

CABINET CLEARS POPULATION REGISTER UPDATE, CENSUS 2021

Alphabet soup simmers: CAA through, NRC hanging and now NPR from April

Registration mandatory, individual details on 21 points



Ministers Prakash Javadekar, Piyush Goyal on Tuesday. PTI

Shah says no NPR-NRC link, his Govt linked it 9 times in House

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 24

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah Tuesday drew a distinction between the National Population Register (NPR) and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) saying both were governed by different laws and NPR data would never be used for the NRC exercise. In



Link is enshrined in Citizenship Rules under the Act

an interview to ANI he said: "NPR is the database on which policy is made. NRC is a process in which people are asked to prove

their citizenship. There is no connection between the two processes, nor can they be used in each other's survey. NPR data can never be used for NRC. Even the laws are different... I assure all the people, specially from the minorities, that NPR is not going to be used for NRC. It's a rumour." Facts show otherwise. That NRC shall be carried out

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 24

AMID NATIONWIDE protests over the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the proposed National Register of Citizens, the Union Cabinet Tuesday approved a proposal for conducting Census of India 2021 at a cost of Rs 8,754.23 crore and update of the National Population Register (NPR) at a cost of Rs 3,941.35 crore.

Briefing the press, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said "no proof, no documents, no biometric" will be required for the NPR and sought to delink it from the proposed NRC. "Iska dur dur tak NRC se kuchh bhi sambandh nahin hai."

While the Census will cover the entire nation, the NPR exercise will be conducted in all states except Assam where the NRC exercise was conducted recently — and the final list

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NEW DETAILS BEING SOUGHT

- Aadhaar number (voluntary)
- Mobile number
- Date & place of birth of parents
- Place of last residence
- Passport number (if holder of Indian passport)
- Voter ID card number
- Permanent Account Number
- Driving licence number

EXPLAINED
PAGE 16

EXPLAINED Parents' data raises questions

NPR is a register of all residents in India. The enumerator comes to the household and records self-declaration. This time, a new query is parents' place and date of birth. This, coupled with the ongoing protests and distrust around CAA-NRC, have raised questions over the intent.



First notices go out in UP to 28 residents: Pay Rs 14 lakh for damage to property

MANISH SAHU
LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 24

DAYS AFTER 16 people were killed in Uttar Pradesh where protests over the citizenship law led to a police crackdown and a warning from Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath that "revenge will be taken", the Rampur district administration became the first in the state to initiate the process for recovery of damage to government property including police motorcycles, barrier, dandas.

In identical notices issued Tuesday to 28 people, including an embroidery worker and a hawkker of spices who are already in custody, the administration, while holding them responsible for acts of violence and damage to government property, has



Notice lists cost of police barricades, sticks, vehicles

sought explanation on why recoveries should not be made for damage worth Rs 14.86 lakh. Embroidery worker Zameer's mother Munni Begum told *The Indian Express* that she

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The Indian Express wishes its readers
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Govt clears 4-star Chief of Defence Staff as military advisor



Army Chief Gen Bipin Rawat, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar in New Delhi, Tuesday. PTI

SUSHANT SINGH
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 24

THE UNION Cabinet Tuesday approved creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) as principal military advisor to the government. In line with the landmark announcement made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day speech, this fulfils a long-standing recommendation for higher military

reform, recommended by various expert committees and group of ministers, more so after the 1999 Kargil War.

The CDS will not exercise any military command, including over the three services chiefs, so as to be able to provide impartial advice to the political leadership.

The CDS will be a four-star General, at par in military rank, salary and perquisites with the three services chiefs, and will

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West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar at Jadavpur University on Tuesday. Express

Governor-Govt standoff: He's denied entry to Jadavpur Univ convocation

ATRIMITRA
KOLKATA, DECEMBER 24

WEST BENGAL Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar was on Tuesday prevented from attending the annual convocation at Jadavpur University (JU) by a group of pro-

testers from the TMC-backed non-teaching staff association, who blocked his convoy, waving black flags and shouting slogans against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA).

Dhankhar, who is the Chancellor of state universities, was confined to his vehicle for

nearly two hours. He called up Vice-Chancellor Suranjan Das, who expressed helplessness. The Governor then addressed the assembled mediapersons and said the convocation should be suspended. However, the convocation was held even as Dhankhar

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THE EDITORIAL PAGE

YOUNG HAVE PICKED UP THE MANTLE
By HARSH MANDER
PAGE 14

Storm in TN over BJP 'insult' to Periyar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHENNAI, DECEMBER 24

THE BJP'S Tamil Nadu unit on Tuesday triggered a controversy with a tweet on Dravidian ideologue E V Ramasamy, popularly known as Periyar, on his 46th death anniversary.

Posting a photograph of Periyar with his wife Maniammai (they got married when he was 69 and she was 31), the party's state unit tweeted from its official handle: "Today is the death anniversary of Maniammai's father Periyar. Let us support the death penalty for people who sexually assault chil-

dren and take the pledge that we will create a society without any POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) accused". The party's IT wing (@tnbjpitwing) retweeted the photograph and the comment. Both the state party unit and its IT wing later deleted the tweet.

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After dodgy count, tiger panel calls for revamp

More rigour: Tiger Authority sends note to Wildlife Institute of India

JAY MAZOOMDAAR
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 24

THREE MONTHS after *The Indian Express* exposed major anomalies in the government's tiger photo database, the National Tiger Conservation Authority, a statutory body under the Environment Ministry, has pro-

posed to overhaul its population monitoring setup, admitting there is no scope for "reconciliation of data", "peer review or inputs from other professionals" in the present scheme of things.

On July 29, the government had announced an estimated 2,987 tigers based on 2,462 individual tigers photographed across India.



The Indian Express report on September 20, 2019

In September, *The Indian Express* investigated each of the 1,635 unique tiger photos claimed in the previous tiger census report released in 2015. And found that, by well-established norms of wildlife population estimation, 221 of these "tiger photos" should not have been counted. The anomalies include duplicates, underage, faulty counting by flanks, and unidentifiable images. This worked out to 16% over-reporting — in other

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Indian women athletes show higher deficiencies and health risks: Study

PAGE 1
ANCHOR

MIHIR VASAVDA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 24

IN THE last one year, Kalaivani Srinivasan has progressed from being on the fringes of Indian boxing to becoming the next big hope. The 19-year-old attributes the rapid strides, in part, to tracking her menstrual cycle. "I have been monitoring my periods since January," she says. "It has

helped me plan my training and diet."

