

BJP party gives a befitting reply to Aam Admi Party's allegation over Shaheen Bagh protest

The BJP party, Delhi slammed the AAP for accusing it over orchestrating the Shaheen Bagh protests against the citizenship law.

The BJP said The ruling party in Delhi was "shocked" with the prospect of "losing" support among the Muslims, the BJP said.

The blamegame started between the parties, Aam Aadmi Party and the Bharatiya Janata Party in Delhi came to limelight on Sunday when several Muslims from Shaheen

Bagh, a centre of protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, joined the BJP.

On Monday, the AAP party alleged that the massive Shaheen Bagh protest was "scripted" by the BJP earlier this year, who "dictated" each and every movement of the agitators for the electoral benefits in the Assembly polls.

Saurabh Bhardwaj, AAP spokesperson alleged that the campaign of Bhartiya Janta Party for the Delhi election revolved around the Shaheen Bagh protests



and it was the only party that was benefited from the controversy surrounding the agitation.

The AAP is "shocked" as its "votebank politics" is

under threat with Muslims from a CAA protest area joining the BJP, Adesh Gupta Delhi BJP president told PTI.

Gupta said that, "AAP

chief and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal kept mum when the Shaheen Bagh protest was on. His party councilor is the main accused in the Delhi riots and now his party leaders are accusing that the CAA protest was planned by us,".

He also added that, "They are shocked that Muslims are joining the BJP and, therefore, their votebank politics is under threat,".

Several Muslims from Shaheen Bagh joined the BJP's Delhi office of the party on Sunday.

PM Modi holds a meet to review the National Master Plan for connecting economic zones



PM Narendra Modi chaired a meeting on August 17 to review the preparations for the national level master plan for providing multi modal connectivity to diverse economic zones.

The meeting was attended by Nirmala Sitharaman, Finance Minister with her deputy Anurag Thakur, Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Railway Minister Piyush

Goyal, Shipping Minister Mansukh Mandaviya among others. Also the top officials of the Prime Minister's office including the Cabinet Secretariat, Sanchar Bhawan as well as the Ministry of Civil Aviation were present, in the virtual meeting.

The Prime Minister said, "This is an important endeavour, that will boost productivity, infrastructure, economic progress and

Kiran Mazumdar Shaw tested Covid-19 positive, tweeted Biocon CMD on Monday.

Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, CMD of Biocon tested positive for Covid-19. The billionaire entrepreneur announced in a tweet on Monday that, "I have added to the Covid count by testing positive. Mild symptoms n I hope it stays that way."

Recently, Shaw, a biotech industry veteran questioned over the claims made by Russia of developing the world's first safe coronavirus vaccine, by citing the absence of data on clinical trials and more advanced programmes elsewhere..

Mazumdar Shaw said by referring to the potential corona virus vaccine which was developed by Gamaleya National Research Center based in Moscow for Epidemiology and Microbiology, that the world had not yet seen any evident data from the phase1 and phase2 human trials of the vaccine.



"If launching a vaccine prior to completion of Phase-III trials is acceptable to Russia, well so be it," Mazumdar Shaw told PTI.

Biocon, one of the companies which is in the race of manufacturing drugs to fight against COVID-19 and last month in July, company received the approval of Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) to market

Itolizumab, a repurposed injection. It was initially launched for treating chronic plaque psoriasis in 2013.

India have recorded more than 26.4 lakh cases of coronavirus and death cases, 50,921. Out of these more than 6.76 lakh are active cases while over 19.1 lakh have been recovered, according to the data updated by Health Ministry website.

Covid-19: Bihar government extended lockdown till 6th September; things to know about the lockdown across the state

Amid rise in Covid-19 cases Bihar government led by Nitesh Kumar extended the lockdown across the state till 6th September on Monday.

The guidelines under Unlock 3.0 by the Central government, the restrictions will be imposed in the containment zones, other areas and buffer zones in regard to spread of corona virus.

The Bihar government said, "In view of the present situation of COVID-19 in the State of Bihar, in exercise of the powers, conferred by the MHA by the aforesaid instructions, in continuation of the MHA order, the restrictions imposed issued by this department order wide memo no.



102/f4.F.31t dated 30.7.2020 imposing further restrictions will remain effective till 06.09.2020,".

Though, all the essential and other services, which were allowed earlier in the state, will be permitted under the renewed lockdown.

During the earlier lockdown the government had released detailed list of guidelines.

Banks, insurance offices and ATMs will remain functional.

Media including Print and electronic are allowed to operate during this lockdown

Two injured, Under-construction bridge collapses in Gurugram



So far, two people have been injured when a section of under construction flyover collapsed near Sohna road in Gurugram on Saturday night. The fallen section was part of a 6 km long flyover, which was being constructed near Sohna road. Gurugram police have reached the incident site.

Three persons including an engineer were killed and three others were injured

when an under-construction bridge on Farakka barrage collapsed in Baishnabnagar in Malda district of West Bengal in February this year. Numerous laborers were trapped underneath the rubble were rescued

after the bridge being constructed under the supervision of the National Highway Authority of India gave way.

Police informed that the dead include a 36 year old Srinivas, junior engineer and a worker Sachin Pratap alongside another person. Three others were injured. The condition of 2 of them was serious.

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Classical music legend Pandit Jasraj passed away in US on Monday

Indian classical music legend and Padma Vibhushan awardee Pandit Jasraj passed away at the age of 90 due to cardiac arrest on Monday. He was living in New Jersey, state of United States. He breathed his last in the US, said his daughter Durga Jasraj as quoted by PTL.

He belonged to Mewati Gharana, with his musical career has spanned for more than 80 years and led to numerous major awards. The music legend was honoured with the awards like Padma Shri in 1975, the Padma Bhushan in 1990 and the Padma Vibhushan in 2000. Last year, a minor planet, 2006 VP32 (number - 300128) was named as 'Panditjasraj' by International Astronomical Union (IAU) to pay a tribute to the doyen of Indian classical music.

Jasraj was one of the India's greatest classical music legend as his was taken in the league of Bhim Sen Joshi, Ustad Amir Khan, Pandit Vasant Rao Deshpande. Not only for his

classical music, he was also known for his Bhajans. Pandit Jasraj devotionals songs that are listened across the country includes Om Namo Bhagwate Vasudevay, Jagdamb Jagdamb, Govind Damodar and more.

