

संक्षिप्त समाचार

31 जिला हुए कोविड फ्री, नहीं हैं एक भी एक्टिव मामले

लखनऊ। उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ ने सोमवार को कहा की प्रदेश में 31 जिलों में कोरोना वायरस का एक भी मामला सक्रिय नहीं है। जारी आंकड़ों के मुताबिक उत्तर प्रदेश के ये 31 जिले हैं। अलीगढ़, अमरोहा, औरैया, अयोध्या, आजमगढ़, बलिया, बांदा, बस्ती, बहराइच, भदोही, बिजनौर, एटा, फर्रुखाबाद, गोंडा, हमीरपुर, हापुड़, हाथरस, कानपुर देहात, कासगंज, इन महोबा, मिर्जापुर, मुरादाबाद, मुजफ्फरनगर, पीलीभीत, प्रतापगढ़, रामपुर, सहारनपुर, शामली, श्रावस्ती और सुल्तानपुर जहां कोरोना का एक भी मामला सक्रिय नहीं है। राज्य हेल्थ बुलिटिन के मुताबिक बीते 24 घंटे में 1,82,742 टेस्ट हुए जिनमें से केवल 17 लोग ही कोरोना पॉजिटिव पाए गए। आंकड़ों के मुताबिक उत्तर प्रदेश में अब केवल 194 कोरोना मामले सक्रिय हैं। जबकि जबकि पॉजिटिविटी रेट 0.01 फीसदी से भी कम हो गया। साथ ही रिकवरी रेट में भी काफी सुधार हुआ है और यह अब 98.7 फीसदी तक पहुँच गया है।

दिवाली के पूर्व वाराणसी की सड़कें हांगी गड्ढा मुक्त

लखनऊ। उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ में प्रदेश में जनपद वाराणसी के विकास कार्यों के लिए रविवार को सेक्रेटरी हाउस में समीक्षा बैठक करते हुए अधिकारियों को दिशा निर्देश जारी किए हैं। सीएम योगी ने कहा कि ग्रामीण एवं शहरी क्षेत्र के समस्त सड़कों को योजना बनाकर दिवाली तक गड्ढा मुक्त करें। जिसके तहत समस्त विभाग अपनी-अपनी सड़कों का सर्वे करें। जनपद में विभिन्न विभागों में 542 सड़कों पर 900 किलोमीटर पर की कार्ययोजना बनानी है जिसका कुल खर्चा 17 करोड़ 68 लाख रुपए आएगा। सीएम योगी ने कहा फीवर ट्रैकिंग, डेंगू सहित अन्य संक्रमित रोगों पर नियंत्रण हेतु सघन पर्यवेक्षक, टेस्टिंग और उपचार कार्य भी जारी करवाए जाएंगे। साथ ही ग्रामीण व शहरी इलाकों में स्वच्छता कार्य, इलाज,टेस्टिंग के प्रति जागरूकता फैलाने के लिए कार्यक्रम चलाए जाएंगे।

नवरात्रि, दशहरा और चेहल्लुम के लिए नई गाइडलाइंस जारी

लख्नाऊ। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने शारदीय नवरात्रि, विजयादशमी, दशहरा और चेहल्लुम के मधेनजर कानून-व्यवस्था और सांप्रदायिक सद्भाव बनाए रखने के लिए दिशा-निर्देश जारी किए हैं। इन त्योहारों के अवसर पर मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ ने राज्य सरकार द्वारा कोविड-19 महामारी की रोकथाम के लिए दिए गए निर्देशों का कड़ाई से अनुपालन करने को कहा है। अपर मुख्य सचिव गृह अवनीश कुमार अवस्थी द्वारा जारी निर्देशों में कहा गया है कि दुर्गा पूजा पंडाल व रामलीला मंच के स्थापना की अनुमति प्रदान करते समय इस बात का ध्यान रखा जाए कि सार्वजनिक आवागमन प्रभावित न हो। मूर्तियों को स्थापना पारंपरिक परंतु खाली स्थान पर की जाए। उनका आकार यथासंभव छोटा रखा जाए मैदान की क्षमता से अधिक लोग न रहे। मूर्तियों के विसर्जन में यथासंभव छोटे वाहनों का प्रयोग किया जाए और मूर्ति विसर्जन कार्यक्रम में न्यूनतम व्यक्ति ही शामिल हो। मूर्ति विसर्जन आदि के समय निर्धारित सीमा से अधिक लोग न हो तथा शारीरिक दूरी व मास्क पहनने के नियमों का पालन अवश्य किया जाए। यह सुनिश्चित किया जाए कि किसी भी धार्मिक स्थल पर क्षमता से अधिक लोगों की भीड़ एकत्र न होने पाए।

15 करोड़ को मुफ्त मिल रहा है राशन

यूपी के सीएम योगी आदित्यनाथ ने सरकार की उपलब्धियों को बताया

लखनऊ, संवाददाता

मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ ने प्रदेश सरकार के साढ़े चार वर्ष के कार्यकाल को सुरक्षा और सुशासन के लिहाज से मानक गढ़ने वाला काल कहा है।

IMG 20210919 WA0012 कोविड काल में 15 करोड़ लोगों को मुफ्त मिल रहा है राशन : सीएम योगी सीएम ने कहा है कि यह वही यूपी है जहां 2017 के पहले अपराधी और माफिया सत्ता के शागिर्द बनकर राज्य में भय, भ्रष्टाचार और अराजकता का माहौल खड़ा कर रहे थे। हर दूसरे-तीसरे दिन साम्प्रदायिक दंगे हुआ करते थे, लेकिन आज इनके खिलाफ हो रही कार्रवाइयों ने पूरे देश में एक मॉडल पेश किया है।

उत्तर प्रदेश में 42 लाख गरीबों के आवास बनाये हैं



पहले मुख्यमंत्रियों में अपनी हवेलियां बनाने की होड़ मचती थी, लेकिन इस नए भारत के नए उत्तर प्रदेश में हमने 42 लाख गरीबों के आवास बनाये हैं। जनता, संगठन और सरकार के एकजुट प्रयास से राष्ट्रीय

पटल पर यूपी को लेकर नजरिया बदला है। शासन के प्रति जनता का भरोसा बढ़ा है और अब यही विश्वास 2022 के चुनाव में 350 सीटों के भारी बहुमत के साथ एक बार फिर हमारी जीत सुनिश्चित करेगी।

शासन के सकारात्मक कार्यों में सहयोग के लिए 24 करोड़ जनता का अभिनन्दन किया

मुख्यमंत्री योगी, वर्तमान राज्य सरकार के साढ़े चार वर्ष पूरे होने पर रविवार को पत्रकारों से मुखातिब थे। लोकभवन सभागार में आयोजित कार्यक्रम में उपमुख्यमंत्रीद्वय केशव मोय्य और डॉ. दिनेश शर्मा, भाजपा के प्रदेश प्रभारी राधामोहन सिंह, प्रदेश अध्यक्ष स्वतंत्र देव सिंह और मंत्रिपरिषद और सरकार के उच्चाधिकारियों के साथ सीएम ने साढ़े चार साल के कार्यकाल की

उपलब्धियों का ब्यौरा पेश किया।

संवाद कार्यक्रम में सरकार की उपलब्धियों पर आधारित पुस्तिका का विमोचन भी किया गया। मुख्यमंत्री ने साढ़े चार साल में प्रदेश के बहुमुखी विकास में मार्गदर्शन के लिए पीएम मोदी, केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री, भाजपा अध्यक्ष और केंद्रीय मंत्रिपरिषद के सदस्यों के प्रति आभार जताया तो शासन के सकारात्मक कार्यों में सहयोग के लिए 24 करोड़ जनता का अभिनन्दन किया।

चार साल में एक भी दंगा नहीं, सबको सुरक्षा-सबका स्वावलम्बन शासन की तमाम उपलब्धियों को साझा करते हुए मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि यह वही उत्तर प्रदेश है, जहां कोई भी पर्व-त्योहार शांतिपूर्ण सम्पन्न नहीं हो पाता था लेकिन आज बीते चार साल में एक भी दंगा नहीं हुआ।

जनता को भाया साढ़े चार साल का योगी सरकार का रिपोर्ट कार्ड

लखनऊ, संवाददाता

मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ के साढ़े 04 साल के कार्यकाल में उत्तर प्रदेश दूसरे राज्यों के लिए मिसाल बना है। उसने देश के सभी बड़े अभियानों की अगुवाई की है।

प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना से गरीबों को आवास देना हो या फिर किसानों को किसान निधि सम्मान योजना से जोड़ना हो। देश की बड़ी योजनाओं को प्रदेश में तेजी से किया लागू, 90 फीसदी से ज्यादा योजनाओं में यूपी बना नम्बर वन 09 करोड़ से अधिक वैकसीनेशन से यूपी देशभर में आया अव्वल।

युवाओं को रोजगार देना हो या फिर कोरोना को मात देने के लिए वैक्सीनेशन। केन्द्र सरकार की 90 फीसदी से ज्यादा योजनाओं में यूपी नम्बर वन बना है।

44 से अधिक योजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन में यूपी सरकार ने रिकार्ड कायम किये हैं। इसमें प्रदेश में

उज्ज्वला के तहत1.5 करोड़ को निःशुल्क गैस सिलेंडर उपलब्ध कराया

यूपी देश में पहला राज्य है जिसने उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत 1.5 करोड़ परिवारों को निःशुल्क गैस सिलेंडर उपलब्ध कराया है। प्रधानमंत्री जनधन योजना के तहत प्रदेश में सबसे अधिक 7.02 करोड़ खाते खोले गए। अटल पेंशन योजना के जरिए 36,60,615 लोगों को लाभ देकर यूपी देश में नंबर वन है। देश भर में सबसे अधिक 2 करोड़ 61 लाख शौचालयों का निर्माण भी यूपी में किया गया है। किसानों को मार्केट उपलब्ध कराने के लिए यूपी में सबसे पहले मंडी अधिनियम को लागू किया गया।

एमएसएमई यूनिट की स्थापना व एमएसएमई के माध्यम से युवाओं को रोजगार दिलाने में यूपी ने कीर्तिमान बनाया है। सौभाग्य योजना से 01.41 करोड़ से अधिक लोगों को निःशुल्क बिजली कनेक्शन

यूपी सरकार ने साढ़े 04 सालों में हर कदम पर एक नई इबारत लिखी है। सरकार निष्पक्ष व पारदर्शी तरीके से युवाओं को रोजगार, किसानों को

समय पर भुगतान के साथ गरीब परिवारों को प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना से आवास और सौभाग्य योजना से 01.41 करोड़ से अधिक लोगों को निःशुल्क बिजली कनेक्शन दे चुकी है। प्रधानमंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि योजना

यूपी सरकार को प्रधानमंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि योजना के बेहतर क्रियान्वयन के लिए पूरे देश में



