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Congress promises loan waiver, free power to Haryana farmers
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Iran tanker Sabiti hit by suspected missiles off Saudi coast
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Kohli and Jadeja make merry before pacers rattle South Africa
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NEARBY



Four-day police custody for Malvinder, Shivinder

NEW DELHI
A Delhi court on Friday remanded Malvinder Singh and his brother Shivinder Singh (pic), former promoters of pharmaceutical company Ranbaxy, and three others to four-day police custody in a cheating case involving Religare Enterprises Limited and Religare Finvest Limited. CMM Deepak Sherawat allowed custodial interrogation of the five by the Delhi Police's Economic Offences Wing.

CITY ► PAGE 5

Commercial flight services commence from Hindon

NEW DELHI
The civilian terminal at the Hindon Air Force Station in Ghaziabad finally started commercial operations on Friday with a flight to Pithoragarh. The flight service will be available six days a week, except on Thursday, by a nine-seater aircraft.

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Camaraderie marks start of Modi-Xi meeting



Heritage view: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping at their second informal summit in Mamallapuram, near Chennai, on Friday. ■ANI

The leaders identify 'radicalisation' as a matter of concern

T. RAMAKRISHNAN
MAMALLAPURAM

The second "informal summit" between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and China's President Xi Jinping began on Friday at Mamallapuram, a town famously associated with Pallava rulers, with the two leaders spending a few hours in the evening together and getting a glimpse of the blend of south Indian art and culture.

In April 2018, the first summit took place in Wuhan in the wake of the Doklam crisis. The present meeting is being held following China's strong reaction to the Indian government's decision on Article 370 and the bifurcation of Jammu & Kashmir. As soon as Mr. Xi, who arrived in Chennai at 2 p.m., reached Mamallapuram around 5 p.m. to begin their meeting, Mr. Modi, dressed in the traditional attire of Tamil Nadu, received him.

While taking Mr. Xi on a tour of the monuments — Arjuna's Penance, Panch (Five) Rathas and the Shore Temple — for over an hour, Mr. Modi was seen explaining different features of the monuments to the visiting dignitary.

After taking a close look at the Varaha Cave, located behind Arjuna's Penance, they displayed camaraderie by raising hands together in the backdrop of another monument, Krishna's Butter Ball [which is a natural rock formation, perched precariously on the hillock slope].

Briefing journalists later, External Affairs Secretary Vijay Gokhale said the two leaders had identified "radicalisation" as a matter of concern to both countries.

To work together

They agreed to work together to ensure that "radicalisation and terrorism" did not affect the fabric of the "multi cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious societies" of their countries.

At Panch Rathas, where they relaxed for a while, Mr. Modi served Mr. Xi with tender coconut water.

MODI, XI DISCUSS AREAS

OF INVESTMENT ► PAGE 13

TAMIL SONG AT EVENT INVOKES

PEACE, GANDHIJI ► PAGE 13

Industrial output shrinks by 1.1% in Aug.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Industrial production slipped into a contraction in August, driven in large part by poor performances in the mining, manufacturing and capital goods sectors, official estimates released on Friday show.

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) contracted 1.1% from a year earlier, following a growth of 4.3% in July. Industrial output had

grown 4.8% in August 2018.

Within the Index, the mining sector saw growth decelerating to 0.1%, from a 4.9% expansion in July. Mining output shrank 0.6% in August 2018. The manufacturing sector, hampered by poor demand, witnessed a contraction of 1.2%, compared with a growth of 4.2% in July and a 5.2% expansion in the year-earlier period.

POWER SECTOR HIT ► PAGE 12

Ethiopia PM Abiy Ahmed wins Nobel Peace Prize



Abiy Ahmed

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
OSLO

Hailed as a visionary and reformer, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for his efforts to resolve the long-running conflict with neighbouring Eritrea.

Mr. Abiy was honoured "for his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation, and in particular for his decisive initiative to resolve the border conflict with neighbouring Eritrea," the Nobel Committee said.

The award is seen as a boost to Africa's youngest leader as he faces inter-community violence ahead of a parliamentary election in May 2020. "I was so humbled and thrilled when I just heard the news," Mr. Abiy told the Nobel Committee in a phone call posted on the Nobel Prize website.

In a later interview on the same website, he said he thought the prize would invigorate regional peace efforts. "This is great news for Africa, great news for East

Africa. A place where peace is a very expensive commodity, and I am sure it will give us energy to work towards peace and to realise peace within our region."

This is the second year in a row that an African has received the award. Congolese gynaecologist Denis Mukwege shared the prize with Yazidi activist Nadia Murad in 2018 for their work combating sexual violence.

'PEACE IS A KEY COMPONENT

OF GOVERNMENT' ► PAGE 14

'₹10 meal promise not populist'

NISTULA HEBBAR

MUMBAI

The Shiv Sena, at its election meetings in Maharashtra, has promised meals at ₹10, but insists that it's not a sudden turn to populism but a revival of an old plank.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, the party's youth wing president, Aaditya Thackeray, said his party was "not emulating the AIADMK" or other such parties; rather, "it was my grandfather [Balasaheb Thackeray] who started the one rupee Zunka Bakhar Kendras in Mumbai, which we are taking forward."

