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AS COVID 19 CASES RISE, TIGHTER RESTRICTIONS ACROSS CANADA

TORONTO: The Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Measures Table, is reducing limits on the number of people permitted to attend unmonitored and private social gatherings across the entire province. Earlier this week, the government imposed these restrictions in Toronto, Peel Region and Ottawa. "The details were provided today by Premier Doug Ford and Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health." "Over the past several days, we have seen an alarming growth in the number of COVID-19 cases in the province," said Premier Ford. "Clearly, the numbers are heading in the wrong direction. That's why we are taking decisive action to lower the size of unmonitored private social gatherings in every region of Ontario. We need everyone to follow the public health rules in order to prevent another provincewide lockdown, and protect all our citizens, especially the elderly and the vulnerable." "Unmonitored and private social gatherings include functions, parties, dinners, gatherings, BBQs or wedding receptions held in private residences, backyards, parks and other recreational areas." "Since the start of the pandemic, there have been 2,984 cases of COVID-19 in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 4,254 in the Fraser Health region, 203 in the Island Health region, 511 in the Interior Health region, 266 in the Northern Health region and 86 cases of people who reside outside of Canada." "There have been no new COVID-19 related deaths, for a total of 227 deaths

“Clearly, the numbers are heading in the wrong direction. That's why we are taking decisive action to lower the size of unmonitored private social gatherings in every region of Ontario. We need everyone to follow the public health rules in order to prevent another provincewide lockdown, and protect all our citizens, especially the elderly and the vulnerable.”

in British Columbia. We offer our condolences to everyone who has lost their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic. "With 586 new cases of COVID-19 and ten more hospitalizations reported on Monday, Quebec's public health minister has issued a stern warning. "The province is at the start of the second wave of COVID-19, said Dr. Horacio Arruda in a news conference Monday afternoon, telling people it is "very important" to cooperate with public health guidelines right now. "We don't want to move back into lockdown," said Arruda, adding that it "took a heavy toll psychologically and in many other ways."

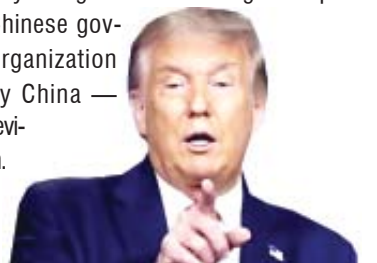
CIF ANNOUNCES \$21,000 DONATION FOR GOLDEN TEMPLE LANGAR SEWA

TORONTO: Canada India Foundation, a nonpartisan group active in promoting deeper understanding between Canada and India, has announced that they would be donating \$21,000 to the Guru Ka Langar (free food kitchen) run by the Golden Temple management in Amritsar, India. Donating to the langar or helping out with its activities is considered a religious duty by the Sikhs. First set up by Guru Nanak Dev Ji, founder of Sikhism, and then established by the 3rd Guru Shri Guru Amar Dass Ji at Goindwal Sahib to meet the needs of the poor.

| CONTD. ON PAGE 5

UN SHOULD HOLD CHINA RESPONSIBLE FOR COVID-19 PANDEMIC: TRUMP

UNITED NATIONS/(IANS) US President Donald Trump lashed out against China on Tuesday demanding that the UN should hold Beijing responsible for the consequences of unleashing the plague of COVID-19 on the world. Speaking at the General Assembly's high-level meeting in a pre-recorded address, he said, "The Chinese government and the World Health Organization — which is virtually controlled by China — falsely declared that there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission. Later, they falsely said people without symptoms would not spread the disease."



| CONTD. ON PAGE 5

FARM BILLS NEED OF 21ST CENTURY, MANDIS AND MSP WILL STAY: PM MODI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Monday that the farm sector reform bills passed by Parliament were the need of 21 century India and again reassured farmers that the government purchase of their produce coupled with the minimum support price mechanism will continue.



| CONTD. ON PAGE 9

BJP- AKALI DAL ALLIANCE IN DANGER

A delegation of Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), an NDA ally, on Monday evening met President Ram Nath Kovind and urged him to withhold assent to the contentious farm Bills passed by both Houses of Parliament.



