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BY PRATAP BHANU MEHTA
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DELHI GANGRAPE: IN DEATH PLEA, CENTRE CITES HYDERABAD ENCOUNTER
NITISH ON DAIS, SHAH CONTINUES ATTACK ON CAA PROTESTS
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A day after incident of firing, heavy police presence in Shaheen Bagh, Sunday. *Gajendra Yadav*

Police probe as Jamia reports another firing Sunday night

SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 2

POLICE FORCES in the area were asked to reach Jamia late Sunday night, after reports of a shooting near the site of the anti-CAA protests. While the Jamia Coordination Committee (JCC) claimed a shot had been fired, Additional DCP Kumar Gyanesh said police are filing an FIR based on the complaint. "Investigation is on," Gyanesh said.

The message asking Station House Officers (SHOs) and their staff in the South East district to reach Jamia was flashed from the control room on behalf of the DCP at 12.20 am.

The alleged shooting comes a day after two shots were fired at the anti-CAA protest site at Shaheen Bagh, and three days after firing outside Jamia. While no injuries were reported in

Shaheen Bagh, a Jamia student was injured Thursday.

According to the JCC, the latest incident involving two unidentified persons was reported from outside gate number 5 of Jamia Millia Islamia. A statement by the committee claimed that one of them was wearing a red jacket, and they were on a red scooter. No one was injured, the statement said. According to Mohd Prafull (25), who claimed to be an eyewitness, the two men were riding a scooter and wearing helmets. "The pillion rider got off the scooter and fired. They didn't raise any slogans," said Prafull, who is studying TV journalism at Jamia. Faizan, who is pursuing his graduation from IGNOU and claimed to be an eyewitness, said: "Around midnight, two people came and fired. I was 20 metres away when this happened."

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EC moves out police officer in charge of Jamia, Shaheen Bagh

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL & RITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 2

THE ELECTION Commission (EC) Sunday "relieved" DCP, South East Delhi, Chinmoy Biswal from his post, apparently for poor handling of incidents of violence near Jamia Millia Islamia and Shaheen Bagh in recent days. Additional DCP, South East, Kumar Gyanesh, will take charge, the EC said.

The action followed a meeting of police officials with the EC

UNION BUDGET

Behind new tax regime: 92% used exemption under Rs 2 lakh

New entrants to job market among those expected to shift: Revenue Secy

PRANAV MUKUL, SUNNY VERMA & ANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 2

JUSTIFYING THE introduction of new personal income tax slabs and rates, Revenue Secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey told *The Indian Express* Sunday that it was a move away from an "inequitable direct tax regime" — and cited an analysis by his department that almost 92 per cent of those filing I-T returns availed exemptions of less than Rs 2 lakh.

In absolute terms, out of 5.78 crore tax filers, about 5.3 crore (91.7 per cent) claimed deductions of less than Rs 2 lakh, including those under section 80C, Section 80D, section 80CCD(1B) (additional deduction of NPS), deduction for housing loan interest and standard deduction in 2018-19.

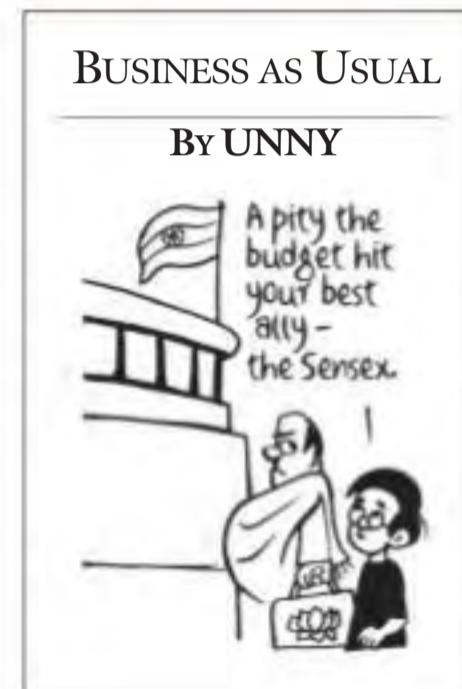
Only 3.77 lakh taxpayers, less than 1 per cent of all tax filers, claimed deductions of over Rs 4 lakh, according to the department's analysis.

Pandey said the new structure addressed issues of equity, and that he expected new entrants to the job market, smallscale business owners and those who have retired to move to the new regime.

"If you have a flat tax rate, it becomes inequitable in the way that you are taxing the rich and poor... Having a few tax slabs also



'Some taxpayers will be much better off'



INTERVIEWS: FINANCE, REVENUE SECRETARIES PAGE 14

becomes inequitable because there is a sudden jump...and there will be a tendency to understate income to get to a lower slab. Therefore, a progressive taxation system in income tax is internationally considered to be

Govt soothes fears: NRIs will be taxed only on income earned from India

SUNNY VERMA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 2

AMID CONCERNS that Non-Resident Indians may be brought in the tax net through changes introduced in Budget 2020-21, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Sunday clarified that NRIs will have to pay taxes only on income generated in India and not on earnings abroad.

The government has also proposed to reduce the number of days for individuals to be considered as Indian residents for



Kerala CM wrote to Centre expressing concern

tax purposes to 120 or more, from 182 or more at present.