Kolkata from where he started playing Tabla and also performed at All India Radio. Though, he was not happy with the kind of treatment meted out to the Tabla artistes in the music industry.

In memory of his father,



Mastero Jasraj was born on 28th January, 1930 in Hisar district of Haryana, he took initial training in music from his father Pandit Motiram. After the demise of his father, he was trained by Maniram and Pandit Pratap Narayan, his brother. Jasraj was also a trained tabla player. His first live concert performance was at the age of 22. In 1946, he went back to

Since 1972, Pandit Jasraj organised a musical festival every year called Pandit Motiram Pandit Maniram Sangeet Samaroh in Hyderabad. Every year in Hyderabad, a musical festival called Pandit Motiram Pandit Maniram Sangeet Samaroh is organised since 1972 by started by Pandit Jasraj in memory of his father.

Trump struggles to use power of presidency to counter Biden

WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump spent the week of the Democratic National Convention forsaking what has historically been an incumbent's greatest advantage: He's in the job his challenger wants.

Traditionally, an incumbent would devote the week of his rival's convention to bolstering his own credentials as a leader. But rather than focusing on his command of the job or using its power, Trump hit the campaign trail, where he flouted his own administration's pandemic safety guidance and expressed gratitude for support from adherents to an



extremist conspiracy theory, QAnon.

It was a consequence of Trump's unwillingness to share the lime-light, but also a necessary attempt to shift the November campaign from a referendum on his job performance to a choice between himself and Joe Biden. Ten weeks out from Election Day, as the coronavirus pandemic has ravaged Trump's reelection chances, aides have recognized that a vote on his presidency is not one he is likely to win.

Acting "presidential" - holding briefings and leading negotiations - won't suit him, in the view of many aides, if his presidency is what is holding him back.

Google fights against Australian plan to pay for news content



Google, the giant US technology went offensive against the Australian plan on Monday forcing the digital giants to pay for the news content by telling the users that their personal data would be at risk.

Australia, last month announced that the firms like Google and Facebook would have to pay for news media content.

The Australia decided the measures including the fines worth millions of dollars for non-compliance and force transparency around the algorithms that the firms use to rank content.

Google is fighting a rearguard action to prevent the measures from kicking in and also have been accused by Australia of spreading "misinformation". Google told the users in a new homepage pop up that "the way

Aussies use Google is at risk" and their search experience "will be hurt" by the changes.

The technology giant stated in an open letter that they will be forced to hand over the users search data to news media companies and give them information that would "help them artificially inflate their ranking" above other websites. Currently being partner with Australian news media and paying them millions of dollars every year, suggested that the changes could put the free services "at risk".

"Rather than encouraging these types of partnerships, the law is set up to give big media companies special treatment and to encourage them to make enormous and unreasonable demands that would put our free services at risk,".

Trump says without proof that FDA 'deep state' slowing Covid vaccine trials

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump on Saturday accused members of the "deep state" at the Food and Drug Administration, without providing evidence, of working to slow testing of COVID-19 vaccines until after the November presidential election.

In a Twitter post, Trump said the deep state "or whoever" at the FDA was making it very difficult for drug companies to enroll people in clinical trials to test vaccines and therapies for the novel coronavirus.

The comment came after Reuters exclusively reported on Thursday that a top FDA official said he would resign if the Trump administration approved a vaccine before it was shown to be safe and effective.

"Obviously, they are hoping to delay the answer until after November 3rd. Must focus on speed, and saving lives!" Trump wrote, tagging FDA Commissioner Stephen Hahn in the tweet.

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structures and forced the evacuation of thousands.

The deep state, or whoever, over at the FDA is making it very difficult for drug companies to get people in order t...
<https://t.co/3RLBgVjFjG>

— Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) 1598096979000

Trump often uses Twitter to criticize federal agencies, sometimes accusing them of being controlled by the "deep state" in an apparent reference to long-serving staff who, in Trump's eyes, are determined to undermine his agenda.

His tweet increases the pressure on the FDA after Peter Marks, director of its Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, last week said on a conference call with government officials, pharmaceutical executives and academics that he would resign if the agency rubber-stamped an unproven vaccine.

TOP COMMENT

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ther 17 new coronavirus deaths on Sunday but infections in the hard-hit state of Victoria, the site of all the latest deaths, are showing a downward trend. Other than in Victoria, which accounts for over 80% of Australia's Covid-19 deaths due to a second wave of infections, the country has largely avoided the high casualty numbers of many nations. California fires spread, fouling air and spurring evacuations

Thick smoke blanketed large areas of central and northern California on Friday as more people fled some of the biggest fires in the state's history which have raged largely uncontrolled through the week. One of the largest group of fires, dubbed the LNU Lightning Complex, has scorched nearly 220,000 acres burned nearly 500

Former President Pranab Mukherjee health condition remains unchanged is still on ventilator support after the brain surgery is being monitored closely by a team of specialists, said on Sunday by the doctors of Army Research and Referral Hospital, New Delhi.

The doctors also stated that, the vital and clinical parameters are stable at present.

'He is much better and stable than the preceding days', said Abhijit Mukherjee, son of Pranab Mukherjee, who visited his father on Saturday on Twitter.

He stated, Yesterday, I had visited my father in Hospital. With the God's grace and all your good wishes, he is much better and stable than the preceding days. All his vital parameters are stable and he is responding to treatment. We firmly believe that he will be back among us soon. Thank You.

On 10th August, Mukherjee was admitted to the hospital to get operated for a removal of clot in the brain. 84, former president was tested to corona positive, a condition that Pranab Mukerjee posted on Twitter.

"There is no change in the condition of Hon'ble Pranab Mukherjee. His vital and clinical parameters are stable and he continues to be on ventilator support. The health condition of the former president who also has multiple



old co-morbidities is being closely monitored by a team of specialists", according to the hospital statement released on Sunday.

The 13th President of India, Pranab Mukerjee, veteran politician served India from the span of 2012-2017. He has also worked

under the governance of three different Prime ministers and managed the diverse ministerial portfolios.

