is no power (with the poll panel) to deregister (derecognise parties), but whether it makes it (EC) toothless animal, I don't know." Gandhi had reportedly said the Election Commission was a "toothless tiger" as it had never derecognised any political party for not submitting poll expenditure details within the stipulated time.

Taj Mahal built by blood and sweat of Indian labourers Yogi Adityanath

NEW DELHI: A day after Uttar Pradesh government distanced itself from BJP MLA Sangeet Som's controversial remarks about Taj Mahal being built by a traitor, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that what mattered is that the monument is a result of the hardwork put in by Indian labourers. The Taj Mahal was commissioned in 1632 by Mughal emperor Shah Jahan after thousands of labourers, masons and artisans worked for over two decades. On Monday, Som said the ivory-white marble mausoleum was a blot on Indian culture. Adityanath though will visit Agra and the Taj Mahal on October 25 and said on Tuesday that what matters is that Indian workers worked hard to build it. "It does not matter who built it and for what reason. It was built by the blood and sweat of Indian labourers," he said. While Som has been getting brickbats for his comments, the UP government and BJP too have



been targeted by some like All India Majlis-e-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen (AIMIM) President Asaduddin Owaisi. "Comments like these from a leader of BJP cannot be his personal opinion and is a reflection of the party itself," he said. This is hardly the first controversy for the UP government related to the Taj Mahal. Earlier this month, the Yogi government received flak for not mentioning Taj Mahal in a tourist brochure released by state Tourism Minister Rita Bahuguna.

India could benefit from military rule, think majority of Indians Study

NEW DELHI: More than four-fifths of Indian citizens trust their government, but interestingly, a majority of Indians also support military rule and autocracy, a latest Pew survey said on Monday. "In India, where the economy has grown on average by 6.9 percent since 2012, 85 per cent (of people) trust their national government," Pew Research said in a report based on its survey on governance and trust among key countries across the world. Notably, in India, which has strong democratic credentials

since the last seven decades, according to Pew, a majority (55 percent) of its people support autocracy in one way or the other. In fact, more than one-fourth (27 percent) of them want a strong leader. Nearly half of Russians (48 percent) back governance by a strong leader, but rule by a strong leader is generally unpopular, it said. A global median of 26 percent say a system in which a strong leader can make decisions without interference from parliament or the courts would be a good way of governing. Rough-



ly seven-in-10 (71 percent) say it would be a bad type of governance. India is one of the three countries in the Asia Pacific region where people support technocracy. "Asian-Pacific publics generally back rule by experts, particularly people in Vietnam (67 percent), India (65 percent) and the Philippines (62 percent)," it said. Only Australians are notably wary as 57 percent say it would be a bad way to govern, and only 41 per cent support governance by experts, the report said. According to the survey, roughly half of both Indians (53

percent) and South Africans (52 percent), who live in nations that often hold themselves up as democratic exemplars for their regions, say military rule would be a good thing for their countries. But in these societies, older people (those aged 50 and older) are the least supportive of the army running the country, and they are the ones who either personally experienced the struggle to establish democratic rule or are the immediate descendants of those democratic pioneers, Pew said.

Drug that helped Trump with hair loss can aid in prostate cancer treatment

Offering new hope to patients suffering from prostate cancer, South Korean scientists have claimed that a common hair loss drug used by current President of the US Donald Trump could ward off the risk of this form of cancer by a third.

The findings, led by researchers from the Chungbuk National University, revealed that men who take the drug "finasteride" saw their prostate-specific antigen (PSA) levels reduced by one-third, daily. mail.co.uk reported last weekend.

PSA is a protein linked with a high risk of developing prostate cancer. Previously, a study also linked a drug used to curb greying hair

with cancer treatment.

Often sold under the brand 'Propecia,' "Finasteride" has been used by Trump, reported his long-time physician Harold N. Bornstein in an interview to The New York Times recently.

"Finasteride", originally developed to treat urinary problems in men, works by making the prostate glands smaller.

It also reduces the levels of the hormone dihydrotestosterone in participants, known to damage hair follicles. "It's been known for some time that 5-alpha-inhibitors like 'finasteride' or 'dutasteride' can affect a man's PSA levels and, as a



result, could affect the reliability of the PSA test," said Karen Stalbow, Head of Policy, Knowledge and Impact at Prostate Cancer UK.

In 1997, the FDA approved "Finasteride" as the first ever drug to treat male pattern baldness.

For the study, the researcher tested the drug's effects on 1,379 alopecia (a type of baldness) patients. "Finasteride" has also been known to have side effects such as low mood, reduced ability to get an erection and even loss of sexual desire.