In an environment where a conversation on this topic is ignored and considered taboo, Kalaivani is among a handful of Indian sports persons to take this approach. For her, it's a step not only to remain healthy, but also to prolong her career.

A first-of-its-kind research in the country has shown that an alarming number of Indian athletes miss their periods and are deficient in key minerals, putting them at major risk of suffering career-threatening injuries as



Research by Inspire Institute of Sport tracked menstrual cycles of athletes

well as long-term health consequences, including osteoporosis. In fact, Indian women athletes

showed higher deficiencies and health risks when compared to their counterparts worldwide.

Throughout 2019, a multi-disciplinary research team — comprising physiologists, nutritionists, academics and gynecologists — at Inspire Institute of Sport (IIS) tracked the menstrual cycles of the athletes training at the Bellary-based high-performance centre, home to some of India's top athletes in sports such as athletics, boxing, judo, swimming and wrestling. The institute, founded by the JSW Group,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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- ❖ Second in Aluminum production : 8% of India's bauxite production in CG with 4.5% of India's bauxite reserves
- ❖ Contributing 16% to Cement production with 4.8% of India's limestone reserves



ABUNDANT BIO-DIVERSITY

- ❖ Contributing 12.25% to India's forest cover
- ❖ 44% forest cover with 22 varied forest sub-types and home to more than 200 varieties of medicinal plants
- ❖ Rice Bowl of India producing more than 23,000 varieties of rice
- ❖ Focus on production of oil seeds, pulses, and other horticulture produce



POWER CAPITAL

- ❖ State producing surplus power
- ❖ On the way of becoming a power consuming state from power producing state
- ❖ The state offers uninterrupted quality power supply at concession tariff slabs



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- ❖ Knowledge hub of central India with the presence of NIT, IIT, IIIT, IIM, Hidayatullah National Law University and Indira Gandhi Agriculture University
- ❖ Producing nearly 30000 skilled professionals
- ❖ Highest work participation rate across all genders
- ❖ Social harmony for stable labour environment



INVESTOR FRIENDLY INDUSTRIAL POLICY 2019-24

- ❖ Wide range of fiscal and policy incentives under the state's new Industrial Policy 2019-24 for triumphing recession
- ❖ Special incentives for establishing industries in backward areas
- ❖ Focus on Ease of Doing Business



ACCESS TO MAJOR MARKETS

- ❖ Sharing boundaries with 7 states of India which contribute approximately 40% of India's GDP
- ❖ Well developed network of railways, roadways & airways
- ❖ Potential to become a logistics hub and aviation hub for central India with exports to Asian markets



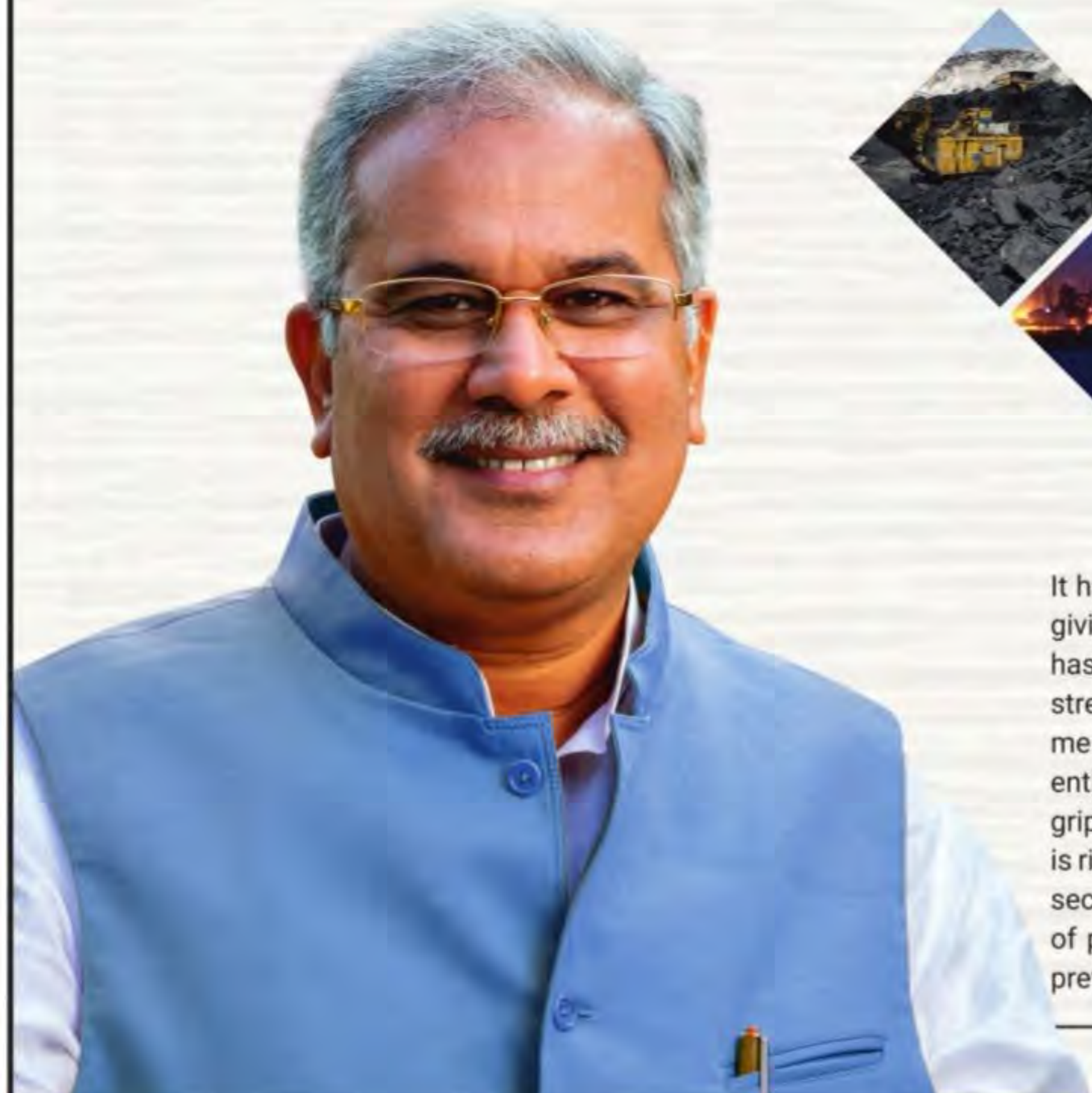
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It has been a year since people of Chhattisgarh displayed their unbreakable faith in us by giving us a huge mandate of more than three-fourth majority in the assembly elections, that has helped us to empower our citizens through various public welfare schemes that strengthened their utter belief in democracy, constitution and communal harmony. It gives me immense pleasure that, our state Chhattisgarh has become a new symbol of hope for the entire nation. In the midst of the extreme distressing times when the entire nation is in the grip of economic recession, the Chhattisgarhi model of socio-economic-rural development is riding over with flying colours as there's a constant and never ending wave of growth in all sectors. Our constant endeavour is for sustainable development. It is with the wide support of public participation and dialogue, that we have managed to find solutions for several prevailing problems of the state and we are determined to widen it's scope.