. Vaishno Devi Shrine ready to welcome Devotees after 5 months.

Khushvinder Singh who is a member of a group of 12 from Jammu, reached Katra on Sunday morning before dawn to pay his obeisance at the Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, located atop on Trikuta hills, Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir.

The shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi resumed on 16th August for devotees after remaining closed for 5 months due to the outbreak of Covid-19 across the Union territory along with the other religious places.

48 year old, Singh said, "I used to come to the shrine at least once every month to offer my prayers. I feel blessed to be back on the first day of the reopening of the shrine".

He reached Katra around 4 am to check the arrangements at the base camp for the pilgrims who are visiting the shrine and was among the first to offer the prayers at the sanctum sancto-



rum, the holy cave, which is the final destination of the pilgrims. The gates of the famous Mata Shrine reopened for the devotees around 6 am and Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board was seen reviewing the measures to ensure the safety of the visitors from the dreadful disease.

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State Bank Of India join hands with AddaCorner to raise real estate deals in Bangalore

SBI on Friday unveiled an online home carnival in partnership with AddaCorner, a real time group negotiation e-platform.

The carnival will invite potential home buyers to virtually join as a group and to directly negotiate with empanelled real estate sellers on a real-time basis.

"This will ensure that buyers are able to unlock group pricings and negotiate the best deal on the property while allowing developers to close sales in bulk," stated a statement issued by both companies.

Developers panel on the AddaCorner platform include Brigade Group, Purvankara, Shriram Properties, Salarpuria,



Assetz and Sumadhura.

Abhijit Majumder, SBI Chief General Manager said that after easing of coronavirus lockdown, the trends of movement in the home loan market are evident. A steep cut in interest rates has brought home loans to low levels.

"It is definitely good news for those chasing a life goal to own a house, more so for those waiting for the right time to buy a home," he said.

Bonds in India fall after Reserve Bank of India rate cut, as per minutes

Sovereign bonds in India fell after the central bank's interest rate setting panel meeting showed that its members have turned more hostile over inflation, pushing back bets on further rate cuts.

The defer on the new 5.77% 2030 bond raised five basis points to 6%, after gaining 18 basis points in the earlier two weeks. Traders are watching for demand at a 300 billion rupee bond sale on Friday after previous week's auction of the new benchmark, 10-year paper had to be rescued by underwriters.

The rate panelists worried over a recent surge in

consumer inflation, preferring to wait for price pressures to wane before con-



sidering more steps to address the "deepest contraction in history," minutes of the Monetary Policy Committee's August. 4 to 6 meeting published on Thursday showed. The fading rate cut hopes come even

though central bank is yet to show its hand on further bond purchases to help ease a record 12 trillion rupees supply in the fiscal year.

"We now believe we are at the end of the rate cut cycle and expectations of large cuts must be anchored (ideally 25, base case 50) as inflation is unlikely to materially decline from the current levels," group chief economic adviser at State Bank of India, Soumya Kanti Ghosh wrote in a note. "We believe it would better serve the financial markets if RBI continues to resort to unconventional policy measures."

Flipkart announced cross border deal with Nepal's e-commerce company, Sastodeal

Flipkart, India's biggest e-commerce company announced on Friday a strategic partnership with a leading e-commerce company in Nepal, Sastodeal, to initiate cross-border trade opportunities for its lakhs of sellers.

"E-commerce business in Nepal has huge potential as more and more consumers take to online shopping. The trust a brand like Flipkart has amongst consumers along with the love of a local company like Sastodeal enjoys; makes the value proposition for consumers even more exciting."

At present Flipkart has 2,00,000 sellers across India, with more than 50 per cent of them comes from smaller cities such as Jaipur, Lucknow, Ludhiana, Meerut, Surat, Kanpur, Agra, Coimbatore,

Ahmedabad, and others.

"The opportunity brought by Flipkart for Nepalese consumers is going to build a strong growth story for e-commerce in our country," said CEO of Sastodeal, Amun Thapa.

Flipkart private brands including MarQ and SmartBuy will also be listed on the Sastodeal platform, with a focus on categories such as electronics, home appliances/home decor, and furnishings.

In the first phase, the partnership will see over 5,000 products listed on Sastodeal, said Flipkart.



According to the partnership, Sastodeal will host products from Flipkart marketplace sellers operating around the categories of baby care and kids, audio devices, men's clothing, women's ethnic wear, and sports and fitness, among others, in return opening access to Nepalese customers. "The partnership with Sastodeal, a homegrown brand like ours, will not just open doors for a wider market reach to our sellers but also allow them to boost their business significantly," said Jagjeet Harode, Head of Marketplace, Flipkart, in a statement.

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World Health Organization wish pandemic to end in less than 2 years

WHO said on Friday that it hopes the planet will be free from coronavirus pandemic in less than two years, faster than it took for the Spanish flu.

"We hope to finish this pandemic before less than two years," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told the reporters from the WHO's headquarters in Geneva, insisting that it should be possible to tame the novel corona virus faster than the deadly 1918 pandemic.

As compared to back then, the world today is at a disadvantage due to its "globalisation, closeness, connectedness", which has lead the novel Covid to spread across the world at lightning speed, Tedros accepted.

He said, but the world also now has the advantage with much better technology.

By "utilising the available tools to the maximum and hoping that we can have additional tools like vaccines, I think we can finish it in a shorter time than the 1918 flu."



The Coronavirus pandemic has till date it killed nearly 800,000 people and infected around 23 million worldwide, according to a record from official sources compiled by AFP.

But the dreadful pandemic in modern history is Spanish flu, which killed about 50 million victims and infected around 500 million across the world within span from February, 1918 to April, 2020.

5 times more people died due to it than it did in World War I. The first victims were recorded in the US, prior it spread to Europe and then around the world.

That pandemic came in three waves, with the dead-

liest second wave beginning in the latter half of 1918.

"It took three waves for the disease to infect most of the susceptible individuals," Michael Ryan, WHO emergencies chief told journalists.

After that, the flu behind the pandemic evolved into a far less deadly seasonal bug, which returned for decades.