| CONTD. ON PAGE 9

ONTARIO LIMITS THE SIZE OF PRIVATE SOCIAL GATHERINGS - INDOOR 10, OUTDOOR 25

TORONTO: The Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Measures Table, is reducing limits on the number of people permitted to attend unmonitored and private social gatherings across the entire province. Earlier this week, the government imposed these restrictions in Toronto, Peel Region and Ottawa. The details were provided today by Premier Doug Ford and Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health.



| CONTD. ON PAGE 7

SIKH MAN ASSAULTED IN ENGLAND; ASKED IF HE WAS A TALIBAN MEMBER

LONDON: A Punjab-born Sikh taxi driver has said that four white men assaulted him in Berkshire, England, and asked if he was a member of the Taliban militant group. Vaneet Singh (41), from Tilehurst suburb of the Reading town, believes the four accused could have been Scottish or Irish. Singh, who has been left bruised and battered after the incident, told the police that the men also stuck drugs up his nose, vandalised his taxi and tried to pull his turban off. One of them had asked to be dropped in nearby Bramley after all four were picked up from a casino in Berkshire.



| CONTD. ON PAGE 7

CANADA'S MINISTER OF HEALTH VISITS PEEL REGION ADDRESSING RISING COVID-19 CASES



| DETAILS ON PAGE 5



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ACTOR RHEA CHAKRABORTY WITH BROTHER SHOWIK CHAKRABORTY.

RHEA CHAKRABORTY’S JUDICIAL CUSTODY EXTENDED TILL OCT 6 IN DRUGS CASE

Bollywood actor Rhea Chakraborty's judicial custody was on Tuesday extended till October 6 by a special Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985, court. Chakraborty was arrested by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on September 8 for her alleged involvement in a drugs case linked to Sushant Singh Rajput's death. Before this, she was remanded to 14-day judicial custody. Chakraborty and her brother Showik Chakraborty have now filed a bail application in the Bombay High Court, according to news agency ANI. The 28-year-old was arrested on the basis of statements from other accused who have been arrested in connection with the case. She was confronted with Showik, Rajput's house manager Samuel Miranda and his house staff Dipesh Sawant to ascertain their roles in an alleged drug racket.

Chakraborty has been charged under Section 8(c) (produce, manufacture, possess, sell, purchase, transport, warehouse, use, consume, import); 20(b)(ii) (punishment for contravention in relation to the cannabis plant and cannabis where such contravention relates to small quantity, involves quantity lesser than commercial quantity but greater than small quantity, involves commercial quantity); 22 (punishment for contravention in relation to psychotropic substances); 27A (punishment for financing illicit traffic and harbouring offenders); 28 (punishment for attempts to commit offences); and 29 (punishment for abetment and criminal conspiracy) of the NDPS act. Dozens of people, including Chakraborty, her brother Showik, and drug peddlers from Mumbai and Goa have been arrested by the agency so far.

QUEST FOR GINSBURG'S REPLACEMENT IN SUPREME COURT MUDDLES TRUMP VS BIDEN FIGHT



The fight over Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's successor injected another volatile element into the 43-day final stretch of the U.S. presidential race. Democratic candidate Joe Biden dubbed President Donald Trump's plan for a quick vote to replace the liberal justice "an exercise of raw political power." U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski became the second Republican to voice objections, while some Democrats talked of expanding the number of SCOTUS justices using "court packing." As Supreme Court flags were set to fly at half staff for 30 days and creative memorials sprung up across the country, Ginsburg's death appeared to energize voters left and right, especially women. Democratic donors smashed fundraising records, funnelling more than \$90 million in just more than 24 hours. At a Trump rally in North Carolina, 59-year-old Paulette Fittshur viewed the justice's passing as divine providence. "It was God's perfect timing in this election," she said Fittshur. "It's a golden opportunity for conservatives." All eyes were on Trump and Senate Republican Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to signal whether they will attempt a vote on her successor before or after the Nov. 3 election. Trump has voiced a preference to nominate a woman with Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Amy Coney Barrett and

