



Why Bengali writer Manoranjan Byapari's rise to a life of letters and literature is an anti-caste manifesto of suffering and grit

IDEA EXCHANGE PAGE 10

'NO ONE HAS EVER DOUBTED MUSLIMS' NATIONALISM. NO ONE STILL DOUBTS IT, AND NEVER WILL'

MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI, Minority Affairs Minister

BIG PICTURE PAGES 12-13

The water truck

Maharashtra, witnessing one of its worst water emergencies in years, is critically dependent on tankers for daily needs



OPERATION SUNSHINE-2

India and Myanmar forces coordinate to destroy NE insurgent camps across border

Action between May 16 and June 8, armies stuck to own side of border, 70-80 militants caught by India forces

SUSHANT SINGH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

IN A coordinated military operation conducted by the armies of India and Myanmar on their respective sides of the border, several camps of Northeast-based militant groups inside Myanmar territory were destroyed, and fleeing militants apprehended by Indian security forces.



MAP: Myanmar's Sagaing Region, where the action against the militant groups took place. **PHOTO:** Angko Chingbo hill across the border from Manipur's Ukhrul district, where the Army carried out strikes against militant camps on June 9, 2015. *Archive*

hit at a NSCN-IM camp has also been laid to rest with a coordinated approach." Around 70-80 militants, who were apprehended by the Indian Army in Operation Sunshine-2, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

5TH NITI GOVERNING COUNCIL MEET

PM announces panel with CMs for deep reforms in agriculture

Says goal to make India \$5-trillion economy challenging, but possible

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Saturday announced the creation of a high-powered committee on structural reforms in agriculture, saying this panel "would include some Chief Ministers... and take a holistic approach on the subject". He also highlighted the Centre's commitment to double the income of farmers by 2022.



At the NITI Aayog meeting in New Delhi Saturday. *PIB/PTI*

Speaking at the fifth meeting of the Governing Council of the NITI Aayog, the Prime Minister also said the goal to make India a \$5-trillion economy by 2024 was "challenging, but possible", as he asked state governments to raise economic growth targets right from the district level. That, he said, would result in the Indian economy roughly doubling its present size — estimated at \$2.75 trillion at end-March 2019 — in about five years.

EXPLAINED

E. Challenges on economic front

THE FIFTH meeting of the Governing Council of the NITI Aayog comes in the backdrop of two important events. This is the first meeting of the council since the Modi government returned with a larger mandate. There are challenges on the economic front: the economy grew at 5.8 per cent in the January-March quarter, its slowest in five years. Besides, 2017-18 saw unemployment rates rising to a 45-year high of 6.1 per cent.



Banerjee with officials and Cabinet colleagues in Kolkata Saturday. *Partha Paul*

Mamata appeals for talks; come to NRS, say agitating doctors

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA AND DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
KOLKATA, NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

ON DAY 5 of the "cease-work" by junior doctors in West Bengal, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee appealed again for talks, and asked the doctors to return to hospitals.

In New Delhi, the Ministry of Home Affairs issued an advisory to the West Bengal government to ensure the safety of doctors, and asked for a report on the standoff.

The Ministry issued a separate advisory on the political violence in the state, and sought a fresh report from the government in Kolkata.

"This Ministry is in receipt of a number of representations from doctors, health care professionals and medical associations from different parts of country for their safety and security in view of the ongoing strike by doctors in West Bengal. It is requested that a detailed report be sent urgently on the representations and ongoing strike by the doctors," the MHA said in its advisory.

The agitation was triggered by an attack on two doctors at Kolkata's NRS Medical College **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

Alert in J&K after Pakistan's input to India and US on threat of 'IED-vehicle' attack

Either Pak wants to avoid blame, or it is concerned since possible suspects linked to al-Qaeda: top security official

MUZAMIL JALEEL
SRINAGAR, JUNE 15

PAKISTAN IS said to have shared information regarding the threat of a possible attack in Pulwama district, probably near Awantipora, a top security official in Srinagar has confirmed to *The Sunday Express*.

At the SCO Summit in Bishkek, which Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan also attended, Prime Minister Narendra Modi told Chinese President Xi Jinping that Pakistan needs to create an atmosphere "free of terrorism", but at this stage, New Delhi has not seen that from Islamabad. The PM also said he has made efforts to



Security personnel at the Pulwama blast site. *Express*

initiate peace with Pakistan, but his efforts have been "derailed". The entire security grid in J&K is on its toes after the alert, which came just days ago, regarding a possible attack by militants using an improvised explosive device mounted on a vehicle.

