

IN BRIEF



Ambala bus stand renamed after Sushma
AMBALA
The Ambala city bus stand was renamed after late External Affairs Minister and BJP veteran Sushma Swaraj on Saturday. She was born in Ambala Cantonment and was elected as MLA twice from there. State Transport Minister Mool Chand Sharma said the bus stand had been constructed at a cost of ₹18 crore. PTI

Wuhan evacuees likely to be released soon
NEW DELHI
A total of 406 people, who were housed at a quarantine facility of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police after being brought back from China due to the COVID-19 outbreak there, may be released next week if their final samples turn out to be negative, said a senior Home Ministry official on Saturday. The reports are expected to be received by Monday. PTI

Rebels attack former MPP chief's house
IMPHAL
Oinam Jogindro, former president of the Manipur People's Party (MPP) and his family members escaped unhurt on Saturday as suspected rebels lobbed a hand grenade at his house at Wangoi in Imphal West district, said police sources. Bomb experts took the explosive away for a controlled blast in a field.

Woman slips while trying to board train, saved
BHUBANESWAR
An RPF constable, Subrat Kumar Maharana, saved the life of a passenger Nibedita Sahoo, who slipped while trying to board the Puri-Sambalpur Intercity Express at the Bhubaneswar railway station on Saturday, officials said. Ms. Sahoo slipped into the gap between the train and the platform after losing her balance. The incident was caught on CCTV cameras. PTI

Elephantine conflict swells in the east

Bengal, Odisha and Assam account for about half the fatalities in man-elephant conflict, data show

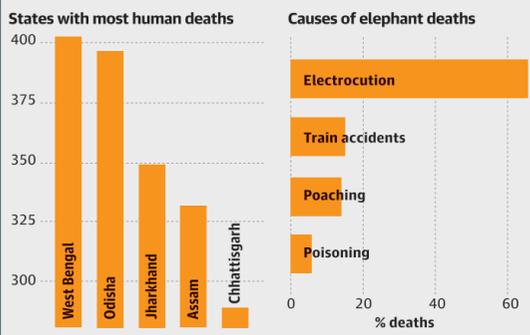
SHIV SAHAY SINGH
KOLKATA
Three States in the eastern and northeastern parts of the country – West Bengal, Odisha and Assam – account for about half of both human and elephant deaths in the overall human-elephant conflict in the country, according to the latest data provided by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Over the past five years, from 2014-15 to 2018-19, 2,361 human deaths were recorded in elephant attacks across the country, of which 1,132 (48%) fatalities were from these three States, as per the data tabled in the Rajya Sabha. West Bengal had the highest number of human casualties: 403, followed by Odisha with 397, Jharkhand with 349, and Assam with 332 deaths.

When it comes to unnatu-

Deadly conflict

In casualties due to human-elephant conflicts in the country, West Bengal recorded the highest number of human deaths between 2014 and 2019. The major cause of elephant deaths was electrocution, in which over 65% of elephants died



building up the knowledge base on elephant ecology”.

Among the reasons for unnatural deaths of elephants, electrocution is at the top of the list, accounting for 68% of elephant deaths in the country. Assam accounted for 66 electrocution deaths, followed by Odisha with 57 deaths and Bengal with 39 fatalities.

The second most common cause for unnatural deaths of elephants is train accidents. Between 2014-15 to 2018-19, 77 deaths were due to train accidents.

The data assumes significance when India is moving to include Asian Elephants in the list of species that merit heightened conservation at the 13th Conference of Parties on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals scheduled to be held at Gandhinagar later this month.

ral deaths of elephants (mainly due to poaching, train accidents, electrocution and poisoning), the country recorded 510 deaths in the same period (2014-15 to 2018-19). Of these, 259 (53%) occurred in these three States alone. The figures were tabled in the Rajya Sabha on February 10, in

response to a question by Rashtriya Janata Dal MP Majaj Kumar Jha.