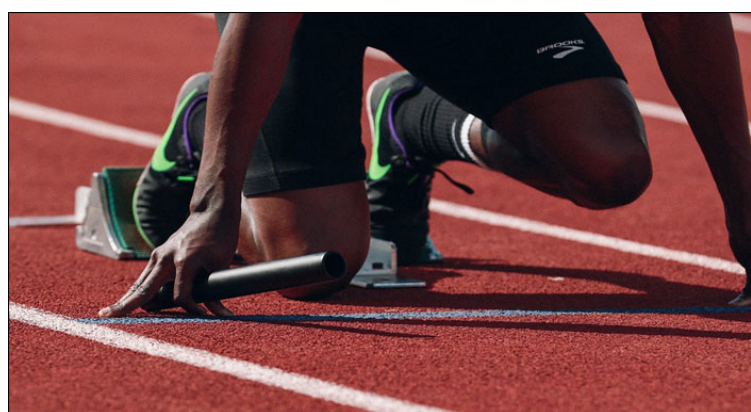
Previous studies have shown how some men experienced a boost in muscle mass and performance, as well as increased libido.

This is how athletes can overcome breathing disorders

Athletes put their bodies through a lot of physical pressure, but not many are aware that because of their strenuous lifestyles, they are also prone to vocal cord dysfunction.

Now, however, vocal cord dysfunction – also referred to as exercise-induced laryngeal obstruction (EILO) – can be treated with a novel set of breathing techniques, a study has found. EILO improved for athletes after being trained to use the new techniques developed at National Jewish Health in the US. "These new breathing techniques could represent a breakthrough for athletes seeking help with breathing during training and competition," said J Tod Olin, developer of the novel breathing techniques and Associate Professor at National Jewish Health in the US.

EILO is characterised by involuntary and inappropriate closure of the upper airway during high-intensity exercise. EILO causes shortness-of-breath during exercise and reduced



exercise performance, and can negatively affect an athlete's ability to exercise and perform. An episode of EILO can be noisy and terrifying to patients and observers of episodes. It is diagnosed by observing the upper airway with a flexible camera inserted in the airway during an episode. The new breathing techniques, now named the Olin Exercise-Induced Laryngeal Obstruction Biphasic In-

spiration Techniques (EILOBI), were developed and introduced by Olin, and are the subject of the research.

Two-thirds of study subjects reported the techniques were effective in treating symptoms, while 79 percent confirmed they can be implemented during a variety of sporting activities. Additionally, 82 percent positively evaluated the teaching process. Nearly all of the subjects had received some

form of respiratory retraining before learning one or more of the Olin EILOBI techniques.

"The use of real-time video data from a continuous laryngoscopy allowed us to design a series of three breathing techniques that help athletes open their obstructed airways during high-intensity exercise," said Olin. Each of the breathing techniques described in the research focus on precisely and intentionally changing airflow during the inhalation part of breathing. The "tongue variant" involves breathing in evenly between the nose and mouth. The "tooth variant" requires patients to generate high inhaling resistance by forcibly taking air in through their teeth, then quickly opening their mouth allowing air to flow freely. The third variant is the "lip variant" in which air is initially inhaled through pursed lips and then the mouth is abruptly opened, dropping resistance and allowing air to rush through the mouth.

Vietnamese mother gives birth to baby boy weighing 7.1 kilograms

In one of the heaviest births ever reported in Vietnam, a mother delivered a baby boy weighing 7.1 kilograms.

The baby was born on Saturday to shocked, but happy, parents who couldn't believe it. "When the doctor said my child was 7.1 kilograms, we all couldn't believe it," father Tran Van Quan told AFP Monday.

Doctors had informed mother Nguyen Kim Lien earlier that her baby would weigh approximately five kilograms, but she didn't know he would come out weighing an extra two kilos. To make sure, the baby was weighed again after he was brought to his mother's hospital ward. "He was 7.2 kilograms with some clothes on, so a bit heavier than when he came out of mummy!" Quan added.

Hospital staff confirmed the baby's weight to AFP, declining to comment. The family have named the not-so-little-guy Tran Tien Quoc, and Quan said both mother and son are healthy and happy.



The last heavy birth in Vietnam was reported in the year 2008 when a woman gave birth to a daughter weighing nearly seven kilograms in central Gia Lai province.

The heaviest baby ever born to a healthy mother clocked in at 10.2 kilograms in 1955 in Aversa Italy, according to Guinness World Records.

Baby Quoc is expected to go home in a few days with mum, who is recovering from a Caesarean section.

This is the couple's second son. Their first was born in 2013 and weighed a comparatively modest 4.2 kilograms.

Dear moms-to-be, are you sleep deprived? It may lead to gestational diabetes

Pregnant women may develop gestational diabetes due to a lack of sleep, a new study suggests. The amount of time spent sleeping has dropped significantly in the past 20 years with almost a quarter of women and 16% of men experiencing insufficient sleep. "Links between reduced sleep duration and increased diabetes risk have been reported in several large studies in non-pregnant populations," said Dr Sirimon Reutrakul, associate professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine. Previous research also showed that sleep deprivation, food cravings and not being able to take out sufficient time to work out can cause new mothers to put on weight even if they want to follow a healthy diet.