राज्य है। मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ के निर्देश पर यूपी के हर जिले को सभी सुविधाओं से लैस मेडिकल कॉलेज का तोहफा दिया है।

इसमें से 30 मेडिकल कॉलेजों का निर्माण कार्य चल रहा है। कोविड वैक्सीनेशन में भी यूपी ने देश भर के राज्यों को पीछे छोड़ रिकार्ड बना दिया है। प्रदेश में अब तक 9 करोड़ से अधिक लोगों को कोरोना वैक्सीन दी जा चुकी है।

कोरोना कालखंड के दौरान

अब शादी समारोह में100 मेहमान हो सकेंगे शामिल, योगी सरकार ने जारी किए आदेश

संवाददाता, लखनऊ

उत्तर प्रदेश में कोरोना के मामले में लगातार गिरवाट देखी जा रही है। इसी के चलते अब प्रदेश सरकार की ओर से कोरोना को देखते हुए लगाई गई पाबंदियों में छूट दी जा रही है। प्रदेश में अब शादी समारोह में 100 लोग शामिल हो सकते हैं।

शादी समारोह में 100 मेहमान हो सकेंगे शामिल

उत्तर प्रदेश में कोरोना के मामलों में लगातार गिरवाट देखी जा रही है। इसी के चलते अब प्रदेश सरकार की ओर से कोरोना को देखते हुए लगाई गई पाबंदियों में छूट दी जा रही है। प्रदेश में अब शादी समारोह में 100 लोग शामिल हो सकते हैं। पहले शादी समारोहों में सिर्फ 50 लोगों के ही शामिल होने की अनुमति थी लेकिन अब इसे बढ़ाकर 100 कर दिया गया है। हालांकि समारोहों में कोरोना



नियमों का पालन करना जरूरी होगा।

कोरोना मरीजों की संख्या में लगातार कमी

प्रदेश में कोरोना मरीजों की संख्या में लगातार हो रही कमी और रिकॉर्ड

टीकाकरण को देखते हुए सरकार की ओर से ये फैसला लिया गया है। इससे पहले भी प्रदेश सरकार की ओर से दुकानों और रेस्टोरेंट को रात 11 बजे तक खोलने की अनुमति दी गई थी। वहीं स्थानीय प्रशासन को सख्ती से कोरोना नियमों का पालन करवाने के आदेश दिए गए हैं।

24 घंटे में मात्र 9 कोरोना मरीज मिले

प्रदेश में पिछले 24 घंटे में कोरोना के मात्र 9 मरीज सामने आए हैं। इसके साथ ही प्रदेश में कोरोना के एक्टिव केस 193 रह गए हैं। वहीं पिछले 24 घंटे में कोरोना के 7 मरीज ठीक हुए हैं। प्रदेश के सिर्फ 41 जिले ही अब ऐसे हैं जहां एक्टिव केस दर्ज किए जा रहे हैं। प्रदेश सरकार की ओर से लगातार टेस्टिंग और वैक्सीनेशन पर जोर दिया जा रहा है। इसी का परिणाम है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में कोरोना पूरी तरह दम तोड़ता नजर आ रहा है।

सभी स्कूलों, कॉलेजों में बनेगी आरोग्य वाटिका

संवाददाता, लखनऊ

योगी सरकार ने यूपी के सभी स्कूलों, कॉलेजों में आरोग्य वाटिका बनाने पर विचार किया है, ताकि लोगों को मिल सके अच्छी सेहत मिल सके।

जी हां उत्तर प्रदेश के सभी शैक्षणिक संस्थानों में अब छात्रों को औषधीय पौधों के बारे में जागरूक करने के लिए एक आरोग्य वाटिका होगी बनायी जायेगी। उपमुख्यमंत्री दिनेश शर्मा ने बताया कि देश में हर घर में सालों से औषधीय गुणों वाले पौधों का इस्तेमाल होता आ रहा है। इन पौधों ने कोविड के बाद अपने महत्व को समझा दिया है।

और लोगों ने फिर से अपने दैनिक जीवन में इनका इस्तेमाल शुरू किया है। और यही वजह है कि हम छात्रों को भी यह समझाना चाहते हैं और हर स्कूल में आरोग्य वाटिका को शुरू करने पर विचार किया है। आपको बता दें कि आरोग्य वाटिका एक स्वास्थ्य केंद्र है

जहां जड़ी-बूटियों और पौधों के साथ प्रतिरक्षा बूस्टर हैं। अलग –अलग शहरों के पार्कों में इन्हें लगाया जायेगा, ताकि नागरिकों को जागरूक किया जा सके। आर.ए. सेंट्रल इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर सबट्रॉपिकल हॉर्टिकल्चर के वैज्ञानिक राम ने कहा कि जनता किचन गार्डन और टैरेस गार्डन के माध्यम से घर पर पौधे उगा सकती है और कचरे को खाद में बदला जा सकता है।

सेंट्रल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ मेडिसिनल एंड एरोमैटिक प्लांट्स के वैज्ञानिक राजेश वर्मा ने कहना है कि 'जो मरीज बुखार से पीड़ित हैं, उन्हें 'कलमेघ' का सेवन करना चाहिए।

इसी तरह, जो लोग अल्सर या साइटिका से पीड़ित हैं, वे सर्पगंधा यानि भारतीय स्नैकरूट का इस्तेमाल करना चाहिये। जिसे आसानी से घर पर लगाया और उगाया जा सकता है, उन्होंने कहा कि औषधीय गुणों वाले पौधों के इस्तेमाल से शुरार और मोटापे को कम करने में मदद मिलती है।

आत्मनिर्भर के साथ स्वावलंबन से जोड़ रही है। स्वयं सहायता समूह के जरिए 01 करोड़ से अधिक महिलाएं स्वरोजगार से जुड़ी हैं।

देश की बड़ी योजनाओं को प्रदेश में तेजी से किया लागू

यूपी पहला राज्य है जिसने महिलाओं को सहूलियत व जल्द सुनवाई के लिए प्रदेश के सभी पुलिस स्टेशनों में महिला हेल्पडेस्क स्थापित की है। इसके साथ पिंग बूथ का निर्माण कराया है।

केन्द्रीय पंचायती राज विभाग ने यूपी को ई-गवर्नेंस में एक्सलेंट के परफॉर्मेंस अवार्ड से नवाजा

मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ की भ्रष्टाचार को लेकर जीरो टॉलरेंस की नीति रंग लाई है। जेम पोर्टल के माध्यम से देश में सबसे ज्यादा खरीद यूपी के सरकारी विभागों ने की है।

देश में उत्तर प्रदेश पहले स्थान पर है। ई-चालान व्यवस्था व ई-अभियोजन में यूपी सबसे आगे है।

योगी सरकार के 4.5 साल के रिपोर्ट कार्ड पर विपक्ष ‘लाल’ प्रियंका बोलीं– फिर झूठ, झूठ और सिर्फ झूठ



नई दिल्ली, संवाददाता

उत्तर प्रदेश की योगी सरकार के 4.5 साल पूरे हो चुके हैं। इसको लेकर रविवार को मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ ने अपनी सरकार का रिपोर्ट कार्ड जारी किया। जिसको लेकर अब कांग्रेस और अन्य विपक्षी नेता लगातार प्रदेश सरकार पर हमलावर हैं।

सरकार के दावों को जमीनी हकीकत से दूर बताया

वहीं प्रियंका गांधी के साथ साथ समाजवादी पार्टी और बहुजन समाजवादी पार्टी की ओर से भी यूपी सरकार के इस रिपोर्ट कार्ड पर निशाना साधा गया। बहुजन समाज पार्टी की प्रमुख मायावती ने भी योगी सरकार के रिपोर्ट कार्ड पर हमला किया है। उन्होंने ट्वीट कर सरकार के दावों को जमीनी हकीकत से दूर बताया है।

पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री अखिलेश यादव ने कसा तंज

वहीं पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री अखिलेश यादव ने तंज कसते हुए इसे झूठा बताया है। अखिलेश ने ट्वीट करते हुए लिखा, ‘चौवन गुजरे, छह माहोने बचे इस दंभी सरकार के किसान, गरीब, महिला व युवा पर अत्याचार के बेरोजगारी, महंगाई, नफ़रत व ठग कारोबार के बहकावे, फुसलावे का जाल, जुमलेबाज सरकार के। नहीं चाहिए ऐसी सरकार, जिसका सच है: ठग का साथ, ठग का विकास, ठग का विश्वास, ठग का प्रयास।’

पितृ पक्ष शुरू, आने वाले 15 दिनों तक ना करें ये काम

संवाददाता

पूर्वजों को याद करके उनकी आत्मा की शांति के लिए श्राद्ध करने का समय पितृ पक्ष आज से शुरू हो रहा है। इस दौरान कोई भी ऐसी गलती न करें। जिससे पितृ नाराज हो जाएं।

भाद्रपद महीने की पूर्णिमा यानी कि आज 20 सितंबर 2021 से पितृ पक्ष शुरू हो रहे हैं। हिंदू धर्म में पितृ पक्ष को बहुत अहम माना गया है। 15 दिनों के इस समय में लोग अपने पूर्वजों को याद करके उनकी आत्मा की शांति के लिए पिंडदान, तर्पण, श्राद्ध कर्म करते हैं। ताकि पूर्वजों का आशीर्वाद पाकर ज़िंदगी में सफलता, सुख-समृद्धि पा सकें।

वहीं पूर्वजों की नाराजगी कई मुसीबतों का कारण बनती है। धर्म पुराणों में पितृ पक्ष को लेकर कुछ नियम बताए गए हैं। जिनका पालन जरूर करना चाहिए।

मान्यता है कि पितृ पक्ष के 15 दिनों में पूर्वज अपने परिजनों के पास रहने के

लिए धरती पर आते हैं इसलिए व्यक्ति को ऐसे काम करने चाहिए जिससे पितृ प्रसन्न रहें।

गलती से भी सूर्यास्त के बाद श्राद्ध न करें, ऐसा करना अशुभ होता है। इस दौरान बुरी आदतों, नशे, तामसिक भोजन से दूर रहें। पितृ पक्ष में कभी भी शराब-नॉनवेज, लहसुन-प्याज का सेवन नहीं करना चाहिए। ना ही लौकी, खीरा, सरसों का साग और जीरा खाना चाहिए।

इस दौरान अपने पूर्वजों के प्रति सम्मान दिखाते हुए सादा जीवन व्यतीत करें। कोई भी शुभ काम न करें। जो व्यक्ति पिंडदान, तर्पण आदि कर रहा है उसे बाल और नाखून नहीं काटने चाहिए। साथ ही ब्रह्मचर्य का पालन करना चाहिए।

पितृ पक्ष में किसी पशु-पक्षी को न सताएं। ऐसा करना संकटों को बुलावा देना है। बल्कि इस दौरान घर आए पशु-पक्षी को भोजन दें। मान्यता है कि पूर्वज पशु-पक्षी के रूप में अपने परिजनों से मिलने आते हैं।

