## on Sunday



Senior IPS officer Rajeev Kumar fails to appear before CBI



Trump confirms death of Hamza bin Laden in counterterror operation



India keeps its nerve, pips Bangladesh in under-19 Asia Cup final Kohli's India takes on de Kock's South Africa in opening T20I today



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### NEARBY

#### Final status of all NRC applicants out

GUWAHATI The National Register of Citizens authority on Saturday published the individual status of all 3.3 crore people of Assam who had applied for inclusion when the exercise began five years ago.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 10

## Yemen rebels attack Saudi Aramco plants

REUTERS RIYADH

Iran-aligned Yemen's Houthi group on Saturday attacked two Saudi Aramco plants at the heart of the kingdom's oil industry, including the world's biggest petroleum processing facility in Abqaiq, and Khurais, sparking fires in the latest flare-up in the Gulf.

Saudi Arabia said it had brought the blazes under control, but three sources said oil production and exports had been disrupted.

**PREPARES FOR IPO ▶** PAGE 12



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# Govt. unveils package to boost exports, revive housing sector

FM announces ₹50,000 cr. incentive scheme in third set of stimulus measures

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday announced a third set of government decisions to revive the economy, including a ₹50,000 crore export incentive scheme and a ₹10,000 crore special window to provide last mile funding for unfinished housing projects.

The decisions, announced by the Minister at a press conference on Saturday, follow two previous mega announcements designed to encourage private sector investment, and bring further stability into the banking system through several public sector bank mergers.

The third set of announcements focussed on giving a fillip to exports, which contracted 6.05% in August, and easing the plight of home buyers.

#### **Last-mile funding**

said. "The government, on For the housing sector, the the lines of the National Inmost notable decision was vestment and Infrastructure the setting up of a special Fund, can contribute to the fund that would provide lastfund, while the rest of the inmile funding for housing vestors would be LIC and projects that are not categorother institutions and privised as non-performing asate capital from banks, sovesets and are not undergoing reign funds, etc." National Company Law Tribunal proceedings. vernment's contribution to

A snapshot of the key

"The objective is to focus

on construction of unfin-

ished units," Ms. Sitharaman

The Minister said the go-

Booster **dose Finance Minister** Nirmala Sitharaman



🚄 refund module for quick and automated refund of input tax credits to exporters by end of Septembe Banks

the fund would be ₹10,000

crore and the other investors

would contribute "roughly

the same amount". The fund

is to be professionally run

with experts from the hous-

On exports, Ms. Sitharaman

said, "One major decision is

the setting up of the Scheme

for Remission of Duties or

Taxes on Export Product

ing and banking sectors.

**Duty remission** 

New Scheme for Remission

of Duties or Taxes on Export

Product (RoDTEP) to

incentivise exporters

• The scheme is aimed at

🜙 to be provided loans to exporters

cover for working capital

4 RBI to modify priority sector lending norms to increase credit to exporters by ₹36,000-68,000 crore

A special fund to provide last-mile funding for unfinished housing units

This will be available for non-NPA, non-NCLT, affordable and middle income projects

Govt. will provide **₹10,000** crore, other investors will put in roughly the same amount

External commercial borrowing guidelines will be relaxed to facilitate financing for homebuyers who are eligible under the Pradhan Mantri Awas

Interest on house

(RoDTEP), which would replace the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)." "The existing dispensation in textiles of MEIS and the old ROSL [Rebate of State Levies] will continue up to December 31, 2019,"

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 10 **COSMETIC STEPS: CONG.** ▶ PAGE 10 'SPEEDY ITC E-REFUNDS CAN **BOOST EXPORTS'** ▶ PAGE 13

# Only Hindi can work to unite country, asserts Amit Shah

'One common language vital for nation's global identity'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

In remarks that sparked angry reactions from some southern States, Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said Hindi is the only language that can unify the country and steps should be taken to promote it.

"India is a country of different languages, and every language has its own importance but it is very important to have a language of the whole country which should become the identity of India globally," he said on Twitter, writing in Hindi. "Today, if one language can do the work of uniting the country, then it is the most spoken language, Hindi."

#### Gandhi's dream

Appealing to citizens to increase the use of the mother tongue and Hindi, Mr. Shah equated it to realising the dream of Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel of one language for the country.

Later, at a Hindi Diwas event in Delhi, he said, "Today if you ask a Hindi-medium student to speak for 40 minutes in Hindi, he won't be able to do so."

"There is so much influence of English on us that we cannot talk in Hindi without its help. School students should be asked to speak in

% of speakers of languages Marathi Tamil Bengali | Telugu | Gujarati 75 Chhattisaarhi % of speakers of dialects of Hindi Rajasthani | Magadhi Bhojpuri | Haryanvi Source: Census 2011

Only 60% of total Hindi-speakers speak the native Hindi dialect.

Effectively, only 26% have native Hindi as their mother tongue

One language, many dialects

## T.N. leaders slam remarks

Political leaders in Tamil Nadu took exception to Home Minister Amit Shah's call for Hindi as the national language. DMK president M.K. Stalin said Mr. Shah's plan would make non-Hindi speaking people secondary citizens and undermine the country's integrity.

Hindi," Mr. Shah said. Pointing out that the na-

tion was home to 122 languages and over 19,500 dialects, he said people should realise that if languages were lost to foreign influence, "we will be severed from our cul-

## Protest staged in Bengaluru

The Karnataka Rakshana Vedike (KRV) and other Kannada organisations took out a rally in Bengaluru on Saturday to protest against Union Home Minister Amit Shah's statement. The Opposition Congress and the Janata Dal (Secular) too condemned it. ▶ PAGE 8

ture". He said Hindi had to be taken to areas such as law and science and technology, and the "battle was only half

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 10 **HOME MINISTRY LEADS ▶** PAGE 11

## Rahul's IAS Coaching Institute for Judicial Services Exams.





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