



IN BRIEF

Centre has enough onion buffer stock: Paswan
NEW DELHI
State governments should lift onions from the Centre's 50,000 tonne buffer stock to ensure there is no price rise due to supply shortage in local markets, Food Minister Ram Vilas Paswan said on Monday. The buffer is being distributed through agencies like Mother Dairy and NAFED.

Suspected JuM terrorist arrested in Gaya
Patna
A suspected terrorist, said to be associated with the Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen (JuM) of Bangladesh, was on Monday arrested from Gaya, Bihar. He was produced in a local court and later taken to West Bengal. On an intelligence tip-off, a Special Task Force of the Kolkata Police, in a joint operation with the district police arrested Ejaz Ahmed, 30.

NHRC notice to U.P. over 'salt-roti' as meal
NEW DELHI
Terming the incident shocking and disgraceful, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Monday issued a notice to the UP government over reports of children in a Mirzapur government school being served rotis with salt as their midday meal. The NHRC took suo motu cognisance of media reports of a video that went viral showing the "salt rotis" being served in a primary school.

Man walks into police station with wife's head
BHUBANESWAR
A man walked into a police station with his wife's severed head in Odisha's Puri district late on Sunday. The victim has been identified as Anupama Behera. The man, Ganesh Behera, is believed to have committed the murder suspecting infidelity. The accused was a small trader in Chennai. The couple had returned to Odisha separately after a recent fight.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy Rainfall at isolated places over Uttarakhand, West Rajasthan, West Madhya Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Saurashtra & Kutch, Konkan & Goa, Coastal & South Interior Karnataka and Kerala & Mahe.

| CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN |
|------------------|------------------|------|-----|
| Agartala..... | 00.0....36.0.... | 26.8 | |
| Ahmedabad..... | 1....28.9.... | 26.5 | |
| Aizawl..... | 00.0....00.0.... | 00.0 | |
| Allahabad..... | 4.8....33.8.... | 25.4 | |
| Bengaluru..... | 00.0....27.7.... | 20.0 | |
| Bhopal..... | 19....28.7.... | 23.8 | |
| Bhubaneswar..... | 19.1....30.1.... | 23.7 | |
| Chandigarh..... | 18.6....28.6.... | 26.4 | |
| Chennai..... | 00.0....35.6.... | 27.5 | |
| Coimbatore..... | 00.0....30.9.... | 22.4 | |
| Dehradun..... | 2.6....31.3.... | 24.2 | |
| Gangtok..... | 4.7....25.2.... | 17.2 | |
| Goa..... | 1.8....31.0.... | 24.6 | |
| Guwahati..... | 00.0....37.0.... | 26.9 | |
| Hubballi..... | 00.0....28.0.... | 21.0 | |
| Hyderabad..... | 00.0....31.6.... | 23.1 | |
| Imphal..... | 00.0....32.5.... | 20.8 | |
| Jaipur..... | 1.8....31.0.... | 24.0 | |
| Kochi..... | 22....29.4.... | 23.0 | |
| Kohima..... | 00.0....29.6.... | 20.6 | |
| Kolkata..... | 20.4....31.6.... | 26.5 | |

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

| CITIES | SO ₂ | NO ₂ | CO | PM2.5 | PM10 | CODE |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----|-------|------|------|
| Ahmedabad..... | 60 | 80 | 68 | 71 | 129 | ■ |
| Bengaluru..... | 4 | 22 | 20 | 24 | 44 | ■ |
| Chennai..... | 6 | 21 | 28 | 60 | 44 | ■ |
| Delhi..... | 5 | 153 | 24 | 46 | 44 | ■ |
| Hyderabad..... | 35 | 27 | 14 | 37 | 73 | ■ |
| Kolkata..... | 3 | 23 | 10 | 11 | 17 | ■ |
| Lucknow..... | 8 | 9 | 52 | 72 | 74 | ■ |
| Mumbai..... | — | 13 | 107 | 24 | — | ■ |
| Pune..... | 74 | — | 67 | 49 | 49 | ■ |
| Visakhapatnam..... | — | — | 59 | — | — | ■ |

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Cong. looks to fulfil poll promise in Chhattisgarh

NYAY, the minimum income guarantee scheme, will provide ₹72,000 to the 20% poorest families in the State

SOBHANA K NAIR
NEW DELHI
The Nyuntam Aay Yojana (NYAY) or minimum income guarantee scheme, a key promise in the Congress manifesto for the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, is set to make its first appearance in Chhattisgarh.
Under directions of the party high command, the Chhattisgarh government is likely to launch a pilot project for the scheme.
Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel last week met Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi. K. Raju, who headed the office of former party president Rahul Gandhi, was in Raipur to brief Mr.

Baghel about the scheme.
NYAY was the corner stone of the Congress campaign with the slogan – *Ab Hoga Nyay* (now there will be justice). The manifesto had a image of an old woman hugging Mr. Gandhi with the tag line – *Garibi par waar* (strike on poverty) while guaranteeing ₹72,000 per annum to the poor.
Push to rural economy
In the run up to the election, Mr. Gandhi had variously referred to NYAY as a “surgical strike” on poverty, a “diesel for the engine of Indian economy” and “remonetising the economy” through the scheme.