federal District Judge Barbara Lagoa, a Cuban-American from Florida, seen as front-runners. Both have demonstrated right-leaning views in rulings. **INVESTOR VIEW** A leading liberal think-tank has begun drawing up a list of Wall Street-friendly rules that could be swiftly repealed if the Democratic Party wins big. The list by the Center for American Progress, shared exclusively with Reuters, would reverse rules that eased speculative bank investments, reduced swap capital cushions, and overhauled fair lending regulation. **GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE** China's ByteDance said a newly formed TikTok global business with Oracle and Walmart would remain its subsidiary after the White House appeared to compromise on a push for an outright sale of the popular app. On Friday, Trump said he would ban all new downloads of the popular app but appeared to avoid a total ban for existing users ahead of the election. On Monday, he said his administration would not approve the sale if ByteDance maintains any control. **BY THE NUMBERS** 62% of American adults agree the Supreme Court vacancy should be filled by the election victor, while 23% disagreed and the rest said they were unsure.

'HE KNEW IT AND DID NOTHING. IT'S CLOSE TO CRIMINAL': BIDEN ATTACKS TRUMP'S HANDLING OF COVID-19

US Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden on Thursday bluntly contradicted President Donald Trump's suggestion that a coronavirus vaccine may be only weeks away, warning Americans they cannot trust the president's word. "The idea that there's going to be a vaccine and everything's gonna be fine tomorrow - it's just not rational," Biden said during a CNN town hall in Moosic, Pennsylvania. Trump again said on Wednesday that a vaccine for COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus, could be ready for distribution ahead of the November 3 election. Most health experts, including Robert Redfield, the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), have said a vaccine will likely not be widely available until mid-2021. Trump has accused Biden of spreading "anti-vaccine rhetoric," while Biden has emphasised that he will listen to scientists, not the president, regarding a vaccine's safety. The broadcast was the first town hall-style event for Biden since he accepted the Democratic nomination last month, giving viewers a rare chance to see him answer live questions from people whose votes he hopes to win in November. The cable network described the event as a "drive-in town hall" as participants remained at their parked cars outdoors to ensure they stayed safely distanced from one another. Biden spent much of the evening attacking Trump for his handling of the pandemic, including the president's own admission to the journalist Bob Woodward that he deliberately downplayed the disease's deadliness.

PAKISTAN LOOKS TO ALLY CHINA FOR SUPPORT AT FATF PLENARY

Pakistan is again looking to China, Malaysia and Turkey to help it get off lightly for failing to fully implement an action plan to tackle terror funding when the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) assesses its case in October, people familiar with developments said on Tuesday. Ahead of FATF's working group and plenary meetings between October 18 and 23, the Asia-Pacific Group (APG), a regional affiliate of the multi-lateral watchdog, reviewed Pakistan's actions to counter-terror financing and money laundering at a virtual meeting on September 15 and 16. At the virtual meeting, China expectedly backed Pakistan's actions to counter-terror financing, despite the fact that it is yet to fully deliver on 13 of the 27 points in the action plan, the people cited above said on condition of anonymity. When Yao Jing, China's outgoing ambassador to Pakistan, made a farewell call on the de facto finance minister Abdul Hafeez Shaikh in Islamabad on September 17 – a day after the APG meeting – he was quoted in an official statement as expressing "his confidence that FATF's October re-view will go well for Pakistan".



RUSSIA TO REGISTER SECOND COVID-19 VACCINE BY OCTOBER 15



Russia expects to register a second potential vaccine against Covid-19 by Oct. 15, the TASS news agency cited Russian consumer safety watchdog Rospotrebnadzor as saying on Tuesday. The vaccine has been developed by Siberia's Vector Institute, which completed early-stage human trials of the vaccine last week. Russia registered its first vaccine candidate, developed by Moscow's Gamaleya Institute, in August. Late-stage trials, involving at least 40,000 people, are ongoing.