BHUPESH BAGHEL
Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh

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Time to look back and introspect

*The world of today has its challenges and risks but also its opportunities and rewards.
 Christmas is a good time for us to look inwards and reflect on what we truly are as human beings*



PRASHANT SOLOMON

THE LAST week of the year is heralded by Christmas. At this time next week, we will be in the year 2020 which is not just a new year but the beginning of a new decade. This is a perfect week for reflection. It is a great time to look back at not just the year but in this case, the last 10 years and take stock of our own lives. Are we happy with the way we have spent the last year or decade as the case may be. Is there something we could have done differently?

We are living in interesting and intriguing times. We are being faced with many challenges in our world today - environmental issues, economic slowdown and an atmosphere of tension in the world that is being caused by focusing too much on our differences instead of our similarities.

The world of today has its challenges and risks but also its opportunities and rewards. Christmas is a good time for us to look inwards and reflect what we truly are as human beings. For while today is a day of celebration, Christmas cakes and carols, it is also the day that we commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Today's theme for this Christmas message is community and peace. The world has always had divisions and mistrust among communities. Take the example from the time of Jesus more than 2000 years ago. The Jews and Samaritans lived side by side. They were two sects of people living in Israel. They both despised each other. In fact, the Jews did not even like to utter the word 'Samaritan'. But Jesus often taught great truths in the form of stories which are called parables.

One of these is the Parable of the Good Samaritan-

Luke 10:25-37 New International Version (NIV)
The Parable of the Good Samaritan

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, "Love your neighbor as yourself."

"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"



PEACE IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF WAR BUT A STATE OF MIND WHERE THERE IS AN ATMOSPHERE THAT MAKES IT CONDUCTIVE TO THRIVE. IT IS A STATE OF MIND WHERE THE CREATIVE SPIRIT OF HUMANITY IS ENCOURAGED TO GROW AND PROSPER

In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii (local currency) and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expenses you



may have.'

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

What makes this story even more interesting is that the Samaritans were people who were hated by the Jews of that time. They were considered so low

that Israelites did not even want to speak to them. But yet, this Samaritan was the only one who actually helped. On the other hand - the priest and Levite (both respected and high ranking people amongst the Jews) refused to help. This story conveyed a deeper message that despite our prejudices or differences against certain people, we must know that there is good in everyone and sometimes it is the ones who are considered different, the ones de-

DOING GOOD MEANS DOING CREATIVE AND ENTERPRISING THINGS TO MAKE THE WORLD AND ALL LIFE ON IT BETTER FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

spised, who actually end up helping you at the end and sometimes the people who you consider as your own may not.

Jesus himself was a Jew and for him to tell a story where a Samaritan was actually the 'hero' of the story was very meaningful as it represents how important he considered it to love, respect and help people irrespective of their religion or background.

When people do that, there will be peace. "Peace is not the absence of war, it is a virtue, a state of mind, a disposition of benevolence, confidence, justice." — **Baruch Spinoza**

As Spinoza said, peace is not just the absence of war but a state of mind where there is an atmosphere that makes it conducive to thrive. It is a state of mind where the creative spirit of humanity is encouraged to grow and prosper.

As Jesus said at the end of the Biblical account - "Go and do likewise."

This statement is interesting indeed. If we take the phrase - "O God" it can be considered as the simplest communication with God. But within that phrase is encapsulated in the form of anagrams the phrases "Go Do" and the word "good". All we really need to do to please God irrespective of your religion or belief is this - "Go Do Good."

That's it. It is that simple. But doing good is not only about treating yourself and others with love. Doing good means doing creative and enterprising things to make the world and all life on it better for future generations.

Doing good means making new inventions, new discoveries, creating art in any form, creating businesses, creating jobs, creating education and creating a wholesome environment. It is not enough for us to just sit and think good thoughts - but to "go DO good".

"Go and do likewise," said Jesus. Action is important and so is the type of action. We must do good in every way we can in a manner that will benefit the world.

Christmas 2019 is a perfect time to reflect on our past, present and future. Where do we want our world to be 10 years from now in the year 2030? Think about it and work towards that goal. Each one of us has the potential to be a spark of goodness that will make the world a better place.

But take this moment to let this thought sink in. Enjoy the Christmas spirit of love, joy and universal peace. Merry Christmas and wishing you a Happy new year 2020 and a happy new decade of the 2020s.

Prashant Solomon is the Managing Director of the Chintels Group. He is also an author, freelance journalist, law graduate, artist and a seeker of truth. Visit his website at www.prashantsolomon.com and follow him on Twitter and Instagram: @prasol. You can write to him at prashantsolomon@gmail.com



Wishing You a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2020!

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Is your heart beating normally?

What is Atrial fibrillation (AF) and what is the risk of AF?

Atrial fibrillation is the most common type of irregular heartbeat. AF is also known as arrhythmia, which can lead to blood clots, stroke, heart failure and other heart-related complications. During AF, the heart's two upper chambers (the atria) beat frenziedly and irregularly, which makes them go out of coordination with the two lower chambers (the ventricles) of the heart. Typically, the irregularity occurs as we age and most people with AF symptoms are old. In the West, AF sets in by the time people are in their 60s, whereas in India the average age is 55 years. People with diabetes and hypertension may get it earlier.

A major concern with atrial fibrillation is the potential to develop blood clots within the atria and these blood clots may circulate to other organs and lead to blocked blood flow also known as ischemia. If a clot breaks off, enters the bloodstream and lodges in an artery leading to the brain, a stroke results. About 15–20% of people who have strokes have AF. In extreme cases, atrial fibrillation can also lead to heart failure.