हनुमानगढ़ी में सीएम योगी ने किए दर्शन

यूपी के मुख्यमंत्री ने रामलला के भी किए दर्शन, महंत राजू दास से की बातचीत

हनुमान जी से 2022 के विधानसभा चुनाव में विजय मिलने की प्रार्थना की

अयोद्धा, संवाददाता

पिछड़ा वर्ग सम्मेलन के दूसरे दिन समापन अवसर पर यूपी के मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ अयोध्या पहुंचे। अयोध्या आने पर सीएम योगी सबसे पहले हनुमानगढ़ी पहुंचे।

सीएम के साथ मौजूद रहे हनुमानगढ़ी के महंत राजू दास की मानें तो मुख्यमंत्री ने हनुमान जी से 2022 के विधानसभा चुनाव में विजय मिलने की प्रार्थना की और उनका आशीर्वाद लिया। इस दौरान सीएम योगी ने कहा कि अब मैं आपके आराध्य भगवान श्री राम का दर्शन करने आपकी आज्ञा



पूजा अर्चना करते उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ।

फ्रीडम एक्सप्रेस

मंदिर निर्माण में ना आए बाधा

● संवाददाता, फ्रीडम एक्सप्रेस

हनुमानगढ़ी के महंत राजू दास ने कहा कि आज उत्तर प्रदेश के यशस्वी मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ ने हनुमान जी के दरबार में मत्था टेका। सीएम ने विनती की है कि 2022 के रामकाज के लिए भारतीय जनता पार्टी का जन्म हुआ है, राम जन्मभूमि में भव्य और दिव्य मंदिर का निर्माण हो, किसी भी प्रकार की बाधा ना आए। महंत राजू दास ने कहा कि 2022 का किला फतह करने की शुरुआत हनुमान जी महाराज के दरबार से हुई है। 2022 में चुनाव में बीजेपी विजयी हो ऐसा सीएम योगी आदित्यनाथ ने हनुमान जी महाराज आशीर्वाद मांगा है।

लेकर जा रहा हूं, 2022 में हमारी विजय हो।

रामलला के दरबार में की पूजा-अर्चना

हनुमानगढ़ी में दर्शन पूजन के बाद सीएम योगी आदित्यनाथ सीधे रामलला के दरबार में पहुंचे। यहां

सीएम ने पहले अस्थाई मंदिर में पूजा-अर्चना की और उसके बाद उस स्थान को देखने गए जहां रामलला का भव्य और दिव्य राम मंदिर निर्माण हो रहा है। मंदिर का स्थलीय निरीक्षण करने के बाद योगी आदित्यनाथ सीधे पार्टी के पिछड़ा वर्ग सम्मेलन में भाग लेने चले गए।

U-turn underpass at Delhi-G'gram border to open on October 15: Gadkari

Gurugram: A U-turn underpass at the Delhi-Gurugram border on the Delhi-Jaipur Expressway (NH:48) will be opened on October 15. This was announced by the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari at an event during the inspection of the Delhi-Mumbai expressway on Thursday. Gurugram is one of the key points on the eight-lane Delhi-Mumbai Expressway.

The completion of the underpass on the Expressway will allow commuters from Gurugram to take a U-turn to go towards Ambience Mall and DLF Phase 3 without having to travel up to Rajokri in Delhi. The original deadline for the completion of the underpass, which had started on March 5, 2019, was September 4 last year. The project was delayed due to a ban on construction imposed by the Supreme Court in November 2019 to curb air pollution and lock-down imposed due to the Covid-19 pandemic also affected the progress of the work.

The length of the U-turn underpass is 377 metres, while the entire stretch, including access roads, is 1.5 kilometres.

India's largest Sewage Treatment Plant to come up at Okhla

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Government is constructing India's largest 'Sewage Treatment Plant' (STP) at Okhla which will have a capacity to treat 564 million litres of waste water per day. The STP that is spread over an area of 110 acres will be completed by the end of 2022. After the completion of this STP, major flows of sewage that flows into the Yamuna will get treated. This treated water will then be used for rejuvenating underground water while the rest will be discharged into the Yamuna. Water Minister and Delhi Jal Board (DJB) Chairman Satyendar Jain visited the construction site of on Friday and said that the STP will stop 564 MLD of sewage from flowing into the Yamuna by treating to the latest norms of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) 10 mg/L and 'Total Suspended Solids' (TSS) 10 mg/L with nutrient removal.



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सूक्ष्म, लघु एवं मध्यम उद्यम तथा निर्यात प्रोत्साहन विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

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India's options in Afghanistan

“ Despite India's top experts on Afghanistan, led by former Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry and former Ambassador to Kabul, Vivek Katju constantly pleading for opening back channels with the Taliban during the US-Taliban negotiations at Doha, our Government displayed lack of appreciation of the impending events of far reaching implications. The result is we lost quite a ground and all what we achieved during the last 20 years, spending over 2 billion Dollars has been lost and our biggest adversary, Pakistan has gained the most.

Gurinder Singh
Randhawa

Finally, India has come out with a sketch map on Afghanistan.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has articulated New Delhi's position at the SCO meet on Afghanistan. This is seen as an effort at damage control and recovers the ground India lost due to the inaction or delayed action on the part of our diplomatic and security bigwigs including the National Security Advisor, Ajit Doval. They did not read the writing on the wall and never thought that the situation in Afghanistan would change so fast and the Americans abandon Afghanistan lock stock and barrel. Despite India's top experts on Afghanistan, led by former Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry and former Ambassador to Kabul, Vivek Katju constantly pleading for opening back channels with the Taliban during the US-Taliban negotiations at Doha, our Government displayed lack of appreciation of the impending events of far reaching implications.

The result is we lost quite a ground and all what we achieved during the last 20 years, spending over 2 billion Dollars has been lost and our biggest adversary, Pakistan has gained the most.

Historically, the Pashtuns had been natural allies of India. During the freedom struggle the Pashtuns, led by the Sarhadi Gandhi, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan were strongly aligned with the Congress. At the time of partition, they never wanted to be part of Pakistan.

In North West Frontier Province (NWFP), at the time of independence it was Congress government led by Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan. It was dismissed by Pakistan as it refused to fly Pakistan flag.

Pashtuns wanted to join secular India or Afghanistan or be independent state of Pashtunistan integrating the Pashtun population living on both sides of the controversial Durand Line. British did not agree and ordered a referendum giving the choice only to join India or Pakistan. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan's party protested and boycotted the poll. Only two percent of voters participated and Pakistan won.

The Congress leadership was so infatuated with the freedom that it accepted the result saying NWFP was not contiguous to India.

Pashtuns refused to accept the result and continued their struggle for Pashtunistan with support from Afghanistan. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan said he would not live under the slavery of Pakistan and shifted to Jalalabad in Afghanistan. He spent his remaining years in Jalalabad and died in exile. His mausoleum is in Jalalabad.

Pashtun people were disillusioned with India for dumping them and throwing them to the wolves.

Several Pashtun elders to whom I talked during my stay in Afghanistan lamented that India dumped them for the second time when it did not object Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. This further alienated the Pashtuns from India.

In the absence of Indian support, Pakistan jumped in and made the most of the opportunity.

With funds and arms provided by the Americans and Saudi Arabia, Pakistan prepared, trained and armed the Mujahideen groups and warlords in their chain of madrassas in NWFP to fight the Russians.



“ Pashtuns wanted to join secular India or Afghanistan or be independent state of Pashtunistan integrating the Pashtun population living on both sides of the controversial Durand Line. British did not agree and ordered a referendum giving the choice only to join India or Pakistan. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan's party protested and boycotted the poll. Only two percent of voters participated and Pakistan won.

while waiting and watching the situation, before recognising the new regime, we need to establish contacts. India is one of the few countries which has huge surplus in food grains. We can offer wheat and medicines to help the Afghan people who are facing starvation and disease.

The next step is to resume work on the ongoing development projects which the Taliban leadership has already indicated.

India is the biggest importer of dry fruits from Afghanistan. The trade is required to be resumed.

These steps can go a long way in reviving people to people interaction and safeguard Indian interests in Afghanistan and the region as a whole.

-Mail ID: gurindera@gmail.com

“ The approach has to be two pronged. One, as the Prime Minister suggested, combined efforts at the international level through the UN and its instruments and ensure that Afghanistan does not become a source of global terrorism and its soil is not used against other nations in the region. Secondly, India needs to be proactive at the bilateral level. Even while waiting and watching the situation, before recognising the new regime, we need to establish contacts. India is one of the few countries which has huge surplus in food grains. We can offer wheat and medicines to help the Afghan people who are facing starvation and disease.

One of these groups was the Al Qaeda.

The Soviet Union collapsed and it withdrew from Afghanistan. The US thought that their objective was achieved and they withdrew.

The heavily armed Mujahideen groups and warlords started fighting among themselves to appropriate as much as territory they could occupy. The civil war resulted in large scale destruction and absolute chaos. Most of the destruction in Kabul and other cities were suffered during the civil war.

People got fed up with the Mujahideen. In this vacuum, Pakistan created Taliban and pushed them into Afghanistan. Pakistan had large cadres (Talibs) trained in their madrassas who had nothing else to do.

Initially the Taliban (plural of Talib) were welcomed by the people as they restored some order. Even people like Hamid Karzai supported them. But when they imposed the Shariah laws and its harsh implementation, the people turned against them but were helpless.

All these happenings resulted in complete alienation of Pashtuns from India.

It was at this juncture the Al Qaeda which had now turned against the US, bombed the Twin Trade Towers on 9/11/2001. The US reacted with strong vengeance and attacked the Taliban. Al-Qaeda and Taliban elements ran over to Pakistan and survived in the safe havens provided by Pakistan.

Now after 29 years of US in Afghanistan, the situation is back to square one. Pakistan has got what they were dying for. Instead of an inclusive government they secured the commanding position for the Haqqani group which is entirely a Pakistan creation.

Pakistanis hate Hamid Karzai whom they considered out and out

in favour of India. India executed very many development projects including Salma and Shahtoot Dams, high power transmission lines across the Hindukush mountains to provide electricity to Kabul, supplied hundreds of transport buses, gave over a million tonnes of wheat, built the Parliament building, hospitals and several other projects. India instituted hundreds of scholarships to Afghan students to get higher education in Indian institutions. Many of these young Afghans are now occupying good positions in the government, NGOs and other entities. All this cost India around 3 billion Dollars of aid.

Now when Taliban returned, our well wishers Hamid Karzai and Dr Abdullah Abdullah tried to bring together different ethnic groups to install an inclusive Afghanistan government.

Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, who was the chief Taliban negotiator with the US in Doha comes from Popalzai, the biggest tribe in Afghanistan of which Karzai is the head.

Most of Baradar's fighters come from Popalzai and its sub tribes. Karzai thus enjoys good influence over Mullah Baradargroup.

