2ND TEST STARTS TODAY India look to level the four-Test series as they take on England in the second match in Chennai


## SHORT TAKES

Quake hits Tajikistan tremors in north India

## New Delli: An earthquake of magnitude 6.3 hit Tijikistan

 magnitude 6.3 . hit TaikikistanFriday night, while tremors were felt in north hndia, the National Centre for Seismology
said. Tremors were eflt tor Said. Tremors were felt tor
more than 30 seconds across

 earthauake oca
$\mathrm{pm}, \mathrm{t}$ tadded.

Kharge to be LOP in RS New Delli: Senior Congress
leader raliliaraiu Kharase will
betth Leader of Oposition in be the Leader of opposition in
Raiy Sabha, succeecing Ghulam Nabi Azad. Congress
president Sonia Gandhi has president Sonia Ganathi has
writien to Raijv Sabha
Chairman M V Nenkaiah Naidu



## All govt staff must declare assets <br> Employees will be unable to submit their performance appraisal reports online unless their property returns are submitted

US WELCOMES EFFORTS
WASHINGTON: The US has welcomed the
ongoing efforts by India and China to deescalate the situation in eastern Ladadh
and said it would continue to monitor and said it would continue to monitor
the situation closely as both sides work
toward a peaceful resolution. "Weree losely following reports of initial troop disengagement. We welcome the ongo-
ing efforts to de-escalate the situation,"
State Department spokesperson told PT1. "We will, of fourse continue to mo
itor the situation closely as both sides
worktoward a peaceful resolution."

## DEPSANG NEXT

NEW DELHI: India plans to raise the issue
of the strategically-located Denseng of the strategicaly-10coated Depsang
area in Ladakh with China in the next round of corps commander-level talks,
amidst concerns it may have scuandered amidst concerns it may have squandere-
its major bargaining leverage by agreeits major bargaining leverage by agree-
ing to vacate the Kailash range heights for just the Pangong Tso disengagement
pact. Defence Minister Rainath Singh pact. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
Thursday said India and China have Thurrsday said India and china have
agreed to convene the next meeting of their senior commanders to "address
and resolve all other remaining issues" and resolve all other remaining issues,"
but did not specify any particular area.

NO LET-UP IN FUEL PRICE HIKE

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| New Delhi, Feb 12: Petrol and diesel prices extended gains Friday with pump prices rising by 29 paisa and 35 paisa per litre, respectively in the national capital. <br> With this increase, it is for the fourth consecutive day this week that petrol price has gone up in Delhi and is now ₹88.14 a litre and diesel ₹78.38 a litre. <br> Across the country as well, the petrol prices increased within the 25-30 paisa per litre range, while diesel between 30-35 paisa per litre -- depending on the level of local taxes on the two petroleum products. <br> Friday's hike has followed the firming of global crude oil prices that have remained close to $\$ 61$ a barrel mark. The pump |  |
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Poll-bound Assam gets relief
 Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma Friday presented a vote-on-
account for $₹ 60,784.03$ crore in the House and withdrew an additional cess on petrol and diesel, making the fuels cheaper by 5 per litre. "Speaker sir, at the e eak of COVID- 19 , we the number of patients has reduced... Iam gratefull to my Cabinet colleagues who agreed to my proposal this morning to rescind this addilitional cess. Hence, , etrol and diesel will
become cheaper by $₹ 5$ per litre with effect from midnight become cheaper by $₹ 5$ per litre with effect from midnight
tonight, benefiting lakhs of consumers across Assam," Sarma said in his speece.. Elections to the te 126-member state
Assembly are likely to be held in March-Aril.

## Not an inch for China, claims India


ception, is at Finger 8, not at Post near Finger 3 and on the Chines
Finger 4. That is why India has per- side, east of Finger 8," the MoD said,
sistently maintained the right to pasistently maintained the right to pa- adding the current agreement pro
trol upto Finger 8, including in the current Why has he (Modi) $\quad \begin{aligned} & \text { ward deployment }\end{aligned}$ ser
pos no Tso

## 


Bhubaneswar, Feb 12: The General
Administration(GA) department Friday
issued a resolution making it comissued a resolution making it com-
pulsory for government employees of all classes and ranks to make annual to
declaration of their assets. The government will not entertain those employees who fail to comply
with this resolution. "The state government is committed to ensure trans-
parency and corruption free adminis-
up-to-date filing of property returns
will be apre-requisite for promotions,"
the resolution said.
Asperthe new resolution, even Group
C and Group D rank employees would
beasked to give details of their property.
"The performance report custodians
of the departments for Group-B, and
D) would be authorised to download
and authenticate the property state-
ment. For Group-D employees, the of-
ficer in charge of the establishment
will upload the property statement on
obtaining the same from those who can-


## STW Cenent

 Start Strong. Grow Stronger. 18002662661 (tollfree)
## CM disburses ₹1,272cr to 53 lakh KALIA beneficiaries




DISASTER AFTERMATH


An aerial view shows washed a
district of Uttarakhand, Friday.

## 'World's pharmacy' India lags behind in vax drive

IN FOUR WEEKS, HEALTH WORKERS HAVE VACCINATED ONLY 7.5 MILLION FRONTLINE WORKERS ON PRIORITY, A RATE AT WHICH IT WOULD TAKE INDIA SEVERAL YEARS TO REACH ITS GOAL
$\qquad$
New Delhi, Feb 12: India has won plaudits for gifting and selling
COVDD-19 vaccines around the world OVID-19 vaccines around the world of immunisations at home to meet its targets. Having reported the world's sec
ond-highest number of COVID-19 ond-highest number of COVDD-19
cases after the United States, India cases att innoculate 300 million pee-
wants - a fifth of its population - against ple-a a fifth of its population-against
the virus by August. the virus by August.
However, in four weeks, health million frontline workers on pri-
ority, a rate at which it would take

Centre, Twitter get SC notice on ways to check fake news

New Delhi, Feb 12: The Supreme from the Centre and Twitter India for regulating content and advertisements spreading hatred
through fake news and instigative messages via bogus accounts.
A bench of Chief Justice SA Bobde and justices AS Bopanna and $V$
Ramasubramanian issued notice to the Centre and Twitter Communication Goenka, which said there are hun mew
of eminent people and high dignitaries. Advocate Ashwini Dubey, aptions are needed for establishing a mechanism to regulate hateful site. The plea filed through Dubey nd These fake Twitter handles and Facebook accounts use real
photo of constitutional authori ies and eminentcitizens. Therefore common man relies upon the mesagespublished from these Twitter The PIL said fakenews is theroot cause of many riots and bogus acand communalism.
'STOKING INHIBITIONS' India, which makes 60 per cent of all vaccines in the world, has gitted or sold
covilo-19 shots to 17 countries and has requests from five more. The government, however, told the Parliament this week it was coordinating with the manu-
facturers to ensure adequate supplies for its own campaign. India has deployed the Corevs to ensure adeequate supplies for its own campaign. India has depioyed
the
Ind Indian Council of Medical Research, as well as a vaccine licensed from
Astrazeneca and Oxford Astrazenecta and Oxford University. Some doctors and the Opposition-ruled state
of Chhattisgarh, however, are worried about COVAXIN, which was approved last
month month for emergency use without any efficacy data from a late-stage trial.
The health ministry has chastised Chhattisgarh for "stoking inhibitions" over vac cines during a pandemic. "In such unprecedented times, you should help address any vaccine hesitancy and do what's in the best interest of people, not further vested interests!"' Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said on Twitter in response to a
letter from his chhattisgarh counterpart. Bharat Biotech has said efficacy data letter from his Chhattisgarh counterpart. Bharat Biotech has said efficacy data
from the late-stage clinical trial will be out by next month.

CHLOE GRACE MORETZ RELIES ON EXERCISE FOR MENTAL CLARITY

Actress Chloe Grace Moretz says she relies on exercise to keep her mind, body and soul in check. The 24 -year-old actress dmitted there was a time when she lost sight of how important regular exercise is.

## FORTUNE FORRECAST

 - ARIES
 Today you may h have a
chanceto use your
knowdedge and zoom a
 their studies. Housewives, try your ow
new recipe, the oven will not blast! ■TAURUS



 ■GEMINI
 that take mosto forvores
time. Then you will find a way to outsource



CANCER
You think you are smart,
You will emost certain-
ly savouring the positive
You will be monts ectatrin:
ly saveruring the postive
aspects of your life. Sometimes. itis suite possible that you
find yourss)
had better sit the end of your wits. had doetres sit thogethere with your spouse
and dtrash out personality clashes and and dhrash out personality lashes and
private quarels, suggests Ganesha.