What are the symptoms of AF? And how is it diagnosed?

Unlike a regular heartbeat, in case of AF, the person feels a fast heartbeat and even a pounding in their chest. This feeling often lasts for a few minutes and it is common for people to feel their heart skip a beat. People often get breathless in this situation or feel giddy. Often one may feel an acute pain in the chest, sweat extensively, and feel tired and weak. Patients with diabetes and hypertension may not necessarily have all these symptoms, but they are prone to AF.

To diagnose AF, we examine patients with the help of detailed history and other tests such as an Electrocardiogram (ECG), stress tests, echocardiogram and others. The ECG uses small sensors (electrodes) attached to your chest and arms to sense and record electrical signals as they travel through your heart. This test is a primary tool for diagnosing atrial fibrillation.

In cases where the irregular beating is prolonged, we also use a holter, which is a portable ECG device that can be carried by the patient to record the heart's activity for 24 hours. The holter recording provides us with prolonged data of the heartbeat. The Echocardiogram uses sound waves to create moving pictures of your heart, which helps to diagnose structural heart disease or blood clots in the heart. Then there is the stress test, which involves running tests on your heart while you are exercising. Other than these, blood tests and an X-Ray may also be used to diagnose AF.

A lot of these symptoms are similar to a heart attack. So, how is AF symptom different?

Many heart problems have similar warning signs. For a patient the response could be similar and vague – disturbance, pain, anxiety and so on. A heart attack is a blockage of blood flow to the heart, which is often caused by a clot or build-up of plaque lodging in the coronary artery. Some heart attacks are sudden and intense, but most heart attacks start slowly, with mild pain or discomfort. The unique symptom with AF is the palpitation and heart-beat-skip feeling that one has. In either of the cases, you should visit a cardiologist immediately. And, thorough investigation is necessary to know if it is AF or an attack.

What is the correlation between AF and stroke?

A stroke leads to persistent disruption of brain function, which is triggered by a sudden shortage of blood supply to the brain. This causes certain areas (those receiving their



Rhythm disorder in the heart is common says Dr Balbir Singh, Chairman and Head of cardiology, Max Hospital Saket, Delhi. A pioneer in the field of Atrial Fibrillation, he says not only is it treatable, it is also a common cause for strokes, which can be avoided if treated in time

blood supply from the affected blood vessel) to not receive adequate oxygen and other nutrients. When this happens, the surrounding tissue dies. These areas are therefore either temporarily or permanently unable to perform their normal functions.

This causes long-term effects such as speech and vision disturbances, or paralysis of the limbs and/or facial musculature. The most common cause of stroke is a

AF PUTS PATIENTS AT AN INCREASED RISK OF STROKE BECAUSE BLOOD MAY NOT BE PROPERLY PUMPED OUT OF THE HEART, WHICH MAY CAUSE IT TO FORM A CLOT

blood clot. AF puts patients at an increased risk for stroke because blood may not be properly pumped out of the heart, which may cause it to form a clot. This clot can then travel to the brain and block the flow of blood to part of the brain which can result in a stroke.

Many times AF may be missed out as the cause of stroke, which is unfortunate. To understand the relation between stroke and AF, a

DOCTORS DON'T ALWAYS SCREEN PATIENTS FOR AF. MANY A TIMES IT'S DETECTED DURING A TRIP TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM OR A REGULAR DOCTOR'S VISIT, BUT IT'S ALSO UP TO THE PATIENT TO GET TESTED

combined study was conducted by neurologists and cardiologists, called the Crystal-AF study (Continuous Cardiac Monitoring to Assess Atrial Fibrillation). This was done using a loop recorder placed under the skin and above the heart to continuously monitor heart beats. The results provided tremendous insights into how a greater number of people suffer a stroke if they have AF.

In fact, even cases of dementia are known to be in patients with AF. So, there is a strong link between the heart and the brain, which needs to be investigated by neurologists as well. A lot of work is being done jointly by cardiologists and neurologists in the area of stroke prevention.

Is AF treatable?

Yes, there is treatment for AF and it will depend on the symptoms you have and the cause for the AF. Treating the condition causing atrial fibrillation may help relieve your heart rhythm problems. Basically, treating AF means re-setting or controlling your heart rhythm to prevent blood clots, which may decrease the risk of a stroke. The treatment could be with medication that can control your heart rhythm and in some cases, you may need a more invasive treatment, such as medical procedures using catheters or surgery to fix a pacemaker to keep the heart beating at the proper rate and from beating too slow.

The costs incurred to treat AF is about a few lakhs and then be on medication is as low as Rs 100 a day, but it is to be taken lifelong. Given the quality of life that one can maintain after being detected with AF, the cost is not much, especially when you have longevity rising.

With so much at stake, especially incidence of stroke, why is so less known about AF?

It is interesting to know that 10% of the population will have AF, especially with increased longevity. For physicians, the need is to know the symptoms and to conduct investigations to diagnose AF. Also, considering the fact that someone with AF has a high chance of getting a stroke, it is crucial that AF is detected and treated. Imagine if AF goes undetected and a patient has a stroke — their quality of life goes off completely. In contrast, the quality of life may not deteriorate so much in case of someone who suffers heart attack.

AF can be missed because of lack of awareness as well as them not being trained to look for it. It's a case of what the mind doesn't know, the eyes don't see. In the US, the World Atrial Fibrillation Awareness Day is celebrated and so is Stroke prevention in AF patients day celebrated. These actions increase the awareness of AF and that it can be treated and check on further harm to one. We can do the same here with efforts by doctors and also the media.

What role is technology playing in diagnosis and treatment?

The past decade has witnessed a lot of advancement in the AF space be it diagnoses or treatment. Technology too has played a big role in this area, especially in the west, where AF diagnoses and treatment is catching up. There are several catheter labs in Europe where the waiting for AF patients is long, because the procedure is so standardised and the number of patients so many.

In fact the Apple Watch has an AF feature app. So, what the app does is to monitor your heart beat and alerts you the moment it figures there is arrhythmia. So, you can understand how common irregular heart beat is for a technology company like Apple to develop an application to help people with arrhythmia know they have an episode.

How can we spread the awareness about AF, what is being done by you?

Screening and optimising stroke prevention in AF is the focus of outpatient AF clinics which are being run with support from companies like Pfizer. These clinics provide active screening for AF in patients admitted and initiating anticoagulation after balancing benefits and risks. A lot of advice and support is also provided to patients, and work is being done on creating protocols to follow when in AF cases. Like I said earlier, prevalence of AF needs to be educated to doctors and also public. The fact that it can be cured should be the biggest reason why awareness about AF should be taken up at a mass scale.