The research has also linked short sleep duration to elevated blood sugar levels in pregnant women, but many of them were small. "More information is needed to determine if short sleep duration is a contributing factor to the development of gestational diabetes," said Reutrakul, who's also the lead author of the study. Pregnant women often suffer gestational diabetes, a condition which usually occurs in the second or third trimester. Most health care providers suggest that pregnant women undergo a blood sugar screening test between 24 and 28 weeks of pregnancy. A woman is at an increased risk for having gestational diabetes if their blood sugar levels are elevated. Therefore, an additional test is needed to diagnose gestational diabetes. Usually, there are no symptoms in the mother, and blood sugar levels return to normal after the baby is born. Mothers with gestational diabetes newborns tend to have a higher weight during birth. The mothers are at a risk of developing type-2 diabetes later, along with their babies

who are also at an increased risk for type-2 diabetes as well as obesity. The studies were performed as a meta-analysis of eight studies that included 17,308 pregnant women who were assessed for sleep duration (all studies used self-reported questionnaires except one which measured sleep objectively using an accelerometer) and gestational diabetes. The researchers also obtained raw individual participant data from the authors of four additional studies that included measurements of blood sugar levels and measured sleep duration objectively in 287 pregnant women with gestational diabetes for further analysis.

The analysis of the studies showed that average sleep duration of less than 6 hours was associated with a 1.7 fold increase in the risk of being diagnosed with gestational diabetes. "This is the first meta-analysis to find that both self-reported and objectively measured short sleep duration was associated with elevated blood sugar levels in pregnancy as well as an increased risk for developing gestational diabetes," continued Reutrakul.

"More research is needed to confirm our findings, and to determine whether sleep extension may be beneficial in lowering the risk of gestational diabetes," she stated. The finding was published in the journal of Sleep Medicine Reviews.

Artificial pancreas developed to fight diabetes

Researchers have developed an artificial pancreas system that uses an algorithm on a smartphone to continuously monitor glucose levels of the user and automatically delivers appropriate levels of insulin -- a game changer for diabetic patients.

Type 1 diabetes is a chronic condition in which the pancreas produces little or no insulin.

Thus people with the disease must vigilantly monitor blood glucose levels and, when necessary, administer doses of insulin either via needle injections or infusion pump.

Developed by researchers at the Harvard University,

The artificial pancreas system consists of an insulin pump and continuous glucose monitor placed under the user's skin.



An advanced control algorithm embedded in a bluetooth-connected smartphone signals how much insulin the pump should deliver to the patient based on a range of variables including meals consumed, physical activity, sleep, stress and metabolism.

For the study, published in the journal Diabetes Care, the team analysed the use of the novel artificial pancreas system for more than 60,000 hours on participants in a 12-week, multi-site clinical trial. The results showed a significant

decrease in haemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) and reduced times spent in hypoglycemia. A wrong dose can lead to hypoglycemia, which can then cause depressed mood, dizziness, drowsiness, fatigue, headache, hunger and inability to concentrate. More serious consequences include coma, disorientation and seizures.

"This is by far the longest duration trial we have conducted, and it is a testament to the robustness of the algorithm that our key performance indices were maintained from our earlier, shorter trials," said Frank Doyle from the Harvard University.

In addition, the team introduced adaptive components that allowed the algorithm to "learn" from the repeated daily cycles, leading to improvements in basal control as well as meal compensation.

Overweight men at increased risk of irregular heartbeat at the age of 50

With obesity slowly donning the garb of an epidemic in countries across the world, a study has meted out a warning for men, saying that overweight males are more likely to develop irregular heartbeat at 50 years of age, nearly a decade earlier than women. Atrial fibrillation – a condition in which the upper chambers of the heart, or atria, quiver instead of beat to move blood effectively – occurred in men at 50 years of age, while women developed the condition at 60 or at older age, the findings showed. This increase was attributed majorly to a higher body mass index (BMI) in men (31 percent) compared to women (18 percent).

Obesity is one of the biggest health problems at present, that is rapidly becoming a part of everyone's life. The rising number of obese people around the world just goes to show how we are allowing a particular lifestyle to dictate us into an unhealthy state of being.

"We advise weight reduction for both men and women," said Christina Magnusson, medical specialist at the University Heart Center in Hamburg, Germany. "As elevated body mass index seems to be more detrimental for men, weight control seems to be essential, particularly in overweight and



obese men," Magnusson added.

Further, higher blood levels of C-reactive protein (inflammation marker) was also found to increase the risk in elderly men.