## LEO $\begin{aligned} & \text { A moment once lostis } \\ & \text { not oing tocene } \\ & \text { So, tits about time youk }\end{aligned}$ <br> realised the value of  schedule and figure out y $y$ down to the brass tacks. <br>  <br> feels youare full lof energy, enthusisam and exuberance. Craetivity,though, will be a tits bestin an antosphere free of 

LIBRA
$\begin{aligned} & \text { When you aim big,itis } \\ & \text { the mmal thinss hhat } \\ & \text { somemow manageto }\end{aligned}$ somenow managet to
iriritate youth
Ginest Ganesha foreseeses you being troubled
immensel by minute things today. But


 SAGITTARIUS



CAPRICORN

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goodwill you have ararady


- PISCES

 much you cana a atieve in the time you
have available.Makingneasonale
demands from yourself will onnlylead



## Parineeti reveals why she's in bad mood




Pulkit shares his 'workout gyaan' Mumbai: Bollywood actor Pulkit Samrat said work
out, for him, is a form meditation. Pulkitit posted a pic-
Pulition
ture on Instagram where ture on Instagram, where
she is seen working out. She is seen working out.
The actor is wearing a
powder pink vest paired with safety measures, he is sporting a black mask.
longside the image, he wrote "For me work Alongside the image, he wrote: "For me, working
out is a form of meditation. Nothing; but me, out is a form of meditation. Nothing; but me,
my body and my soul having a conversation with each other. No outside factor matters." He added: "Only what lies within matters. Observing my breath and being in sync with it gives me my own
version of pranayama! Breathe in.. Breathe out Breathe in the calmama.. Breathe out the.. storm and out... flexing... \#workoutgyaan \#traindirtyeatclean. Speaking about his work, Pulkit is currently shoot-
ing for his upcoming film Suswagatam hhusamadeed ing for his upcoming film Suswagatam Khushamadeed. The film casts him opposite Katrina Kaif's younger
sister Isabelle.

Kajol wants calorie refund!

Mumbai: Bollywood actress Kajol has media that she would want a calorie refund for things that did not taste good. Kajol Friday posted the note on her
Instagram Stories. Instagram Stories.
The note read:"'Th rie refiund for things that didn't taste as good as they should've! Word!" This is not the first time Kajol has en
tertained her fans with such fonny mes terges on social media.
Kajol who is known for her sarcasm and sages on social media. Kajol, who is known for her sarcasm and sense of humour, recently shared post
hinting that she is looking for a cow that hinting that she is looking for a cow that
She shared a poster of a red cow with
the words "cash cow" written on it "If only he was real," the actress captioned the Khoto. ${ }^{\text {Kajol's }}$ latest was a digital release Tribhanga: Tedhi Medhi Crazy. Actress director Renuka Shahane has called the shots for the film that also stars Mithila
Palkar and Tanvi Azmi.

| peanuts


## | CALVIN AND HOBBES



## | BREVITY


pOSt


SUDOKU
To solve the Sudoku puzzle, each row,
column and box must contain the numbers


## SOLUTIONS

\| SUDOKU | CROSSWORD


## (2) Orissapast

SC notice to Andhra on Kotia; no stay on polls


## TWO HELD FOR MURDERINCITY

POST NEwS NETWORK
Bhubaneswar, Feb 12: The
Commissionerate Bhubaneswar, Feb 12: The
Commissionerate Police arrested two persons for allegegedry killing
their neighbour at their neighbour at Jharana Basti
in Mancheswar police limits.
The accused were identified in Mancheswar police imits.
The accused were identified
as Chandi Naayak and his brotheras Chandi Naayak and his brother-
in-law Sukant Das of the same in-law Sukant Das of the same
slum. The deceased identified as
Chhotulal Besra had a shop at the slum. As per the FIR lodged by
Chhotulal's son Tabisha Besra, Chhotulal's son Tabisha Besra,
Sukant allegedly attacked the vic-
tim and his wife with a sharp Sukant allegedyly attacked the vic-
tim and his wife with a sharp
weapon (knife). The complainant weapon (knife). The complainant
said Raju and Chandi, also the neighbours of the victim, attacked
them with sticks and broken them with sticks and broken bot-
tles. Chhotulal died on the spot while his wife was grievously inwhred.
Police Police sources revealed that
both the families had a dispute both the families had a disput
over some monetary issue. over some monetary issuu.
Police arrested the accused per sons after registering a case (48/21)
in this regard. They were later in this regard. They were later
sent to judicial custody after resent to judicial custody afte
jection of their bail pleas.

CM: Withdraw bylaws for Ananta Basudev, Brahmeswar temples


## Three arrested for smuggling tusks


4. 88

## Revestruck

Valentine Collection SHE WONDERED WHO WOULD LOVE HER. THE MIRROR ANSWERED.
 Keonjhar and Ambuja
Pradhan of Kabatbandha in Jajpur.
According to an official, the four were about to seal the four were about to seal a
deal of tusks.

Secretariat staff to come early on bandh day
 Bhubaneswar, Feb 12: The Home
department Friday asked the staffers of state secretariat to com
to the office early February 15 when the Odisha Congress would
Lok Seva Bhawan would be closed
at 10:15am on the day while all
other passages would be regulated
through the rear gate. The de-
partment has also tightened the
security for the entrants on the
day. Mandatory checking of ID
cards and passes will be enforced
while vehicles without passes would
not be allowed to enter the prem
ises of the office. The department has also decided to scrutinise the entry of people having business and others works. Entry of such persons would now be allowed only with prior ap-
pointment of the Special Secretary
of Home department on the day

Building plan approval goes online BHUBANESWAR: Housing and Urban Development Minister Pratap Jena
Friday launched online building plan approval system under Sustainable Friday launched online building plan approval system under Sustainable
Urban Service in a jiffy by Odisha Government (SuJOG). The OBPAS is an including automated building plan drawing scrutiny, auto calculation and payment of fee, streamlined building permit application process, plinth/roof verification and occupancy certificate, Jena said. He said the
new system will cater to the requirements of citizens, architects, and new system will cater to the requirements of citizens, architects, and
technical persons while providing a software-based verification of bui technical persons while providing a software-based verification of build
plans and details, for compliance with the various rules as defined in
Odisha Development Authrities plans and details, for compliance with the va
Odisha Development Authorities Act, 1982 .

Identify more locations for nature tourism: CS

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Dramatist Kunja Roy dies at 76


## IIT-Bhub bolstered manufacturing sector: Reddy



## He also made a mention about the various opportunities for collabo-

 rating with IIT-Bhubaneswar interms of research, long term projects, applied research, providing incubation and mentoring for
startup centres along with estabstartup centres along with estab-
lishing their Centre of Excellecee
at IIT Bhubaneswar. He further mentioned that IIT-Bhubaneswar could contribute significantly by
their expertise research techo their expertise, research, techno-
logical contributions for strengthlogica contributions for strength-
ening the manufacturing sector in ening country.
Raja Kumar in presence of the
chief guest felicitated the students, faculty and staff members of the infaculty and staff members of the in-
stitute with teaching excellence awards siven on the basis of student feedback, and Director's
Commendations for outstanding Commendations for outstanding
research contributions and meri-
torious services in their respective torious services in their respective
fields on this historic occasion.


Chudaganga forest to turn into wildlife safari

| POST NEWS NETWORK | NZP EXPANSION |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bhubaneswar, Feb 12: Chudaganga |  | The Chief Secretary has directed Works dept to boundary wall of 8 sq km in the forest area by June |
| forest allotted to Nandankanan |  |  |
| Zoological Park, located on the out- |  |  |
| skirts of the city here, will be developed as a wildlife safari |  |  |
| veloped as a wildlife safari. Keeping in view the safety of |  |  |
| wildlife and forest land, Chief |  |  |
| Secretary Suresh ChandraMahapatra has directed Works department of- |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| has directed Works department officials to complete construction of |  | train inside the zoo by the March this year |
| boundary wall of 8 sq km of the for- est area by the end of June next |  |  |
| Making a field visit to the zoo, |  | Works department officials |
| haparrareviewed the |  |  |
| p |  |  |
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Official sources said around 35 lakh people visit the zoo every year
and at anytime 1,500 four-wheelers