What precautions can one take to have a healthy heart?

Stay away from smoking, sedentary lifestyle and check on your hypertension, cholesterol and diabetes. It's important to live healthy to have a healthy heart. Period check-ups also help to maintain records of one's health, which will go a long way in analysing how one has fared over time. There are several new drugs that contain the effects of hypertension and cholesterol in arteries, which when administered early on, checks the deterioration of the heart's functioning. My advice would be for people to take their health seriously, get into regular physical activity, control their diet, eat healthy, maintain their weight, and reduce stress with some form of meditation. Following these principles will largely ensure one stays healthy without any serious ailments to their heart.



BRIEFLY

Three firemen injured in factory blaze

New Delhi: Three firemen received minor injuries during a firefighting operation at a shoe factory in North West Delhi's Narela Industrial Area early Tuesday morning, Delhi Fire Service director Atul Garg said there was no one inside the factory when it caught fire, adding that no casualty has been reported. "We sent 22 fire tenders to the spot and have stationed one there as well," said Garg.

Longest Dec cold spell in 22 years

New Delhi: The capital has recorded its longest cold day spell this December in 22 years. A cold to severe cold day condition has been prevailing in the city since December 15, and is likely to continue till Thursday, after which its intensity would reduce and would abate after December 28. Dense to very dense fog in some pockets of the city is also very likely till December 28, said officials. **ENS**

CHARGESHEET FILED

CISF commandant planted drugs to get close to woman: Police

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 24

TO GET closer to a woman IAS officer, Ranjan Pratap Singh, a senior commandant with the CISF posted as Director in the Ministry of External Affairs' Bureau of Security, allegedly planted 550 grams of charas inside the car of her husband while it was parked outside his house, a chargesheet filed by Delhi Police in connection with Singh's arrest stated.

"We registered an FIR under sections 20/61/85 of NDPS Act at Lodhi Colony police station after we received a complaint from assistant commandant Subhash Chand on October 9. Later, we arrested Singh and his friend Neeraj Chauhan. We have filed a chargesheet before a Delhi court and the case is now under trial. We have identified a third accused, but he is absconding and raids are on in Aligarh to arrest him. Singh allegedly procured the drugs from him," a senior police officer said.

Police said they have 60 witnesses, including three star wit-



Singh, a CISF officer, and his friend were arrested earlier

nesses, and technical evidence.

"Police found CCTV footage from Pragati Vihar hostel, which shows both accused walking inside the hostel on October 4 and allegedly planting charas inside the vehicle. One of the residents saw them near the car. Police also found CCTV footage from October 9 when they stopped their vehicle near a petrol pump before making calls (to CISF authorities to flag the drugs inside the car)," police stated in their chargesheet.

Both the accused had refused a test identification parade when

police produced their star witness — a hawkler near a petrol pump at Aurobindo Marg, from whose phone Chauhan had allegedly made the call. The hawkler claimed Chauhan had asked for his phone to make an urgent call, and had a piece of paper with some numbers on it. He claimed Singh was standing near his car and they both left after making the call. Police have recovered the purported piece of paper on which four phone numbers of senior CISF officers were listed, the chargesheet stated.

Singh is learnt to have told police during the questioning that he met the woman while preparing for civil services examination around 20 years ago. In 2000, both attended a four-month foundation course in Uttarakhand.

"After she got married, he was in constant touch with her as a friend," the chargesheet stated.

Police have stated in their investigation that Singh was allegedly irked when she started avoiding his calls and messages after getting transferred to a new department.

"Initially, he tried to approach her, but she reprimanded him one day for making repeated calls, which agitated him. He decided to frame her husband, a consultant with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), and hatched a plan with his friend Chauhan to get him arrested on false charges of possessing narcotics," police claimed in their chargesheet.

"Hours after the woman's husband was detained, she called Singh and asked for his help," the chargesheet read.

Some from Sanjay Camp get new homes, others hopeful

SHIVAMPATEL
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 24

NIRMALA (60) STANDS under the doorway of her two-room, tin-roofed brick house in Sanjay Camp in South Delhi's Dakshinapuri. Having built the house with her husband 25 years ago after coming from Haryana, she may soon have to leave it — for something better.

On Tuesday, Nirmala was one of the many slum dwellers who received a certificate by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal that would entitle them to a pucca house under the Delhi government's housing scheme, Mukhyamantri Aawas Yojana, which was notified in 2017.

The certificates, according to a statement issued by the government, will be distributed to people on the basis of a survey conducted by the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board. "The certificate bears the jhuggi number, name of the head of the family along with a family photograph, code number, survey code number and the voter identity card number of the beneficiary family," a statement said.

"We have lived so many years dreaming of a proper house. If we get it, so many of our problems would be solved," Nirmala said. In the narrow lanes of Sanjay



At Sanjay Camp, Kejriwal said: Have worked in slums, understand the troubles faced by people there

Camp, dozens of small tin-roofed houses are squeezed together. An open drain passes through the middle of the alleyway where children play.

Addressing the residents, Kejriwal said, "Before becoming the CM in 2015, I worked in the slums of Seemapuri and Sundar Nagri. I understand the troubles faced by people living in slums..."

Delhi government's scheme comes close on the heels of an announcement made by Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri that the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana will soon be implemented in Delhi.

While Nirmala received a housing certificate Tuesday, many others did not, but said they were registered in a government

survey undertaken a month ago in the area.

Saeeda (52) came to the Camp as a child with her mother around 40 years ago from Bihar's Muzaffarpur. "We have spent all our lives here. If they give us a proper house now, we would get to spend some of our last years in peace," she said.

Among the problems faced by locals is lack of toilets. While some in the camp have built toilets in their houses, a majority use two government washrooms in the area, which close after 10 pm. "If we have to use the facilities at night, where do we go?" Saeeda said. Vijay Kumar (40) said: "A proper home would be good for our kids to grow up in. We want the best of everything for them."

AAP releases its report card, taking it to homes party's next step

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DEC 24

STARTING DECEMBER 26, AAP volunteers will go knocking on the doors of people across Delhi, carrying the party's 'report card', a multi-coloured slim pamphlet that lists the state government's major "achievements" grouped under 10 categories.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal released the report card, prepared in consultation with advisory firm I-PAC, at the party's headquarters in ITO Tuesday in the presence of Delhi government ministers.