All these combined increased the risk of stroke by five times as well as more than tripled a person's risk of dying by heart-related causes, the researchers said, in the paper published in the journal Circulation. "It's crucial to better understand

modifiable risk factors of atrial fibrillation," Magnusson said. "If prevention strategies succeed in targeting these risk factors, we expect a noticeable decline in new-onset atrial fibrillation," he noted.

For the study, the team reviewed records of 79,793 people (aged 24 to 97) who were followed for a period of 12.6 to a maximum of 28.2 years.

The condition developed in about 24 percent of both men and women by age 90.

Wipro Q2 net profit dips to Rs 2,143 crore

NEW DELHI: India's third largest software services firm Wipro on Tuesday said its consolidated net profit has declined marginally to Rs 2,143.2 crore for the quarter ended September 30, 2017.

This is against a net profit of Rs 2,163.6 crore in the July-September 2016 quarter as per Indian accounting norms (Ind AS), Wipro said in a BSE filing.

Wipro's total income slipped 1.8% to Rs 14,134.8 crore in the quarter under review from Rs 14,407.3 crore in the year-ago period, it added.

Revenues from IT services segment, which accounts for a significant portion of the company's topline, stood at \$2.013 billion, up 2.1% sequentially.

This was higher than the company's revenue guidance range of \$1,962 million to \$2,001 million.

"We surpassed the milestone of \$2 billion in quarterly revenues for IT services on the back of rigorous execution of our strategy," Wipro CEO Abidali Z Neemuchwala said. For the October-December 2017 quarter, the company expects revenues from the IT services business to be in the range of \$2,014 million to \$2,054 million. Wipro's revenues from IT products segment was Rs 300 crore (\$46 million) in the reported quarter. The company saw its headcount coming down to 1,63,759 during the second quarter from 1,66,790 in the previous sequential quarter. Attrition stood at 15.7% on trailing 12 months basis.

India Inc pitches for cut in interest rates by RBI

MUMBAI: India Inc on Monday made a case for a cut in interest rates by the Reserve Bank (RBI) as there is a moderation in inflation.

Wholesale inflation fell to 2.60 per cent in September as prices of food articles, led by vegetables, softened. Reacting to the numbers, Ficci (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry) President Pankaj Patel said overall, inflation remains within RBI's indicative trajectory and this is an encouraging sign. "We feel that there is a need for greater balance in our monetary policy approach which is largely focused on managing inflation," he said in a statement. It urged the central bank to take a more balanced view especially when the industrial sector needs support to improve on its growth performance.

"We need an accommodative monetary policy at this juncture and hope RBI brings down the policy rate sooner rather than later," Patel added.

Sharing similar views, CII (Confederation of Indian Industry) said in the recently announced monetary policy review, the opportunity was lost as far moderation of interest rate is concerned.

"Given the moderation in both CPI and WPI inflation, the RBI should resume the rate easing cycle in its next monetary policy announcement to give a fillip to demand," it said. On October 4, the Reserve Bank kept benchmark interest rate unchanged on fears of rising inflation, while lowering growth forecast to 6.7 per cent for the current fiscal.

Illicit trade on rise in India, says Ficci-KPMG report

NEW DELHI: India continues to see rise in illicit trade in tobacco, FMCG, auto components, alcoholic beverages and computer hardware, says a report by industry body Ficci and consultancy firm KPMG. It said the smuggling in India takes place in forms such as mis-declaration, undervaluation, misuse of the end-use and other means. The seizure value for mis-declaration of goods stood at Rs 1,187 crore in 2016, while that of undervaluation of goods stood at Rs 254 crore, it added. The seizure value from misuse of end use was at Rs 770 crore and that from other means was at Rs 2,780 crore, seeing a rise of 191 per cent, from Rs 953 crore in 2015, it said.

"This suggests evolution of means of smuggling in India with the evolution of government policies to deal with smuggling," the report said.

Ficci Secretary General Sanjaya Baru said: "Due to the complexity and alarming growth of the illicit trade, more inter-governmental efforts and public-private alliances are needed to identify approaches leading to the development of a holistic strategy." The industries plagued by illicit trade, counterfeiting and piracy include tobacco, alcoholic beverages, computer hardware, auto components, FMCG, packaged food items and mobile phones, the report said. Based on data of seizures from Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, the market of illicit cigarettes trade in India rose by Rs 5,775 crore between 2010 and 2015, making it worth Rs 25,000 crore. The was calculated estimating the value of one stick unit at an average of Rs 10.5, it added. The report further said in 2014, FMCG personal goods industry suffered an estimated loss of Rs 19,243 crore due to grey market with Rs 5,954 crore loss to the government. On the other hand, the Indian auto components industry suffered a loss of Rs 10,501 crore in 2014 due to grey market which increased from Rs 9,198 crore in 2012. Quoting a study by Ficci and Thought Arbitrage Research Institute in 2015, the report said the grey market loss to the alcoholic beverage industry stood at Rs 14,140 crore in 2014 which had increased from Rs 5,626 crore in 2012 observing an increase of over 150 per cent. It further said that in 2014, the computer hardware industry lost nearly Rs 7,344 crore to grey market.