Covid test must for attending Budget session

| ubaneswar, Feb 12: All the As have to undergo RT-PCR ts for Covid-19 to attending the suing Budget session of the isha assembly that will begin bruary 18, officials said Friday. A temporary camp will be set up the Assembly premises for concting Covid-19 tests of allMLAs, eir personal security officers, vers, assembly staff, ministe1 employees as well as journal, as per a letter by the Health partment. <br> "Like the previous session, it mandatory to undergo the RTR test for entering the Assembly ilding," Assembly secretary sarathi Satpathy told PTI. <br> The Capital Hospital will conduct RT-PCR tests from 8:30am to 0pm and 3pm to 5pm February and 16 and from 8:30am to 1:30pm bruary 17 in the Assembly prems. Those attending the Assembly ceedings will again undergo ts after the conclusion of the ses- |
| :---: |
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|  | said the toy train should be made |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | more attractive for the child |
| , | Mahapatra instructed the W |
| Nandankanan. | department officials to conne |
| eals | Botanical Garden n |
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BJP seeks transparency in KALIA scheme

300 startups to join mega investment meet

|  |  |  | ND FLOW EAST |
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| Tapan Kumar Chand, DG, NITF \& Director, BALCO, | momin | (e) | Inmer |
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IN LORD'S SERVICE


Utkal University students, alumni campaign for plastic-free campus

Govt not to bear expenses of guest faculty: State


Devotee from Bengal 'attacked' by cop
 tween Sahu and the police per-
sonnel when the former tried to
explain the situation to the latter.
Enraged over the argument, a po-
lice manallegedhy artacked SSahuand
misbehaved with him, sources said.
Meanwhile, Singhadwar police
registered a case in connection
with the incident as per a com-.
plaint filed by the Shree Jagannath
TTmple Administration (STJA).
The complaint said that some
devotese tried to enter the shrine
forcibly The devotees hurled abuses
at the policepersonnel when the lat-
ter raised an objection.
SP KV Singh has directed
Additional SPPC Badajena toprobe
the incident and submit a report
within 2hhours. sternaction would
be taken against anybody found
guilty in the case," Singh said.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT
I, Godathi Ramaprasad,
So. Godati
Satyanarayana, At.
Marangola, Chiplima,
Sambalpur would like to
inform general public that
I have lost my original
ROR (Patta) relating to
property situated at
Mouza- Marangola, P.S.-
Burla, Dist.- Sambalpur
bearing M.S. Khata No.
151/9. If anyone finds
kindly contact: 9110599009.

Health workers spread road safety message


ANTI-SOCIALS ACTIVE AGAIN AT RLY STATIONS, BUS STANDS

[^0]
## Admin against Ganjam fringe areas taking part in AP polls


t a presser here. Committee nomberber (ACM) Rame when she was only 13 . Madkami
is a resident of Kurub under is a resident of Kurub under
Kalimela police limits in
Malkangiri district olence, she had shunned it and
surrendered before then SP
Mukesh Bhampu December ing an exchange of fire between Pradesh borders in 2020 .
The district police are The district police are taking
steps for her proper treatment.
Steps are also being taken to pro-
vide the surrender and rehabilitation She will a also get financial as-
sistance for building a house, puring in studies and getting train-
ing Her father Sukra Madmaki,
mother Bire Madkami and sister Gagatri Madkami were happy to
get back their daughter.


Woman dies after delivery due to 'medical negligence'

| Jajpur, Feb 12: A pregnant woman died after a doctor at the district headquarters hospital here allegedly cut a vein while performing a Caesarian surgery on her. The husband of the deceased woman made this allegation Friday and asked the District Collector to take action against the doctor for negligence. <br> Shyamananda Nayak had admitted his wife Manaswini to Jajpur DHH after she went into labour pain Tuesday. The doctor in-charge had allegedly demanded $₹ 5,000$ from Shyamananda. After receiving the amount, he performed the surgery and the woman gave birth to a baby boy Wednesday. <br> However, soon after, Manaswini developed post-delivery complications and started bleeding. All efforts to stop the bleeding went in |
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The deceased's husband alleged doctors at the
SCB blamed the excess bleeding to a vein being cut during the surgery at the Jajpur DHH
> eteriorated.
The family members were then
sked to take Manaswini to SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack, which they did Thursday.
"The doctors at the SCB Medical The doctors at the SCB Medical
College and Hospital blamed the ex-
cess bleeding to vein being cut durcess bleeding to a vein being cutdur informed Shyamananda. A few
hours later Manaswini breathed our last. However, the newborn is healthy and doing well.
Chief district medical officer D Chief district medical officer Dr
Sudhanshu Sekhar Bal could notbe
reached for comments on the alle reached for comments on the alle
gation levelled by Shyamananda.


Commercial air service to take off in $6-8$ months


KALAHANDI RECORDS THREE ELEPHANT DEATHS IN 10 DAYS


| POST NEWS NETWORK |
| :---: |
| Bhawanipatna/Dhenkanal, Feb |
| 12: Another female elephant was |
| found dead in Kalahandi district |
| Friday. With this casualty, three |
| elephants have died in the distric |
| A report from Bhawanipatna |
| A report from Bhawanipatna |
| said the elephant's carcass was |
| found in Karlapata Wildlife |
| Sanctuary Friday. |
| A female elephant was found |
| d February 1 near Karlapata |
|  |


| A female elephant died |
| :--- |
| February 1 near |
| Karlapata while another |
| was found February 8 at |
| Gusuriguda |
| Gusuriguda. The two had died of |
| septicaemia. |
| Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), |
| T Ashok Kumar, visited the spot |
| and ordered an inquiry into the |
| incident. |
| Fornsic experts and veterinar- |
| ians also visited the spot to con- |




OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, L.I. DIVISION, Nayagarh


Sharp rise in iron ore prices pushes firms to the edge

 December 2, 2020. However, the base
price per tonne of iron ore went up to price per tonne of iron ore went up to
₹6000 in the e-auction held February
2021. Observers attributed the sharp z6000 in the e-aaction held February 1 ,
2isservers atributed the sharp
rise price of iron ore to the participa tion of outside firms in the e-auction
which pushed the per tonne price by which pushed the per tonne price by
$₹ 7,050.1$ hhas impacted the industrial
firms in Kal Complex in Jajpur
$T_{\text {halso result in in heavy financial loss }}^{\text {he }}$ also result in heavy financial loss
for financial intitutions like bank and
in ion loss for scores in job loss for scores of employees and
workers of these plants, said PL Kandoi, president of Kalinganaga


Steel have shut down their shops. Many steel and sponge iron-
based firms have established their firm in the state over last
few years. However the shar few years. However, the sharp
rise in iron price has hit them
hard and forced them to take a hard and forced them to












64

## Push for fresh talent

$\int \begin{aligned} & \text { ast year, Arvind Panagariya, former vice-chief of the NITI Aayog } \\ & \text { wrote in his book "India Unlimited - Reclaiming the Lost Glory" that } \\ & \text { Indian }\end{aligned}$ -Indian babus suffered from the socialist hangover, which has slowed dow the pace of reforms the Modi sarkar wishes to introduce. To support his viev he cited Modi's initiative for lateral entry at the top levels of the bureaucracy.
According to Panagariya, babus slowed down the process to the extent that
at the evry end of his term only nine officers could be inducted from outside. at the very end of his term only nine officicrs could be inducted from outside
But the government has not given up, yet. If is making another push to in making level of joint secretaries at the cruciaa decision-making level of joint secretaries and directors on a
contract basis. The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) will shortlist the candidates for interviews.
Prime Minister Narendra Modi has introduced the mechanism of re-
cruiting fresh talent tin the bureaucracy from the private sector during his first tenure. But the first round hasn't been the success that the govern first tenure. But the first round hasnt been the success that the govern-
ment was expecting. It could recruit only nine of the 10 domain experts ite
had selected, and one of them, Arun Goyal, who had joined the Commer had selected, and one of them, Arun Goyal, who had joined the Commerce
Ministry as joint secretary, put in his papers barely a year later. It appears subsumed by it. Further, a year after their appointment, the Centra Administrative Tribunal ( CAT) had issued a notice to the USSC after a pe
tition from whistleblower Indian Forest Service (IFoS) officer Sanjiv Chaturved alleging irregularities in the recruitment of three of the nine lateral entrants
by the government. The government is catching flak already. Some Opposition leaders are call
ing for the policy to be withdrawn. Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar Azad has threatened to 'gherao'
Parliament, calling the overn-
ment's move a violation of consti-
tutionarights. Rashtriya anatatal al
leader Tejaswi Yadav has said that
UPSC's sateral recruitment an in-

BABUDOM BYTES
Dilip Cherian

## Kerala ignores SC order on babus' tenures

解 to this leverage over bureaucrats. tven in states are clearly ur Services Boards were set up, by the order of the Apex Court, netas alway the SC's ruling.
Official data reveals that the average tenure of secretary-rank officers in God's Own Country" from 2014 until 2018 was 11 months and has reportedly of secretary and principal secretary rank holding 72 pocts! 16 principal se retaries are holding 31 posts, of which 27 are cadre posts. Similarly, 18 sec Sources say that some officers, including principal secretaries KR Jyothila
and Rani George are discharging three responsibilities and Secretary Tink Biswal is managing four posts!
This data came to light as poll preparations begin for the Assembly elec
tions due in May this year. But while this flies against the idea of ernance, it is unlikely to matter to voters at the hustings, which may explai ernance, it is unlikely to matter to votersat he hustings, w
why governments continue to defy the Apex Court's order

