FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019



R.K.S. Bhadauria appointed the next chief of Indian Air Force



Pompeo savs U.S. backs Saudi Arabia's right to defend itself page 14

Sale of Air India is Hardeep Singh Puri Sindhu loses to Pornpawee in pre-quarterfinals of the China Open





truly under way, says page 15

page 21

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**NEARBY** 



Alka Lamba disqualified from Delhi Assembly

Rebel AAP Delhi MLA Alka Lamba was on Thursday disqualified by Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel under the anti-defection law. The Speaker took the decision based on a disqualification petition moved by AAP chief spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj.

**CITY** ▶ PAGE 2

MALUKA IAS

FRIDAY REVIEW > 8 PAGES

Protest armada

## 'Hug each Kashmiri, build new paradise'

Prime Minister Modi sees attempts from across the border to spread violence in the State

STAFF REPORTER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said it was time to build a new Kashmir after the scrapping of Article 370, and the country should unite as one towards this.

"Earlier, the slogan used to be Kashmir hamara hai [Kashmir is ours]. This must now change to Naya Kashmir banana hai [We must make a new Kashmir]. We have to once again build a paradise [in Kashmir]... hug each Kashmiri," he said at the last rally of the Mahajanadesh Yatra that was launched by Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on August 1.

The scrapping of Article 370 would help to remove Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh from the vicious cycle



New slogan: Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaking at a rally in Nashik on Thursday. • VIVEK BENDRE

of militancy, violence and corruption. "We had promised the country that we will make fresh attempts to resolve the issues affecting Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh. I can happily say today that the country is working

towards fulfilling those dreams." It was not the decision of one government, but the wish of 1.3 crore Indians, he said.

The first 100 days of the government, he said, were marked by "promise, performance and delivery". "In the first 100 days, we have given a clear picture of what is to come in the next five years."

Attempts were being made from across the border to spread violence in Kashmir and the Opposition was trying to gain political mileage from an issue which was for the larger good of the country, he observed.

**Swipe at Pawar** Taking a swipe at Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar for his remarks on the scrapping of Article 370, Mr. Modi said, "I can understand the Congress's confusion. But Sharad Pawar? A leader as experienced as him makes wrong statements just to gain votes and it hurts me. Mr. Pawar likes our neighbouring country. The whole of Maharashtra, India and even the world knows where is the factory of terrorism located."

Mr. Modi praised the Maharashtra government, led by Mr. Fadnavis. He said crores of people had blessed the Chief Minister during the course of his 4,000-km State-wide tour, and he had given a stable government despite the BJP not having full majority. He criticised those opposing the national animal disease control programme. He said, "Cattle don't vote." The programme aimed to vaccinate 50 crore livestock across the country, which the Opposition had called a political move.

**TRUST JUDICIARY: PM ▶** PAGE 12 NO SCOPE FOR THIRD-PARTY **ROLE: INDIA ▶** PAGE 13

#### Access to Internet is a basic right: Kerala HC

Upholds college student's plea

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Kerala High Court on Thursday held that the right to have access to the Internet is part of the fundamental right to education as well as the right to privacy under 21 of the Constitution.

Justice P.V. Asha made the observation while ordering the principal of Sree Naravanaguru College, Kozhikode, to re-admit a student who had been expelled from the college hostel for using her mobile phone beyond the restricted hours.

The court observed, "When the Human Rights Council of the United Nations has found that the right of access to Internet is a fundamental freedom and

a tool to ensure right to education, a rule or instruction which impairs the said right of the students cannot be permitted to stand in the eye of law."

The verdict came on a petition filed by Faheema Shirin, a third-semester B.A. English student of the college at Chelanur, challenging her expulsion for not adhering to restrictions on the use of mobile phone. As per the rules of the girls' hostel, inmates were restrained from using mobile phones from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. She, along with a few other inmates, had protested against the restriction, as it was hampering their learning process.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 12

## 5 leaders, including Mirwaiz, sign bonds to secure release

They undertake not to indulge in any political activity after they are freed



On alert: A soldier maintaining vigil at the commercial hub of the old city in Srinagar on Thursday. • GETTY IMAGES

VIJAITA SINGH

At least five political leaders in the Kashmir Valley have signed bonds to secure their release, a senior government official told The Hindu.

The detentions were made under Section 107 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.PC) and the politicians who signed the bonds gave an undertaking that they would not indulge in any political activity after their release.

Those who signed the bonds include moderate Hurriyat leader Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, two former legislators of the National Conference, one former legislator of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and a Peoples Conference leader.

The Jammu & Kashmir Assembly was dissolved by Governor Satyapal Malik on November 21 last year.

"If a person detained under Section 107 of the Cr.PC **CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 12 signs a bond and then violates it, legal proceedings,

including arrest, can be initiated. The prohibited activities include giving political speeches," said the official.

Since August 5, when Union Home Minister Amit Shah moved two Bills in the Rajya Sabha to revoke the special status of Jammu & Kashmir under Article 370 and bifurcate the State into Union Territories, several leaders were placed under detention and house arrest.

#### 36 detainees stay firm

The government-owned Centaur Hotel in Srinagar was turned into a subsidiary jail, and as of now, at least 36 leaders, including the former bureaucrat-turnedpolitician Shah Faesal, are lodged there. None of the detainees there, including Peoples Conference chairman Sajad Lone and PDP youth wing leader Waheed Para, has agreed to sign the bonds.