Interestingly, these three States are home to just about 31% of the total population of all elephants in India. The last synchronised elephant survey in the country in 2017 had given a figure of 27,312 elephants, of which Assam

had recorded 5,719 elephants, Odisha 1,976 and West Bengal 642.

Elephants electrocuted
Raman Sukumar, an elephant expert and ecologist from the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, said that these States had been a “neglected region in terms of

4-year-old raped by school bus driver

She was on her way back home

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH
The Haryana police have registered a case of an alleged rape of a four-year-old girl by the driver in the school bus while she was on her way back from the school in Himachal Pradesh's Baddi town.

The police said she studied at a private school in Baddi and lived with her maternal aunt at Madawala village in Panchkula's Pinjore block.

A case under Section 6 (aggravated sexual assault) of the POCSO (Protection of Child from Sexual Offences) Act and other sections of the Indian Penal Code has been

registered at Panchkula's women police station.

“The incident happened in the school bus when the child was returning from the school as per the complaint. On Friday, after returning from her school, the victim narrated to her aunt that the driver had sexually assaulted her on the bus,” said Panchkula ACP Noopur Bishnoi.

“So far the accused has not been arrested but our teams are searching for him since Friday night,” she said.

The victim has been admitted at the Panchkula civil hospital for treatment and examination.

FCI agrees to procure paddy from Puducherry

The move will benefit about 25,000 farmers

RAJESH B. NAIR
PUDUCHERRY
In a major relief to around 25,000 farmers, the Food Corporation of India has agreed to procure paddy from Puducherry and Karaikal regions shortly.

In a communication to the Chairman and Managing Director of FCI and Secretary, Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Puducherry, Jai Prakash, Under Secretary to Government of India, conveyed the decision on February 11.

Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Ram Vilas Paswan in response to a let-



Farmers in Puducherry produce around 99,000 tonnes of paddy per year.

ter written by Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy on January 15 had given his consent to procure 30,000 metric tonnes of paddy from Karaikal and Puducherry in

2019-20.

Power Minister R. Kamlakannan, who also holds the Agriculture portfolio, said on Saturday that around 20,000 farmers in Puducherry and another 4,600 farmers in Karaikal would benefit from the move.

On an average per year, farmers produce around 99,000 metric tonnes of paddy in the Union Territory. The corporation last procured paddy from the U.T. 10 years ago. Since then, the government-run marketing society made attempts to intervene in the market but could not make much strides in stabilising the price.

ISRO to launch 10 EO satellites in 2020-21

36 missions planned for next fiscal

MADHUMATHI D.S.
BENGALURU

The country will send up an unusually large number of 10 earth observation (EO) satellites during 2020-21, according to the latest annual report of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for 2019-20. The plan includes new categories, such as the first Geo Imaging Satellite, GISAT-1.

In comparison, only three communication satellites and two navigation satellites are planned for the coming financial year starting April. The plan mentions 36 missions, which include both satellites and their launchers.

ISRO was recently given a budget of nearly ₹13,480



The upcoming launches include RISATs, Oceansat-3 and Resourcesat-3/3S.

crore for the next fiscal.

The upcoming EO satellites include radar imaging satellites RISAT-2BR2, RISAT-1A and 2A, Oceansat-3 and Resourcesat-3/3S.

In the ongoing fiscal, 17 missions are planned, six of which are due to be completed by March 31.

Doctors warn against use of weight-loss drug

Lorcaserin linked to risk of cancer: FDA

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Indian doctors have cautioned against the use of lorcaserin (brand name Belviq or Belviq XR), a weight-loss drug that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently said is linked to a “possibly increased risk of cancer.”

“Lorcaserin has been withdrawn from the U.S. market after caution by the FDA because of cancer risk. We have been using this drug to help reduce weight but were not impressed by results. We are now informing all our patients,” said endocrinologist Anoop Misra.