Share a babu experience! Follow dilipthecherian@iwitter.com

## |WISDOM CORNER


4. If something is important enough, even if the odds are stacked ELoN Musk

## WORDSWORTH

## - Brummagem

The British midlands city of Birmingham was at one time also called Brummagem, a local variant on its name that has given us the nickname
for one of its inhabitants, Brummie. Although it has been a major industrial city since the Industrial Revolution - in 1862 George Borrow described it as the great workshop of England" - its reputation was often for poor-quality village. In 1691 Guy Miege noted in The New State of England that it was "particularly noted a few years ago for the counterfeit groats made here, and from hence dispersed all over the Kingdom" (a groat was a four-pence coin, of siver when genuine.) In the nineteenth century, great quantities of Birmingham. As a result, its bad reputation resurfaced, so much so that its lawdry, not just items of Birn of 1862, The Reminiscences of Captain Gronow: "The equipages were generally much more gorgeous than at a later period, when democracy
invaded the parks, and introduced what may be termed a 'brummagem society, with shabby-genteel carriages and servants".

## ■ Bruxer

A bruxer habitually and involuntarily grinds their teeth. You may be one of There's continuing controversy in the dental profession over the extent to
which it is a natural action rather than a condition needing treatment; many animals regularly grind their teeth as a way of sharpening them (a process grinding may be an evolutionary hangover from this But many bruxers grind their teeth excessively, often through stress or nervous tension, usually
while they're asleep so they aren't aware they're doing it. This is bad, as it wears away tooth enamel, can cause cracks in teeth, and often leads to sore a plastic guard, sometimes called a bruxing appliance, to relieve the symptoms at night. The term is dental surgeons' jargon, more often found in
the US than in the UK; dictionaries generally don't include it, though the base term for the concept, bruxism (where brux rhymes with flux), has been the

TACKLING COVID HUNGER

Gordon Brown \& Mark Lowcock

AT THEIR JUNE SUMMIT, THE WEALTHY G7 ECONOMIES SHOULD COMMISSION A LONG-TERM PLAN TO SING GLOBAL FOOD NEEDS



Today, 270 million people - equivalent to the combined population of Germany, the United Kingdom, France and Italy - are on the brink of starvation. This number has doubled over the last 12 months. And it is the world's children who are suffering most

| eneration. So, getting children k into school where they can educated and fed must be h priority. <br> With relatively little money, th rnational humanitarian sys has achieved much. The United tions World Food Programm FP), for example, feeds around million people per year. And en Covid- 19 severely disrupted mercial airline services, the UN ated a logistics system to trans t health and humanitarian rkers and vital supplies, in ding food. But a crisis on thi le requires an ambitious plan t involves more than just pro ing school meals. Humanitarian anisations can't do it alone. At their June summit, th althy G7 economies should com ssion a long-term plan to ad ss rising global food needs. Th n should include provision pre-emptive action: building food stocks, developing insur ce as a protection, and sup ting developing-country farm and food growers with g-term investments to help m become self-sufficient. Policymakers must also adop ovative ways to generate fincing, including guarantee sed facilities that can maximiz |
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wealthy countries' pandemic-related stimulus spending. We need to move quickly. This means giving grants up front to the
WFP and leading NGOs like Save the Children to feed hungry chil-
dren and their families. With only dren and their families. With only at the secondary level, and just
$27 \%$ of girls, Education Cannot
Wait - which helps displaced children -whics chool and has raised al-
most $\$ 1$ billion in its short existence - needs to be fully funded. By diucation, we can get 136 million most conflict-affected countries Covid-19 has also exposed another educational divide: two thirds
of the world's school-age children lack Internet access at home, which preve. Today, only $5 \%$ of children
inlow-income countries have access, compared to $90 \%$ in high
income countries. A UNICE--led project to connect the world could
bridge this gaping digital divide The UK government has pledged to play a aeading global role in get
ting all children into school and ensuring that girls receive 12 years
of education. But we will no achieve that noble objective un-
less the G7 summit addresses this issue, in addition to food securit demonstrated its power to trans form individuals, families, and hunger can have devastating condeaths, violent conflict, and mass
Ignoring the global scourge of
hunger is thusnot an otion. What happens in the world's most frag.
ile places has knock-on effects in the most stable countries

Gordon Brown is a former
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Mark Lowcock
is the United Nations
Humanitarian Affairs and
Crgency Relie
Coordinator

## SPECTRUM PANDEMIC

## The Covid revolution

 Beverley McLachlin If THE FEAR AFTER WWII WAS NUCLEAR ANNIHILATION, THE FEAR NOW IS GLOBAL DISEASE. COVID-19-AND THE RECURRING PANDEMICS EXPERTS TELL US TO EXPECT IN THE FUTURE-IS A HENOMENON PHENOMENON
FROM BEGINNING TO END

## Indo-US ties

etters


Sir, In the first telephonic conversation between the US President Joe Biden and Priterated their commitment to a strong India-US relationship.
both with
Notwithstanding the apprehensions of New Dehi about the new US govNotwithstanding the apprehensions of New Delhi about the new US gov-
ernment's approach to China, the statements made by both the US and ernment's approach to China, the statements made by both the US and edged the need for reinforcing the Indo-Pacific strategy. An aliliance beintelligence and defence ties between the two countries. In the US statement Biden underscored his desire to defend democratic institutions
and norms around the world. This is also good news for India for tarian ways of China. It must be remembered at this juncture that with regard to the farm protests in India, the US State Department had stated
that peaceful protests were a hallmark of any thriving democracy. This that peaceful protests were a hallm mark of any thriving democracy. This
shows that India will have to prove its democratic credentials.. Countering the joint fight against terrorism will be incomplete till it adopts a strict
attitude to Pakistan and holds it accountable. Venu GS, KOLLAM

|  | Lincoln would have put it - we are |
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|  | ting to old nation |
| 5 | at the delivery stage. Countries |
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| calchalenge to normsit | g |
|  | s |
| ic, it turns out, is not only | no moral or practical sense. |
| rge but als | Because none of us will be |
| . It has revealed that po | from COVID-19 until every |
| institutions, though stil | only way to defeat it is by attacking |
| ing, are tired and ne | it globally. As long as there are |
| ng. It has exposed | countries or pockets of people where |
| ts of systemic weaknesses th | the virus is being transmitted, there |
| led populists and extre | will be new cases and, even |
| in power in many | frightening, new variants. Some |
| emonstrate | of these may prove more lethal and |
| ardless of wher | -the great fear-impervious to the |
| gether. | vaccines that represent ou |
| NII | hope of conquering |
| ilation, the fear now is global | Global challenge |
|  | solutions, and today the occasion |
| ell | is again piled high with difficulty. |
| $t$ in the future-is a global | To end the pandemic and |
| from begining | the stormy present, we must heed |
| med to seei | Lincoln's call |
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| same precautions, at the |  |
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| But we have now run into a | a member of the Global |
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| agion - new think |  |

and new action for a new case, as at the delivery stage. Countries nh affluent West - are adopting n us-irst attitude that make Because none of us will be safe only way to defeat it is by attacking countries or pockets of people where will be new cases and, even more these may provemore lethal and vaccines that represent our only Global challenges require global is again piled high with difficulty.
To end the pandemic and navigate he stormy present, we must heed norms to repp

Beverley McLachlin, Chief Justice of Canada from 2000-<br>Pandemic Policy.