Dr Abdullah is a Panjshiri of Tajik origin having good support among Panjshiris.

Efforts of both Karzai and Abdullah were frustrated by the ISI which sidelined Mullah Baradar and installed a government with their creation, the Haqqanis getting full control. It is now Pakistan rule by proxy.

Even Hamid Karzai and Dr

Abdullah are reported to be under house arrest.

Road Ahead

Now the question before India is how to regain some of the lost ground.

India has to accept the reality of Afghanistan under Taliban and safeguard its interests both in Afghanistan and the Central Asian region.

The approach has to be two pronged. One, as the Prime Minister suggested, combined efforts at the international level through the UN and its instruments and ensure that Afghanistan does not become a source of global terrorism and its soil is not used against other nations in the region.

Secondly, India needs to be proactive at the bilateral level. Even



Climate Change, A Glaring Reality for Farmers in Uttarakhand

Shraddha Iyer, Mumbai

Farmers are being forced to migrate from the beautiful Himalayan Uttarakhand. Here is why.

A majority of people in Uttarakhand live in rural areas and 71% depend on rainfed agriculture, practised through terrace farming on hilly terrain.

Climate change in Uttarakhand will increasingly force people to abandon their ancestral farms in high altitudes and move to the plains over the next 30 years.

"It hasn't been cold in my village since the last 4-6 years. You cannot even imagine how difficult it has become to farm. But it's my deceased father's ancestral land, and his home. How do we leave it behind? But something tells me we might not have an option in a few years..." says



Haimanti Joshi, a resident of little village in Uttarakhand called Almora.

In addition to the stories of lived experiences of village folk battling climate change, Germany-based Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact

Research and The Energy and Resources Institute in New Delhi have forecasted the terrible impact of climate change on the state's hilly regions.

Changing temperatures, upward-

"When we go back to our villages, there's barely any potable water for us to drink, how do we feed our cows?" says Rani, a 24 year old migrant worker in Mumbai. She adds further, "I visited my village last year for the first time after I got married. During the month of November, I required no more than a simple Kameez. When I was young, we used to build snow castles, but I don't know what's going to happen in a few years?"

moving snowlines, receding glaciers, erratic rainfall, reduction of snow in winter, changed cropping seasons, and drying up of perennial streams have become an increasingly frequent phenomenon, as well as expensive for farmers in Uttarakhand.

These variations in climate have particularly affected marginalised communities in Uttarakhand. Women farmers who relied on their farms for sustenance speak of how industrial projects and climate change have run the rivers dry, making it incredibly difficult to feed and rear cattle.

"When we go back to our villages, there's barely any potable water for us to drink, how do we feed our cows?" says Rani, a 24 year old migrant worker in Mumbai.

She adds further, "I visited my village last year for the first time after I got married. During the month of November, I required no more than a simple Kameez. When I was young, we used to build snow castles, but I don't know what's going to happen in a few years? Nobody from my family lives in Ranikhet anymore, everyone lives here now, in Mumbai.

Highways and markets once packed with fresh harvest are now slowly disappearing, as profits dwindle too. And amongst the most disenchanted are the youth of Uttarakhand, who are migrating to bustling cities in nearby states, leaving their farming roots behind.

According to the Rural Development and Migration Commission, Uttarakhand, the inability to diversify livelihoods in rural areas is the biggest factor pushing outmigration (50%), followed by lack of educational institutions (15%) and healthcare facilities (9%).

This flurry of abandonment and migration has resulted in a record high number of ghost towns in Uttarakhand. Massive empty fields that once housed and nurtured so much life and activity, only to become a faint memory. How many ghost towns till we realise we are heading towards a climate catastrophe, and the time to act, is now?

2492 Panchayat Bhawans in UP being made digitally efficient

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh is consistently on the path of development and its rural population is an integral part of this growth trajectory. Ensuring that the benefits of the welfare schemes are provided to every needy, the Yogi government in the span of four and a half years has left no stone unturned to transform the rural and remote areas of the state digitally. In a bid to push the remote and neglected rural areas towards progress, the Uttar Pradesh government under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) has made nearly 2492 Panchayat Bhawans digital. The digital transformation of these panchayat bhawans has not only linked the distant regions to the mainstream society but has also ensured effective and transparent implementation of the welfare schemes of the government at the grassroots level, thereby benefiting every eligible person. With this, every information related to the government and the administration is also being made accessible to the rural populace. To enhance the livelihood of youth residing in the rural pockets of the state, skill development training is being imparted to as many as 10 lakh youths. This has not only helped in providing employment opportunities to them but has removed their struggle of migrating to other states in search for jobs. In another attempt to create employment opportunities for the youth in their respective rural residential areas, under MGNREGA, the government created over 116 crore man days and provided employment to about 1.50 crore workers. As many as 52,634 community toilets have also been constructed to curb open defecation. Village secretariats were established in every gram panchayat to make rural local governance more responsive towards local development needs and provide benefits of government schemes to all. The state government has also provided uninterrupted power supply to the villages for at least 20-22 hours in a day in a huge contrast to the previous governments.



हर शनिवार व रविवार करें मच्छरों पर वार

“स्वस्थ रहने की पहली शर्त है ‘स्वच्छता’। प्रदेश में संचालित किए जा रहे ‘स्वच्छता अभियान’ से विषाणु जनित रोगों पर नियंत्रण पाया गया है। आइए, घर एवं कार्यस्थल के आसपास नियमित सफाई रखकर मच्छर जनित बीमारियों की रोकथाम में अपनी महती भूमिका निभाएं।”

- योगी आदित्यनाथ
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

डेंगू से बचाव के उपाय



मच्छर के काटने से बचें, पूरे बाजू के कपड़े पहनें



पुराने टायर डिस्पोजल कप कबाड़ में पानी जमा न होने दें



सोते समय हमेशा मच्छरदानी का उपयोग करें



पानी के बर्तन व टंकी को पूरी तरह ढक कर रखें



गमलों में पानी जमा न होने दें



सप्ताह में कूलर फूलदान, पशु व पक्षियों के बर्तन को साफ करें

यदि तेज बुखार के साथ सिर दर्द/आँखों के पीछे दर्द, जोड़ों और मांसपेशियों में दर्द, त्वचा पर लाल चकत्ते और थकान हो तो तुरन्त अपने नजदीकी स्वास्थ्य केन्द्र पर जाकर निःशुल्क उपचार कराएं

5 सितम्बर, 2021 से पूरे प्रदेश में सफाई-स्वच्छता-स्वास्थ्य संबंधी विशेष अभियान

प्रत्येक जनपद में एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी की नोडल अधिकारी के रूप में तैनाती

माननीय जनप्रतिनिधियों के मार्गदर्शन में निगरानी समितियों के सहयोग से पूरे प्रदेश में अभियान का पर्यवेक्षण

इन बातों का रखें ध्यान



डबल मास्क पहनें



एक-दूसरे से दो गज की दूरी रखें



साबुन या सैनिटाइजर से बार-बार हाथ धोएं



प्रतिरोधक क्षमता बढ़ाएं



कोविड वैक्सीन समय पर लगवाएं

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश



Police reviews security in meet with States

NEW DELHI: To discuss the issue of terrorism and the security scenario, the Delhi Police on Friday called an inter-State coordination meeting with its counterparts in neighbouring States and Intelligence agencies at its headquarters in the national Capital. "The meeting was called to discuss the issue of terrorism and the security scenario in the neighbouring States. The Afghanistan situation after the Taliban took over the country was also on the agenda," said a senior police official.

2 arrested, inter-State gun syndicate busted

NEW DELHI: With the arrest of two men, the Delhi Police on Thursday busted an inter-State illegal firearms syndicate in the national Capital. Police said that the duo was arrested from ISBT at Delhi's Anand Vihar area, where they had come to deliver a consignment. The accused have been identified as Shivam Sharma (24) and Krishan Kumar (22), both residents of Uttar Pradesh's Aligarh. Police said they have also recovered 15 pistols and 40 live cartridges from the possession of the accused. According to Pramod Singh Kushwah, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Special Cell, specific inputs were received that Shivam and Krishan had collected the consignment of firearms from an arms supplier in Madhya Pradesh.

2.5 cr doses On PM birthday

Emotional moment for me, said PM Modi

New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said it was an unforgettable and emotional moment for him as over 2.50 crore COVID-19 vaccine doses were administered in the country on his 71st birthday.

"With your efforts, India has created a world record of administering over 2.5 crore vaccines in a single day, a feat not even the most powerful nations have been able to achieve," Modi said during an interaction via video link with healthcare workers and beneficiaries in the coastal state. "We saw



how the nation kept looking at CoWIN dashboard yesterday. Over 15 lakh vaccinations per hour, over 26,000 vaccinations every minute took place yesterday. Over 425 people were administered vaccines each second," he said. Modi said he appreciates

all doctors, medical staff, and people in administration in the country for this effort.

The huge effort and skilled manpower needed to accomplish this task show the might of India, he added. "Birthdays come and go but I have been away from such things.

Over 26,000 vaccinations every minute took place on birthday

Congress wishes Modi on b'day, says country paying prices for his failures

NEW DELHI: Congress on Friday wished Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his 71st birthday but said the country is paying the price for his "failures" on several fronts and so the day is being observed as "unemployment day", "anti-farmer day" and "high prices day". The party reminded that birthdays of former prime ministers are celebrated as different days, with Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday as "Children's Day", Indira Gandhi's as "National Integration Day", Rajiv Gandhi's as "Sadbhavana Diwas" and Atal Bihari Vajpayee's as "Good Governance Day" but Modi's birthday is being observed as "unemployment day". Congress leader Rahul Gandhi extended his wishes to the prime minister on Twitter. "Happy Birthday, Modi ji," said Rahul. For the Indian Youth Congress and the NSUI, it was "national unemployment day".

Over 425 people were administered vaccines each second



Without naming any party, Modi said "a political party" developed fever after over 2.5 crore vaccine doses were administered on his birthday.

"People speak of fever as a side effect of vaccines. But a political party experienced fever after 2.5 crore vaccines were administered on my birthday," he said.

Modi lauded Goa CM Pramod Sawant and his government for overcoming challenges in accomplishing 100 per cent vaccination of the first dose of covid vaccines in

the coastal state. Goa is on way to becoming a leading state in India as far as vaccination is concerned, Modi said. "Goa is playing important role in the success of the world's largest and fastest vaccination drive - Sabko vaccine, muft vaccine. In the past few months, Goa fought bravely against heavy rainfall, cyclone and flood, under the leadership of Sawant," he said. When they are aware that all people are vaccinated, tourists will also feel safe and flock to Goa in more numbers, he said.