SCHOOLS TURN RECREATION

## In liquidity push, PSBs plan 'loan melas' in 400 districts

Customers can take any type of loan: Finance Minister

NEW DELHI In a bid to dispel the notion to the NBFCs and the cus-Nirmala Sitharaman NBFCs them.

The Finance Ministry, in a release, said banks had entered into 14 tie-ups with



Nirmala Sitharaman. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

ups in the pipeline.

MSME-She said no stressed loan would be classet until March 31, 2020.

the banks have the liquidity, and this is not going to the NBFCs and from there to the end-customers," she said at a press conference, after meeting the heads of public sector banks. "We have decided that in 200 districts. between now and September 29, there will be gatherings organised by banks of the NBFCs they have partnered with," she added.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 12 **GST COUNCIL MAY REVIEW RATES FOR AUTO SECTOR ▶** PAGE 15

#### 'Qualitative change in attitude of hospitals necessary'

Panel awards ₹20 lakh compensation

SHINJINI GHOSH

The State consumer disputes redressal forum has ordered a city hospital to pay ₹20 lakh to a couple as compensation for medical negligence which led to the death of their son 16 years ago.

"Awarding compensation to bring about a qualitative change in the attitude of hospitals for providing services to human beings is necessary," observed the consumer forum while hearing a complaint of medical negligence against Shanti Mukand Hospital in east Delhi.

The forum ruled that the

hospital failed to provide "effective treatment" to the patient, which led to his death in 2003, and directed it to pay the sum to his parents, B.D. Sharma and Om Sharma. The hospital was directed to nants within two months for the "suffering, mental pain

and agony" caused to them. man body," the forum held. **CONTINUED ON**▶ PAGE 12

#### Transport strike leaves commuters stranded

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

mained shut and transportation hubs like the New Delhi railway station and ISBT at Kashmere Gate bore a deserted look as autorickshaws, private buses, appstaved off the roads.

The strike was called to protest the "hefty" fines being levied under the amend-

**DETAILS ON ▶** PAGE 4

# SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

that only the banks have liquidity and it is not flowing tomers, Finance Minister Thursday announced that all scheduled banks would hold large gatherings in 400 districts, where customers can take any type of loan they want from the banks and the partnering with



Fears over livelihood: Country-boat fishermen staging a protest at Morepannai in Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu

NBFCs for co-originating loans, with another 36 tie-

"The perception is that

compensate the complai-

"Human touch is necessary; that is their [hospital's] code of conduct and that is their duty. The present case is not a complicated surgery or a case of transplant of limbs and organs in the hu-

#### sified as non-performing as-Keeladi findings traceable to 6th century BCE: report Carbon dating suggests that the cultural deposits may be 300 years older than believed collected at the depth of The report also spelt the

**DENNIS S. JESUDASAN** CHENNAI

In a major turning point in the cultural historiography of the ancient Sangam Age, the Tamil Nadu Archaeology Department (TNAD) has stated that the cultural deposits unearthed during excavations at Keeladi in Sivaganga district could be safely dated to a period between 6th century BCE and 1st century CE.

This is the first time the date has been officially announced by the TNAD. The new findings in the report, released on Thursday by



353 cm goes back to 580 BCE. • G. MOORTHY

Minister for Tamil Culture and Archaeology K. Pandiarajan here, placed the Keeladi artefacts about 300

years earlier than previously believed – 3rd century One of the six samples

353 cm and sent for carbon dating test in the U.S. "goes back to 580 BCE," Commissioner of Archaeology T. Udayachandran said. The report titled, 'Keela-

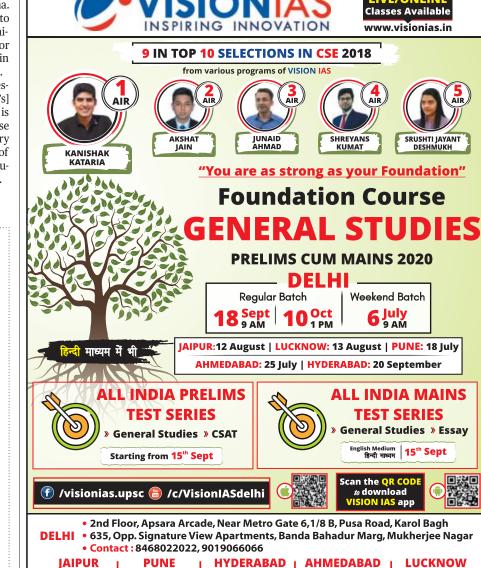
di-An Urban Settlement of Sangam Age on the Banks of River Vaigai', was published by the TNAD. The results from the fourth excavations suggested that the "second urbanisation [the first being Indus] of the Vaigai plains happened in Tamil Nadu around 6th century BCE as it happened in the Gangetic plains.'

site as Keeladi as against the erstwhile widely used Keezhadi. The recent scientific dates obtained for the Keeladi findings pushed back the date of the Tamil-Brahmi script to another century, i.e., 6th century BCE. "These results clearly ascertained that they attained literacy or learned the art of writing as early as 6th century BCE," the report stat-It said no object of wor-

ship was found at the site. **CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 12

Commuters were left stranded on Thursday as several transport unions organised a day-long strike in the Capital. Several schools rebased cabs and other taxis

ed Motor Vehicles Act.



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