"Very often, a pandemic virus settles into a seasonal pattern over time," said Ryan. He warned however, so far, "this virus is not displaying a similar wave-like pattern. Clearly, when the disease is not under control, it jumps straight back up."

Indian National booked for H-1B visa fraud



An Indian national has been arrested on charges of conspiracy to commit visa fraud and for inducing foreign nationals to come to the United States using fraudulently obtained H-1B visas, said federal prosecutors on Friday.

48, Ashish Sawhney, who was arrested on Thursday allegedly used 4 corporations to arrange the improper submission of fake applications for H-1B specialty, occupation work visas, as they said.

Charged with 2 counts of conspiracy, 3 counts of inducing an unknown to come to and reside in the US for commercial advantage or private financial

gain, and one count of attempted naturalisation fraud, Sawhney allegedly generated gross profits from 2011 to 2016 of approximately USD 21 million, the prosecutors said.

The prosecutors said that if convicted, Sawhney will face a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. A resident of Sterling, a Virginia suburb of Washington DC, he submitted or caused to be submitted H-1B visa application materials stating that the foreign workers named in the applications would fulfill a specific job, where in fact, no such job existed at the time of filing.

China will own the United States if his rival gets elected, said US President

US President Donald Trump said on Friday that China will own the US if Joe Biden, his Democratic rival is voted to power in the presidential elections on 3rd November.

On the final day of the 4-day virtual Democratic National Convention on 20th August, 77 year old, Biden accepted the Democratic Party's nomination as the presidential candidate to challenge the incumbent 74, President Trump, a Republican, in the presidential election.

Trump stated that the biggest thing about his challenger's speech was the issues that he did not talk about, including



China.

"It's time to reject the anger and the hate of the Democrat Party. We have

the biggest election coming up of our lifetime. No party can lead American that spends so much time

tearing down America. But, the biggest part of last night's speech was what Joe Biden didn't talk about.

He didn't talk about law enforcement. He didn't talk about bringing safety to democrat run cities that are totally out of control and they have no clue,' said Trump in his address to the Council 2020 for National Policy.

'China was never mentioned in any way, shape, or form. China will own our country if he gets elected. They will own our country and we're not going to let that happen. You've seen the intelligence reports.

China very much wants Joe Biden to win. That would be very insulting if they wanted me to win. I don't think so,' he said.

Indian Railways cancelled the Vande Bharat trains tender with Chinese company

The government of India on Friday hits China again over economic interest on its soil on Friday. Indian Railways has cancelled a tender for manufacturing 44 semi-high speed Vande Bharat Express trains, in which a Chinese venture was a contender.

"Tender for manufacturing of 44 nos. of semi high-speed train sets (Vande Bharat) has been cancelled. Fresh tender will be floated within a week as per Revised Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) order," said the Railway Ministry in a tweet.

When the tender was

opened last month, among the six contenders, a Chinese joint venture firm had emerged as the only foreign player for the supply of electrical equipment and other items for 44 train sets with 16 coaches each.

CRC Pioneer Electric (India) Private Ltd., the Chinese joint venture firm is a collaboration within the China based CRC Yongji Electric Co Ltd and Gurugram based Pioneer Fil-med Private Ltd. The other contenders including the Delhi based Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL), Bharat Industries from Sangrur, Navi Mumbai based Powernetics Equipment



Pvt Limited, Hyderabad based Medha Group and Parwanoo based Electrowaves Electronic Pvt Ltd.

CRC Yongji Electric Co Ltd is entirely owned by the Chinese government. Although the nation-

al transporter did not specify the reason behind the cancellation of the tender, the decision comes in the view of a bitter face-off between China and India in eastern Ladakh.

Earlier, Indian Railways had cancelled an Rs

471crore project of signalling and telecommunication work for a stretch of 417km on the Deen Dayal Upadhyay, Kanpur section by a Chinese company. It had also withdrawn a tender for the thermal screening cameras after Indian vendors complained of the proposal document favoring the Chinese.

Officials said that going by the cost of manufacturing the first Train 18, which was launched last year at an expense of Rs 100 crore, of which Rs 35 crore was for the propulsion system alone, the present tender for 44 such kits would be worth over Rs 1,500 crore.

Shripad Naik back from death doors, said Vishwajit Rane



Vishwajit Rane, Goa Health Minister said on Friday that Shripad Naik, Union AYUSH Minister has returned from the "door of death" after he contracted the deadly Covid-19infection.

Presently Naik admitted to a private hospital, has been doing well after the plasma therapy, informed Rane.

The state health minister dismissed the criticism in view of Naik catching the novel infection, around the efficacy of immunity boosters that was recommended by the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy.

"When AYUSH ministry has recommended immunity boosters, they must have done it after proper research and using

their wisdom. It is not fair to pass comments on it," Health minister told reporters.

To a question, he responded that, "Naik virtually went to the door of death and came back....It was bad luck that he got infected. He moves around among people. We should be praying for his fast recovery."

The state government will be re-organising coronavirus treatment facilities from Monday, informed Rane.

He said, all critically ill Covid-19 patients would be treated at the Goa Medical College and Hospital near Panaji.

The minister appealed to people that who have recovered from Coronavirus to donate their plasma.

Rajiv Kumar elected as Election Commissioner

Former finance secretary and Current Chairman of the Public Enterprises Selection Board, Rajiv Kumar has been appointed as the Election Commissioner on Friday in place of Ashok Lavasa.

The Legislative Department of the Ministry of Law and Justice in this regard issued a notification on Friday. "President is pleased to appoint Shri Rajiv Kumar as the Election Commissioner with effect from the date he assumes office vice Shri Ashok Lavasa, Election Commissioner who resigned with effect from 31st August 2020," said the notification.

In pursuance of Clause (2) of Article 324 of the Constitution empowers the President of India to appoint an Election Commissioner to the Election Commission of India.

Appointed last year in July as finance secretary, Rajiv Kumar is an retired Indian Administrative Service officer of the 1984 batch from Jharkhand cadre. He has also worked as a



bureaucrat for about three decades across different departments and took over the position as the finance secretary in September, 2017.

According to reports, Kumar played a major role in implementing the Centre's plan to consolidate and strengthen public sector banks. He also has worked closely on the implementation of schemes like Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana and Mudra loan scheme which aimed at financial enclosure.