[^1]
$\qquad$

n December 1862, in the throes
of the American Civil War,
which pitted the norms of slav-

## BJP welcomes Dinesh Trivedil TMC calls him ungrateful

 Trinamool Congress Friday called its MP Dinesh Trivedi "ungrateful" aftei he resigned from the Rajya Sabha, while a jubilant BJP quickits welcome to him to join the saffron camp



Rahul alleges PM 'ceded' Indian territory to China


Concerted effort to regard Muslims as ‘others’: Hamid Ansari Participating in a discussion on his book "By Many a Happy Accident: Recollections of a Life", the former PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, Feb 12: Former Vice
President Hamid Ansari has said
that there is a concerted effort by
some in the country to regard
Muslims as "others" and stressed
that Indias plural society has been
the reality for centuries.
Participating in a discussion on


Religious divide makes this Bengal polls distinct

and the saffron camp pocketed 18
of Bengal's 42 Lok Sabha seats With the way BJP has occupiedts. Opposition space here, the major contest will be between them and Trinamool Congress. The LeftCongress combine will merely fight save their existence.
The run-up to elections in Bengal er personal attacks on leaders of ival camps. Allegations of Muslim
 well. Add to it political assertion by 's a backward communities, and tion. A major cocktail for an elecsuishes Bengal elections 2021 from previous ones is religious polari-
sation. Never before did the state witness such a communally charged atmosphere, not even during Lal

1999 for the Ram temple construc
tion in Ayodhya. In fact, BJP lead tion in Ayodinya. In fact, BJP lead-
ers then were ruing the lukewarm
response they received in the state. Over three rececaded inter, the state.
is
is once again experimenting with is once again experimenting with
rathyatras in Bengal, this time high-
lighting Mamata) lighyatras Mamatats poor governance
lignt corruption. So far, Bengalis have only yssociated rathyartra with Lord
Jagannath. This is also thefirst time "Jai Shri Ram" is being used as a political slogan in the state.
CPIM) leader Mohammed Salim says, "Bengal has always known
padayatra and not rathyatra. This padayatra and not rathyatra. This won't accept. A rathyatra alienates the Muslim community as it is es-
sentially a Hindu affair. BJP has been using it for polarisation." divide was very subtle. In the last leg of Left rule, the Matua identity
developed gradually but it was not developed gradually but it was not
a determining factor in elections.


## Foundation of Parliament House was laid 100 years ago

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO, WHEN THE NATION WAS STILL IN THE MAKING AND INDEPENDENCE 26 YEARS


Tap water access in Delhi linked to dengue infection risk: Study


## © OrisisaPOST <br> national

8
MLC Gopichand Padalkar's attempt to unveil the statue of Punyashlok Ahilya Devi Holkar was thwarted yesterday by the police personne and they are taking appropriate action against him



## 24-hr electricity

 for TN farmerstirupur: Farmers would
henceforth be provided 24. hour three-ppase electricit
for their pump sets, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K K Palaniswami announc
Friday. Addressing an
lection rally at Udumalaipettai near here,
Palanis Palaniswami, the A1AD
co-coordinator, also co-coordinator, also
slammed the DMK as a
'corporate company.' 'corporate company.' The
DMK had been servile towards the Centre when
was part of various
governments, he alleged.

- 24 yrs RI for gang rape accused Kottayam: The prime
accused in the rape and sale
of a minor girl in accused in gir
of a minor girl
Vithura near
Thnura near
Thiruvananthapuram was
Friday sentenced to 24 years Rigorous Imprisonment by special court here. The
Additional District Sessions Court also slapped Suresh with a fine of Rs 1.09 lakh.
The court charged him under The court charged him und
various sections of the IPC,
including 344 and 372 and including 344 and 372 and the Immoral Traffic
Prevention Act.


## ■ Killer-elephant

 tranquilisedUdhagamandalam: A wild
elephant, which had illed three people, was Friday
tranquilised near Cherampadi, about 85 km Forest Department said. The and nicknamed Shankar had killed the three between
December 11 and 13 last


Members of International Buddhist Sangha offer
of Tibetan New Year Losar in Bodh Gaya, Friday
We won't return till agreement reached: Tikait

5th accused held in Rinku Sharma case


Army Chief's focus on NE

he laws. "This agitation will con tinue until the Govertment of India
talks to the committee and arrives at an agreement. Till that time farmers will not return home, " organised by the "Dalal Khap
near the Tikri border near the Tikri border. spread across the country and no Pradesh as being projected by some More "mahapanchayats" will be
held in coming days, he said, adding
that they will so to Gujart

Impact-based flood forecasts in J\&K

New Delhi, Feb 12: The Delhi Police has made its fifth arrest in the Mangolpuri murder case in
which a 25-year-old man wasstabbed which a 25 -year-old man was stabbed
Following an argument atabirth-
day party late Wednesday night Rinku Sharma was stabbed to death
allegedly yby a man known to him, and his three friends. The Delhi Police Friday said the murder took
place due to a business rivalry, and
$\qquad$
The clarification by the police has come after some organisations
started giving communal overtones to the murder, and hashtag Justice Earlier, four persons -- Danish,
Islam, Zahid and Mehtab, accused


Farmers' protest unites Muslims, Jats, Gurjar in West UP
Muslims have been increasingly participating in the Kisan Panchayats being held across western Uttar Pradesh

 nism in place as such. It is a big iniand will help predict fluvial flood risks, in terms of expected loss to lapse, infrastructure disruption

## racker factory

persons in the fire. He announced
Rs 3 lakh each as solatium to kin of the bereaved families.
He also directed District
Collectors to ensure safety of cracker
unit workers during the summer.
Prime Minister Narendra Modi
The Prime Minister's Office tweeted
The PrimeMinorities were working on the ground to assist those affected.
PMO announced Rs 2 lakh exgratia each from PMNRF for the next of kin of those who lost their lives. Rs 50,000 would be given to those seriously injured.
Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu is sad-


stroyed.
Ten firefighting vehicles rushed to the spot from various surrounding Vembakottai to douse the flames and other departments alsoreache there Chief Minister E.K. Palaniswami
15 killed in fir

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| Chennai, Feb 12: Around fifteen people were killed and at least 12 oth- |  |
| ers injured in a huge fire that broke |  |
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| Nadu's Virudhuna Friday police said |  |
| Friday, police said. |  |
| The death toll is likely to go up sthe condition of some of the in- |  |
|  |  |
| jured admitted to Sivakasi government hospital is stated to be | Ten firefighting vehicles r |
|  |  |
| critical. | locations like Sattur, Sivakas |
| Police said the fire in the factory in Achankulam near Sattur in | Vembakottai to douse the |
|  | while officials from police, re |
| Virudhunagar broke out when | and other departments also |
| some chemicals were being mixed | re for ress |
| produce firecrackers. | Min |
|  | driel over the death |




of the outfit after the Tikait broth-
ers were booked for inciting communal violence. Recently at a Kisan
ment added. The framework can
belinked to existing or future floodbe linked to existing or future flood-
llow forecast systems. The UT gov ernment will not have to bear any expenses on the project.
The National Space Innovation Programme of the UK Spacee Agency supports coiliaborative projects be
tween UK organisations and in-

## CASE AGAINST

 COMEDIANMP HC grants interim bail to co-accused

Bhopal, Feb 12: The Madhya radesh High Court Friday granted
interim bail to two men accused of organising a comedy show in Indore, during which stand-up co-
median Munawar Faruqui almedian Munawar Faruqui al
legedly insulted Hindu deities Faruqui, who was arrested on Januury 1 and was in in aiil since
January 2 , was set free on bail



A single bench of the high court granted bail to the two co-accused Prakhar Vyas and Adwin Anthony. In two separate orders that ran identical, Justice Arya observed,
The applicant is held entitled for temporary bail maintaining parpassed by the Supreme Court (granting bail to Faruqui)" enlarged on temporary bail on of the trial court, with further ondition that applicant shall not tivity subversive in to public order," the order stated.

## (10) OrisisaPOST national <br> a <br> 4

Relatives of missing workers gather in U'khand's Tapovan
AFTER WITNESSING THE ‘SLOW PACE OF RESCUE OPERATION’, THE PEOPLE ARE GRADUALLY LOSING PATIENCE




## We are benefiting poor not some 'damaad': FM



## Covid infection slows in Kerala




 day saw 5,332 people
recover taking the total cured to $9,2,55,81$, while the
were 6,366 alative cases.
There There here alis 18 more
deatas, taking the death toll

Cong's Bus Yatras begin in Assam

 Basaon Ahok' (Let's save
 meeting the epeopole and
discussing their
and roievances

## 7-time Himachal

 MLA dies at 78 Firiday a ater a prolonged
Tilness at h his
Thative elace in Fatehnur tensil of Kangar
district, his fasmily said Pathanaia 7 Pa, former
Congress minter Congress s. inisister and the
siting legisitar
Fatenopur, is survivived by by his Situng legisiator from
Fatenurn is surved by his
wife and a son . H we was a minister in the previous
Congress
-led government le


AGAINST VIOLENCE


TRS, BJP gear up for another poll battle traiment Pariainent was tod
frimas
In a written reply in the Lok
Sabha, Youth Affairs and Sports
Minister Kiren Rijiju, who holds ad-
Minister Kiren Rijiju, who holds ad-
ditional charge of the Ayush
Ministry, said that while ho-
moeopathy treatment is not to be moeopathy treatment is not to be
given in standalonemode for Covid-
19 treatment, Ayush interventions, 19 treatment, Ayush interventions,
including homoeopathy, as add-on
to standard care are allowed. and Telangana Rashtra Samithi's
Palla Rajeshwar Reddy from