In a media interaction, Sitharaman said: "What we are doing now is that the income of an NRI generated in India will be taxed here. If he's earning something in a jurisdiction where

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Despite govt's talk of helping wealth creators, creeping socialism

HARISH DAMODARAN & SANDEEP SINGH
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 2

IN 1973-74, the maximum marginal rate of income tax, including surcharge, reached 97.75 per cent. That was, of course, at the height of Indira Gandhi's "socialism", when taxation policy explicitly targeted bringing about "an appreciable scaling down of the concentration of economic power and reduction

in the inequalities in income and wealth".

That same socialism, according to a view expressed by many company promoters, is making a comeback, albeit in a creeping fashion. And it is ironically happening under a Prime Minister who, in his most recent Independence Day address, spoke of the need to "recognise and encourage the wealth creators of our nation". This sentiment was also echoed on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

CAA debate moves to House, Trinamool for amendments in President's address

ABANTIKA GHOSH
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 2

NEARLY TWO months after it was cleared by both Houses of Parliament, the amended citizenship law is set to emerge as a new battleground during the ongoing Budget session — at least in the Rajya Sabha.

In a first for the party, the Trinamool Congress has moved amendments to the President's address delivered Friday, when the session kicked off, raising questions on its "silence" on a range of issues from the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the Kashmir clampdown to the economic slowdown.

Party sources said its leaders in the Upper House — Parliamentary party leader Derek O'Brien and Chief Whip Sukhendu Sekhar Ray — have moved amendments to include the ongoing anti-CAA protests, the proposed nationwide National Register of Citizens, and the National Population Register in the speech.

Similar amendments would also be moved by the party in the Lok Sabha, sources said. The Trinamool has 22 MPs in the Lok

EXPLAINED
Symbolic value

THE AMENDMENTS do not make any difference to the government's functioning. But if passed, they signal embarrassment for the government, which drafts the President's speech.

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THE EXPRESS INTERVIEW
'NO QUESTION OF ALLOWING NPR...'
BHUPESH BAGHEL
CHHATTISGARH CHIEF MINISTER

NIA CALLS ASSAM HISTORIAN PAGE 7

Sabha and 13 in the Rajya Sabha. On Friday, the main Opposition

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Passengers evacuated by Air India from Wuhan, China, being screened at Delhi airport. 323 were airlifted Sunday. *PTI*

Second coronavirus case in Kerala, was on the same flight as first

SHAJU PHILIP & ABANTIKA GHOSH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 2

ONE MORE student belonging to Kerala who recently returned from Wuhan University in China tested positive for Novel Coronavirus Sunday, taking the confirmed cases of the virus in the country to two. Officials said the 22-year-old, belonging to Alappuzha, had travelled along with the first positive case, now under isolation in Thrissur.

"They have common travel history from Wuhan to Kochi via Kolkata. After reaching Alappuzha, the 22-year-old was

WORLD

1ST DEATH OUTSIDE CHINA REPORTED IN PHILIPPINES

HOW CHINA KEPT IT A SECRET AT FIRST
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under home quarantine and was later shifted to the medical college after he developed minor symptoms, such as sore throat and fever. The symptoms are not serious although he has tested positive," an official said.

Kerala Health Minister

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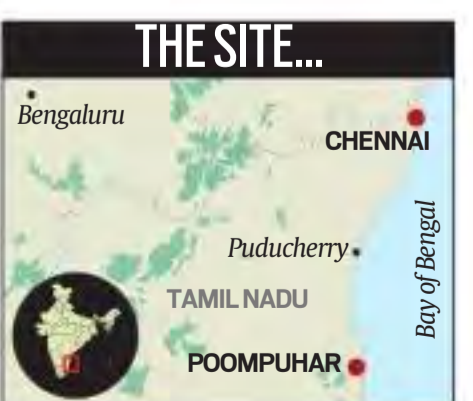
Scientists to digitally recreate TN port city swallowed by sea 1,000 yrs ago

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

SOWMIYA ASHOK
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 2

THE CHOLA Dynasty port city in Tamil Nadu that vanished from maritime history around 1,000 years ago will be digitally reconstructed by a consortium led by the Department of Science and Technology, officials told *The Indian Express*.

DST officials said there are



exhaustive narrations in works of Sangam Tamil literature to infer that the city, located 30 km from the existing Poompuhar town in southern TN, was submerged due to "kadalakol" or ris-

THE CITY
■ Ancient Chola capital on Cauvery Delta in southern TN
■ Submerged in sea 1,000 years ago
■ Featured in Tamil Sangam epics like *Silappathikaram*

ing sea levels.
"However, despite several studies on Tamil literature, archaeology, history, epigraphy, un-

derwater exploration and geosciences, the mystery of the exact location of initial establishment of Poompuhar, its age, later shifts, along with periods, time-series spatial evolution in the present location at the mouth of river Cauvery, and the reasons and periods of its extinction, remain unresolved," a DST official said.

"The study involves underwater surveys and photography by remotely operated vehicles and sea bed drilling, remote sensing based geodynamic studies to bring out comprehensive

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