Women representation in India Inc up 5% this year: Study

MUMBAI: Indicating robust participation of women in corporate India, the number of female employees in top 100 companies in terms of best workplace for the fairer sex picked up by 5 per cent in 2017 compared to the previous year, says a study.

With this the overall percentage representation of women in 100 best companies for female employees is 30.55 per cent, this year from 25.25

per cent in 2016.

The study on Best Companies for Women in India (BCWI) is conducted by Avtar Group -- a diversity advocate and workplace inclusion expert -- and Working Mother Media. Tata Consultancy Services, Accenture Solutions, Deloitte in India, Procter & Gamble, IBM India are some of the corporates which figure on the list of top 10 best companies for women in India.

Northern Trust Bank, EY, People Combine Educational Initiatives, Schneider Electric India and Shell India Markets are the other companies on top 10 list.

According to the study, the top 10 companies together employ 2.36 lakhs of women -- this is 50.52 per cent of all women in the list of top 100 best companies for females. "There is a 5 per cent surge in the representation of women in the 100

best between last year and this year. The overall percentage representation of women in 2017-100 best is 30.55 per cent," the study said.

The study also found a 11 per cent surge in women workforce at entry levels in 2017, from that of 2016. Among the top 100, companies from IT/ITES sector have the highest women representation at 36 per cent in 2017.

This is followed by financial

services with representation of 12 per cent women workforce.

About 44 per cent of the companies on top 100 list have between 1,001 -- 5,000 employees, while 7.92 per cent of the 100 Best have between 15,001 -- 30,000 employees. A majority 61 per cent of the companies on the list were incorporated in India between 1991 -- 2010 and 7 per cent were established post 2010.

Stock market: Sensex, Nifty retreats from record on profit booking



MUMBAI: The benchmark BSE Sensex retreated from record levels to trade lower by 56 points in early session on Tuesday as realty, auto, healthcare and metal stocks fell after participants booked profits.

The 30-share index fell by 56.19 points or 0.17 per cent to 32,577.45

in early trading. It had opened higher at 32,654.41 and advanced to a high of 32,659.32 in opening trade.

The gauge garnered 799.65 points in the previous three days to scale all-time high of 32,633.64 after touching intra-day record of 32,687.32 on Monday. The wider Nifty of NSE too

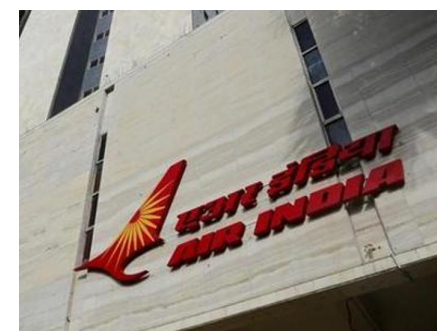
slipped from record by falling 8.80 points or 0.09 per cent to 10,222.05 after touching a high of 10,239.25 at the outset. Fresh weakness in the rupee against the dollar and continued foreign fund outflows dampened the sentiment, brokers said. Among major Sensex losers, Tata Motors, ONGC, M&M, Infosys, Dr Reddy's, Cipla, HDFC Bank, HDFC Ltd and Tata Steel fell up to 1.11 per cent, dragging the index into the negative terrain. In the Asian region, Japan's Nikkei rose 0.17 per cent, Shanghai Composite Index up 0.06 per cent and Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 0.14 per cent in their early deals. The US Dow Jones Industrial Average ended 0.37 per cent higher on Monday.

India prefers domestic buyer for Air India: Government source

NEW DELHI: India would prefer selling state-owned Air India to a domestic buyer, a government source told reporters on Monday, as it finalises the privatisation process.

Earlier this year the government said it would sell its stake in the loss-making airline but it has yet to decide what to do with the carrier's debt burden of \$8.5 billion.

The government is mulling selling the airline's various businesses - which include ground-handling, domestic operations and international flights - in parts, the source said.