He often pitted this against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's claim in 2014 Lok Sabha election campaign of depositing ₹15 lakh in every Indian's account by bringing back the black money stashed abroad. However, the party was unable to create a buzz about the scheme.
The Chhattisgarh pilot promises ₹72000 per annum to 20% of the poorest families of the State. The Congress has been repeatedly claiming that this kind of fund input is essential to keep the economy afloat. Launching the scheme in

Chh-attisgarh, an insider said, is a way to keep it alive.
“We are discussing it within the party and it is under consideration. It will begin as a pilot project in a small area at first just the way we started a pilot project against malnutrition in Bastar to begin with and will expand it to the rest of the State on October 2,” Mr. Baghel told *The Hindu*. After final discussions with the party high command and State leaders, the modalities will be charted out.
Injects financial fluidity
The scheme was a result of closed door meetings with many economists, Rajeev

Gowda, convenor of the Congress manifesto committee said. NYAY was distilled down from the idea to provide Universal Basic Income which was seen as fiscally impractical.
Mr. Gowda stressed that in the current economic scenario NYAY becomes even more relevant to inject financial fluidity. “Rural income has been stagnant if not negative over last few years. This provides them basic level of support that will free them up from worrying about mere survival and to be able to think about other things like health, education and whole bunch of other things,” Mr. Gowda said.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR
Farmers' groups in Rajasthan have warned of organising a long march from Dudu town to Jaipur on October 9 next unless their demands for remunerative prices for agricultural produce and decentralisation of procurement are met. The Kisan Mahapanchayat, a representative body of farmers, has planned a major agitation on the issues affecting peasants.

At a conclave held at Dudu, 62 km from here, the Mahapanchayat leaders said the farmers were suffering immense losses because of “rampant corruption” among the officials and anomalies in the procurement of crops. They demanded that the procurement be made operative throughout the year, instead of a limited number of days for each crop.

Mahapanchayat president Rampal Jat said the farmers had suffered losses up to ₹4,000 per quintal because of lack of proper arrangement for procurement of moong at minimum support prices in 2018-19 and gram and mustard in 2019-20. “Same was the case with urad, groundnut, maize and millet. The farmers had to travel long distances and stay overnight with tractors containing the produce with no certainty of purchase,” he said.

Mr. Jat said the MSP announced by the government did not even cover input costs, while the schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrankshan Abhiyan had excluded 75% of farmers from the ambit of procurement.

The government was not willing to take responsibility for risks involved in farming, as was visible in the “guidelines” for giving assistance in natural calamities, he said.

Plea in Supreme Court seeks online RTI portals in States

Only Maharashtra and Delhi have set up systems for e-filing

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Centre and 25 States to respond to a writ petition for a direction to establish Right to Information (RTI) web portals across all States to enable citizens, especially those living abroad, to file RTI applications online.

A Bench led by Justice N.V. Ramana issued notice on the petition filed by the Pravasi Legal Cell, represented by senior advocate Sanjay Hegde, saying that none of the States except Delhi and Maharashtra, had set up RTI portals.

RTI Act
The Central government established an online RTI portal whereby any Indian citizen, including Non-Residential Indians (NRIs), can apply for information under the RTI Act with the desired Ministry or



for this purpose through the National Informatics Centre (NIC) to the States.
“However, only the States of Maharashtra and Delhi have established their respective online portals for obtaining information from the departments of their respective governments,” the petition pointed out.

Physical application
It said that a person seeking information under the RTI Act of 2005 from any State department, is compelled to make a physical application. This has become difficult for NRIs.

“The provision of an online web portal will help the Indian citizens, including the Non-Resident Indians by speedy dissemination of information requested, which in turn would only help in achieving the aim of the RTI laws of bringing transparency in administration,” the petition said.

Department under the Central government. An applicant can also pay the requisite fee through online payment in this portal and submit the RTI application, the petition said.
The Centre had also requested, via a letter dated December 13, 2013, the various State governments to explore the feasibility of implementing online RTI portals. It had even offered to provide technical support

Doctors seek Ministry's intervention

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Federation of Resident Doctors Association (FORDA)-India has sought urgent intervention of the Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan to help students get admission to super speciality courses (DM Mch. and DNB).

“August 26 was the last date to receive these letters. But due to technical glitches, some students haven't received them. Apollo-Delhi, Paras-Delhi and Fortis-Gurugram are some hospitals where website links to obtain these letters are not working. If students do not get them, their seats will be considered forfeited and admission will stand cancelled,” said Dr. Sunil Arora, general secretary, FORDA-India.

FORDA has now requested the Ministry to intervene. “We request you to either postpone the date of reporting or permit offline reporting,” it said in a letter to the Minister.

Tamil Nadu's first public electric bus ferries passengers in Chennai

It can run a maximum of 40 km with a fully charged battery

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

In a first-of-its-kind initiative in Tamil Nadu, an air-conditioned electric bus was flagged off by Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami in Chennai on Monday.