Plea junked against admin reforms in Lakshadweep

Kochi, Agency. The efforts of Save Lakshadweep Forum, an all-party initiative launched by the residents of the Union Territory to stop the anti-people policies pursued by the Admin of Lakshadweep Praful Patel came to a naught on Friday as the Kerala High Court nixed the last of the PIL filed by the forum challenging various reforms launched by the administration. A Division Bench dismissed the PIL petition filed by a Lakshadweep based lawyer challenging the Administration's decision to shut down the dairy farms in the islands and to remove meat from the menu of the daily noon-meal served in the schools in Lakshadweep.

Expansion of Nepal Cabinet within a

PM Nepal Deuba is running the Government with five ministers

Kathmandu, Agency

The Nepal Government led by Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba will take "full shape" within a week with the expansion of the Cabinet, a senior leader of the ruling coalition said on Friday.

Even two months after coming to power, Prime Minister Deuba has not been able to expand his Cabinet due to prolonged

power sharing negotiations among the five-party ruling alliance. At present, Deuba is running the Government with five ministers, with himself heading 17 Ministries.

Speaking at the inauguration of the newly-formed party's central office in Aloknagar-Baneshwor area in the outskirts of Kathmandu, Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Socialist) Chairman Madhav Kumar Nepal said, "The Cabinet would get full shape within a week."

Kanpur Metro likely to start from Nov 30

CM Yogi virtually unveils the first prototype train of Kanpur and Agra Metro

DPRs for Metro in five more cities are in the final stage: CM Yogi

Lucknow: After successfully run of metro in Lucknow, Ghaziabad, Noida and Greater Noida cities of Uttar Pradesh, the two major cities of Agra and Kanpur will be among several cities of UP to have Metro rail.

Making this announcement in Gorakhpur on Saturday, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath

Unemployment rate decreased from 17% in 2016 to 4-5%

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday claimed that the unemployment rate in the state was more than 17 per cent in the year 2016 which has now come down to four to five per cent. He was addressing a function after distributing toolkits to trained beneficiaries under the Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana and loans under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana here. "For the last one-and-a-half years, the whole world has been hit by COVID-19 pandemic.



said that the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for five more cities Gorakhpur, Varanasi, Prayagraj, Jhansi and Meerut are in the final stage.

Speaking at a function where he virtually unveiled the first prototype train of Kanpur and Agra Metro, the

CM said, "I feel happy that Uttar Pradesh, the state with the largest population in the country, is operating this excellent facility of public transport in its four cities. The UP Metro Rail Corporation is working on a war footing to provide public transport service of Metro in

Kanpur and Agra."

Metro is the need of the hour and it will prove to be a milestone in the development of Agra and Kanpur. "It is a matter of time when five more cities will also have this safe, convenient and affordable mode of public

Narendra Modi's New India Dynamic, Resourceful and a Global Power



Vikash Sharma, Resident Editor (Delhi)

India recently celebrated its 75th Independence Day. Post 1947, the country struggled to undo the damage of almost 200 years of colonial rule. India's growth and development gained more momentum ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi assumed office in 2014. After becoming the Prime Minister of the country, Narendra Modi has been taking one after another step for the progress of the nation. India is now being recognised as a major global power thanks to the progressive policies of the government.

Modi Government has not only focused on the modernisation and technological advancement of the country but also paid equal attention to the preservation and spread of the Indian culture and heritage. Today, the International Yoga Divas is celebrated in around 192 countries across the globe. It is impossible to list out all the

Infrastructure: Infrastructure has been another important thrust area for the Modi government. The ambitious National Pipeline Project was unveiled by the PM with intended spending of Rs 110 lakh crores to further improve the infrastructure in the country. The project has identified around 7000 infrastructure projects to provide seamless connectivity to every part of the nation. The project will play a significant role in uplifting the living standards of millions of Indians in the country. Besides this project, there has been significant progress in the speed of highways construction, healthcare, rural electrification, internet connectivity and various other fields. Today electricity has reached every village in the country.

works done by the government of the present day in one single article; however, in the subsequent paragraphs, we will discuss some of the major initiatives taken by PM Modi and his government for the growth of the nation.

Ease of doing business: India's economy was drained out during the British rule and the subsequent world wars. Re-building the economy has been a herculean task for governments who did get a free India, but one which was large and needed consolidation. Under Modi Government, India has made significant improvement with respect to economic development. In 2021, India ranked 63rd among 190 countries in the ease of doing business report by the World Bank. This is a significant jump of 14 points from number 77 in 2017. Transparent government policies, low corruption and improved infrastructure have been some of the reasons for this climb. Modi government has brought in 37 reforms to make doing business easy in the country. Today, India is one of the best destinations for start-ups in the world.

Foreign investors have also shown great confidence in the Modi government and invested \$440 bn during the period 2017-21 compared to \$266.21 bn in 2007-14.

Defence: India is situated in one of the most volatile neighbourhoods in the world. Under PM Modi, India has invested heavily in modernising its armed forces. India has procured some of the most advanced weaponry in the world like Rafael fighter jets, Apache helicopters, MH-60 Romeo helicopters and MK-45 Gun System and many more. India's investment in modern weaponry has created a balance of military strength among the major Asian countries and thus contributed significantly to regional stability.

Climate change: Climate change is currently being regarded as the biggest challenge faced by the earth. As a responsible nation, India under the leadership of PM Modi has been taking significant steps to counter global warming and reverse climate change as much as possible. Various reports have suggested that India is the only G20 nation that is

expected to meet the commitments of the Paris agreement. India has also banned the use of single-use plastics to lessen its carbon footprints. India has also been running the Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY) since 2016. The scheme has helped more than 8 crore women to switch from traditional fuels like wood, coal or cow-dung cakes to cleaner fuel like LPG. Besides improving the lives of millions of Indian families, this scheme has helped India in reducing millions of tons of CO2 emissions.

Renewable energy: India's climate efforts have also received a significant boost from India's renewable energy programme. Due to the sincere efforts of the government of India, today India is the 3rd largest producer of renewable energy. India meets around 38 percent of its total energy needs from renewable sources. Solar and wind energy have seen the biggest boost during the Modi government. Other renewable sources like biogas, bio-protein and waste-to-energy are also

coming up fast. The efforts of PM Modi have resulted in the establishment of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) to optimize the utilisation of solar energy in 124 countries in the world. Today India is considered the third most attractive destination for investment in renewable energy after the USA and China.

The fight against Covid-19: Covid-19 came as perhaps the biggest global challenge in recent times. During the pandemic, India emerged as the global leader in the fight against the virus. The efficient administration of the PM of India not only helped the country run the biggest vaccination drive of world history but also provided humanitarian aid to more than 150 countries in the form of vaccine and safety equipment. During the pandemic, India emerged as the pharmacy of the world.

As the world economy is gradually recovering from the Covid-19 shock, countries and organisations are looking at India for motivation. At a time when most economies are struggling to get back on their

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has been another significant mission by the central government. This mission has changed the face of many Indian cities and rural areas. PM Modi through this mission has inspired the citizens to assist the authorities to keep the nation clean and hygienic. Citizens are encouraged to reduce, reuse, recycle and segregate their waste at the source. Several waste-to-energy plants have come up in the nation in recent years to consume waste as well as generate electricity. Under this mission, more than 11 crore toilets have been built across the country and thousands of cities and rural areas are open defecation free today. It has also helped the country check the spread of numerous communicable diseases.



feet, India is not only back on the growth path but also meeting its targets for climate-change mitigation. It is the inspiring leadership of PM Modi, that India has started claiming its rightful place in the world order in the 21st century. We truly believe that his idea of "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance" will make the 21st century truly the Century of India.

Kashmir on way to normalcy, but alienation remains

Ajeet Singh

Sixteen-year-old Aarya Vivek is just back from his first visit to Kashmir valley, the land of his ancestors. He is thrilled to see the natural beauty of the place that his parents and grandparents had to leave 30 years ago as militancy erupted there.

Aarya was born outside Kashmir and his parents have nicknamed him Badshah. He grew with stories that his family members narrated right from his childhood.

On 13 September, his father Vimal Sumbli, took him along to show Kashmir on a six day tour that covered Srinagar, Gulmarg, Pahalgam and Sonamarg, the usual tourist circuits for short term visitors.

"All these places were full of tourists and there were traffic jams in Srinagar. People roamed Srinagar roads and streets till 10.00 pm. Dal Lake and three gardens on its banks were also crowded with locals and outstation tourists despite Covid restrictions," says Sumbli adding that situation was normal.

Some odd incidents of occasional encounters between militants and security forces continue to occur but these are now far less in numbers compared to two years ago.

Home Minister told Rajya Sabha recently that killings in militant activities came down by 59 percent in 2020 compared to 2019 and it further ebbed by 32 percent in the first six months of 2021 compared to corresponding period of the previous year.

Militancy has been going down since August 2019 when the Article 370 that guaranteed special status to Jammu and Kashmir, was abrogated by the Modi government. Since then, the situation is improving on almost all fronts.

Killings, both by terrorists and the security forces, are now targeted thus sparing the common man. Stone-pelting incidents and huge funeral processions of militants are now things of the past. A timely strict lockdown is the way with the security forces. Emotions and provocations dissipate in two three days. Government says that the youths indulging in violence will not get their passports and will also be debarred from government jobs. Services of some relatives of the separatist' leaders and militants have been terminated for their indulgence in anti-national activities.

Pakistan's efforts to incite disturbances after the recent death of a top separatist leader Sayed Ali Shah Geelani didn't evoke much response. People seem to have had enough of violence. They want peace, development and jobs.

Militants have been targeting police and security forces personnel when they come visiting their families on leave. Political activists and junior level leaders of the BJP have also been the target of militants.

Security forces have developed an effective intelligence grid to corner and eliminate militants. Most of the top ranks of the militants have been killed during the last two years.

Even political activities have picked up though still at low key. All leaders of prominent political parties detained after abrogation of the article 370 were released by October 2020. They have joined hands under a body called the Gupkar Alliance to pursue their demands for reinstatement of article 370, restore statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and hold elections before delimitation. The Congress and the newly raised Apni Party have since dissociated from the Alliance though they support its main demands.

A Delimitation Commission has toured different areas of the state



and its report may come in the next couple of months. Will the delimitation be without a fresh Census, is a point being debated by political parties.

National Conference and the Peoples Democratic

Party have challenged the abrogation of Article 370 in the Supreme Court. An early decision on that is not likely. Elections have also been held for the District Development Councils and Gupkar Alliance made

considerable foray in Kashmir valley.

Some notable enactments have helped solve human rights issues. The West Pakistani

refugees have got their domicile certificates entitling

them to vote in state assembly elections, enrol in professional colleges and apply for jobs in the state government. Also property rights have been conferred on daughters of the state marrying a non-state subject.

Rehabilitation of migrant Kashmiri Pandits back in the Kashmir valley has not seen much response though about 4000 youths have joined their jobs in the valley.

A sizeable number of youths from the valley have joined the security forces. A batch of about 400 youths recently passed out after their training to join the Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry regiment.

Some incentives have been announced for

investment in industries in the state but it is yet to materialise.