Palla Rajeshwar Reddy from
Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda graduates constituency.
The TRS has already indicated that Rajeshwar Reddy will contest again from Warangal-KhammamNalgonda while the BJP is likely to from Mahbubnagar-Rangareddy-
Hyderabad. The parties are in the Hyderabad. The parties are in the
process of finalising candidates for other constituencies.
Major political parties and even
those who plan to contest as indethose who plan to contest as independent candidates have been cam-
paigning for the last couple of

## Rajya Sabha clocks 99 pc productivity <br> PARLIAMENT WILL NOW MEET MARCH 8 FOR THE SECOND PART OF THE BUDGET SESSION



Homoeopathy add-ons allowed in Covid-19 treatment: Rijiju in Parl

to standard care are allowed.
He also said that the Ayush Ministry has taken many steps
con
with the help of other systems of medicine, including homeopathy, for Covid-19-related treatment. $\begin{array}{ll}\text { The Minister also cited the } & \begin{array}{l}\text { proximately five lakhs population } \\ \text { and as an add-on to standard care }\end{array} \\ \text { Ministry's letter dated March 6, } & \text { to Covid-19 management }\end{array}$


Lake forms on Rishiganga river in Uttarakhand, alert sounded

Dehradun, Feb 12: The
Uttarakhand government Friday sounded an alert after satellite
images detected the formation of alarge lake in the catchment area
of the turbulent Rishiganga river which had caused a deluge February 7 .
"We have to remain alert as satellite pictures show formation of a 400 metre long lake at
Rishiganga," Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat said. Top government officials said
people have been asked not to go people have been asked not to go all precautions.
On the other hand, the government also sent a team to see the
formation of the lake and suggest measures. The team comprising Response Force and State Disaster
Response Force personnel will trek through the tough terrain to
take the first hand information
of the lake formation in the higher take the first hand information
of the lake ofrmation in the higher
altitudes of the Himalayas. altitudes of the Himalayas.
"This team will trek to see exact
location of the lake and submita location of the lake and submita
report in this regard," state po-
lice spokesman, DIG Nilesh Anand Bharne, said. The, government has also asked
scientists of the Wadia Institute of Geological Survey of India to de pute teams to Rishiganga valleyevto
make detailed report on the lake's make detailed report on the lake's
formation. Reports pouring in from dif-
ferent areas of Chamoli district said the flow of Rishiganga has abruptly increased many times
since Thursday afternoon that pend the search operation inside the disaster-hit tunnel of NTPC's
520 MW Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel of Dhauliganga river on which the Tapovan arporiect is being buill. lagers around Rishganga project floods had been complaining to
the district administration about the district administration
the formation of the lake.

## Prio OrišsaPOST

## international

We have been working behind the scenes to secure the timely arrival of vaccines for our border workers and their families and it's great they will arrive well within ou scheduled timeframes

CHINA'S MARS PROBE SENDS BACK VIDEO China's space agency released video footage from its spacecraft circling Mars Friday, two days after it successfully entered the planet's orbit in Beijing's latest ambitious space mission

## Ready for split if EU imposes new sanctions: Russia

 to think that over the next century,
our elationshhip with Indiai may well
be our most be our most important relationshi,



Scientists. We were not careful
enough and not fast enough
ANGELA MEREL | GERMAN CHANCELOR

## SHORT TAKES Nigerian farmers

 can sue Shell group of Nigerian farmers
and fishertan han sue
Rooal Dutch Shell PLC in in Royal Dutct Shell PLC i i
Engilish ourts over
pollution in a region the oil giant has a subsisiart.T The justices said
Shell hass a duty of care" to the claimants over the
actions of its Nigerian subsidiary. Members of
Nigeria's Ogale and Bille
communities took shelit to
coult in intinin in 2016
alleging that decades of oin alleging that decades of o oil
spills have foule the water and contaminated the
the Niger River Delta.

## Ceska acquires US gun maker

Prague: Czech firearms
compan Cesk zorojova
passin company Ceska zaroiojka
has sinned a deal to acculire
colt, hte Americian Colt, the American gun maker that helped develop
revorves inthe est entury
and has since supplien the armed forces in the te su and
other countries. Ceska Zbroiouka Group SE said
Friday that t thas purchased all the shares in colt tholding Company ycc, the parent
company of octes
Manafacturuing company LLC and its Canadian
subsidiary, Colt can subsidiary, Colt Canada
Corpo Thel ceal is worth
s220 million.

- Hundreds rally for women's rights
Kathmandu: Hundreds of
women stirithtactivists and
their supopoters their supporters rallied in
Nepall's capital friday to call for an end to violence a
discrimination against women and the scrapping of
a proposed law that would restrict travel for many
women. The protesters marching in the heart of Kathmandu chanted 5 slo
demanding counaity


## -Burkina Faso on

 brink of crisis'aya: Burkina Faso is on th protracted crisis after displaced over 1 million people, a senior United
Nations official said this week during a visit to the West African nation. UN general for humanitarian affairs Ramesh Rajasingham Press after visiting the hard-
hit Center North and Sahel regions in the country that has been engulfed in
extremist violence for more

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| :---: | :---: |
| Moscow, Feb 12: Russia is prepared for a split with the European |  |
| Union if the EU imposes new crip- |  |
| the treatment of opposition leader |  |
| Alexei Navalny, the nation's top diplomat warned Friday. In response to a question about | In response to a question about |
|  |  |
|  | links with the EU, FM SergeyLavrov said that Russia doesn't |
| Moscow's willingness to rupture links with the EU, Foreign Minister |  |
|  | want to be isolated but must increase its self-sufficiency to face potential EU sanctions |
| Sergey Lavrov said in televised remarks that Russia doesn't want to be isolated but must increase its selfsufficiency to face potential |  |
|  | He emphasised the importance of economic ties with the 27 EU nations, adding that Russia would continue engaging in mutually beneficial cooperation |
| EU sanctions. <br> "We don't want to be isolated |  |
|  |  |
| from international life, but we must |  |
| want pea |  |
| Asked if Russia | wil |
|  | erests, Russiam |
| ion, Lavrov replied, "We pr | advance for such unfrie |
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| eady for tha | with reporters. "We mus |
| cmas | iant. We must ensure |
| of economic ties with the 27 | in the most sensitiv |
| ions, addin | careas and be prepared to rep |
| tinue engaging | ything we could be |
| eficial coop | with national infrastructure i |
|  | madne |
| e for the worst and incr | friendly actions tak |
| rely on its own resources. | sa-EU relations |
|  | w lows over Nav |
|  | 促 |
|  | The opposition le |
| tions impo | rested January 17 upon his ret |
|  | from Germany, where |
| udin | months recuperating fro |
|  | gent poi |
| components," the | the Kremlin. R |
| min | ties have denied the all |
| Kremlin spokesman Dmi | Last week, a court in Moscow |
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|  |  |
| needs to prepare for the worst | terms of his probat |
| z: Victoria enters snap |  |
| Ockdown due to Covid cluster |  |
|  |  |
|  | four reasons -- shopping for essentials; care and caregiving; exercise; and essential work. |
|  | Exercise and shopping will be limited to 5 km from home and |
|  | limited to 5 km from home and face masks will need to be worn in- |
|  | face masks will need to be worn indoors and outdoors. |
|  | No home visitors will be allowed. Religious gatherings and wed- |
|  |  |
|  | Religious gatherings and weddings will not be permitted, and |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE | pools, community centers, entertainment venues and libraries will close. Cafes and restaurants will |
| Melbourne, Feb 12: The Australian $\quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Close. } \\ & \text { only be able to offer takeaway. }\end{aligned}$ |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | Victorians wanted to hear today, I |
| ight as a new Covid-19 cluste | know this is not the place we want |
| to a quarantine hotel | to be in... We have to make difficultdecisions to maintain what we have |
| lbourn |  |
| Victoria Premier Daniel Andrew | decisions to maintain what we have built, Andrews said Friday. "fit |
| d the state will return to stag | 'If we wait for this theory tha |
| 4 lockdown from 11.59 pm Frida |  |
|  |  |
|  | be more cases than we know about, it would be too late, and then we |
| tious Covid-19 strain, reports | a vacc |
| Xinhua news agency. |  |
|  |  |