At the launch ceremony, Kejriwal took a veiled jibe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying, "Baar toh hoti hai Ramlila Maidan se, par kaam nahi hota (a lot is said at Ramlila Maidan, but very little is actually done)."

While addressing a rally Sunday, Modi had ac-

cused the AAP government of delaying the process of regularising unauthorised colonies.

Reacting to suggestions that the CBI is planning to initiate a fresh case against the AAP, Kejriwal said: "You are welcome, please come. We do not fear anything."

Earlier in the day, he tweeted: "We welcome any kind of scrutiny... CAG has already appreciated our work after its audit. CBI has given us clean chit on multiple occasions. Any new investigations are welcome. People who are in public life should always be ready for any scrutiny."

Meanwhile, AAP Delhi convener Gopal Rai said the door-to-door campaign will continue till January 7.

The party will also organise 700 mohalla sabhas and seven town hall meetings to discuss the report card during this period. The card has 60 pointers that list the AAP government's initiatives.

Marriage rejected, teen & her cousin commit suicide

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DEC 24

A TEENAGE girl and her 21-year-old cousin allegedly committed suicide by hanging themselves from a ceiling fan at the girl's house in Bawana Monday afternoon. According to police, the duo wanted to get married, but their families were against the relationship.

Gaurav Sharma, DCP, (Outer North) district, said they received a call from a man saying that the two had hanged themselves with chunnis. A suicide note was recovered from the room, which purportedly read: "We are sad and disappointed because our families won't let us get married. They care about the family and pride but we care about us. Hence, we are taking this step."

"We found them hanging from chunnis; while one was found hanging from a fan, the other was found hanging from a hook on the ceiling. A suicide note signed by the two has been recovered," said Sharma,

adding that no foul play is suspected.

Police said the man lived in Rajasthan's Kota and was preparing for engineering entrance exams. As per the girl's family, the two are second cousins.

Police found that the couple tried to flee from the girl's house in the first week of December, but were caught. The girl's paternal uncle said, "Till last year, the man would come to meet her in Delhi every month. When his visits became frequent, we confronted him. He told us about their relationship and that they wanted get married. We were shocked and told them to break off the relationship."

Police said the family told the man to go back to Kota. Following this, the couple allegedly planned to flee in December.

The girl's family said an FIR was filed in the matter, but was withdrawn after the couple were found. An officer said, "We suspect the couple planned the suicide. After the girl's parents left for work, the man came to her house and they committed suicide."



युग पुरुष, उत्तराखण्ड के प्रणेता, जनप्रिय पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री

“भारत रत्न”

स्व. श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी

(25 दिसम्बर, 1924 - 16 अगस्त, 2018)

की जयंती पर

उत्तराखण्ड वासियों की ओर से

शत-शत नमन

सूचना एवं लोक सम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड द्वारा जनहित में जारी www.uttarainformation.gov.in | [UttarakhandDIPR](https://www.facebook.com/UttarakhandDIPR) | [DIPR_UK](https://twitter.com/DIPR_UK)

महिला हेल्पलाइन नं० - 1090 | किसान कॉल सेन्टर नं० - 1551 | सी0एम0 हेल्पलाइन नं० - 1905 | चाइल्ड हेल्पलाइन नं० - 1098

आयुष्मान उत्तराखण्ड हेल्पलाइन नं० - 104 | आपदा कॉल सेन्टर नं० - 1070



(25 दिसम्बर, 1924 - 16 अगस्त, 2018)

यह अटल जी का अनुकरणीय नेतृत्व था, जिसने 21वीं शताब्दी के मजबूत एवं खुशहाल भारत की नींव रखी। उनकी दूरदर्शी नीतियों ने विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में प्रत्येक भारतीय के जीवन को छुआ है।

- नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री



राष्ट्रवाद के प्रणेता, सुशासन के संवाहक 'भारत रत्न' पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी की 96वीं जयन्ती पर शत-शत नमन

श्रद्धापूर्ण स्मृति में अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी की
25 फीट ऊँची कांस्य प्रतिमा (लोक भवन प्रांगण) का **अनावरण**

एवं

अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी चिकित्सा विश्वविद्यालय, उत्तर प्रदेश, लखनऊ
(चक गंजरिया, सुल्तानपुर रोड) का **शिलान्यास**

नरेन्द्र मोदी

प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

आनंदीबेन पटेल

राज्यपाल, उत्तर प्रदेश

योगी आदित्यनाथ

मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

राजनाथ सिंह

रक्षामंत्री, भारत सरकार

हृदय नारायण दीक्षित

अध्यक्ष, विधानसभा

केशव प्रसाद मौर्य

उप मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

डॉ. दिनेश शर्मा

उप मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

सुरेश कुमार खन्ना

मंत्री, वित्त, संसदीय कार्य
चिकित्सा शिक्षा, उत्तर प्रदेश

डॉ. नीलकंठ तिवारी

राज्य मंत्री, पर्यटन, संस्कृति, धर्मार्थ कार्य (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
एवं प्रोटोकॉल (MOS), उत्तर प्रदेश

संदीप सिंह

राज्य मंत्री, वित्त, प्राविधिक शिक्षा
चिकित्सा शिक्षा, उत्तर प्रदेश

दिनांक: 25 दिसम्बर, 2019 | समय: अपराह्न 2:45 बजे | स्थान: लोक भवन प्रांगण, लखनऊ

कार चालक सीट बेल्ट अवश्य पहनें।

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

BAGEHOT

An appetite for power

Britain's Tories are the world's most successful party. Here's why



Boris Johnson attends an event in Maidstone, Britain in July. Reuters

THE CONSERVATIVE party has been in the business of winning elections since the 1830s. In the 19th century it vied with the Liberals as Britain's dominant political party, but it was the Liberals who eventually found themselves beached on the shores of modernity. In the 20th century the Conservatives held office for longer than any other party. In the 21st century they are on course to hold power, either in their own right or as the dominant partner in a coalition, for 14 of the first 24 years. Not bad for an outfit that John Stuart Mill dismissed as "the stupid party".