The FDA requested the drug manufacturer to voluntarily withdraw lorcaserin,

after a post-marketing trial with more than 12,000 subjects revealed an increased occurrence of cancer. The agency also said that health-care professionals should stop prescribing the drug to patients.

“Contact patients currently taking lorcaserin, inform them of the increased occurrence of cancer seen in the clinical trial, and ask them to stop taking the medicine,” it advised.

The decision is based on the agency's review of the five-year trial which was designed to evaluate cardiac health risk with the drug and ended in 2018. There was one additional cancer observed for every 470 patients treated for a year.

Radio aids revival of dying tribal language

The Asur tribe has been using mobile radio to transmit news programmes, songs

SATYASUNDAR BARIK
BHUBANESWAR:

Tucked away in the hills of Jharkhand's Latehar district, Asur, a particularly vulnerable tribal group, may not have access to good road or means of transportation to the outside world, but that has not deterred them from saving their language. Using mobile radio, the Asur community has been spreading the popularity of the language within their geographical limits.

As the voice Dahan-Dahan Turrarr... Dang T inatang Turrarr... Noa Hake Asur Akhada Radio Enegebu Degeabu Siringabu Urrarr (Come, sing, dance and talk. This is Asur Centre Radio) is played out through loud speakers, the bustle at the weekly



Taking initiative: Members of the Asur tribe operating a mobile radio in Jharkhand. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

market at Kotia seizes briefly, as people turn their attention to songs and news transmitted in their native language.

“The Asur language figures in the list of UNESCO Interactive Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger. We are trying our best to save our language from vanishing,” said

Sushma Asur, who has been at the forefront of the initiative.

The first transmission of a half-an-hour programme was organised near Netarhat on January 19. Since then, the pre-recorded radio programmes have been aired on 16 different occasions, said Ranchi-based A. K. Pankaj,

editor of Johar Disum Khabar.

As per the 2011 census, the tribe has a population of around 23,000 in Latehar and Gumla districts. “Only 7,000 to 8,000 Asur tribals are left in the community who are well conversant in the language,” said Vandana Tete, a Ranchi-based poet and tribal rights activist.

Of the 32 different tribes recorded in the State, only four to five tribes, including Santhali, Ho and Kuruk, have recorded language scripts.

“The initiative has got a huge response from people. Now, villagers are requesting us to organise events at their places and they are also interested in preparing radio programmes,” said Ms. Tete.

ANDHRA PRADESH CENTRAL POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED
Corporate Office, Beside Government Polytechnic, ITI Road, Vijayawada - 520008
NOTIFICATION Dated: 16.02.2020
Applications are invited from eligible Candidates for filling up of the following posts (On contract basis) of **APCPDCL**, a Corporation wholly owned by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.
1) Company Secretary
2) Law Officer
3) Chartered Accountant
The details of eligibility criteria, other detailed Instructions and prescribed format may be viewed at APSPDCL website: www.apspdcl.in
Last Date for Submission of Application: 03-03-2020.
Place: Vijayawada, Date: 16.02.2020 **CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR**

STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LIMITED
19-A, RUKMANI LAKSHMIAPATHY ROAD, EGMORE, CHENNAI - 600 008.
CIN U74999TN19715GCO05967
Tender Notice NIT.No. 42/CW/DO/T.No.60/2019-20 Dt.14.02.2020
For and on behalf of State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited, sealed tenders are invited under “Two Cover System” for the following work from Civil Class-1 State Level Civil Contractors registered in State/Central or Quasi Government Organisations having experience in similar nature of works. Tenders will be received upto 3.00 PM on 18.03.2020 and the same will be opened on the same day at 3.30 PM.

Name of Work	Approx. value of work	EMD
Creation of Infrastructure facilities viz. Formation of Roads with RCC side drains providing street lights system and water supply distribution system at SIPCOT Industrial Complex, Ranipet, Phase III - Extended DTA.	Rs.1970.00 lakhs	Rs.9,95,000/- in the form of Demand Draft drawn in favour of SIPCOT Ltd., payable at Chennai.