"The Pakistanis shared this information regarding the possibility of such an attack with our High Commission in Islamabad. They had also shared this information with the Americans, who too, informed us. So this information has come directly as well as via the Americans to us," the official said. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

Govt has drought cover: a record stock of pulses

HARISH DAMODARAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

AS INDIA stares at the prospect of a sub-par monsoon — cumulative rainfall so far this season (June-September) has been 43 per cent below normal, on top of a 25 per cent deficiency in the pre-monsoon period (March-

May) — it can take heart from two things that can significantly combat any threat of food inflation.

The first is the stocks of wheat and rice with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in the Central pool. That, at 741.41 lakh tonnes (lt) plus another 120.08 lt of unmillied paddy (equivalent to **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

PROCUREMENT OF PULSES

PERIOD	QUANTITY (in tonnes)
2001-02 to 2013-14	7,16,396.06
2014-15	3,70,589.95
2015-16	51,625.38
2016-17	12,83,588.26
2017-18	19,67,819.62
2018-19	42,54,957.83
2019-20*	8,57,882.01
2014-15 to 2019-20	87,86,463.05

*Up to 13.06.2019

Kerala constable hacks, sets afire woman colleague

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JUNE 15

A POLICE constable hacked and set on fire a woman colleague on the road barely 100 m from her home in Vallikunnam in Kerala's Alappuzha district Saturday.

The woman constable, 31, died on the spot. Her assailant, 33, who is posted in Emakulam rural district, was caught by people at the scene of the crime, and taken into custody.

Sounya Pushpakaran, a civil police officer at Vallikunnam police station, was riding a **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**



Captain Virat Kohli with Rishabh Pant on the eve of the India-Pakistan match in Manchester. *AP* **PAGE 20**

SUNDAY STORY
PAGE 11

Manchester united

Ahead of Sunday's game, fans of Indian and Pakistani origin are united in their worry: Will the weather hold?

Sewer deaths again: seven killed in Vadodara district

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
VADODARA, JUNE 15

SEVEN PEOPLE were killed after inhaling toxic fumes from a septic tank outside a hotel in Dabhoi taluka of Gujarat's Vadodara district around midnight on Friday, police said. Three of those killed were employees of the hotel.

Four workers entered the sewer tank outside Darshan hotel in Fartikuvi village. None of them was wearing protective gear. When the workers did not respond for long, the three hotel staffers went in to look for them.

Police have filed cases of causing death due to negligence, and culpable homicide not

amounting to murder against the hotel's owner, Hasan Abbas. He is on the run.

"Four cleaners were given the task of cleaning the tank. Every night after the hotel closed they were asked to clean the tanks. We presume that one of them entered the tank and suffocated due to some kind of gas leakage. When he did not come out, others jumped in to check on him and suffocated to death as well. Three of them were hotel staff members. We are investigating what gas they inhaled, and what exactly happened," Deputy Superintendent of Police, Dabhoi division, Kalpesh Solanki, said.

The four cleaners hired by **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

I saw my colleagues being stabbed... all over in 5 min: Jharkhand Maoist attack survivor

ABHISHEK ANGAD
SARAIKELA, JUNE 15

CONSTABLE-DRIVER Sukhlal Kudada, the sole survivor in the attack on Friday in Kurku market in Saraikele district.

Chaibasa DIG Kuldeep Dwivedi said police have launched a "sustained operation" to arrest the Maoists involved in the attack.



Kurku market in Saraikele where the policemen were killed by suspected Maoists on Friday. *Abhishek Angad*



Kurku market in Saraikele where the policemen were killed by suspected Maoists on Friday. *Abhishek Angad*

village to attend to a call regarding a dispute. While returning, he says, they stopped at the Kurku market and all the five policemen stepped into different shops to buy water, cold drinks.

Kudada, who claims he was seated in the car when the ambush began, says, "Suddenly, some people emerged from the crowd and started stabbing (the policemen). They all had bhujali (daggers). I rushed out and tried to save one of them, but one of the attackers swung his bhujali at me and I ran." He says there were at least four attackers for **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

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