While things seem to be turning to normal in the Kashmir valley, a deep sense of alienation still prevails among the masses. Soon after the abrogation of Article 370, then Governor SP Malik said 50,000 jobs will be provided to youth in a couple of months. That hasn't happened. Militant violence has significantly ebbed but youth still continue to join the militants' ranks.

Recent incidents of Drone attacks at Jammu Air Force station is an ominous development on the security front. Return of the Taliban in Afghanistan and its possible fallout on situation in Jammu

and Kashmir is also a matter of concern for which appropriate response would have to be calibrated in time.

The political vacuum in the state is a dangerous thing. Union government will have to find ways and means to have a representative government in Jammu and Kashmir may be under a Union Territory status to begin with. The Centre can of course keep the law and order under its control, to handle the militancy without any local political interference.

Mail ID: ajeetsingh1946@gmail.com
(The writer is a freelance journalist based at Hisar. He has been All India Radio's Correspondent in Jammu and Kashmir)

व्यावसायिक शिक्षा के बढ़ते कदम

आई.टी.आई. है जहां, रोज़गार है वहां

अर्हकारी शैक्षणिक योग्यता की मेरिट के आधार पर आई.टी.आई. में ऑनलाइन प्रवेश प्रक्रिया प्रारम्भ

प्रशिक्षण के मुख्य व्यवसाय	अवधि / अर्हता
वेल्डर, स्वीडिंग टेक्नोलॉजी	एक वर्ष/8वीं उत्तीर्ण
वायरमैन, पेन्टर	दो वर्ष/8वीं उत्तीर्ण
कम्प्यूटर ऑपरेटर एंड प्रोग्रामिंग असिस्टेंट, फिजियोथेरेपी टेक्नीशियन, फायर टेक्नोलॉजी एण्ड इण्डस्ट्रियल सेफ्टी मैनेजमेंट, फूड प्रोडक्शन जनरल, ट्रेवल एण्ड टूर असिस्टेंट	एक वर्ष/10वीं उत्तीर्ण
फिटर, टर्नर, मशीनिष्ट, मशीनिष्ट ग्राइण्डर, इलेक्ट्रीशियन, इलेक्ट्रीशियन (पावर डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन), टेक्नीशियन पावर इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिस्टम, इलेक्ट्रोप्लेटर, ड्राफ्टमैन मैकेनिकल, ड्राफ्टमैन सिविल, टेक्नीशियन मेडिकल इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, रेडियोलॉजी टेक्नीशियन	दो वर्ष/10वीं उत्तीर्ण

आई०टी०आई० से प्रशिक्षण के लाभ

- राजकीय औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण संस्थान में इयूअल सिस्टम प्रशिक्षण योजना (14356 सीटें) तथा OJT (ऑन द जॉब ट्रेनिंग) योजना के अंतर्गत उद्योगों में प्रशिक्षण उपलब्ध।
- अप्रेंटिसशिप प्रशिक्षण से कौशल और व्यावसायिकता को बेहतर बनाने के अवसर।
- छात्रवृत्ति-शुल्क प्रतिपूर्ति की व्यवस्था।
- स्वरोजगार हेतु सरकार द्वारा मुद्रा लोन योजनान्तर्गत बिना गारंटी के ऋण उपलब्ध।
- आई०टी०आई० प्रशिक्षित युवक-युवतियों हेतु सरकारी विभागों तथा अर्द्ध सरकारी/निगम/परिषद व निजी प्रतिष्ठानों में रोजगार के पर्याप्त अवसर सुलभ।

आई०टी०आई० से प्रशिक्षण के लाभ

- राजकीय औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण संस्थान में इयूअल सिस्टम प्रशिक्षण योजना (14356 सीटें) तथा OJT (ऑन द जॉब ट्रेनिंग) योजना के अंतर्गत उद्योगों में प्रशिक्षण उपलब्ध।
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सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

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Editorial

Poll Bugle in UP



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday set the election campaign in the state on motion. With less than six months to go for elections to the state assembly, Yogi's attempt seems to be to take a lead over his opponents.

First, Yogi has to fight anti-incumbency and defend his claims of good governance and transparency in administration. For BJP, 403-member state assembly holds strength in sending the biggest contingent of 31 members to the Rajya Sabha. For the ruling party at the Centre, it is important to gain as many seats in UP as possible, to shore up its stocks in the Upper House.

Yogi Adityanath already started his campaign, with full-page advertisement in a national daily, which unfortunately backfired for using images of projects in West Bengal. Though the paper apologized for the goof up and withdrew it from its digital versions, it gave a lot of bad press to the Uttar Pradesh government.

The fragmented opposition still is trying to cobble up an alliance to take on the formidable Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) with Prime Minister Narendra Modi expected to take the battle from the front. But unlike earlier elections, the BJP's stock has been dwindling in assembly polls. The entire BJP top brass gave their best shot in the recent elections in West Bengal, but could not stop the return of formidable Mamta Banerjee, who single-handedly grabbed victory from the might of well-oiled election apparatus of BJP.

Yogi Adityanath already started his campaign, with full-page advertisement in a national daily, which unfortunately backfired for using images of projects in West Bengal. Though the paper apologized for the goof up and withdrew it from its digital versions, it gave a lot of bad press to the Uttar Pradesh government.

The forthcoming assembly election is very crucial for Yogi and the BJP. First, Yogi has to fight anti-incumbency and defend his claims of good governance and transparency in administration. For BJP, 403-member state assembly holds strength in sending the biggest contingent of 31 members to the Rajya Sabha. For the ruling party at the Centre, it is important to gain as many seats in UP as possible, to shore up its stocks in the Upper House.

The ongoing farmers' protests against three controversial farm laws could also affect the BJP in western Uttar Pradesh, the stronghold of Bharatiya Kisan Union leader Rakesh Tikait. In an apparent bid to placate farmers, Yogi Adityanath listed several achievements of his government in the farm sector during the event to mark four-and-a-half years of his government. In the absence of a formidable challenger from opposition, Yogi could hold his ground, albeit with lesser numbers.

A Game Changer Screen-Play

Samata Dawale, Mumbai



In recent years, emergence of OTT platforms has become a go-to option for any kind of entertainment; disrupting the film industry it has truly become a game changer.

Gone are those days when one used to surf hundreds of channels for entertainment while now one can make informed decisions about their watchlist. The possibility to pause live events, movie premieres and movie shoots has definitely taken a toll on the film industry, however, the rising popularity of the OTT platforms is no less than a blessing for the silver screens. OTT bypassed the theatrical movie releases and started getting mainstream films on their platforms to help the content reach to millions of audiences for a fraction of the cost.

Though the film fraternity went through an entire industry shift, watching a movie in any corner of the world with a mobile phone and internet connection has become the new normal. OTT has made it more affordable and convenient to their huge potential user base. Who would have thought watching a 'Bell Bottom' in a pyjama would be considered as a huge lifestyle change? The cost of a popcorn bucket at the cinemas can now buy yearly subscription for a streaming channel. The OTT spread is vast and the struggling talent in Bollywood have made their mark over the couple of years in various genres. But the growth of OTT also lead threat to lot of jobs in theatres.

However, no platform can replace the theatrical experience as some movies need a bigger screen to watch. Can Marvel fans really appreciate streaming certain movies on OTT? Hulk would surely not look bigger on the smaller screens. Thus the cinema culture can never be eradicated completely. However, one can not ignore the fact that OTT is surely a boon for few filmmakers who always struggled to get big screens and had no monetary support for the promotions.

cinema culture can never be eradicated completely. However, one can not ignore the fact that OTT is surely a boon for few filmmakers who always struggled to get big screens and had no monetary support for the promotions.

OTT has certainly kept user's sanity intact throughout the Pandemic. Both have their own pros and cons. However, in the foreseeable future both the screens will continue to entertain their audiences. Hoping for a win-win situation for both the platforms to keep their essence in this revolution. This too shall pass.

Can Marvel fans really appreciate streaming certain movies on OTT? Hulk would surely not look bigger on the smaller screens. Thus the cinema culture can never be eradicated completely. However, one can not ignore the fact that OTT is surely a boon for few filmmakers who always struggled to get big screens and had no monetary support for the promotions.

But we in the Freedom Express have taken a brave initiative to launch a weekly news magazine in the traditional format, knowing fully well that revenue sources are scarce and the publication needs to stand out from others to attract eye-balls.

Taking up a new Challenge

Media industry in India is passing through choppy waters at present, with many publications closing down the shops due to financial crunch. The entire media scene has changed dramatically after the advent of social and digital media. Unlike traditional media, digital platform is cost effective and its recurring overhead expenditure is also far lower than traditional publications.

Those publications, which weathered the recession have forayed into several allied activities to flatten the expenditure curve. No venture has taken the challenge to launch a new publication in the present times.

But we in the Freedom Express have taken a brave initiative to launch a weekly news magazine in the traditional format, knowing fully well that revenue sources are scarce and the publication needs to stand out from others to attract eye-balls.

All those involved in the venture are veterans in journalism, who place credibility a prominent place for its content. While we have plans to cover the entire country gradually, the focus would be on northern region and Jammu and Kashmir.

Freedom express would strive to stand away from any political ideologies, but rooted in national interests. We seek your patronage to offer you independent, credible news and analysis of news.



Headless Congress Heading from Crisis to Crisis

N. Bhadrans Nair

The grand old Indian National Congress is heading from crisis after crisis. The resignation of Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh at the prodding of Congress central leadership comes after a two-month-long drama with his bite noire Navjot Singh Sidhu. A 'humiliated' Amarinder Singh announced all courses of action were open before him.

Punjab, alongwith Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand will go to polls in 2022 and the latest crisis does not augur well for the already decimated Congress. The party is already facing factionalism in Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan, where it is in power. Changing leadership in Punjab does not mean, the crisis is over.

After the disappointing performance of the party in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Rahul Gandhi resigned from the leadership, without waiting for an alternative. A month later in August, Sonia Gandhi came back as interim president of the Congress Party. Since then, the national

opposition party is waiting for a leader "who can lead us with courage, love and fidelity," as Rahul Gandhi put in his resignation.

The top decision-making body, Congress Working Committee is packed with many leaders, who do not have charisma and popular support to pull the party out of the woods.

There is no room for any divergent view in Congress. When a group of 23 leaders wrote to Sonia Gandhi in August 2020 seeking sweeping reforms, fair party elections, collective decision-making and a full-time, visible leadership, instead of deliberating the issues threadbare, several Gandhi-loyalists came out to criticise the signatories. Many of the signatories were later sidelined in the party.

Rahul Gandhi plunged to active politics in 2004, and rose to lead the party in 2017 until his resignation in August 2019. He has never been taken a serious leader by independent political analysts, non-Congress leaders or by a section of the Congress leaders themselves. In crucial moments of national or party crisis he would disappear, leaving second-rung leaders to defend the party's stand.

