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**EXPLORING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY, SBI TELLS BSE**

## Bailout buzz, RBI supersedes Yes Bank board, caps withdrawals at ₹50,000

Moratorium for 30 days, ban on loan or advance or agreements on assets

**GEORGE MATHEW & SUNNY VERMA**  
MUMBAI, NEW DELHI, MARCH 5

THE RESERVE Bank of India Thursday superseded the board of directors of troubled Yes Bank for a period of 30 days "owing to serious deterioration in the financial position" of the bank and capped deposit withdrawals at

Rs 50,000 per depositor. The central bank said: "This has been done to quickly restore depositors' confidence in the bank, including by putting in place a scheme for reconstruction or amalgamation." The RBI appointed Prashant Kumar, former Deputy Managing Director and CFO of State Bank of India, as the administrator of the



Need to restore depositor confidence: RBI. Pradip Das

## Scare after PMC, hope for revival in 1-month freeze

**GEORGE MATHEW, SANDEEP SINGH & SUNNY VERMA**  
MUMBAI, NEW DELHI, MARCH 5

BARELY FIVE months after investors had a scare with their deposits in Punjab & Maharashtra Co-operative Bank Limited, the depositors of Yes Bank now face

a similar situation, albeit with the hope that state-owned banks will finally be roped in for a rescue package. While the RBI capped withdrawals at Rs 50,000 per depositor, it has said the bank may allow payment to its depositors an amount in excess of Rs 50,000 to meet unforeseen expenses.

## Delhi toll 53, AAP leader is held for IB staffer killing

**ANAND MOHAN J & MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 5

AS THE death toll in the communal violence in northeast Delhi last month climbed to 53, police Thursday arrested AAP's suspended municipal councillor Tahir Hussain in connection with the riots. Hussain has also been named in the FIR registered in connection with IB staffer Ankit Sharma's killing during the riots, with police sources saying that evidence was still being collected in the case. Sharma's body was found in a drain in northeast Delhi on February 26, a day after he went missing. The AAP leader has been

**CITY**



VIDEO SHOWS MOB ATTACKING POLICE

**DON'T LOOK AT RELIGION, ARREST ALL INVOLVED IN RIOTS: TOP COP**  
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named in another riot-related FIR, which has been filed on the basis of a complaint by Constable

**ALERT SOUNDED OVER CORONAVIRUS THREAT**

## Govt confirms community spread, readies flight for Iran, count is 30

**ABANTIKA GHOSH & PRANAV MUKUL**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 5

THE TOTAL number of confirmed cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the country climbed to 30 Thursday after a man from Ghaziabad with a recent travel history to Iran tested positive. The government also confirmed "some cases of community transmission" — this makes India part of a small group of countries, including China, Japan, Italy and South Korea, where community transmission of the virus has taken place. National carrier Air India, which flew home Indian nationals from China, plans to mount special flights to Iran to evacuate an estimated 1200 Indians stranded in Tehran and Qom. Outside China, Iran is one of the worst affected countries in terms of positive coronavirus cases. The Ministry of Health, in a statement, said that "in addition

**INSIDE**



**3 CASES IN NCR, DELHI CLOSES PRIMARY CLASSES**  
**PM TRIP FOR SUMMIT IN BRUSSELS WITH E.U. POSTPONED**  
PAGES 3, 9 & 11

## Meanwhile, poultry faces \$1-bn loss over false virus fears

**PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS & HARISH DAMODARAN**  
PUNE, NEW DELHI, MARCH 5

THE INDIAN poultry industry is fervently opposing allowing any access to imported chicken meat, especially frozen leg pieces, from the US. But it has a more immediate problem at hand, having to do with the novel coronavirus originating from China and causing estimated losses of \$1 billion. Since early-January, farmgate prices of broiler birds in Maharashtra have crashed from over Rs 80 per kg to Rs 30-32 levels, driven purely by fears over poultry meat consumption



## FAREWELL, JUSTICE

At the farewell ceremony for Justice S Muralidhar, transferred from Delhi High Court to the Punjab and Haryana High Court, in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI REPORT, PAGE 6

## BJP ally names Gandhis as LS discusses virus, 7 Cong MPs are suspended

**AVISHEK G DASTIDAR & HARIKISHAN SHARMA**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 5

BJP ALLY and Nagaur MP Hanuman Beniwal's remarks on the Gandhi family while Lok Sabha was discussing steps to meet the coronavirus threat led to a ruckus in the House Thursday, resulting in the suspension of seven Congress members



