



Green tribunal seeks timeline for cleaning Yamuna river

page 9



India lags behind in quality of economic data reporting: IMF

page 13



Rahane, Vihari and Indian bowlers put West Indies on the mat

page 18

Stokes' brilliant knock takes England to sensational win

page 20



NEARBY



Man dies after scooter falls off Barapullah

NEW DELHI
A 36-year man was killed and his cousin injured after they fell off the Barapullah flyover in south-east Delhi, the police said on Sunday. The victims — Rohit Makol (36) and his cousin Pradeep — were on a scooter when the accident occurred on Saturday evening.

CITY ► PAGE 3

Mob kills earth-moving machine driver in Nagaur

JAIPUR
A driver of an earth-moving machine was killed and five government vehicles were vandalised by a mob during an anti-encroachment drive in Rajasthan's Nagaur district on Sunday, police said.

NORTH ► PAGE 6

Now and Then

Former tennis player and now coach, Ankita Bhambri, has always been the quiet, diligent worker. Her coaching philosophy for parents is simple - focus on training, rather than results. ► PAGE 5

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EDUCATIONPLUS ► 4 PAGES

Separate flag, law key to peace: Naga group

NSCN(IM) writes letter to the PM

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

Less than a month after the Centre ended Jammu and Kashmir's special status that allowed it to have its own constitution and a flag, a Naga extremist group has for the first time said a "separate flag and constitution" are necessary for an "honourable solution" to the 22-year-old peace process.

In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Isak Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland has said any solution would be far from honoura-

ble if the core issues such as a Naga flag and constitution are yet to be agreed upon between the group and the Centre. The letter followed former IB officer R.N. Ravi's statement that Mr. Modi had, before his appointment as Nagaland's Governor, wanted the peace process concluded in three months.

Mr. Ravi was speaking at a civic reception in Nagaland's capital Kohima on August 17 and allayed fears that the scrapping of Article 370 would cast a shadow on the peace process and the State.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

SC slams govt. for denying pension to freedom fighter

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has slammed the Centre for harassing a 90-year-old freedom fighter by filing repeated appeals in higher courts, often at the last minute, to deny him a freedom fighter's pension.

The government had challenged a Delhi High Court order directing the Centre to pay Dev Narayan Mishra his freedom fighter pension.

DETAILS ON ► PAGE 9

New law to curb lynching unlikely

Group of Ministers yet to meet

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

An empowered Group of Ministers, headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, to suggest measures to combat mob lynchings is yet to meet, but a senior official has indicated that a new law on such crimes is unlikely.

The official said the existing laws were enough to combat crimes like lynching, and all it required was "enforcement".

"There are enough laws to deal with lynchings; it is a matter of enforcement.

The police need to be trained to ensure conviction in these cases," the official said, when asked whether the Centre was considering any amendment to the Indian Penal Code (IPC) to prevent lynchings.

On August 5, the Rajasthan Assembly passed a Bill, the Rajasthan Protection from Lynching Bill, 2019, providing for life imprisonment and a fine of up to ₹5 lakh for persons convicted of lynching.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

Jaitley cremated with state honours in the Capital

Thousands, including top party leaders, pay tribute to him



Final tribute: Amit Shah pays his last respect to former finance minister Arun Jaitley. ■ PTI

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Former Union Minister and senior BJP leader Arun Jaitley, who passed away on Saturday, was cremated at the Nigambodh Ghat here with full state honours in the presence of political leaders across party lines and supporters on Sunday.

As the BJP leader's last rites were being performed by his son Rohan Jaitley, it started raining.

Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP working president J.P. Nadda were among Jaitley's former colleagues in attendance.

Congress leaders Jyotiraditya Scindia and Kapil Sibal were also present at the cremation ground.

Chief Ministers of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Bihar and Uttarakhand, Devendra Fadnavis, Vijay Rupani, B. S. Yediyurappa, Nitish Kumar and Trivendra Singh Rawat, respectively, were also there.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is in France for the G7 summit, was in Bahrain on Saturday when he said it was "upsetting and unbelievable" that someone he had known since their youth was no more. On Sunday morning, the mortal remains were taken from his South Delhi residence to the party headquarters on Deen Dayal Upadhaya Marg, where thousands, including top party leaders and Union Ministers, paid tribute to him.

From the BJP office, the

mortal remains draped in the Tricolour were carried in a procession to the cremation ground in a vehicle decorated with flowers in the afternoon.

The former Finance Minister was admitted to AIIMS on August 9 when he complained of uneasiness and breathlessness. After being on life support for two weeks, he breathed his last at 12.07 p.m. on Saturday, according to AIIMS. He was 66.

He had been diagnosed with a form of cancer, soft tissue sarcoma, in January this year.

Last year, he had undergone a kidney transplant and in 2014, he had had a bariatric surgery. He is survived by his wife and two children.

(With PTI inputs)

On top of the world

Third time lucky: It was sweet revenge for P.V. Sindhu who breezed past Nozomi Okuhara 21-7, 21-7 in just 38 minutes in the World Championships final in Basel on Sunday

■ The Indian had lost an epic 110-minute final to the Japanese in 2017

■ With this victory, Sindhu improved her head-to-head record against Okuhara to 9-7 in what has become a celebrated rivalry

■ The Hyderabad girl had lost to Spain's Carolina Marin in the 2018 summit clash

Superb show: Sindhu in action during her women's singles final match against Japan's Nozomi Okuhara in Basel, Switzerland. ■ REUTERS



REPORTS ON PAGE 18

A young biologist recreates a blue whale from bones

Complete skeleton formed in A.P. using several of the giants washed ashore

T. APPALA NAIDU
MACHILIPATNAM

It was like a jigsaw puzzle for the young wildlife biologist looking at the skeletal remains of dead blue whales washed ashore on the Andhra Pradesh coast. But he found a way to put them all together. All in just two months. Where the parts were missing, he used plaster of Paris and put in stainless steel and screws to configure a life-size skeleton of the endangered species.

In 2017, Kumpatla Balaji, the Andhra University alumnus launched a project to use the skeletal remains

to form the blue whale, replicating its natural anatomy structure. He was spurred to do so, after experts were unable to fit the bones collected from the Machilipatnam coast.

Mr. Balaji is a research scientist at the Coringa Marine Museum in Rajamahendravaram city, where the 32-ft-long life-size blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*) skeleton he engineered is being preserved and on public display since early 2018.

"Dozens of skeletal remains of blue whales were lying with our museum,



From the deep: The skeleton assembled at Coringa Marine Museum at Rajamahendravaram. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

begging to be assembled," said Mr. Balaji.

Chemically treated

"Many bones and the head part of the blue whale were brought to our museum by the Forest Department from

Machilipatnam coast in 2017, helping me form the complete skeleton within two months," he said.

The skeletal parts were chemically treated before being rigged together with stainless steel. At least two

bones were made of plaster of Paris as they were missing."

The blue whale falls in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Dozens of dead blue and sperm whales have washed ashore on the Nagayalanka, Machilipatnam, Kakinada, and Srikakulam coast in Andhra Pradesh since 2015. What caused their death is the subject of study.

"The way the complete skeleton of the giant animal has been developed will help preserve it for the next three decades without the need for any further chemical treatment. The skeleton is painted with a white chemical for longevity," said Mr. Balaji.