The young Gandhi could not drive the party to a comfortable position in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections nor in 2019 elections. In fact, in the last elections held in 2019, Rahul Gandhi himself lost his family pocket borough of Amethi, but was saved from disgrace by his victory from a far away constituency in Kerala.

The complete rout of the party in Lok Sabha elections followed major crises for its governments in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. While the BJP was able to engineer trouble in Madhya Pradesh and split the

Rahul Gandhi plunged to active politics in 2004, and rose to lead the party in 2017 until his resignation in August 2019. He has never been taken a serious leader by independent political analysts, non-Congress leaders or by a section of the Congress leaders themselves. In crucial moments of national or party crisis he would disappear, leaving second-rung leaders to defend the party's stand.

Congress legislators to grab power, in Rajasthan, both warring factions of incumbent Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his rival Sachin Pilot were convinced to save the government, though discontentment among Pilot supporters is still simmering.

For the time being, the Congress government headed by Bhupesh Baghel in Chhattisgarh appears to be saved, but all is not well in the state, with the rival camp led by Health Minister T.S. Singh Deo maintaining a studied silence on his next move.

In the southern state of Kerala, the crisis in

the party following revamping of the state unit since its rout in the May 2021 assembly elections is still continuing. Two prominent state leaders, Oomen Chandy and Ramesh Chennithala are sulking, as their protégés were not accommodated in the organisational level overhaul at district level, cleared by the high command.

Time is running out for the Indian National Congress, with stop-gap arrangements continuing in decision-making by Rahul-Priyanka duo. Neither of them could so far pull out any brahmastra during any of the electoral battles. If the current stalemates or indecisiveness in party affairs continue, Prime Minister Narendra Modi could have the last laugh, with a 'Congress Mukh Bharat' or Congress-free India.

A weak Congress means, fragmented opposition, which is not healthy for democracy in the country. Any ruling dispensation could only deliver its best, when the opposition is strong. Else, it would promote autocracy.

Email: narayananbnair@gmail.com

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Shreya Arora



If you are born between 1981 and 1996 in a business class family, chances are everyone from your great-grandfather to your father and uncles would have worked under the same roof. However, being a millennial your exposure to the world, a sense of new passions and possibilities and the desire to stay away from family-drama created because of a common root of finance, would dissuade you from joining your family business.

According to a research study done by Thomas M. Zellweger and Philipp Sieger, only 4.9 percent of millennials like to join their generational businesses, despite their global vision, technological advancements and comprehensive approach. It is always a difficult choice to choose from; whether to come home or break free and explore your individual capabilities.

Indraneel Chitale, who is a 4th Generation Partner and CEO of the 80-Year-old

Chitale Group came back to India after completing his degree in electronics and telecommunications from Harvard Business School and took over the Strategy, Manufacturing, Automation, Operations and R&D part of his family business. In a conversation with Freedom Express, Indraneel said, "I was always clear that I would like to join the legacy brand which my great-grandfather started and the only reason I was sent abroad by my family was to grasp a better understanding of how to make our brand more global."

Chitale Bandhu is a brand which got all Indians and foodies living abroad glued to a snack called Bakarwadi. Ever since 1970, there has been no looking back for this company when it comes to namkeens, sweets and other snacks which one can relish with tea and coffee. However, in order to sustain a brand of this scale with so many stakeholders involved it is crucial that members of



all generations have their own departments and a common goal which is in the larger interest of the company.

When asked about how he deals with a common challenge of the elders being more authoritative and less adaptive, Indraneel said, "It's not like we don't argue over issues, however, because each one of us have been allotted our

departments as per our qualifications and experiences, we often respect each other's decisions. Even the older generation has understood the 'Rejuvenation model' of business development, wherein the elders adapt to the changes suggested by the millennials for the growth of their legacy, rather than handing it over to people from the outside

world in order to endure."

Keeping up with the trends this decade

Talking about being open to expansion ideas and keeping up with the latest health trends, Indraneel has come up with a parallel brand for sweets and snacks under the same umbrella by the name of Chitale M², which stands for Mindful and

Indraneel Chitale

The 4th Leg of The Chitale Chair



Indraneel Chitale, who is a 4th Generation Partner and CEO of the 80-Year-old Chitale Group came back to India after completing his degree in electronics and telecommunications from Harvard Business School and took over the Strategy, Manufacturing, Automation, Operations and R&D part of his family business.



on its expansion in the Indian market for teetotalers. Indraneel has left no stones unturned in order to grow his brand and therefore, he is also an angel investor in Women's CricZone, a platform dedicated to women's cricket.

Talking about expanding in different directions Indraneel says, "No matter what I do, Chitale Bandhu's global expansion is always at the heart of all my ventures. Whether it is M², Herbea or Women's CricZone, I use these platforms to spread awareness about our renowned legacy brand which my forefathers have worked so hard on for most part of their lives."

Succession Plan

Motivated by a need to step back and retire, family incumbent leaders see the business as a tool to support both themselves and the next generation. Chitale Bandhu, which has so far been governed and grown by family members, is now approaching seasoned businessmen from the outside world and giving them a place at the board table. "For the elders to let go

of their reins is one of the most difficult challenges, however, my family feels no shame in inviting a fresh perspective if it's beneficial to their company. This process is still underway and might take a few years, however, the important part is that we would do everything to ensure that our generational business stays alive for plenty of decades to come", says Indraneel when asked about the succession plan for the 80 year old family business.

For millennials to see family businesses as a career choice, it is important that the older generations keep pace with the changing trends and give way to the ideas and approaches suggested by the youth. While the former's experiences in the business world helps the brand to stay alive, the latter helps companies grow.

Chitale Bandhu is not only a celebrated brand when it comes to food but also their business ethics and ideologies which has inspired Indraneel to pick a life in Pune over a possibly accomplished career in America.

Govt to save Rs 600 cr in Okhla Barrel Project: Min

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Government will save approximately Rs 600 cr in the Okhla barrel project, Water Minister Satyendar Jain announced on Thursday. The 15 km long barrels carrying 115 MGD of waste water will now be made at a reduced cost of Rs 60 Cr and the old sewage carrying barrels at Okhla will be constructed in two years. Directed Government officials to complete the project at earliest, Jain said, "these are old barrels and have exhausted their usual life. Among these, the oldest barrel was made by the British in 1938, while the other two barrels were constructed in 1956 and 1985. Minister instructed officials to lay down a new pipeline of 2200 mm diameter made of High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) material parallel to existing conduits on priority to provide immediate relief to the area.

all private agencies should hold a review meeting at their construction sites: Gopal Rai

NEW DELHI: Given that dust plays a crucial role in polluting the air, the Delhi Government, in a first instructed major private construction agencies to follow norms to stop dust pollution within 15 days.

Delhi's Environment Minister, Gopal Rai, on Friday said all private agencies should hold a review meeting at their construction sites to see which guidelines are being followed and which are not and comply, accordingly. "Our Government will take strict action against private agencies found not following the norms as per the Winter Action Plan (WAP). Pollution is an issue related to our own life and our children's lives; we all have to fight for clean air together," Rai said during his interaction with construction sector representatives.

To curb dust pollution, the Delhi Government called for a meeting of all agencies which are involved in



construction activities, like the MCD, DDA, CPWD and PWD. They have been asked to submit their action plan by September 21. In private agencies, L&T, the GMR Group, Raheja Developers, NDMPL and the NBCC have been included.

"We have informed them of whatever shortcomings that we observed from their end. In this fight against pollution, we have communicated strict directions to private construction agencies and sought compliance from all of them. Instructions have been given to the agencies to conduct review meetings

individually," Rai added.

The Minister also instructed them to follow the 14 -point guidelines to prevent dust pollution. The construction/demolition activity in NCT of Delhi can only be undertaken after ensuring the Dust Mitigation Measures prescribed as dust/wind breaking walls of appropriate height around the periphery of the construction site. Installation of Anti-Smog Gun(s) (for >20,000 m2 built up area). A tarpaulin, green net on the scaffolding is to be put up around the area under construction and the building.

All vehicles, including those carrying construction

material and construction debris of any kind, should be cleaned, their wheels washed and they should be fully covered and protected.

All construction debris and material should be stored on the site and not dumped on public roads or pavements. No loose soil, sand, construction and demolition waste or any other construction material that causes dust shall be left uncovered. No grinding and cutting of building materials in open areas. Wet jets should be used in grinding and stone cutting. Unpaved surfaces and areas with loose soil should be adequately

sprinkled with water to suppress dust. Roads leading to or at construction sites must be paved and blacktopped i.e. metallic roads (for >20,000 m2 built up area). Construction and demolition waste should be recycled on-site or transported to an authorised recycling facility and due record of the same should be maintained.

Every worker working on the construction site and involved in loading, unloading and carriage of construction material and construction debris should be provided with an anti-dust mask to prevent inhalation of dust particles. Arrangement should be provided for medical help, investigation and treatment to workers involved in the construction of building and carry of construction material and debris relatable to dust emission and dust mitigation measures shall be displayed prominently at the construction site for easy public viewing.

20 animals rescued in 48 hours in city

NEW DELHI: Delhi's urban wildlife battles for survival as 20 different animal species were rescued in 48 hours. From civet cats to reptiles, to birds, the list of animals falling victim to the capital city's rapid expansion is endless.

According to wildlife experts, habitat encroachment is forcing these wild animals to venture out of their natural habitats, leading to conflict with citizens of the fast-paced metropolis.

Recently, on Wednesday, a four-feet long Royal Snake was rescued from the city's iconic Red Fort. The non-venomous snake was comfortably coiled in the office of the security guard at Red Fort, who frantically called the Wildlife SOS. The snake was safely extricated from the location and transferred into a transportation carrier. After a medical observation, the snake will be released back into its natural habitat.

On the same day, a venomous Cobra was found in the crevices of a car in Pine Drive, DLF Chattarpur! To the dismay of the car owner, The 4-foot long cobra had coiled itself in the tires of the car refusing to move. The snake

was safely rescued by the Wildlife SOS Rapid Response Unit. The Chattarpur area in Delhi, famous for its large farmhouses is known to attract unusual visitors including the Asian Palm Civet. On Tuesday, Wildlife SOS rescued an Asian Palm civet from Radhey Mohan Drive, Chattarpur who had been frequenting the area in search of food and shelter.

The same day, a rare yellow-footed green pigeon was found limping around a residence in Patel Dham, Manas Marg in Delhi. Concerned for the bird, the residents immediately contacted Wildlife SOS on their 24-Hour Helpline. The pigeon was found with a severe leg injury, inhibiting it from flying. The rare bird is currently undergoing treatment and will be released back into the wild once deemed fit.

Animals of all kinds are becoming victims of the fast-paced life of Delhi. In the past 48 hours, Wildlife SOS rescued a Kite from Sainik Farms, a barn owl from GBSSS School in Janakpuri, and even a monitor Lizard from Garhi Harsaru, Gurgaon.