The bus, operated by the Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC), began plying on route ‘AI’, between Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central Railway Station and Thiruvanniyur, through Mylapore and Adyar. The bus, equipped with automatic doors and GPS, will make two round trips each in the morning and the evening. The MTC plans to operate the bus, manufactured by Ashok Leyland, on a trial basis at Deluxe rates, with a minimum



Good to go: Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami flagging off an electric bus at the Secretariat on Monday. ■ R. RAGU

fare of ₹11 and a maximum fare of ₹25. The vehicle will be operated on a ‘battery swap’ basis and can run a maximum of 40 km with a fully charged battery. On completion of a single round trip, the battery will be swapped. The spare battery will be charged at the Pallavan Central depot off Anna Salai. The bus will cumulatively undertake eight trips in both morning and evening sessions.

Aimed at reducing pollution levels, electric buses are being introduced on a pilot basis. They will initially be tried for a few months, and based on the feedback, more buses will be introduced. According to a senior Transport Department official, another electric bus will be introduced in the next 10 days.

The 32-seater bus complies with the standards of the Automotive Research As-

sociation of India (ARAI) and is equipped with a Fire Detection and Suppression System (FDSS) and other facilities to monitor the driver's functions and the battery's performance, among other factors.

The Central government had recently approved a total of 5,595 electric buses for 64 cities under FAME INDIA-2. In Tamil Nadu, besides Chennai, Coimbatore, Tiruchi, Madurai, Erode, Tiruppur, Salem, Vellore and Thanjavur are to get a total of 525 electric buses.

Amma Patrol
Mr. Palaniswami flagged off 40 Amma Patrol vehicles, to be manned by police personnel for the benefit of women and children within the Greater Chennai Police limits, at a total cost of ₹7.50 crore. The vehicles will be attached to 35 All Women Police Stations in Chennai and will help in surveillance.

Ready to thwart Jaish threat, says Navy chief

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PUNE

An “underwater wing” of Pakistan-based terror group Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) is training people to carry out attacks but the Indian Navy is fully prepared to thwart any such attempt, Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh said here on Monday.

He said all stakeholders in coastal security are ensuring that there is no intrusion from the sea.

“We have received intelligence (input) that an underwater wing of Jaish-e-Mohammed is training people to carry out attacks from water and that is one change. But we are fully prepared and will thwart any such attempt,” Admiral Singh added, responding to

a query on the changing forms of terror and the Navy's response to them.

Speaking about heightened vigil along the country's coast since the deadly 26/11 sea-borne terror attacks on Mumbai in 2008, he said the Navy was overall in-charge of maritime security.

“The Indian Navy, maritime police, state governments and other stakeholders are making sure there is no intrusion from the sea,” the Navy chief stated.

He was speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a lecture, titled ‘Indian Ocean - Changing Dynamic: Maritime Security Imperatives for India’. The lecture was part of a series held in the memory of the late Army chief General B.C. Joshi.

KERALA STATE COUNCIL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT (KSCSTE)

Sastrabhavan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram 695004, (Phone: 0471-2548316, Website: www.kscste.kerala.gov.in)

NOTIFICATION

The KSCSTE is seeking qualified candidates for the post of Senior Principal Scientist, Institute of Advanced Virology, Thonnakkal, Thiruvananthapuram.

For details log on to www.kscste.kerala.gov.in

Last date for the receipt of application is **30.09.2019 at 5.00 pm**

Executive Vice President

Telangana State Technology Services Ltd.
BRKR Bhavan, Hyderabad – 500063, Telangana

Tender Ref. No. - TSTS/CS/ESD-GOC-Q&M/2019, Dt: 27.08.2019

TSTS on behalf of the Commissioner, ESD- Telangana issues Tender call notice inviting bids for **Selection of Contract Service Provider (CSP) for Operation and Maintenance of 107 nos Government owned ESD Meeseva Centres in Telangana State** for a period of 3 years.

Pre-bid meeting: 30.08.2019 @ 04:00 PM, O/o Commissioner- ESD, 2nd floor, MCH Building, RD No.7, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad.

For details please visit www.tsts.telangana.gov.in, <https://tender.telangana.gov.in>

Sd/- Managing Director

NORTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED
CIN No. U40109TG2000SGC034119.

Tender Notice

TSPNDCL is intends to Purchase the Materials through e-Procurement platform from the Manufacturers.

Specification No.: CGM / P&MM / OT-31/2019 -20 and STN-06/2019-20

Name of the Material: S-ph 25 KVA DTRs and LT Distribution Boxes (SMC)

Bid Security @2% on Ex-Works. Downloading of Tenders through On-Line e-Procurement starts from 27.08.19 at 11.00 AM. For further details visit www.tender.telangana.gov.in and www.tspndcl.in

For obtaining Digital Key visit www.tsts.gov.in

Sd/- **CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&MM)**
TSPNDCL, Warangal.

CM YK A ND-NDE