During his period in the Finance Ministry, Rajiv Kumar newly appointed

EC, also have contributed significantly in the implementation of the center's 59 minute loan scheme for micro, small and medium enterprises .

After assuming position as Election Commissioner, Kumar looks at a challenge in the form of Bihar Assembly elections 2020. These elections will be the first one to be conducted in India in wake of novel Covid-19 pandemic. Earlier on Friday, The Election commission has issued a set of guidelines that has to be followed for Assembly and By elections during coronavirus.

Sikkim: Health Minister Mani Kumar Sharma tested positive for coronavirus

Dr M K Sharma, Health Minister of Sikkim tested positive for coronavirus on Friday. The minister announced the news of him tested positive for coronavirus, in a brief Facebook post.

"I, Dr MK Sharma, Health Minister of Sikkim, would like to inform all the Sikkimese people that I developed symptoms of COVID-19 and got myself tested today and the results have come as positive," he stated.

Sharma informed that he was doing fine and has confined himself in isolation.

Urging his friends and



supporters not to panic, the Health Minister urged all those people who have come in contact with him in recent days to self-isolate themselves and get tested for Coronavirus.

Till Friday Sikkim has reported 1,336 coronavirus cases including 499 active cases, as 834 patients have recovered from the disease and 3 persons have died.

Nitish Kumar asks health department to increase the Reverse Transcription & Polymerase Chain Reaction tests in Bihar

Bihar's Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Friday asked the health officials to rise up the Reverse Transcription & Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) tests in order to identify people affected with coronavirus and treat them to prevent the spread of virus.

The state has a high population density and hence everyone needs to remain more alert and vigilant regarding protecting oneself from getting infected with the virus, said the chief minister at a meeting to review the corona virus situation in the state.

"The number of RT-PCR tests should be increased

further. There is a need to increase testing in those districts which have witnessed high number of active COVID-19 cases. Testing should also be increased in riverine and 'taal' areas (low lying areas filled with water most of the time), said Kumar. He asked the health officials to ensure availability of RT-PCR machines first so that the number of tests can be increased. "More and more testing will help in identifying people infected with COVID-19. Their treatment would further help prevent the spread of the infection," said Chief Minister at the meeting held through video conference.

Bhartiya Janta Party to hold Two-day Virtual Meet over Bihar Assembly Elections from Saturday

JP Nadda, BJP President and a host of senior party leaders will attend a 2-day virtual meeting starting from Saturday to draw the strategy for Bihar Assembly elections, which is due in October-November, said Sanjay Jaiswal, state chief on Friday.

In addition to Nadda, BL Santhosh, BJP's national general secretary, general secretary Bhupender Yadav, former Maharashtra CM and also the party's Bihar election in-charge Devendra Fadnavis besides Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi will also participate in the state executive committee meeting, he stated.

Jaiswal in detail informed that, the meet will start with the address of Fadnavis while it will conclude on Sunday with the valedictory speech of Nadda. Political resolutions will be placed before the participants for approval on the first day of the meet, Jaiswal along with party's state unit general secretary Devesh Kumar, Rajiv Ranjan, spokesman and media in-charge Rakesh Kumar



Singh, said during the media interaction.

The presence of Fadnavis will be keenly watched in backdrop of recent tug of war between his home state Maharashtra and Bihar over death case of Sushant Singh Rajput, a Patna born Bollywood actor. Assembly elections are due in Bihar in October-November and the EC has indicated it would continue with the electoral exercise despite concerns expressed by opposition parties and also by the LJP,

NDA partner that it could lead to further spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"This is a very important state executive committee meeting being held just before the assembly elections during which the party would give message to its 76 lakh workers in the state, said the Bihar's BJP chief, who is a Lok Sabha MP from Paschim Champaran constituency in the state. The meeting will plan strategy for the assembly polls besides expanding party's organisation and

ensuring better coordination with its allies i.e. JD(U) and LJP, said party sources.

The executive committee of the state was formed on 20th March, but it could not hold any meeting till date due to coronavirus outbreak induced lockdown enforced in Bihar on 22nd March and following nationwide shutdowns, they said. In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the meeting would be organised through virtual mode, said Jaiswal.

"The BJP will be proba-

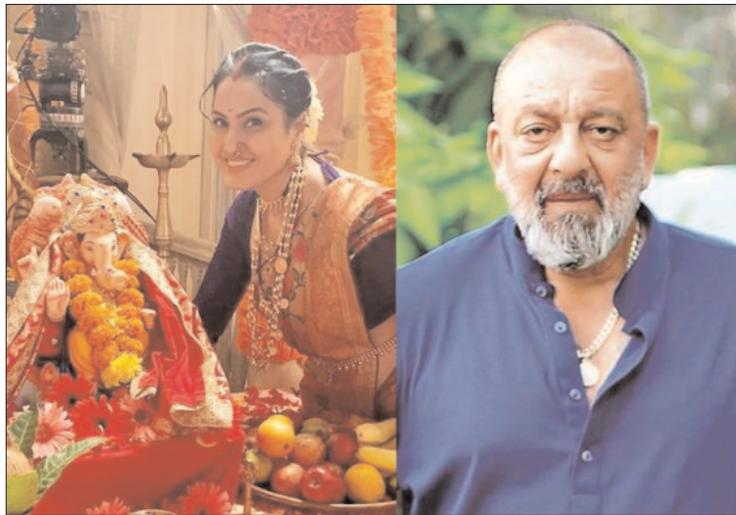
bly the first party in the country which is organising such an important meeting through virtual medium," said Jaiswal, by adding party leaders would be connected to the meeting via their mobile phones or laptops from their respective places. The party's decision to hold the meet digitally comes in the view of its over two dozen leaders and workers are testing positive at the state headquarters in July in course of conducting regional meetings as part of

Kamya Panjabi keeps 'Akhand jyot' for Sanjay Dutt on Ganesh Chaturthi, prays for his well-being

When Sanjay got diagnosed with lung cancer, the news came across as a shock to many of his fans, friends and family members. Shakti actress Kamya Panjabi had then promised to keep 'akhand jyot' for the well-being of the actor.