The tender Schedule can be Downloaded at free of cost from the website www.tenders.tn.gov.in and www.sipcot.in
DIPR/906/TENDER/2020 **MANAGING DIRECTOR, SIPCOT, CHENNAI-8**

SANJAY GANDHI INSTITUTE OF TRAUMA AND ORTHOPAEDICS
(Government of Karnataka Autonomous Institute)
Byrasandra, Jayanagar East, Bengaluru - 560 011 Ph: 080-26564516, 26562500 Grams: SITO Fax: 26565222 E-mail: sitodirector@gmail.com
No:SGITO/-Tender/Haematology Analyser/128/2019-20 Date: 14.02.2020
TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement)
Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Trauma & Orthopaedics, Byrasandra, Jayanagar East, Bengaluru - 11 invites tender from the eligible tenderers through the e-procurement portal of GOK for (1) Haematology Analyser 5 Part Cell Counter - 1 No.
(1) The Tenderers can download the documents from: <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> on or after 17.02.2020 and the last date for submission of completed tenders through e-portal is 05.03.2020 upto 4:00 PM.
(2) The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept / reject or cancel tender without assigning any reason thereof.
Sd/-
Chief Administrative Officer
Tender Inviting Authority
DIPR/ 2514 /2019-20

THE HINDU
LET US KNOW YOU BETTER
Your feedback is valuable to us. Please scan the QR code or visit www.thehindu.com/feedback
You may call us at tollfree 1800 102 1878 or write to us at customercare@thehindu.co.in

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning very likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh. Isolated scattered rainfall activity likely over parts of northeast India during next five days.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	...	28.0	15.0	Kozhikode	...	35.0	25.0
Ahmedabad	...	31.0	14.0	Kurnool	...	35.0	19.0
Aizawl	...	18.0	9.0	Lucknow	...	25.0	10.0
Allahabad	...	28.0	10.0	Madurai	...	36.0	22.0
Bengaluru	...	32.0	18.0	Mangaluru	...	34.0	24.0
Bhopal	...	28.0	12.0	Mumbai	...	33.0	21.0
Bhubaneswar	...	35.0	17.0	Mysuru	...	32.0	20.0
Chandigarh	...	24.0	13.0	New Delhi	...	26.0	11.0
Chennai	...	34.0	21.0	Patna	...	26.0	13.0
Coimbatore	...	35.0	21.0	Port Blair	...	30.0	21.0
Dehradun	...	27.0	9.0	Puducherry	...	32.0	21.0
Gangtok	...	12.0	7.0	Pune	...	32.0	15.0
Goa	...	34.0	22.0	Raipur	...	31.0	17.0
Guwahati	...	26.0	12.0	Ranchi	...	28.0	13.0
Hubballi	...	33.0	21.0	Shillong	...	15.0	6.0
Hyderabad	...	33.0	17.0	Shimla	...	21.0	8.0
Imphal	...	23.0	8.0	Srinagar	...	13.0	2.0
Jaipur	...	27.0	12.0	Thiruvananthapuram	...	33.0	25.0
Kochi	...	33.0	25.0	Tiruchi	...	35.0	21.0
Kohima	...	16.0	7.0	Vijayawada	...	35.0	19.0
Kolkata	...	30.0	17.0	Visakhapatnam	...	31.0	22.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE	Yesterday
Ahmedabad	52	74	31	130	118	...	...
Bengaluru	9	81	23	171	...	...	...
Chennai	...	31	37	146	...	...	...
Delhi	34	69	32	246	212	...	...
Hyderabad	33	83	32	204	...	...	...
Kolkata	50	128	16	223	246	...	...
Lucknow	7	39	...	255	...	...	...
Mumbai	14	70	49	142	176	...	...
Pune	84	40	82	120	101	...	...
Visakhapatnam	10	68	51	148	135	...	...