WORLD SEES RECORD WEEKLY NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES, DEATHS DOWN: WHO

The coronavirus pandemic appears to be accelerating worldwide, with new cases soaring last week to a new seven-day high of almost two million, even as new deaths decreased, WHO statistics showed. In a fresh global update, the World Health Organization said late Monday that during the week ending on September 20, 1,998,897 new cases of the novel coronavirus were registered around the world. That marks a six-percent increase over a week earlier and "the highest number of reported cases in a single week since the beginning of the epidemic," the UN health agency said.

ILLEGAL TERRITORIAL EXPANSION CONTINUES: CHINA ENCROACHES NEPAL TERRITORY, ERECTS BUILDINGS IN LAPCHA-LIMI REGION



In recent times, the world has witnessed an escalation in China's territorial aggression on all sides of its border. China's expansionist designs continue to haunt all-weather ally Nepal too, as it has encroached on yet another part of the country. China has constructed nine buildings in a Nepal territory without the country's consent or permission. China has secretly built the structures in the Humla district in Nepal, and has also stopped the Nepali population from entering in this area. This issue came into light when the president of the local village council, Vishnu Bahadur Lama, went on a visit to this territory. He revealed that China soldiers had completed the building construction in the Limi village of Lapcha village. He was even prevented from going to the side of the village where the construction had taken place.

FORMER BRITISH PRIME MINISTERS TONY BLAIR, JOHN MAJOR CALL FOR BOYCOTT OF BORIS JOHNSON'S CONTROVERSIAL BREXIT BILL



Former prime ministers Tony Blair and John Major said on Sunday Britain must drop a "shocking" plan to pass legislation that breaks its divorce treaty with the European Union, in a breach of international law. The British government said explicitly last week that it plans to break international law by breaching parts of the Withdrawal Agreement treaty that it signed in January when it formally left the EU. "What is being proposed now is shocking," Major and Blair, who were adversaries in the 1990s as Conservative and Labour leaders, wrote in a joint letter published by the Sunday Times newspaper. "How can it be compatible with the codes of conduct that bind ministers, law officers, and civil servants deliberately to break treaty obligations?" Theresa May, the predecessor of current Prime Minister Boris Johnson, has also questioned whether international partners would be able to trust Britain in the future. Johnson's Internal Market Bill is aimed at ensuring Britain's four constituent nations can trade freely with one another after leaving the EU, but the government says that requires overriding part of the withdrawal treaty it signed with Brussels.



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A person wearing a blue shawl and a yellow turban is sitting on a stone ledge in the foreground, looking towards the Golden Temple (Harmandir Sahib) in Amritsar, India. The temple is illuminated with warm lights, and its reflection is visible in the water. A large, bright full moon is in the dark blue sky, and the surrounding city lights are also reflected in the water.

Ritesh Malik, CIF National Convenor, added, "This is a huge step for not only the Sikh community abroad but every Indian who respects and pays homage to the Golden Temple and the great tradition of langar, largely for the poor and needy. The community can now feel confident that their contributions will go directly to sewa, as the langar is run and managed in a

Opening the doors to accept direct donations from abroad will allow the Association, originally set up in 1925, to expand its activities considerably. So far, it had to make do with donations made from within India. This initiative would help them expand the langar services to a wider section of the poor and needy.

For media inquiries, please contact the on-duty Media Relations Officer at (905) 453-2121, ext. 4027.

The United Nations must hold China accountable for their actions,” he declared. He accused Beijing of allowing the coronavirus — which he called “China virus” — to spread. “In the earliest days of the virus, China locked down travel domestically while allowing flights to leave China and infect the world. China condemned my travel ban on their country, even as they cancelled domestic flights and locked citizens in their homes.” Trump offered to share the anti-COVID-19 vaccines. “We will distribute a vaccine, we will defeat the virus, we will end the pandemic, and we will enter a new era of unprecedented prosperity, cooperation, and peace,” he said. Trump said his administration has “stood up to decades of China’s trade abuses”. He attacked China on its environmental record contrasting that with that of his own country that is often under criticism. Trump said, “China dumps millions and millions of tons of plastic and trash into the oceans, overfishes other countries’ waters, destroys vast swaths of coral reef, and emits more toxic mercury into the atmosphere than any country anywhere in the world. China’s carbon emissions are nearly twice what the US has, and it’s rising fast.” Defending his decision to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement, he said US emissions have come down since he took the action. Trump asserted that “American prosperity is the bedrock of freedom and security all over the world”. In a campaign outreach to his domestic audience 42 days from the US elections, he said out of synch with the UN focus on disarmament, “Our military has increased substantially in size. We spent \$2.5 trillion over the last four years on our military. We have the most powerful military anywhere in the world, and it’s not even close.” China’s Permanent Representative Zhang Jun, before introducing the recorded speech of his country’s President Xi Jinping, hit back at Trump saying that a “political virus” must not be spread when there is a need for solidarity and cooperation. He said, “China resolutely reject the baseless accusation against China.”