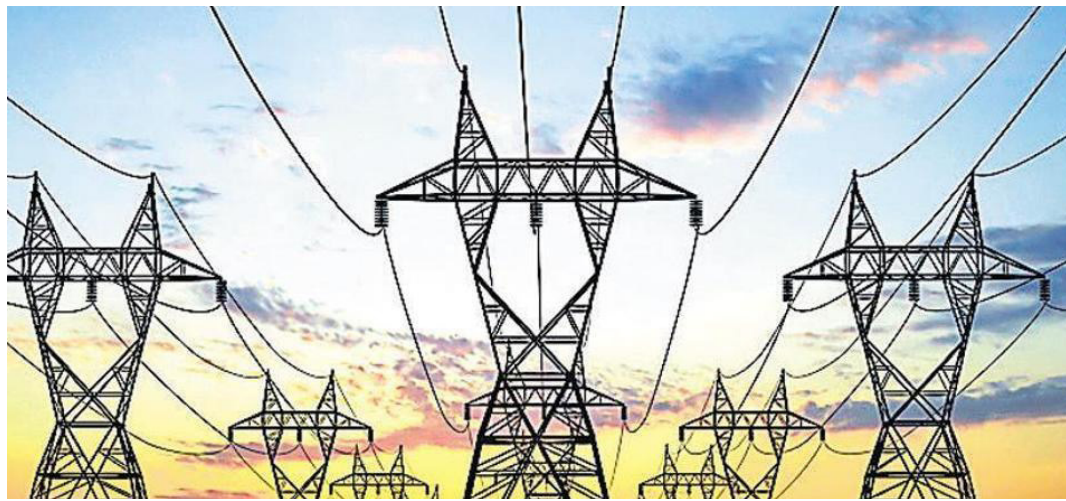
From Nov 1, Punjab industry to get power at Rs 5 a unit; cabinet also okays one-time settlement of loans

CHANDIGARH: The council of ministers in Punjab on Monday approved the New Industrial and Business Development Policy 2017, paving way for fixing of industrial power tariff at Rs 5 per unit and a one-time settlement of industrial loans. The tariff at present is up to Rs 8 per unit. The creation of a Rs 100 crore fund to promote start-up culture, establishment of a skills university and industry-specific skill development centres, are other highlights of this policy.

All skill training schemes in the state will be brought under one agency, the Punjab Skill Development Mission, an official spokesperson said. The cabinet meeting, chaired by chief Minister Cap Amarinder Singh, gave its nod to the salient features of the policy, including the provision regarding five-year fixed power tariff for existing and new industries, he said.

Besides incentives for expansion and upgrade of existing units, the new policy envisages a one-time settlement for loans taken from the Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation (PSIDC), the Punjab Financial Corporation (PFC) and the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Ltd (PAIC).

According to the official spokes-



person, the One Time Settlement (OTS) Policy, 2017, would help in releasing blocked industrial investments and assets and put these to productive use so as to revive the existing industries in Punjab. It will also result in reducing the burden of litigation, he said. Power Minister Rana Gurjit Singh abstained from the discussion on the one-time settlement of loans as his company would also benefit from the move, the spokesperson said. Industrial infrastructure development is a priority and the provisions provide for development of border districts, extreme border zone and 'kandi'

areas, he added. The CM proposed hiking incentives for the industry in border areas from 125% to 140%, the official said. The new policy has been prepared in consultation with all stakeholders, including industrial associations and the departments concerned. Aimed at promoting ease of doing business, the policy is founded on the eight strategic pillars of infrastructure, power, MSME, startup and entrepreneurship, skill development, ease of doing business, fiscal and non-fiscal incentives, stakeholder engagement and policy implementation unit and sector specific strate-

gies, the official said. It envisages establishment of 10 technology centres, 10 common facility centres and 10 clusters for development in the first phase. Besides, the state would set up MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) facilitation councils at Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Amritsar, Mohali and Patiala to provide remedial measures.

Single-window facility to existing enterprises at the district level and special relief for sick MSME units are other features. These will involve deferment of recovery of arrears of electricity duty, power bills, house tax and water charges

for a period of five years.

These units shall also be exempted from minimum charges for electric connection during closure period and incentive of exemption from electricity duty for two years shall also be provided, the official said. The state would also provide a one-time special relief package for BIFR-registered/declared sick large units by reimbursement of 75% of net VAT/net SGST for a period of five years for border districts and 50 per cent of net VAT/net SGST for a period of five years for other districts, and deferment of recovery of arrears of electricity duty, power bills, house tax and water charges for a period of five years, he added. These units shall be exempted from minimum charges for electric connection during closure period and incentive of exemption from electricity duty for three years shall also be provided.

Development of 14 new industrial parks and standardisation of all estate management policies and procedures have also been provided for in the industry. It also provides for establishment of exhibition and convention centres in Mohali, Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Amritsar in the first phase, the spokesperson said.

RANJI TROPHY: RAVINDRA JADEJA'S ALL ROUND SHOW GUIDES SAURASHTRA TO BIG WIN

NEW DELHI: Ravindra Jadeja bagged nine wickets after scoring a double hundred to guide Saurashtra to an innings and 212 run victory over Jammu and Kashmir on day three of the Group B Ranji Trophy match. As many as 16 wickets fell on day three after Jammu and Kashmir started the day at 103 for four. Jadeja, after completing a double hundred on day two, took four wickets in the first innings while the remaining were picked up by another left-arm spinner, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja.