To be sure, the Tories have had more than their fair share of Chris Grayling-style dunces and time-servers. They have also suffered long periods in the wilderness, particularly after the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846 and during their long flirtation with imperial preference after 1906. During Tony Blair's ascendancy the Conservatives were so enfeebled that Geoffrey Wheatcroft wrote a book entitled "The Strange Death of Tory England", a deliberate echo of George Dangerfield's rather more enduring "The Strange Death of Liberal England" (1935). But unlike the Liberals, the Conservative Party has always managed to re-

vitalise itself.

Another helping

Evelyn Waugh once complained that the Tories had never succeeded in turning the clock back for a single minute. But this is exactly why they have been so successful. The party has demonstrated a genius for anticipating what Harold Macmillan once called "the winds of change", and harnessing those winds to its own purposes.

In the 1840s Robert Peel recognised the rise of industrial capitalism and championed the repeal of the Corn Laws, which had kept the price of grain unreasonably high. This split the party but allowed it to incorporate the new "men of business" in the longer term. In the second half of the 19th century, Benjamin Disraeli and Lord Salisbury recognised not only that democracy was the coming thing but also that, thanks to the conservative instincts of the middle and working classes, it could be used to extend rather than undermine the party's power. In the 1970s Margaret Thatcher reached the future first in recognising that the post-war consensus was about to give way to a new world of free markets, pri-

vatisation and what Peregrine Worsthorne, an old-school Tory, called "get your snouts in the trough with the rest of us" Conservatism.

The Tories have three other great weapons in their arsenal. The first is highlighted in the title of one of the best books on the party, John Ramsden's "An Appetite for Power". The Conservatives have always been quick to dump people or principles when they become obstacles to the successful pursuit of power. Theresa May immediately sacked her two chief advisers, Fiona Hill and Nick Timothy, after the party's poor performance in 2017, whereas Jeremy Corbyn is still clinging on to Karie Murphy and Seumas Milne after Labour's devastating failure last week.

The second is patriotism. The Tories have always played this card better than any other party, whether in the form of imperialism in

the 1870s or retaking the Falkland islands in the 1980s. They have been much aided in this by those radical intellectuals who admire any institution or cause so long as it is not British.

No one should underestimate the party's third weapon: jollity. The Conservatives have always been the party of "champagne and women and bridge", to borrow a phrase from Hilaire Belloc, whereas the Liberals and Labour have been the parties of vegetarianism, book clubs and meetings. Conservatives are never happier than when mocking the left for its earnestness.

Boris Johnson fits perfectly into this great Tory tradition. He was one of the first members of his political generation to spot the rising tide of nationalist populism and recognise that it was about to reshape the global landscape. This earned him the hatred of the met-

ropolitan class into which he was born, which is convinced that the future lies with multi-lateral institutions and globalisation. But it put him at the front of Britain's Eurosceptic movement, which could have degenerated into a narrow faction under Sir William Cash or a noisy fringe under Nigel Farage, but which entered the Tory mainstream because of Mr Johnson.

He succeeded in this where Mrs May failed because he possessed the other great Tory weapons. He has been willing to sacrifice anything in the pursuit of office. Beneath the bumbling exterior lies a ruthless, power-seeking machine. His withdrawal of the whip from 21 colleagues (some of them close friends) in September made Macmillan's "night of the long knives" in 1962 look tame. Mr Johnson has never missed an opportunity to wave the flag—even when it has made him look absurd, as when he got stuck on a zip-wire clutching two little Union Jacks. Predictably, the left has played into his hands. Some Remainers have gone out of their way to give the benefit of every doubt to the EU, and Mr Corbyn has devoted his life to supporting anti-Western causes.

Above all, Mr Johnson has embraced the women-and-champagne side of Toryism, if not the bridge. He made his career as a Eurosceptic not by agonising about sovereignty but by making fun of the EU's (imagined) imperial ambitions to regulate the shape of bananas or the size of condoms. He cracked jokes that were calculated to rile the guardians of political correctness as much as to delight the masses (post-mortems on the election have underestimated the role of these guardians in turning working-class voters against Labour).

The hunt is on to discover the meaning of Johnsonism. How will he flesh out the sketchy promises in his manifesto? What can he do for working-class voters in Blyth Valley? How will he reconcile the free-market and big-government factions of his party? The best way to answer these questions is not just to engage in the British version of Kremlinology by interrogating every ministerial leak. It is also to study the long history of a party that Mr Johnson now leads with such a resounding mandate.

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Boris Johnson has been willing to sacrifice anything in the pursuit of office. Beneath the bumbling exterior lies a ruthless, power-seeking machine. Johnson has never missed an opportunity to wave the flag — even when it has made him look absurd

SCHUMPETER

The buzz around AirPods

Why is the ear worth so much less than the eye?

UNTIL RECENTLY the ear was a part of the body relatively unconquered by commerce. The neck long ago fell to the necklace, the cuff and the tie. The wrist surrendered to the bracelet and the watch. The eye sold out to spectacles, shades and mascara. But the ears were a low-rent zone for business, good mostly for cheap jewellery, earphones and hearing aids. Walk around any big city and it is clear how quickly that is changing—thanks to headphones, earbuds and a torrent of new stuff blaring through them.

Apple, as usual, caught the trend early. The number of its AirPods, mocked for looking like broken Q-tips when introduced in 2016, is estimated to have doubled to 60m pairs this year. They have spawned a wave of imitators, from Amazon's black Echo Buds to Xiaomi's Airdots (popular in China) and Microsoft's Surface Earbuds—which creepily link directly to its Office software, including PowerPoint. The devices grow symbiotically with another craze: for streamed audio content in addition to music, such as podcasts. Apple helped popularise this genre. But Spotify, a Swedish streaming service, and big American broadcasting conglomerates, such as Liberty Media, are muscling in.

Industry executives contend that audio is undervalued—especially compared with video. As Spotify's co-founder, Daniel Ek, said earlier this year, time spent on each is about the same, but the video industry is worth \$1tn versus \$100bn for audio. "Are our eyes really worth ten times more than our ears?" he asks.

The eyeball plainly still dominates. The number of screens dwarfs that of "hear-

ables". Between them, just three Tinseltown groups—Warner Media, Disney and Netflix—have spent as much as \$250bn on visual programming since 2010. Audio, including music, comes nowhere near. That said, the battle to "monetise the ear", as Greg Maffei, Liberty Media's boss, puts it, is in full swing. These days no one would lend Mark Antony theirs; they would rent or sell them.