Keeping true to her words, the actress welcomed Ganpati Bappa in her house and lighted the 'akhand jyot diya'. Kamya shared a video of the same and wrote, "Prayers for your speedy recovery. @duttсанjay Vighna Harta Vighna durr karo."

The actress on learning about Sanjay Dutt's illness had taken to her social media account, and recalled the time she met him at Mehboob studio when she was just 10.



Recalling that moment, Kamya shared that she had gifted 'baba' a zippo and continues to be one of his biggest fans.

Kamya is observing Ganpati this year and shared it is special this time as she has her husband

Shalabh Dang by her side. Sharing pictures from the celebrations, she wrote: This year's Ganesh Sthapna was special, i had this man beside me... @shalabhdang thank you for being you... thank you for being mine. Jai Deva.

Vidya Balan's kanjeevaram sari from her personal collection is a must-have for every bride-to-be

Bollywood actress Vidya Balan seems to have become the ultimate desi girl of Bollywood. The actress has been promoting her latest movie, which has been released online. For her e-promotions, she has been making back-to-back stylish appearances. Making a case for ethical fashion, the actress has been supporting sustainable and handcrafted clothes, made in India. Supporting local weavers and many labels, the actress has been very vocal about her choices of outfits.

For one of the promotions, the actress also made a



case for a kanjeevaram sari, which is from her personal collection. Vidya was seen wearing the silk sari in a bright magenta pink colour. The sari featured traditional golden weaves. She paired the sari with a purple-coloured blouse with quarter sleeves.

Anushka Sharma vs Kiara Advani: Who wore the denim jumpsuit better?



With most of the celebrities self-isolating at home, B-town beauties have kept everyone hooked to their throwback photos. Recently, Bollywood star Anushka Sharma shared a throwback photo of hers, which gave us a celebrity twinning moment. The picture has the actress wearing a jumpsuit by Esse Clothing, which was also worn by Kiara Advani for a movie promotion. Here's a

look at the how both the beauties slayed this outfit and gave us a fashion-face off moment!

In throwback shoot picture, Anushka was seen wearing a blue-coloured denim jumpsuit by Esse. The jumpsuit featured a cut-out detail at the midriff. The chic denim ensemble also featured a zipper yoke design and big pockets. Also, not to miss was her brown-coloured long belt.

Samantha Akkineni's stylish Ikat kurta is perfect if you want to go vocal for local



It's a fabric made using a weaving technique where warp or weft threads, or both, are tie-dyed before weaving. Ikat has come of age and the blurry textile is the big thing in fashion world, with fashionistas

and Bollywood stars endorsing it alike. The latest star to join the Ikat bandwagon is southern sensation, Samantha Akkineni, South Indian cinema's favourite star these days.

The actress is spending all her quarantine time tending to plants and playing with her pets, and she recently gave us a glimpse of her green home, but it was her pretty kurta-dress that caught our eyes.

Covid-19 possible connection with Type 1 Diabetes, says study

Britain's small study suggests that researchers should focus over whether coronavirus increases the risk of type 1 diabetes. Cases of type 1 diabetes Among children Cases of type 1 diabetes might have risen during the peak of Britain's coronavirus outbreak, said scientists said on Monday in the Diabetes Care journal in a study based on 30 cases at two hospitals. In comparison with a distinctive year, this represented an 80% increase, they stated.

"When we investigated further, some of these children had active coronavirus or had previously been exposed to the virus," said study's co-author



Karen Logan of St. Mary's Hospital in London.

Once known as the juvenile diabetes, the type 1 diabetes where insulin producing cells in the pancreas are destroyed, preventing the body from producing enough insulin to regulate blood sugar levels.

The researchers said that one explanation could be that the novel Covid-19 might attack insulin producing cells in the pancreas. "More research is needed to establish whether there is a definitive link ... but in the meantime we hope clinicians will be mindful of this," said Logan.

Maternal, foetal and infant deaths reduced by Community health workers, says study

A study has recommended that the large forces of trained community health workers and standardised healthcare systems could reduce the number of maternal, newborn and foetal deaths.

A meta-analysis of three studies, published today in the Lancet, examines the outcomes of 70,000 women in Mozambique, Pakistan and India between 2014-17.

The study aimed to reduce deaths associated with pre-eclampsia. Pre-eclampsia is a condition that causes high blood pressure during the pregnancy and also after the labour. Globally, pre-eclampsia is the second leading cause of maternal mortality, with around 76,000 maternal deaths and 500,000 foetal and new-born deaths every year worldwide. The reasons like delays in triage, transport to healthcare facilities and treatment contribute to the high num-

bers of deaths among mothers and infants.

The Community Level Interventions for Pre-eclampsia trials divided women within two groups :control and intervention. Control groups continued with their local standard of care, whereas the intervention groups had access to community health workers, who could detect, treat, and refer to hospital women with hypertension, a symptom of pre-eclampsia. Women were also trained to recognise problems during pregnancy and health workers had access to an app that could help determine the risk to patients and blood pressure and blood oxygen devices, so that they could easily assess women in their homes.

The study shows that when there were enough community health workers to provide care then there were less deaths of mothers, few stillbirths and less deaths of newborns.

Pfizer and BioNTech on track to submit the regulatory review on Corona virus vaccine in October

Pfizer, the US pharmaceutical company and German biotech firm BioNTech released the safety and immunogenicity data from the phase 1 trial of their second and lead mRNA based vaccine candidate against SARS-CoV-2, the novel virus that causes COVID-19. The companies said that their Covid-19 vaccine candidate, BNT162, is on track to submit for regulatory review as soon as October.

In a press release, Pfizer and BioNTech said that the data from the phase 1 trial showed that their COVID-19 vaccine candidate elicited SARS-CoV-2-neutralizing geometric mean titers in younger and older adults, representing strong immunogenicity in all the participants. Further, the vaccine was found to be well tolerated across all populations with mild to moderate fever in less than 20 per cent of the participants.

The BNT162b2 vaccine seemed to generate a similar immune response, but fewer side effects than the other vaccine BNT162b1. Systemic events after administration of BNT162b2 were milder than those with BNT162b1, they said in the release. The results have been published on an online



preprint server medRxiv and are concurrently undergoing scientific peer review for potential publication.