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Siliguri, West Bengal recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 342 indicating a severe level of pollution. In contrast, Malhar, Madhya Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 57.

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.

PM_{2.5} & 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

ANNA UNIVERSITY
CHENNAI - 600 025
CENTRE FOR RESEARCH
ADMISSION TO Ph.D. PROGRAMME - JULY 2020
Applications are invited for admission to Ph.D. Programme for July 2020 session. The details such as eligibility, fee and other information are available at <https://cfr.annauniv.edu> from 17.02.2020 to 07.03.2020.
Candidates have to apply online through the above link. Last date for online submission of filled-in applications is 09.03.2020 till 5.30 p.m. For further details please refer the above website.
DIPR/250/Display/2020 **REGISTRAR**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF FINANCE
INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE TAX RECOVERY OFFICER 6,
Room No.426-E, 4th Floor, Wanaparthy Block, 121, M.G. Road, Aayakar Bhavan - Chennai-34 TEL: 044-28338545 / Mob:94459-53797 Email : chennai.tro6@incometax.gov.in

PUBLIC AUCTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY SITUATED AT CHENNAI
Notice is hereby given that the office of the undersigned has proposed to conduct a public auction as per the provisions laid down in the 2nd Schedule of the Income Tax Act, 1961 and sale of immovable property, which belongs to **Shri. Anand Muruga Utharkar, No.69, VGP Layout, 3rd Part, 2nd Main Road, Pallavakkam, Chennai- 41** being income tax defaulter for the purpose of recovery of income tax arrears.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY
Vacant land situated at Plot No.23, Second Street, Balamurugan Nagar, in the layout Plan 5582/75, approved by the Commissioner under D.P.No.221/75 situated in Balamurugan Nagar, Velachery, Chennai, comprised in Survey No.257 of Velachery Village, Mambalam Guindy Taluk, District of Chennai South measuring an extent of 2400 Sq.ft. and being bounded on North by: 20 feet Road-Balamurugan Nagar 2nd Street, South by: Plot No.2, East by: Plot No.22, West by: Plot No.24.
Reserve price in Rupees : Rs.85,21,600/- plus poundage fee & costs

E.M.D in Rupees : Rs.1,00,000/-
DATE AND TIME OF AUCTION
12.03.2020 @ 11.30 AM
VENUE OF AUCTION
Income Tax Auditorium (Vaigai Hall) in the Income Tax Building Campus, Aayakar Bhavan, 121, M.G. Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600034.

CONDITIONS:
1. The intending bidders are requested to deposit **Rs.1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Only)** as Earnest Money Deposit for the above property by means of Demand Draft in favour of Tax Recovery Officer-6, Income Tax Dept., Chennai drawn on any schedule bank payable at Chennai before the beginning of actual auction proceedings, which is refundable to the parties except successful. The successful bidder shall pay immediately after such declaration, deposit of 25% on the amount of his purchase money to the officer conducting sale, and in default of such deposit the property shall forthwith be put up again and resold. The full amount of purchase money payable should be paid by the purchaser to the undersigned on or before 15th day from the date of sale of property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day being a Sunday or other holiday, then on first office day after the fifteenth day. In default of payment within the period mentioned above, the property shall be resold after issue of fresh proclamation of sale.
2. The Property will be auctioned on “as is where is and what is there is basis”.
3. The details of the property and the copy of the Encumbrance Certificate can be perused at the office of the undersigned on any working day prior to auction, after fixing an appointment with the undersigned during office hours.
4. Detailed terms and conditions of the auction sale may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.
5. The aforesaid property will not be sold below the Reserve Price of **Rs.85,21,600/-**.
(V. SATHYA)
Tax Recovery Officer-6
Date: 06.02.2020
Place : Chennai
O/o. Pr.Commissioner of Income Tax-6 Chennai.