Israel launches Covid inoculation for industry: MAI

[^2] launched a ovid-19 vaccination
programme for industry and hi-
tech employees at workplaces, the Manufacturers s Association of
Israel (MAI) said. srael (MAl) said.
The operation has been initiated by MAI, the Ministry of
Health, the Israel Defense Forces, and the countrry's national emer-
gency service Magen David Adom, reports Xinhua news agency.
Vaccinations of workers will begancinations of workers will
vehicles will com days, as vaccine to the work vehicles will come to the work
places reports Xinhuanews agency It will take place alongside the
general vaccination campaign in the country, which began in
December 20,2020 . December 20, 2020.
The vaccines will be provided to employees free of charge.
Ron Tomer, President of th MAI, said: "We are making every effort on all fronts to raise the vac
cination $\mathbf{n}$ ate among workers. The hearathy work environment."
The number of people vacci-
nated against the Covid-19 in Israel nated against the Covidi-19 in Israel per cent of the total population,a,
cording to the Ministry of Health.
Israel has so far reported 711,812 coronavirus cases and 5,283 deaths

Danish police find IS flag in raid of bomb making suspects

Copenhagen, Feb 12: Fourteen Deople havk and Geermany on sus-
picion of preparing one or sevpicion of preparing one or sev-
eral attacks in the two countries,
Danish police said Friday adding Danish police said Friday, adding
that the discovery of an Islamic
State group flag could indicate State group flag could indicate or sympathy with the terror or
ganization." Flemming Drejer, operative
head of Denmark's Security and Intelligence Service, said the
findings were "worrying" but "it
is our assessment that there was no imminent danger."
Dreyer said the first seven individuals who were arrested wapons and "we found things

Biden admin to allow 25 K asylum-seekers into US

| San Diego, Feb 12: The Biden administration Friday announced plans for tens of thousands of asy lum-seekers waiting in Mexico for their next immigration court hear ings to be allowed into the United States while their cases proceed. <br> The first of an estimated 25,000 asylum-seekers in Mexico with ac tive cases will be allowed in the United States February 19, authorities said. <br> They plan to start slowly with two border crossings each processing up to 300 people a day and a third cross |
| :---: |
|  |  |

of fear they may encourage arush
of people to those locations.
The move is a maios step toward
dismantling one of former President
Donald Trump's most consequen-
tial policies to deter asylum-seek-
ers from coming to the US About
70,000 asylum-seekers were enrolled
in "Remain in Mexico," officially
called "Migrant Protection
Protocols," since it was introduced
in January 2019.
On Biden's first day in office, the
Homeland Security Department
suspended the policy for new ar-
rivals. Since then, some asylum--
seekers picked up at the border
have eeen reeleased in the US with
notices to appear in court.


Biden is quickly making good on a campaign promise to end the policy, which the Trump adminis-
tration said was critical to revers-

## 'Over 2mn Yemeni children likely to starve in 2021'

THE UN REPORT WARNED THAT NEARLY ONE IN SIX OF THOSE KIDS: 400,000 OF THE 2.3 MILLION, ARE AT RISK OF DEATH DUE TO SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION THIS YEAR, A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR'S ESTIMATES

ing a surge of asy
peaked in 2019.
But the policy But the policy also exposed peo-
ple to violence in Mexican border ple to vioence in Mexican border
cities and made it extremely difi-
cult for them to find lawyers and communicate with courts about
"As President Biden has made
chatr the US government is comclear, the US government is com-
mitted to rebuilding a safe, orderly, and humane immigration system,",
said Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas.
"This latest action is another
. step in our commitment to reform
immigration policies that do not immigration policies that do not
align with our nation's values," align with
he added.
$\qquad$

## business

The Budget 2021-22 has laid the
foundation for the $\$ 5$ tn
economy. It (reform measures announced in the Budget) will play a big role in India achieving \$5tn economy target and beyond



Voda Germany

before court Mumbai: Former IIICI Bank
CEO and MD Chanda Kochhar appeared before a special Connection with the ICICI
Bank-videocon money laundering case. The specia Money Laund ering Act
(PMLA) had (PMLA) had on January 30
summoned Chanda Kochha her husband Deepak
Kochhar, Videocon Group promoter Venugopal Dhoot
and other accused in the case after taking cognisanc of the ED charge sheet.
application through her

Llistosella to
head Tata Motors New Delhi: Tata Motors Friday
said lithas appoiited Marc listosella as its CEO and MD. He is the former President
and CEO of Fuso Truck and
Bus Corporation Daimler Trucks in Asia.
Llistosella, whose appointment will be with
effect from July 1,2021 , will succeed Guenter Butschek,
who has expressed his desire
to relocate to Germany at the to relocate to Germany at the
end of the contract for personal reasons, Tata Mo
said in a regulatory filing

## Ather Energy to

 invest ₹ 635 crNew Delhi: Hero MotoCorp-
backedelectric twowheeler
maker Ather Energy Friday maker Ather Energy Friday
said it would invest $₹ 635$ crore in the next five years at
its manufacturing facility in Tamil Nadu to scale up which began operations fro henuary 2 this year, has achieved $90 \%$ localisation of
parts, Ather Energy said.

# IIP grows 1\% in Dec; inflation cools to 16 -month low in Jan 


 textile industry to ₹70K crin 5 years

## Kolkata, Feb 12: West Bengal on Friday said that it has set a target

 riod of three to five years. West
Bengal Industrial Development Rajiva Sinha said that the state Rajiva Sinha said that the state
has also decided to set up a task force to implement the target.
Speaking at an interactive sesSpeaking at an interactive ses-
sion, Finance Minister AmitMitra pointed out that the potential of exthan it is tapped.

is around 2.7 per cent of the total

## export from the country, he said.

The readymade garment sec-
tor in Kolkata's Metiabruz itself is worth $₹ 15,000$ crore, and has the po-
tential of growing up to ₹ 25,000 tential of growing up to 255,000
crore in the next few years, he

## JSW offers customers ease of doing biz

## Bhubaneswar, Feb 12: JSW Cement, India's leading Green Cement producer is digitisingnits sales \& marketing operations to provide channel partners ease of doing business by leveraging AI- based digital interventions oing business by leveraging AI based digital interventions. The company has partnered The company has partnered with Yalochat, world's leading conversational commerce servconversational commerce serv ice provider, to introduce AI-based Anytime Anywhere Business transactions for its trade cus- tomers. The Yalochat partnership en- ables JSW Cement to upsell, trans- act and provide ebtter service to its customers over messaging apps. its customers over messaging appss. This will differentiate JSW Cment <br> Managing Director of JSW Cement Parth Jindal said, "We Cement Parth Jindal said, "We are in a unique position to deliver integrated home-building solutions to Indian consumers." According to Javier Mata, Yalochat's Founder and CEO,"JWW Cement has not only digitized its dealer relationship but used YYlo to transform it by bringing everything they need through Whats App. Now company's sales force has ing meaningful relationships with dealers while technology takes <br> 

'Budget provides stimulus for long-term sustainable growth'

9.9\%, suffers biggest drop since 1709
 has closed schools,
restaurants and non-essential shops since mid-December

London, Feb 12: The British eco my suffered its biggest decline in coronavirus pandemic closed shops and restaurants, devastated the ravel industry and curtailed man- - $3.5 \%$.ny 5 per cent and the US
ufacturing. ufacturing.
The economy shrank $9.9 \%$ last
The GDP figures show the
breadth of the pandemic's ecoyear, more than twice the figure
for 2009 at the height of the global
nomi impact in Britain.
The sevvice sector, whi $\begin{array}{lr}\text { for } 2009 \text { at the height of the global } & \text { The service sector, which ac- } \\ \text { financial crisis, the Office for } \\ \text { counts for about 80\% of the UK } \\ \text { National Statistics said Friday. The } & \text { economy, shrank } 8.9 \% \text { last year, }\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{ll}\begin{array}{l}\text { National Statistics said Friday. The } \\ \text { drop is the largestsince 1709, when }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { economy, shrank } \\ \text { with output from accommom latation, } \\ \text { a cold spell known as the }\end{array} \\ \text { food aund beverage businessed down }\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lll}\text { a cold spell known as the Great } & \text { food and beverage businesses down } \\ \text { Frost devastated what was then a } & \text { more than 55\% from February lev- } \\ \text { largely agricultura economy. } & \text { els. Manufacturing fell } 18.6 \% \text { and con- } \\ \text { The data comes as Britain'secon- } & \text { struction 12.5\%. }\end{array}$ omy remains shackled by restric-
tions designed to combat Covid-- $\begin{gathered}\text { In hopes of relaxing the re- } \\ \text { strictions that have devastated the }\end{gathered}$ 19. A rebound in growth during economy, the UK has moved to rap$\begin{aligned} & \text { the fourth quarter has been stifled } \\ & \text { by England's third lockdown, which vaccinate its most vulnerable } \\ & \text { residents. More than } 13.5 \text { million }\end{aligned}$ $\begin{array}{ll}\text { by England's third lockdown, which } & \text { residents. More than } 13.5 \text { million } \\ \text { has closedschools, restaurants and } \\ \text { noopespe, or about 20\% of the popu- } \\ \text { nontian shops since mid- } & \text { lation, had received at least one }\end{array}$ non-essential shops since $m$ December. Toughrestrictions siso ${ }^{\text {dose }}$ Wednesday.
Scotland and Wales. "Today's figures. show that the Andy Haldane, chief econo-
mist for the Bank of England, hock asexperienced aserious said the vaccination drive is which has been felt by countries, helping Britain turn a corner $\begin{array}{ll}\begin{array}{l}\text { around the world," the UK's top } \\ \text { treasury official, Chancellor Rishi }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Lifting Covid-19 restrictions is } \\ \text { likely to unleash a wave of spend- } \\ \text { Sunak, said in a statement. }\end{array} \\ \text { ing by consumers and businesses }\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{ll}\text { "While there are some positive } & \text { that will trigger a rapid re } \\ \text { signs of the economy's resilience } \\ \text { later this year, he said. }\end{array}$
over the winter, we know that the have a significant impact on many people and businesses."
Sunak said he would announce new plans to protect jobs and bol-
ster the economy when he delivers his annual budget statement to the House of Commons March 3. Covid-19 has hit Britain's econ-
omy harder than most other industrialised democracies. French GDP shrank 8.3 per cent last year,
Germany 5 per cent and the US In hopes of relaxing the re-
trictions that have devastated the
conomy, the UK has moved to rap-
dly vaccinate its most vulnerable said the vaccination drive
helping Britain turn a corner
in its battle against the virus.號