"The totality of the clinical and preclinical data informed Pfizer and BioNTech's decision to select BNT162b2 as the lead candidate to advance into pivotal trials. We are proud to share our findings with the scientific community as we continue our work to deliver a safe and effective vaccine to combat this devastating virus," said Ph.D, Senior VP and Head of Vaccine Research & Development, Pfizer, Kathrin U Jansen. "We are especially pleased to offer these early data showing our vaccine candidate's promising safety and

immunogenicity profile from the US trial and we look forward to sharing T cell immune response data from the German trial in the near future."

MD, CEO and Co-Founder of BioNTech, Ugur Sahin said, "It is important to us to continue sharing data and related information on our COVID-19 vaccine lead candidate,". "The favorable safety profile of BNT162b2 and the breadth of T cell responses we previously announced have supported our decision to select this candidate for the pivotal Phase 2/3 study. As of today, we have already dosed more than 11,000 participants with BNT162b2 in that study."

As per the release, both

BNT162b1 and BNT162b2 produced parallel dose-dependent SARS-CoV-2-neutralizing antibody GMTs in both younger and older adults. The neutralizing antibody GMTs were substantially elevated after the second dose, showing a clear benefit of a two dose regimen.

The companies are enduring to analyze data from the Phase 1 trials in the United States and Germany. The findings will support the selection of the BNT162b2 vaccine candidate for global (except for China) Phase 2/3 large-scale safety and efficacy evaluation, which is at present underway. The trial will enroll up to 30,000 participants between 18 to 85 age group. Till date, the phase 2 and 3 trial enrollment has exceeded to 11,000 participants with a second dose underway.

Pfizer and BioNTech stated that they are on track to seek regulatory review for BNT162b2 as early as October 2020. If trials succeed and regulatory authorization or approval is obtained, the companies will plan to supply up to 100 million doses worldwide by the end of 2020 and around 1.3 billion doses by the end of 2021.

Three RJD MLAs joined Nitesh Kumar's party ahead of assembly elections in Bihar

Three RJD MLAs joined the Nitesh Kumar led JD(U) party on Monday, ahead of the Bihar assembly elections.

Maheshwar Prasad Yadav, who represents the Gaighat assembly segment in Muzaffarpur, Prema Choudhary, MLA of Patepur in Vaishali, and Ashok Kumar Kushwaha, the legislator of Sasaram in Rohtas, switched the party.

They joined the Janta Dal in presence of senior leader and states Energy Minister, Bijendra Prasad Yadav at the JD(U) office.

While the RJD party expelled two MLAs on Sunday- Yadav and Choudhary, Kushwaha quit the Lalu Prasad's party hours before joining the JD(U). However, the RJD's Rohtas district unit, claimed that they expelled Kushwaha from the party because of his anti-party

activities.

The RJD party also have expelled Faraz Fatmi, the MLA from Keoti in Darbhanga district, but he did not joined the JD(U) along with his three colleagues as he is currently out of the station, according to the sources. He is the son of former Union minister, Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi, who had quit the RJD ahead of the Lok Sabha elections of 2019 after being denied a ticket. Fatmi senior is currently in JD(U). The three MLAs who joined the JD(U) on Monday expressed their full faith in the leadership of Kumar's party and they said that the work of his government inspired them to switch the sides.

Welcoming the MLAs to the party, the minister said that, These MLAs had fought the assembly elec-

tions under the leadership of Nitish Kumar in 2015 and hence they have come back to their leader.

Nitesh Kumar, who is the JD(U) national president, had formed an alliance ahead of the 2015 assembly elections with Prasad, giving up on years of bitter political hostility. The "Grand Alliance" also included the Congress and their coalition made them win the elections with a thumping majority. Although Kumar returned as chief minister, Lalu Prasad's younger son Tejashwi Yadav was appointed as deputy CM.

However, Kumar grew uneasy after the allegations of corruption and money laundering cases against Tejashwi and several members of the Prasad family, including his wife and former chief minister Rabri Devi.

India's Covid-19 tests crossed the 3 crore mark

The total number of corona virus tests has crossed the 3 crore mark in India, according to the data Indian Council of Medical Research.

ICMR said that, 3,00,41,400 total number of samples have been tested until 16th, August along with 7,31,697 samples were being tested on Sunday.

The Ministry of Health tweeted, "Focussing on timely and aggressive testing, India has exceeded 3 crore tests," on Monday.

In India the tests for detecting Covid-19 have crossed the mark of 1 crore on 6th, July, while it crossed 2 crore mark by August 2.

Having started with one laboratory at the National Institute of Virology (NIV) in Pune and then expanding it to 100 laboratories in the beginning of the lockdown, the ICMR on 23rd June validated, 1,000th



testing lab.

According to Harsha Vardhan, Health Minister, Total labs at present in the country testing for COVID-19 stand at 1,470, followed by 969 government labs and 501 private labs.

COVID-19 count in India has grown to 26,47,663 till Monday with a spike of 57,981 infections in a single day, while the death tally has rose to the 50,000 mark with 941 new fatalities, stated in data of Union Health Ministry.

As per the data updated shows that recoveries rate has surged up to 19,19,842 by

ssinternationalind@gmail.com

Textile Division

About us :

Established in the year 2010, Faridabad (Haryana, India), we, "S.S International", are engaged in manufacturing and supplying an extensive range of Jersey Fabrics, Interlock Fabrics, Knitted Fabrics, Rib Fabric, Hotel Linen Products and Round Neck T-Shirt. Our offered product array is spun using high grade materials meeting customer centric and country specific requirements as per the defined quality standards. We are competent enough to match up with the market trends, with our prompt and valuable products and services. Our wide distribution networks and tie-ups with leading agents has enabled us to procure premium quality raw material for the processing of the products. The latest machineries and the adaptation of advanced technologies in our processes have helped us immensely in developing a range of quality fabrics.

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Hotel Linen

Pioneers in the industry, we offer Hotel Linen Products such as Bath Gown, Terry Towels, Hotel Bed Linen and Hotel Linen from India.