Rain frustrates Tamil Nadu
Rain played spoilsport in the Ranji Trophy Group "C" match between Tamil Nadu and Tripura at the M A Chidambaram Stadium here with only seven overs being possible on the third day.

Resuming at the overnight score of 332 for 2, the home side lost two wickets including that of centurion MS Washington Sundar and finished

the day at 357 for 4 in 88 overs, taking a lead of 99 runs over Tripura in the first innings.

Delhi eye big win
Keen to make amends for missing out on an outright win in their lung opener against Assam, Delhi's spinners put their best foot forward taking the team towards a comprehensive innings victory against Railways at the end of the third day of the Ranji Trophy encounter.

Having scored 447 in their first innings, Delhi bundled out Railways for 136 in the first innings and the home team fared no better ending the day at 157 for 6 after being followed on. With another 230 runs to get on the final day to avoid innings defeat, victory with bonus points look imminent for Delhi.

Karnataka on the verge
Karnataka were staring at an outright win after they restricted Assam to 169 for six when the third day's play of the Group A Ranji Tro-

phy match was stopped due to bad weather here.

The visitors required 155 runs to avoid an innings defeat with the hosts declaring their innings at 469 for 7. Karnataka added 42 runs to their overnight 427 for before losing centurion Krishnappa Gowtham in the first hour of the day.

Shami in top form
India speedster Mohammed Shami showed his class with a four wicket burst with a devastating spell of reverse swing as Bengal inched closer to an innings victory against Chattisgarh in a Ranji Trophy group D encounter.

Shami had figures of 4 for 45 in 17 overs as Chattisgarh finished the day at 229 for five after being enforced follow-on. The home team scored a paltry 110 in their first innings after Bengal's mammoth 529 for 7 declared. Chattisgarh still need to score 190 runs on the final day with only five wickets in hand in

order to save innings defeat.

Brief scores
Saurashtra 624/7 decl. J&K 156 all and 256 all out in 84.1 overs (Bisht 55, Dayal 56; Jivrajani 6/79).

At Jaipur: Rajasthan 423. Jharkhand 265 (Tiwarly 83; Pankaj Singh 4/48) and 95/1.

At Nadiad: Kerala 208 and 203 (Piyush Chawla 3/66, Siddharth Desai 6/80). Gujarat 307 and (Target 105) 22/1. Bengal 529/7 decl, Chattisgarh 110 (Ashoke Dinda 7/24, Mohammed Shami 2/44) and 229/5 (Abhimanyu Chauhan 115, Ashutosh Singh 71, Mohammed Shami 4/45)

Goa 255 and 131/0 (Sumiran Amonkar 67, Swapnil Asnodkar 51). Himachal 625/7 decl (Priyanshu Khanduri 117, Ankush Bains 143, Nikhil Gangta 127, Amit Kumar 97).

Punjab 161 and 227 (Manan Vohra 51, Abhishek Sharma 49, Akshay Karnewar 6/47, Akshay Wakhare 4/83) Vidarbha 505. Vidarbha won by an innings and 117 runs



BCCI's 'cold' post on Anil Kumble's birthday draws flak from cricket fans

NEW DELHI: India's powerful cricket board (BCCI) hastily deleted a birthday message for record Test wicket-taker Anil Kumble on Tuesday after irate fans took offence at the spinning great being described simply as a "former bowler".

The row follows Anil Kumble's acrimonious departure as national coach in June, when he quit saying his relationship with captain Virat Kohli was "untenable". The Board of Control for Cricket in India joined in the well wishes for Kumble's 47th birthday but quickly backtracked after its low-key description sent fans into a spin.

"Here's wishing former #Team-India bowler @anilkumble074 a very happy birthday," read the BCCI mes-



sage on its official Twitter account, before the post was deleted. Fans of Kumble were angered, saying the board was playing down the achievements of India's greatest bowler.

"Umm bowler? Wasnt he also

Captain and Coach and is India's leading Wicket taker?" replied television journalist and author Digvijay Singh Deo on Twitter. Other fans urged the board to give Kumble his "due respect". The BCCI then tweeted another mes-

sage calling him "former captain" and "legend", but the damage was done.

Here is BCCI's tweet, wishing Kumble on his birthday. Kumble's relationship with the BCCI was the subject of much speculation after his resignation.

It was reported in the Indian press that board officials tried to salvage ties between Kumble and Kohli, but that the relationship was beyond repair. Kumble, who played for India for 17 years, has never commented publicly on the matter. Ravi Shastri was since been appointed coach of the Indian side.

Kumble, or 'Jumbo' as he is fondly known, remains India's highest Test wicket-taker with his 619 scalps in 132 matches.

