



Search for IAF's missing aircraft continues in Arunachal Pradesh

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ED may record Praful Patel's statement on aviation deals today

Page 12



In a first, China launches space rocket from Yellow Sea

Page 14

PLAYING TODAY

ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP 2019

Australia vs West Indies

VENUE: Trent Bridge

Live on STAR Sports 1, 2 (SD & HD), 3 p.m.



NEARBY
Winds hamper efforts to retrieve bodies

PITHORAGARH
 Indian Air Force helicopters on Wednesday undertook three sorties to retrieve bodies of five mountaineers lying near the Nanda Devi East Peak in Uttarakhand but high-speed winds hampered their efforts, Pithoragarh DM V.K. Jogdande said.

NORTH & EAST PAGE 5

8 injured as speeding car hits crowd near mosque

NEW DELHI
 At least eight persons were injured when a speeding car hit them while they were coming out of a mosque in Shahdara's Khureji after offering Id prayers on Wednesday.

CITY PAGE 3

IAS PHYSICS
 by D.P. VAJPEYI
 Free Seminar & Interaction with toppers on 9th June 10.00am
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T.N students crack NEET code, 49% of the candidates qualify

Nalin Khandelwal of Rajasthan emerges the all-India topper with 701 out of 720

PRISCILLA JEBARAJ
 NEW DELHI

After fighting tooth and nail against the introduction of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) for undergraduate medical and dental courses, Tamil Nadu has seen a quantum jump in the performance of its students in 2019.

Almost half the applicants (48.57%) from the State have qualified, up from just 39.56% last year. However, this was still lower than the national qualifying percentage of 56.5%.

Overall, almost eight lakh students have qualified for counselling, said the National Testing Agency (NTA), which conducted the examination and released the results on Wednesday.

The highest qualifying

Healthy scores

In Delhi nearly 75% of the students qualified in the NEET, the highest in India while only 34.52% of the students cleared the exam in Nagaland, the least in the country

State/UT	Qualifying candidates (%)	State/UT	Qualifying candidates (%)
Delhi	74.92	Nagaland	34.52
Haryana	73.41	Mizoram	35.79
Chandigarh	73.24	Meghalaya	36.27
Andhra Pradesh	70.72	Maharashtra	39.26
Rajasthan	69.66	Daman & Diu	40.06

The percentage of those qualifying improved the most in Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and Daman & Diu and fell the most in Meghalaya, Mizoram and Rajasthan

percentage was recorded in Delhi, where almost 80% of the applicants qualified.

The only large State that saw a major drop in performance was Rajasthan. Its qualifying percentage dropped from 74.3% to

69.6%. However, the all-India topper Nalin Khandelwal is from Sikar district of the State and studied at a coaching centre in Jaipur. He scored 701 out of a possible 720 marks.

The Tamil Nadu govern-

ment had objected to the introduction of NEET from 2012 and fought an extended but unsuccessful legal battle to keep the State out of its purview.

Rural obstacles

Concerns about State autonomy and the ability of rural students to match NEET standards fuelled its opposition. The death in 2017 of S. Anitha, the daughter of a Scheduled Caste labourer from Ariyalur after she failed to qualify in NEET, focussed public anger against the examination. Anitha, who got 1,176 out of 1,200 marks in the State Board exams, only managed 86 out of 720 in NEET as she could not afford the coaching required.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Path in politics now open, says Akhilesh

'Tie-up with BSP was a trial that failed'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday equated his party's *gathbandhan* (alliance) with the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in Uttar Pradesh to a "trial" that didn't succeed, and declared that the "path in politics" was "open" for his party.

"It's fine, trials happen. Sometimes you don't succeed. But at least you come to know of the weaknesses," he told reporters at an Id event in Lucknow.

Eyes on 2022

Mr. Yadav said if his party was to contest the coming bypolls alone, he would chart out a strategy in discussion with his colleagues to bring the "Samajwadi people" to power in 2022.

"As far as the question of



Akhilesh Yadav

alliance and contesting alone goes, now the path in politics is open," he said.

The SP chief, however, kept the window for compromise open, just like BSP chief Mayawati did a day earlier, when she praised Mr. Yadav and his wife Dimple. Ms. Mayawati said their personal relationship would never end despite the "political compulsions" of putting the alliance on hold.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

PM to head committee on economic growth

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 NEW DELHI

To address the twin problems of sluggish economic growth and rising unemployment, the government has constituted two Cabinet committees to be chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. A formal notification by the Cabinet Secretariat would be issued by Thursday.

The five-member Committee on Investment and Growth consists of Home Minister Amit Shah, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister for Road Transport and Highways and MSME Nitin Gadkari and Railways Minister Piyush Goyal.

This committee will be a focussed group to take measures to bring investments and spur growth in the critical sectors including infrastructure, manufacturing and agriculture, as the economy is passing through a highly volatile period.

Another 10-member Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development has also been formed.

With the GDP falling to 5.8% in the last quarter of 2018-19, lowest in last five years, the committee will prepare a road map to bring the economy back on growth trajectory.

The GDP growth for 2018-19 was 6.8%, against the target of 7.2%.

The fall in growth is result of dip in the performance of the core sectors of the economy, as the eight core sectors recorded a growth of just 2.6% in April, compared with 4.6% in the same month last year.