## 

 essential shops
$\square$

Google partners brace for hit as search giant threatens Oz exit


Nalco posts ₹ 240 cr net profit in Q3
Also, the company says that it
achieved strong growth in same
quarter with Bauxite quarter, with Bauxite production of 19.34 lakh tonnes, Alumina hydrate
production of 5.55 lakh tonnes while makh tonnes.
During the first nine months of the current fiscal, NALCO achieved prouxction 5 .077akh tonnes of alu-
bina hydrate while metal producmina hydrate while metal produc-
tion was 3.06 lakh tonnes. Nalco CMD Sridhar Patra said, The incompanse in demand with the gradual opening up of the market
and the economy. The Company is and the economy. The Company is
also focused on operating the on5th Stream Alumina Refinery and will substantially bolster the bot-


The net profit for nine months ended December, 2020 has grown over te
to $₹ 364$ crore
$\qquad$
pared to 3.33 lakh tonnes achieved in the corresponding period of las
year. Aluminium export also reg
istered impressive growth, with
sales volume of 1.38 lakh tonnes-

 Betaillilition mian munvis )

## INDIA SEEK REDEMPTION

KOHLI'S MEN LOOK TO TURN THE TABLES WHEN THEY TAKE ON ENGLAND IN THE SECOND TEST, STARTING TODAY, AS THE TEAM COMBINATIONS ON FOCUS


Bayern Munich match Barca's 2009-10 record bavarians win club wc to complete six-itite feat


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { ager Pep Guardiola. This is also } \\
& \text { the eighth year in a row that a }
\end{aligned}
$$

European club has won the title
in this tournament. in this tournament,
Despite Thursday's Despite Thursday's defeat, Tigres
had already written the club's history as they were the first Mexican outfit to reach the Club World Cup
final as CONCACAF champions. final as CONCACAF champions.
Bayern's attacking player Thomerns Muller was absent after testing positive for the COVID-19 only hours before the kick-off and
has been put into self-isolation. has been put into self-isolation.
The goal was initially ruled out for a Lewandowski offside but was allowed after a VAR consultation.
"It feels good to have the six-pack "II feels good to have the six-pack
-six titles in a row is something very -six titles in a row is something very
special for us," said Lewandowski, who had beaten Lionel Messi and Cristiano Roanaldo to be benamed as
the FIFA Best Player of 2020.


No-look
ASSOCIATED PRE
Melbourne, F

Melbourne, Feb 12: If Serena Williams somehow manages to conjure up another on managesun, back-to-the-net, no-look, over-the-shoul-
der shot in her next Australian der shot in her next Australian Open match, a local coronavairus spectators to treact with the pappre-
ciative applause and yells that ciative applause and yells that
greeted this one. greeted this one.
That's because while Williams was using that bit of magic Friday to help pull off a comeback victory over an opponent who is 20 years
younger, the head of the Victoria younger, the head of the Victoria
state government was announcing a five-day lockdown in response to
a COVID-19 outbreak at a quarana COVID-19 outbreak at a quaran-
tine hotel. Competition at the year's first Grand Slam tournament will
be allowed to continue, but no fans can attend as of Saturday. A year ago, Williams dropped
just three games agains just three games against Potapova in the first wound. But then the third round, her earliest exit in Australia in 14 years.
This time at that stage, Williams This time at that stage, Williams

- who has won seven of her 23 Grand Slam singles titles in Australia which Potapopova served for at 53 . But the 2016 Wimbledon junior champion double-faulted five times in that
game, including twice on set point Williams then trailed $5-3$ in the tie-breaker. But she took the next
four points, the last on a 21-stroke putting a forehand into the net.
Never more so than shortly after


Potapova edged ahead again by Open champion Iga Swiatek. Willing to begin the second set. World No. 8 Diego Schwartzman help of a remarkable get on a lob. to lose so far after being elimion the ball and sending it in the nated $3-6,3,-6,3-6$ by Aslan Karatsev, right direction, the 39-year-old
paused and smiled, assuming the
114th and making his Grand Slam
debut at paused and smiled, assuming the
point was over - and then laughed point was over - and then laughed because Potapova responded by putting an overhead into the net. Williams, who won the match with $7-6(7-5), 6-2$, will next play sev-
enth-seeded Aryna Sabalenka, who matched her best Grand Slam showing by reaching the fourth round with a $6-3,6-1$ win over Ann Li.
Other women's fourth-round Other women's fourth-round
matchups established Friday: three matchups established Friday: three-
time Grand Slam title winner Naomi Osaka against two-time major cham-
pion Garbine Mugurua pion Garbine Muguruza, Marketa
Vondrousova against Hsieh Su-wei, and two-time major champ Simona and two-time major champ Simona
Halep against reigning French

rena's win


Santana late goal helps HFC draw with SCEB

penalty areo the ball outside the penaty areaon the left. He checked box but then went to ground after tangling with Sarthak Golui. However, In the 82nd, SCEB were denied with the goalkeeper in the HFC with the goalkeeper in the HFC
penalty area, he felt a touch on his trailing foot as Kattimani came to take the ball off his feet. In the added-on time, Santana gave Nizams something to cheer for.
Rohit Danu played the ball from right to Fran Sandaza who sent a Santana made no mistar post to nd Santana made no mistake to put
HFC on level terms with SCEB HFC on level terms with SCEB.
HFC were reduced to 10 men after their equaliser as Mohammed lenge on Wahengbam Luwang just $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Nizams were denied a clear-cut } & \text { lenge on Wahengbam Luwang just } \\ \text { penalty 10 minutes later. Halicharan } & \text { outside the HFC box. }\end{array}$

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[^0]:    Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-SaiA Audio \& Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech- Tankapani Road-9861341488, Acharya Vhar-DayalAgency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vhar, C.S. Pur-9861301598, Aurobindo Market-SaiAudio \& Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store--9090071530, Anish Infotech- Tankapani Road-9861341488,
    Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District
     Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249 , Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415 , Kanan Vihar-Auro
    Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri-Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045 , World Solution- 9938317559 , KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 992914045 , World Solution- 9938317559 , Kir
    Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati
     Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti \& Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347,

[^1]:    A significant breakthrough
    Sir, Apropos, "India, China pull back troops in phased manner",
    
    
     build-up, economic measures, and international partnerships-
    in keeping the pressure on China. Beijing had boxed itself into a corner, underestimated Indian resolve, and was looking for ways
    to extricate itself. A mix of hard messaging and pragmatism has helped India over the past year in forcing China to backtrack and remember Beijing has backtracked, for it had violated agree. meeds to be extrememely cautious. Even if the current round of dis-
    negagement from friction points goes off well, we dont know if Beijing engagement from friction points goes off well, we don' know it Beijing
    will de-mobilise the 50,000 troops it has deployed across the LAC. in difficult topography fore longer durarations. Hence, Delhi must remain on guard and stick to the line of caution.
    NSadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

[^2]:    Tel Aviv, Feb 12: Israel has