Take hardware first. Apple does not release figures for any of its "wearables", but AirPods are the fastest-growing of all of its products, with profit margins above 50%, says Dan Ives of Wedbush Securities, an investment firm. With the new noise-cancelling AirPods Pro, which costs around \$250 a pair, he reckons Apple's ear-ware may generate up to \$15bn of sales next year. That would be about four times the revenues of a headphone veteran like Bose. Horace Dediu, a technology analyst, predicts that this quarter AirPods sales could exceed those of the iPod at its peak around Christmas 2007. With iPhone sales slowing, AirPods are a new way of generating revenue from Apple's legions of loyalists; they even allow Siri, the company's voice-activated virtual assistant, to worm her way closer to listeners' brains. The overall market is spreading to the masses, too. Some wireless earbuds sell for as little as \$20.

Audible content is likewise undergoing a mini-revolution. For the third year in a row, revenues from recorded music in America grew by double digits in 2018, largely thanks to subscriptions to Spotify, Apple Music and the like. Podcasts have grown both more numerous and more compelling. This year

Spotify has set out to rule the roost in this medium, which Apple first streamed via iTunes in the mid-2000s. The Swedish firm acquired Gimlet, Anchor and Parcast, three firms that serve different aspects of the podcast market; it now hosts a staggering 500,000 podcasts; hours spent listening to them grew by 39% year-on-year in the third quarter. In October it boasted that the conversion of podcast listeners to paying subscribers is "almost too good to be true".

The battleground stretches beyond earbuds to the car radio. On December 12th the Wall Street Journal reported that SiriusXM, a satellite-radio arm of Liberty Media, had sought clearance from the Department of Justice to raise its stake in iHeartMedia, America's largest radio broadcaster and a big podcasting platform. The aim would be to compete more effectively against Spotify and other audio-streaming services both for subscribers and advertising revenues. Previously Mr Maffei has talked excitedly about podcasting.

The proliferation of digital-streaming devices has spawned the growth of other listening formats. This year, for the first time, the Audio Publishers Association, an industry group, reported that half of Americans listened to an audiobook, a trend it said was boosted by the popularity of digital-streaming devices, as well as podcasts. Audible, owned by Amazon, is the market leader. Malcolm Gladwell, an American author and podcaster, has turned the audio version of his latest book "Talking to Strangers", into what seems like a supersized podcast, with his own



Apple AirPods are displayed during a media event in San Francisco in September 2016. Reuters

narration, actors and music. Romantics see it as a return to the oral tradition.

Though small, some of this spoken word has better economics than the sung variety. As Ben Thompson of Stratechery, a tech newsletter, has pointed out, the more music Spotify's customers download, the more its costs rise because of payments to record labels. Podcasts are different. Spotify has more bargaining power over myriad individual podcasters jostling to reach its 248m-odd users than it does over record labels. It also

buys its exclusive podcasts at a fixed cost. The problem is advertising. Ad revenues are paltry. In America terrestrial radio still accounts for 82% of an audio ad market valued at more than \$17bn. SiriusXM and Spotify have just a sliver of the pie.

A back door to the brain

Apple has the clout to make the industry more profitable. It could use its strong position with AirPods, Apple Music, podcasts and Siri to create a swirl of audio content around

the iPhone—an ecosystem in the jargon—and take the lion's share of advertising. For the time being, though, it appears to be more focused on creating video content, in its battle for eyeballs with Netflix. That is lucky for Spotify. It gives it a bigger opening in the audio market. It is good for listeners, too. The last thing anyone wants is a Big Tech behemoth controlling the next best thing to a brain implant

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Rudiger racism row takes new twist amid reports of Son abuse

ASSOCIATED PRESS LONDON, DECEMBER 24

THE LATEST racism row engulfing English football took a fresh turn Monday amid reports Tottenham Hotspur's Son Heung-min as well as Chelsea's Antonio Rudiger had been abused by spectators during Sunday's fractious London derby.

A force spokesman added: "Police were made aware of alleged racist chanting during the second half of the Tottenham vs Chelsea match on Sunday, 22 December. Officers will work with the club in an attempt to identify any people responsible."

Tottenham insisted any fan found guilty would receive a lifetime ban, but stressed: "At this time, however, we should point out that our findings are inconclusive." AFP

Paire, Karlovic set for Tata Open return

Pune: WORLD NUMBER 24 Benoit Paire will headline the field at the Tata Open Maharashtra but South African Kevin Anderson will not return to defend his title at India's only ATP 250 event, starting February 3.

Former Wimbledon quarterfinalist with a career-high rank of 16, Germany's Philipp Kohlschreiber will make his debut at the event. The 30-year-old Paire, who touched a career-high ranking of 18 in 2016 and won two ATP titles in 2018, had reached the quarterfinals in the previous edition.

Paire has been in sizzling form in 2019, winning titles at Lyon and Marrakech. Kohlschreiber, who

has eight ATP tour titles spread over three different surfaces, had upset world number one Novak Djokovic at the Indian Wells Masters this year. "This is a very special edition when we are celebrating 25 years of ATP Tour in India. The tournament has always had a rich legacy of champions playing here and the silver jubilee year will be no different as we hope to roll out yet another memorable edition of thrilling tennis action," said Prashant Sutar, the Tournament Director. PTI

Experience the Flavours of India at The National Street Food Festival along with 2nd Eat Right Mela. December 25-29, 2019 at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi, Gate No. 2. Main Attractions: Street Food From All Across India, Poster Competition, Street Theatre, Live Performances, Food Quiz, Dietary Advice, FSSAI Pavilion, Win Attractive Prizes & More.

SIGNATURE GLOBAL MAKING INDIA AFFORDABLE. Applications are invited from general public for booking of Residential Apartments in the Affordable Group Housing Project proposed to be developed as per terms and conditions of the policy prescribed by the Town & Country Planning Department, Government of Haryana vide notification no. PF-27/48921 dated 19.08.2013 & amendment thereof (details available at the Department website, i.e. tcpharyana.gov.in).

MARUTI SUZUKI ARENA. 5 GREAT REASONS TO BUY YOUR FAVOURITE MARUTI SUZUKI CAR, THIS DECEMBER. BEAT THE PRICE HIKE, BEST YEAR-END EXCHANGE BONUS, BEST YEAR-END OFFERS, BEST EXCHANGE PRICE, 100% ON ROAD FINANCE. ALTO SAVE UP TO ₹ 60 000*, CELERIO SAVE UP TO ₹ 50 000*, WAGONR SAVE UP TO ₹ 45 000*, EECO SAVE UP TO ₹ 40 000*.