EMPLOYMENT FOCUS PAGE 12

India starts off with emphatic win over South Africa



Winning knock: Rohit Sharma guided India to victory in its first outing against South Africa at the Hampshire Bowl in Southampton, England, on Wednesday. • REUTERS

Chahal's four for 51 and Rohit's unbeaten 122 prove decisive

K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR
 SOUTHAMPTON

India commenced its World Cup campaign on a rousing note, with a six-wicket triumph over South Africa at a packed Hampshire Bowl here on Wednesday.

Ardent fans, notably the 'Bharat Army', were ecstatic after witnessing a command performance that found its twin pillars in opener Rohit Sharma's unbeaten 122 and leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal's four for 51.

South Africa was restricted to 227 for nine in 50 overs after Chahal snapped up key wickets. His two spells kept the South Africans on a leash. None from the opposi-

tion line-up got a grip on the spinner, and perished. For all the noise about 300-plus scores in England, this World Cup seems to be slowly shifting the balance towards bowlers and both speedster Jasprit Bumrah, who grabbed two wickets, and Chahal reiterated that point.

The chase was never going to be easy under cloudy skies and with a rival pace attack that was potent despite the absence of Dale Steyn. Kagiso Rabada prised out Shikhar Dhawan but India had a string of partnerships that ensured the target was within reach. 'Man of the Match' Rohit braved past the initial nerves, smote a few sixes

and fours and dropped anchor while the others batted around him, ranging from skipper Virat Kohli to M.S. Dhoni. K.L. Rahul, too, contributed at number four.

South Africa never got wickets in clusters and its fielding too wilted while the noise from the stands acquired an ear-splitting pitch.

A relieved Rohit said: "It was a small total, but since there was something in it for the bowlers, it was tough and we needed partnerships." A happy Kohli summed up the game, saying: "Hats off to Rohit, and also the guys who batted around him."

MORE REPORTS PAGE 17

Co-living special

Co-living is the sequel to co-working, a form of renting, sans brokers, hidden costs, and curfew time. Accommodation is designed around independent rooms, with shared spaces that build a sense of community. Ideal for those new in a city, it's an alternative to cramped PGs, strict hostels, and expensive shared apartments.

Page 20

NRC casts shadow over Id in Assam

Celebrations muted for some families

RAHUL KARMAKAR
 GUWAHATI

The detention centre at Goalpara in Assam for those declared foreigners following the NRC exercise and subsequent verification process, played a key role in the Id celebrations of two families, living some 40 km apart.

For the first time in her almost 30 years of married life, Samina Begum did not celebrate Id-ul-Fitr. Her husband, ex-serviceman Mohammed Sanaullah, was taken from their home in Guwahati to the detention centre on May 28, five days after a Foreigners Tribunal order.

"How can I?" was all an inconsolate Ms. Samina could say.

Bleak Id

Members of her family said Id has never been so bleak for them, though there were occasions earlier when Mr. Sanaullah, who retired from the Army as an Honorary Captain in August 2017, had to be away on festive days for military assignments.

Members of Mr. Sanaullah's family did not go to the detention centre to meet him on Id, their lawyer Sahidul Islam said.

Some 40 km away in Khopankuchi village the family of Rehat Ali had invited almost the entire neighbourhood for a exuberant Id celebration. Rehat Ali was released on May 7. Home after three years at the very same Goalpara detention centre, Mr. Ali said "My children insisted on a large-scale



Rehat Ali with his son Lukman Ali.

festivity because Id for them and me has been subdued for three years."

He recalled the years when his family would meet him at the detention centre ahead of Id, give him new clothes, some grain and money to celebrate in captivity.

The story of Id at the Sanaullah and Rehat Ali homes was replicated across the State depending on the result of the decisions on citizenship.

The Assam government had in April told the Supreme Court that more than 900 "declared foreigners" were lodged across six detention centres - essentially central jails - in the State. More than 200 others have since added to those remanded after the court pulled the government up for slackness. "About 70% of the inmates in these centres are Muslims," said Aman Wadud, an advocate who represents suspected foreigners *pro bono*.

"We used to fast for Ramadan and celebrate Id from the gifts received by the more prosperous among us. Jail authorities never stopped our celebrations, which fellow Hindu inmates would participate in," Mr Ali said.

T.N. CM deletes tweet on teaching Tamil in other States

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 CHENNAI

Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami, who tweeted on Wednesday morning recommending the study of Tamil as an optional language in other States, found himself in the midst of a con-

trovery, with his stand being viewed by the Opposition as endorsing the three-language formula. Mr. Palaniswami, who had posted the original tweet on his personal Twitter handle @EPSTamilNadu, later deleted it.

In his tweet, he requested

Prime Minister Narendra Modi "to include Tamil as an optional language for study in other States". He added that "this will be a great service to one of the most ancient languages of the world".

DETAILS ON PAGE 12

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11.06.2019	MODERN HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY	11.06.2019	MODERN HISTORY	11.06.2019
12.06.2019	GEOGRAPHY	CURRENT AFFAIRS	12.06.2019	GEOGRAPHY	12.06.2019
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- Ethics Content Enrichment Batch - After PT result
- Ethics Case Study 2019 - 2020 -17th June
- GS Mains Test Series 09th June
- Essay Test Series 14th June
- Law Optional - 2020 24th June

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NAMRATA	12	125	464
K. V. REDDY	07	121	448
ALOK	41	119	455

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