Light Weight Jersey Fabric

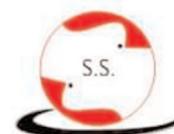
Our team of creative professionals is genuinely dedicated in offering premium quality collection of Light Weight Jersey Fabric. In tune with the demands of our clients, our designers use excellent quality fibers for knitting the offered fabric. The offered fabric is rigorously checked on quality parameters to ensure impeccable finish according to the defined industry standards. We offer this range at reasonable cost.

Materials

- ◆ 100% Cotton, Cotton & Spandex
- ◆ 100% Rayon, Rayon & Spandex
- ◆ Poly Cotton Blends
- ◆ Poly Rayon Blends

Finishes

- ◆ MERCERISING
- ◆ BRUSHING
- ◆ SUEADING
- ◆ PEACHING
- ◆ CHEMICAL FINISHING
- Anti Static
- Anti Pilling
- Nano Finish
- Gold Finish
- Soil Release
- Anti Wrinkle
- Anti Microbial
- UV Protection
- Moisture Management



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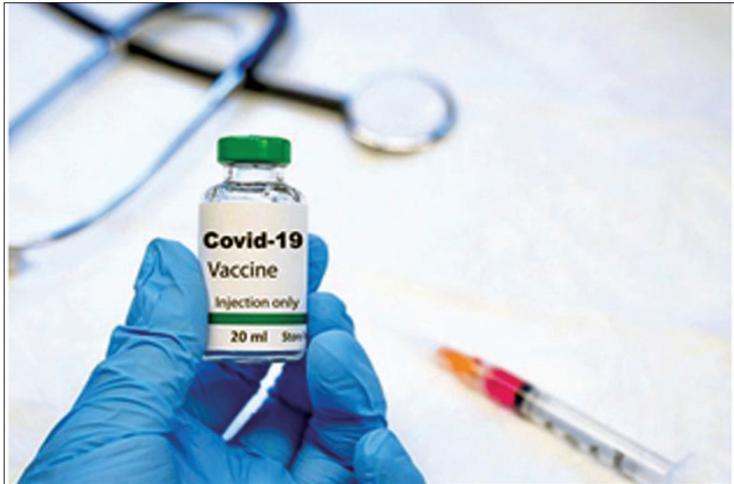
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Novavax starts midstage trial of Covid-19 vaccine in South Africa

Novavax Inc, US drug developer is starting a mid stage study of its experimental COVID-19 vaccine in South Africa, as country is experiencing a surge in the corona virus cases.

The study of Phase 2b trial of NVX-CoV2373 vaccine will be conducted on around 2,665 healthy adults and will evaluate the safety and immunogenicity in 240 medically stable, HIVpositive adults. Gregory Glenn, Novavax research chief said that, "Because South Africa is experiencing a winter surge of COVID-19 disease, this important Phase 2b clinical trial has the potential to provide an early indication of efficacy, along with additional safety and immunogenicity data for NVX-CoV2373,".

According to Reuters data, South Africa is fifth



worst affected country with 583,653 Covid-19 cases and 11,677 deaths.

The company added that, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is providing a grant of \$15 million towards the clinical trial.

They intend to initiate the Phase 2 portion of the clinical trial in the United States

and Australia in the near future and it would involve about 1,500 candidates, said Novavax.

Glenn told Reuters, earlier this month that the company would begin soon the much larger late stage clinical trials and could potentially gather enough data to get regulatory approvals earliest by December.

IHCL signs agreement with Tata Power for supply of solar energy



Indian Hotels Company Ltd, a major in hospitality joined hands with Tata Power for the supply of solar energy for the Mumbai based hotels as part of it's strategy to focus on the sustainable and cost-efficient business practices.

IHCL statement stayed that the company has signed a agreement of solar energy power purchase with Kirnali Solar Ltd, entirely owned subsidiary of Tata Power Company Ltd. "IHCL hotels in Mumbai, namely The Taj Mahal Palace, Taj Lands End and Taj Wellington Mews, will

get approximately 60 per cent energy from green source and will reduce nearly 22.9 million kg of carbon dioxide emissions on an annual basis," company also added.

The agreement between the two is valid for a period of 25 years, says statement.

Puneet Chhatwal, managing director and chief executive of IHCL said, "This initiative is in line with the company's focus on adopting sustainable and cost-efficient business practices, while leveraging group-wide synergies and competencies,".

Chandrababu Naidu demands enquiry over phone tapping in Andhra Pradesh

N Chandrababu Naidu , former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and Telugu Desam Party president alleged that the YSR Congress Party led by the CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy was resorting to massive phone tapping in order to perpetuate and impose their 'Jungle Raj' on all sections of the people in the State.

Raising such concerns, Mr Naidu urged the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to order an enquiry into the alleged massive tapping of phones matter in Andhra Pradesh by a competent authority of the Government of India. The Central government should take rigorous action to prevent the party of Jagan Reddy, Yuvajana Shramika Rythu Congress Party and some private individuals from resorting to indulge in such illegal activities that pose a threat to national security. The TDP chief said in a letter to PM Modi that the ruling party in Andhra Pradesh and private individuals were using sophisticated technology and illegal software to tap the

'10 times more infectious' new Corona virus strain detected by Malaysia



While the world is dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic caused by the SARS-CoV-2, a new strain of corona virus detected by Malaysia and is founded to be 10 times more infectious, according to Bloomberg report.

Dr Anthony Fauci, America's top infectious disease expert earlier, has warned that the SARS-CoV-2 virus was showing some signs of mutation in a way that may push the spread of the virus.



phones belonging to the Opposition leaders, advocates, journalists and social activists. This was a violation of the Articles 19 and 21 that gives fundamental rights of citizens. The ruling YSRCP party was using illegal strategy to protect and preserve its power by intimidating and blackmailing the opponents and dissenting their voices. These illegal activities posing a serious threat to the right to privacy in the State. Chandrababu Naidu told PM that even they were using the cutting

edge technology and equipment to unlawfully tap the phones. If these activities were not put to an end, then they may proliferate and emerge as a huge threat to national security and sovereignty of the country as a whole. If those who are involved such as Governments and private persons in illegal activities not restrained immediately, then they would attack and undermine the democratic institutions that were built over decades of hard work in the country.