"It's not just about Mumbai, but across Maharashtra the biggest issue is about food being reached to people, affordable food which is of good quality. For that to happen, there need to be these *bhojanalayas* [around 1,000 or so] across the State, with the help of women's self-help groups and centralised kitchens," he said.

He also spoke about his opposition to the felling of trees at Aarey and why his party could not stop it.



INTERVIEW
ON ► PAGE 12

No takers



Stumbling blocks: Bundles of plastic bottles and other waste seen dumped by the wayside in Bhubaneswar on Friday after recycling units stopped purchasing them following the plastic ban announced by the Odisha government. ■BISWARANJAN ROUT

At AIIMS trauma centre, a 3-year-old spells hope

Rescued from 15-foot-deep ditch in Bulandshahr, 'Chikki' stages a rapid recovery

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN

NEW DELHI

The Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Centre of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, at the best of times, is a grim place. For the past couple of weeks, however, an unlikely resident has spread cheer among the staff.

"Chikki", as they call her, is clearly the most pampered patient. The kitchen staff rustle up special treats for the three-year-old. "She loves the halwa they make for her," says the nurse looking after her at the ward, adding, "she is happiest when held."

The pink school bag, pink bindi and matching stick-on earrings belie the tragedy that befell the baby girl and brought her to the trauma centre.



Now she takes proper oral feed, plays with her toys and also scribbles if we give her a piece of paper and pen

NURSE

at trauma centre ward

Rescued from a 15-foot-deep ditch in Bulandshahr, U.P., the child was rushed by police to the apex hospital's ICU with a fractured skull, brain injury. Bruised all over, there was also restricted movement on her right hand and leg due to the fall.

"The child came to us on September 25. In my 20 years of working at AIIMS, I haven't seen a child brought in this state. Usually we have abandoned older people...

cases of children are few and far between," said Deepak Gupta, the neurosurgeon under whose care Chikki currently is.

He said while there are strong indications that she may have been thrown into the pit, the three-year-old is showing significant improvement. "She is now registering 50% movement on her right hand and leg. We are glad the child has made good recovery," said Prof. Gupta.

Chikki's nurse said that she is now able to sleep normally without medication and enjoys her bath, massage and make-up time. "She has started interacting well with us. Now she takes proper oral feed, plays with her toys and also scribbles if we give her a piece of paper and pen," she said. The three-year-old is also a hit with relatives of patients admitted here.

Search for parents

Prof. Gupta said given her rapid recovery, Chikki is due to be discharged soon from her temporary home. But her parents' whereabouts are as yet unknown. Paperwork to put the child under state care is under way even as the police continue their search for her parents.

Metrolite coming soon to Delhi?

DAMINI NATH
SHINJINI GHOSH
NEW DELHI

Delhi could get its first stretch of metrolite, a cheaper, smaller and slower urban rail transit system compared to metro rail, with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation approving a 20-km line from Kirti Nagar till Dwarka Sector 25 recently, government officials said.

Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra said on Friday that the DMRC Board had recently approved the stretch and sent it to Delhi government.

He added that the Ministry would consider the proposal after receiving it from the State government.

Three-coach trains

The Ministry had put out guidelines for metrolite, meant for smaller cities, in July this year.

According to the standards, the metrolite trains would have three coaches, as opposed to six or eight in metro trains, and would have a maximum speed of 60 km/h and passenger load of 300.

Not elevated

As far as possible, metrolite trains should be on ground level, not elevated, in order to keep the cost of construction down, the guidelines say.

Asked about the proposal, a senior DMRC official said: "Last week the proposal to construct a 20-km line from Kirti Nagar to the Exhibition Centre in Dwarka Sector 25 was approved by the DMRC Board. The proposal will now be forwarded to both the Delhi government and the Centre for their approval following which the implementation can take place."

CBI declines to invoke murder charge against Kuldeep Sengar

'Accident' case to be moved to special court in Delhi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The CBI on Friday filed a chargesheet against expelled BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar, his associates and the driver of a truck that had collided with a car, seriously injuring the Unnao rape survivor in Uttar Pradesh's Raebareli on July 28. The rape survivor's two aunts were killed in the incident, while the woman and her lawyer sustained grievous

injuries. The woman had been allegedly raped by Mr. Sengar in 2017 when she was a minor.

"The chargesheet [in the accident case] has been filed before a Lucknow court, against all those named in the FIR," said a CBI official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "The case will be transferred to a special court in Delhi for hearing," the official added. The agency has

not invoked murder charge against any of the accused. It was one of the provisions under which the FIR was registered on July 30. The CBI has charged Mr. Sengar, his brother Manoj and associates of offences under Sections 120-B and 506 (2) of the IPC.

While the survivor was recently discharged from the hospital, her lawyer is still too serious to record his statement.

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