Tiger Woods cleared to resume golf but no timeframe on his return



NEW YORK: Injury-plagued golf great Tiger Woods has been cleared to resume playing with no restrictions, six months after surgery on his lower back.

Woods - a 14-time major champion - has not played a competitive tournament since withdrawing from the Dubai Desert Classic in February after suffering another injury setback.

But the 41-year-old is close to a comeback after his agent - Mark Steinberg - said Tiger Woods met with the doctor who performed

his fusion surgery for a check-up and received a positive update last week, though there is no timeframe on his return.

"He got a nice report and is allowed to proceed. He can do as much as he needs to do," Steinberg told ESPN.

"Tiger is going to take this very, very slowly. This is good but he plans to do it the right way."

Tiger Woods has been hinting at his progress through social media by posting three videos of himself swinging a golf club. The videos show full shots, while Woods revealed on Sunday that he is "making progress" with his latest attempt to resume his phenomenal career. Steinberg said that Woods has not reported any pain associated with golf swings, but he did not give any indication as to when Woods would return to competition.

"We have not even talked about it," Steinberg said. "We will see what each day brings, what each week brings."

Imran Tahir, Kagiso Rabada rested for South Africa's T20s vs Bangladesh



CAPE TOWN: All-rounder Robbie Frylinck has been handed a first call-up to South Africa's Twenty20 squad for the two-match series against Bangladesh next week.

Faf du Plessis resumes the captaincy after missing the team's last series in England but spinner Imran Tahir and quick bowler Kagiso Rabada have both been rested, Cricket South Africa said on Tuesday.

"The selection of Robbie provides another opportunity to explore our depth in the important all-rounder position," said selector Linda Zondi.

"Apart from his bowling strengths he has a proven record as a finisher with the bat.

Imran remains our first-choice spinner in both the limited overs formats but we also need to develop depth in this important area which is why we have given further opportunities to (Tabraiz) Shamsi and (Aaron) Phangiso."

South Africa host the T20 internationals in Bloemfontein on Oct. 26 and Potchefstroom on Oct. 29.

Squad: Faf du Plessis (captain), Hashim Amla, Farhaan Behardien, Quinton de Kock, AB de Villiers, JP Duminy, Robbie Frylinck, Beuran Hendricks, David Miller, Mangaliso Mosehle, Dane Paterson, Aaron Phangiso, Andile Phehlukwayo, Tabraiz Shamsi

Khawaja hits out at Aussie selection policy

SYDNEY: Australia batsman Usman Khawaja has criticised the country's selection policy and says the constant team changes hampered his attempts to develop his all-round game. The 30-year-old left-hander scored 55 runs in four innings during Australia's 3-0 Test series defeat in Sri Lanka in 2016 before being dropped for the third Test.

He then scored half-centuries in six consecutive home Tests but did not play in the four-Test series in India this year. Khawaja was brought back for the first Test in Bangladesh, only to be dropped for the second match of the series.

"They never used to do it before,



"I'm not really sure why they do it now," Khawaja told ABC Radio of the selection policy. "It creates a lot of instability in the team I reckon, going in and out for everyone."

"You hear things like 'the players are playing afraid' or whatnot, but that's what happens when you drop players all the time. We've been doing that a fair bit lately."

The Pakistan-born cricketer has played 24 Tests since making his debut in the 2011 Ashes series against England and has scored five hundreds, averaging over 45. He is expected to earn a place in Australia's top order in the Ashes series against England which starts next month.

Spurs tackle Real, City host in-form Napoli

LONDON: Something has to give when holders Real Madrid and Tottenham Hotspur, two teams with perfect Champions League records, square off and the formidable attacks of Pep Guardiola's Manchester City and Italian high-flyers Napoli meet in the pick of the matches on Tuesday.

Real host Tottenham with both teams looking to seize control of Group 'H' following back-to-back victories to start the competition.

The spotlight also falls on the sides' strikers - Spurs will be hoping Harry Kane, who leads the way so far this campaign with five goals after two games, can upstage all-time record-holder Cristiano Ronaldo (on four goals) on his home turf.

Spurs manager Mauricio Pochettino expects a much sterner test in Spain after opening with 3-1 and 3-0 wins.

"I think it's a big challenge for us in the Champions League, a different competition," he said. "We are going to play one of the best teams in the world. I think it's exciting to play against Real Madrid at the Bernabeu for everybody. I think it will be a very tough game."

Real are unbeaten at home in the group stage dating back to 2009, winning 21 of 23 matches since then at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Luka Modric could face his former club, although Gareth Bale is unlikely to be fit for Real.

After starting with losses to Tottenham and Real, Borussia Dortmund need a win at APOEL Nicosia to kickstart their campaign.

The Premier League and Serie A leaders meet in Group 'F' when City take on Napoli, who ended the English club's 2011-12 Champions League debut in the group stage.