Bjp , Cong blow poll bugle with yatras

Praver Sharma, Uttarakhand



With the stage set for a high-stake battle of ballots, traditional rivals the Congress and the BJP have embarked on their political yatras to woo the voters of the beautiful Himalayan state, nestled in the lap of Himalayas. Ridden with factionalism, internal differences and their share of failures in the last five years, the ruling as well as the Opposition parties have hit the roads of Uttarakhand to prove loyalty to people and win their confidence.

The 2022 elections promises to be a lot different from the other four state polls (2002,07, 12 and 2017) as Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party too has hit the top gear in its poll campaign. The arrival of AAP's Tiranga Yatra in Uttarakhand on September 19 has marked the seriousness of the party and its poll promises of 300 unit free electricity and if elected 1 lakh government jobs in first six months have created a flutter in the political corridors of Uttarakhand.

Though these are early days in the electioneering process, the yatras have created a stir in the state with each party trying to overtake the other in taking success for development carried out in the last 21 years.

To reach out to the people before the elections, both Congress and BJP started their political yatra from September 3. While BJP started Jan Ashirwad rally from the Srinagar seat, where Congress state president Ganesh Godiyal is expected to Congress, the Congress launched its Parivartan Yatra from Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami's Khatima assembly constituency.

In the first phase of the rally Congress started from Khatima and focused in Udham Singh Nagar district. A major factor behind the move was that Udham Singh Nagar district is located in the plains and has a high number of farmers, who are said to be disgruntled with the BJP specially after the farm law. In the last 10 months, a high number of farmers and their relatives from Udham Singh Nagar district have gone to the NCR to extend support to the farmers staging protests on the outskirts of the national capital.

On the other side, constituencies of Gadarpur, Jaspur, Kiccha, Rudrapur, Kashipur and Sitarganj have a high number of Sikhs. On the very first day of the Parivartan Yatra, Harish Rawat went to Gurudwara Shri Nanakmatta Sahib and broomed the premises of the Gurudwara and polished shoes as an atonement for his remark. During his visit to Punjab, Harish had hit controversy with his PanjPyare remark. He soon after apologized for his remark and claimed to do Seva at Gurudwara as atonement. Udham Singh Nagar is an important district as it has nine assembly seats and BJP was successful in



POLITICAL BACKGROUND UTTARAKHAND

The result of last four assembly elections in Uttarakhand is a clear indication that the polls have been a direct fight between the Congress and the BJP. Only Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) was able to put forth some challenge in 2002 and 2007 as it won seven and eight constituencies respectively. The Mayawati-led party gradually lost ground in Uttarakhand and failed to open its account in the 2017 state elections.

In 2021, the election scenario is slightly different from the previous four state elections. Arvind Kejriwal led Aam Aadmi Party has thrown a serious challenge to the two political parties, who have alternatively remained in power since the state was created on November 9, 2000. Though AAP took a political plunge in Uttarakhand in 2014 Lok Sabha elections, it failed to make any impact and miserably lost on all five seats of the state. In 2017, the party did not contest the state election and for a period of three years, the party has done an extensive homework and thrown its hat in the ring.

While AAP has been quick in announcing several freebies in form of free electricity and one lakh

government jobs in first six months, it has also focused on a key sector of serving and retired defence personnel. Kejriwal has announced retired army official and former Principal of Nehru Institute of Mountaineering Col Ajay Kothiyal as its CM face. While serving at NIM, Col Kothiyal trained thousands of youth to help them find a job in defence forces. Besides his heroics in the Army, Kothiyal was instrumental in the relief and rehabilitation efforts during the June 2013 flash floods calamity at Kedarnath, making him a household name in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand.

On the other side, the Congress campaign revolves around former CM Harish Rawat, who has been made the Chairman of the party's Election Campaign Committee. His loyalist Ganesh Godiyal, who is the present state chief, is assisting Harish in the poll campaign. The other camp led by leader of Opposition Pritam Singh, which was earlier opposed to Rawat, has been actively participating in the Yatra and other political events. Congress has been strongly supporting the priests in their protest against Char Dham Devasthanam

Management Board, which was formed by the BJP government. Another strong point being raised by the Congress is of bringing a law to limit the purchase of land in Uttarakhand by people of other states. The two factors may swing the tides in the favour of Congress. Tension had been brewing among the BJP ranks since it came to power on March 18, 2017 and on several occasions top BJP leaders had approached the national leaders with their complaints against Trivendra Singh Rawat. Some BJP MLAs were accused the Trivendra government of ignoring development projects in their constituency. Finally, under much pressure Trivendra resigned and Member of Parliament from Pauri seat Tirath Singh Rawat was made CM in March 2021. He also had a torrid time and after four months in office, the BJP replaced him with two time MLA Pushkar Singh Dhami. While, Dhami is making best possible efforts, the BJP faces a tough time in answering about the circumstances, which led to giving three new CMs in a space of four months.

In the 2017 assembly elections, BJP won 57 seats,

Congress won 11 seats and two went to Independents. At present two seats are lying vacant after the death of Congress leader Indira Hridayesh and BJP's Gopal Rawat. Recently, Independent legislator Pritam Singh Panwar and a committee headed by Manohar Lal Dhyani has been constituted.

Though the Rs 11,000 crore All Weather Road project is nowhere near its completion, the BJP leaders are claiming it to be a gamechanger in the economy of the hills. In the polls rallies, the ruling party members said that the project was underway and its completion would mark the start of a new era of development in Uttarakhand.

Three CMs in a period of four months has been a setback for the BJP but Dhami has been prompt in taking key decisions and resolving issues. While people and party members were upset with Trivendra, there is no major issue with the new CM. In his brief tenure of few months, Dhami has been successful in bringing down the anti-incumbency factor.

The issue of a permanent capital at Gairsain is likely to dent the BJP in the state. In March 4, 2020, Trivendra had announced Gairsain as summer capital and a year later as a new Commissionerate in Uttarakhand. While the decision of Commissionerate witnessed a strong response and was widely opposed, people welcome the decision on Summer capital. However, since then no major project has been completed at Gairsain and assembly session is the only major activity held there.

Districts of Dehradun, Udham Singh Nagar and Haridwar will hold the key to success for the BJP in Uttarakhand. In 2017, it had won eight out of nine seats in Udham Singh Nagar, eight out of 11 seats in Haridwar and nine out of 10 in Dehradun. With Devasthanam Board, migration and unemployment being major issues in the hill districts, it

distance in three hour time. In the five year tenure of the BJP government, a special thrust has been given on the development works at Kedarnath. The works related to construction of entrance plaza, meditation caves, broadening of temple platform, widening of trek route, retaining wall and banks of Mandakini and Saraswati river have been completed. In the second phase projects worth Rs 116 crore are scheduled to commence soon. The development works are expected to go in favour of the BJP especially in areas of Garhwal district.

Secondly, the BJP in its Jan Ashirwad rally is stressing upon the Rishikesh-Karnprayag rail project which would connect the plains of Garhwal to the hills and would improve the economy of the region.

emergence of Col Kothiyal on the scene. Soon after being named as CM candidate, he announced to contest by-poll against Tirath Singh Rawat from Gangotri. However, the poll was not contested. The AAP state chief S SKaler recently resigned from the party as he has to contest from Khatima, the constituency of CM Pushkar Singh Dhami. To give his best shot for the election, Kaler decided to quit from the party position and focus on election.

AAP has been smartly raising up issues and their protests has met with support from the locals. Though political experts are reluctant of AAP making a major impact, they believe that the party would be a force to reckon with in the future. Even winning five to ten assembly seats would be a big achievement for the AAP in Uttarakhand.

AAP may not win many seats but it can play a party spoiler for the BJP and Congress. The victory margin in most seats is of barely few thousands and in some instances in hundreds, and a slight drift in vote share can make a big difference for the two key parties.

The lack of a big name is likely to hamper the chances of the AAP in the polls. While BJP and Congress have several big names in their party, AAP has rarely a big name associated with the party. Col Kothiyal is from a defence background and his team comprises of budding and lesser known politicians. The dilemma for people is to go for either a new party in form of AAP or two bank on traditional rivals BJP and Congress, who have ruled the state in last 21 years. Despite the commitments, both parties have failed to check migration from the hills. Due to lack of educational and job opportunities a high number of youth have migrated from the hills with only senior citizen left in many villages.

Two years back, AAP was not in a serious race for the polls but things have taken a dramatic change after the





Overcoming COVID vaccines hesitancy

Tea Garden workers in Darjeeling hills get inoculated in large numbers

Tanmoy Bhaduri

Darjeeling, West Bengal: Knowing the importance of vaccines to combat the spread of COVID-19, people from tea gardens in Darjeeling are participating in large numbers in the inoculation drive to get them vaccinated. Tribal population is found in and around tea plantations in the region. As per official data, many people have died while several others were admitted to hospitals during the second wave of the pandemic. Most of them work at several tea gardens under the Darjeeling district. However, fake news in social media is leading to vaccine hesitancy among tea garden workers. Several people were skeptical about taking jab initially but now tea workers are ready to take vaccines as they realize it can save their lives. But now the problem is these hill tea gardens are facing hardship to reach vaccines to remote hamlets.

People below age between 18-44 years have registered but they are not getting vaccines as those who are above 45 years are receiving doses. Chewang Yonzon of Chai Bagan Sangram Samiti complained about the irresponsible behavior of tea garden owners as well as the tea planter association in the hills. "They (tea companies) have no concrete list of garden workers and their family members who need to be vaccinated. Workers do not want to be absent for a day for vaccines as the company calculates this as unpaid leave."

Tea garden workers from Ringtong, Kalej Valley, and surrounding areas depend on a single public health center at Sonada and there is no specific schedule for weekly vaccination. "Last Monday around six thousand people gathered at the PHC and hardly hundred people got their vaccines, the rest have no idea when they will get their vaccines. Companies and health departments must set up their camps inside tea gardens to ensure full coverage of the vaccination program", he added.

Deven Gurung, a social worker based in Darjeeling said that there is a clear digital divide in the hill. "People in the town can easily get their vaccines as they have their smartphones and they know how to book slots but people in remote tea gardens hardly have access to internet connections. So they are unable to schedule their slots," he said. Not only access to the internet there are insufficient vaccinators in the hills which delays the process as he claimed.

Aid workers say reaching vaccines to elderly people living at remote hilly hamlets is challenging for them during monsoon. Darjeeling-based aid organization Edward Foundation spokesperson said, "Hundreds of elderly and disabled still remain unvaccinated in hills due to barriers such as lack of access, affordability, and poor health infrastructure.

We have successfully administered 4839 doses to elderly and disabled people." Edward Foundation along with Darjeeling Initiative, Vikrun Foundation, and the district health department is currently ensuring reaching the

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vaccines to the last mile.

Tanmoy Bhaduri is Kolkata based independent journalist focuses on social, cultural and environmental issues. He tweets @tanmoy_pj

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