Nagaur MP Hanuman Beniwal

for the remainder of the Budget session after they hurled torn papers at the Chair in protest. The din over communal violence in Delhi, that had been dominating the session since Monday, took a break for about 40 minutes when Health Minister Harsh Vardhan read out a suo motu statement, updating the House on the coronavirus outbreak in the country. Following the statement, an MP from each party was given a minute or two to provide

## EPFO Board cuts interest rate to 7-year low of 8.5%

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 5

THE RATE of interest for the over 6 crore active subscribers of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for the year 2019-20 has been recommended to be cut to a seven-year low of 8.5 per cent, a 15 basis points downward revision from the 8.65 per cent offered in the previous year. At 8.5 per cent, the EPFO rate is still far higher than the interest rates on most other small savings instruments. The cut in rates comes at a time when the Finance Ministry has been nudging the EPFO to reduce rates in line with the decline in overall interest rates for savings schemes. Labour and Employment Minister Santosh Kumar Gangwar said the proposed 8.5 per cent rate will leave a surplus of Rs 700 crore with the retirement fund body. "The EPFO has

**EXPLAINED**  
**E** Still higher than other rates

AT 8.5%, the EPFO rate is still higher than rates on most other small savings instruments. Except the Senior Citizen Savings Scheme (8.6%) and Sukanya Samridhi Account Scheme (8.4%), most long-term small savings instruments are offering sub-8% rates with National Savings Certificate, Public Provident Fund offering 7.9% each and Kisan Vikas Patra 7.6%.

decided to provide 8.5 per cent interest rate on EPF deposits for 2019-20 in the CBT meeting," Gangwar said after the meeting

## I-T summons Ahmed Patel for Rs 550-cr Cong party collections

**RITU SARIN**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 5

AFTER SENDING summons to the Indian National Congress, the Income Tax Department has, for the first time, sent missives for personal appearance to Congress treasurer Ahmed Patel for alleged undeclared party collections and election expenses totalling over Rs 550 crore. The summons come after searches by the IT Department on April 2, 2019 in 52 places including several locations in Madhya Pradesh as well as on October 2019 and February 2020 in Hyderabad, Vijayawada and other locations. A total of six employees of the Congress party, residing in different cities, were among those who were subjected to searches during the April 2019

## 21-yr-old student from Pune and the curious case of her changing hands

**PAGE 1 ANCHOR**

**TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA**  
MUMBAI, MARCH 5

"SOMETIMES GOOD things fall apart so that better things can fall together," was the first sentence Shreya Siddanagowder wrote in her notebook a year after her hand transplant. Today, her handwriting almost matches her original, but what has left doctors surprised



Shreya Siddanagowder in Pune; after the transplant and now. Arul Horizon



is how the colour of Shreya's hands, which once belonged to a 20-year-old man from Kerala until his death in August 2017, had changed to match the rest of her skin tone.

"I don't know how the transformation occurred. But it feels like my own hands now. The skin colour was very dark after the transplant, not that it was ever my concern, but now it matches my tone," says 21-year-old Shreya, who underwent Asia's first inter-gender hand transplant. Back in Kochi, where she underwent the double-hand transplant at Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS), surgeons are researching whether female hormones could hold the key to such changes.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Government of India

Help us to help you

## NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

**Protect yourself and others! Follow these Do's and Don'ts**

**Do's**

- Practice frequent hand washing. Wash hands with soap and water or use alcohol based hand rub. Wash hands even if they are visibly clean
- Cover your nose and mouth with handkerchief/tissue while sneezing and coughing
- Throw used tissues into closed bins immediately after use
- See a doctor if you feel unwell (fever, difficult breathing and cough). While visiting doctor wear a mask/cloth to cover your mouth and nose
- If you have these signs/symptoms please call State helpline number or Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's 24X7 helpline at 011-23978046
- Avoid participating in large gatherings

**Don'ts**

- Have a close contact with anyone, if you're experiencing cough and fever
- Touch your eyes, nose and mouth
- Spit in public

**Together we can fight Coronavirus**

For further information:  
Call at Ministry of Health, Govt. of India's 24X7 control room number  
**+91-11-2397 8046**  
Email at [ncov2019@gmail.com](mailto:ncov2019@gmail.com)

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