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BILL 182 FRANCO-ONTARIAN EMBLEM AMENDMENT ACT, 2020 PASSES THIRD READING; AWAITS ROYAL ASSENT

ACT WILL ENSURE THAT THE PLACE OF FRANCO-ONTARIANS IN ONTARIO IS CENTRAL TO THE IDENTITY OF THE PROVINCE

MISSISSAUGA CENTRE — Today, Bill 182, the Franco-Ontarian Emblem Amendment Act, 2020, presented to the House by MPP Natalia Kusendova of Mississauga Centre, passed Third Reading. Following this, Bill 182 will be presented to the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, for consideration in receiving Royal Assent, where the Bill will become an Act and, eventually, law.

Bill 182, the Franco-Ontarian Emblem Amendment Act, 2020, amends the *Franco-Ontarian Emblem Act, 2001* to recognize the Franco-Ontarian flag as an emblem of Ontario. Through this legislation, the flag of the Franco-Ontarian community becomes officially recognised as an emblem of both the Ontario French-speaking community and of the province of Ontario. Officially hoisted for the first time in 1975 at Laurentian University, the flag came to be adopted by the Association canadienne-française de l'Ontario (ACFO), which is now the Association of Franco-Ontarian communities, in 1977.

This legislation marks a symbolic step forward in the relationship between the province of Ontario and the Franco-Ontarian community, and caps off a robust record of work undertaken by the current government of Ontario and the Ministry of Francophone Affairs in matters important to Francophones. Commitments to Franco-Ontarians by the government thus far have been numerous, including paramount decisions such as the announcement of the opening of L'Université de l'Ontario Française in conjunction with the federal government in January of this year. Other such commitments include legislation such as the Smarter and Stronger Justice Act, 2020, which ensures that Franco-Ontarians have unparalleled access to legal resources in their native tongue, and importantly modernising the French Language Services Act which will ensure unprecedented accessibility for Franco-Ontarians when it comes to accessing important government resources, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I am so proud that Bill 182 has passed Third Reading and is now being put forth to the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario to receive Royal Assent," said MPP Kusendova. "This piece of legislation which recognises the centrality of Francophones to the Ontarian identity stems from a cause that I am passionate about. I've enjoyed a fantastic relationship with the Francophone community here in the Greater Toronto Area throughout my time as a Member of Provincial Parliament, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. I was thrilled to work with groups such as the Centre Francophone du Grand Toronto to ensure vulnerable members of the community were cared for. I hope to continue this great relationship with the Francophone community into the future, and I look forward to all that we will continue to achieve together."

"Reconnaître le drapeau Franco-Ontarien comme un emblème officiel de l'Ontario est un geste symbolique important," said Minister Caroline Mulroney. "C'est une façon d'honorer la contribution des Francophones dans nos communautés à travers la province, ainsi qu'à notre économie et à notre culture commune."

"MPP Natalia Kusendova is a tireless advocate for Franco-Ontarians in her riding, Mississauga, and beyond," said Florence Ngenzebuhoro, Directrice générale of Le Centre Francophone du Grand Toronto. "She listens carefully to issues and challenges faced by French speaking communities; she may have not have all the answers but she always follow up, connecting us with the right resources in order to solve issues we face regularly as French language service providers. At Centre Francophone du Grand Toronto, we know we can count on her."

"C'est l'occasion pour moi de saluer l'initiative de la députée provinciale de Mississauga-Centre, Natalia Kusendova, pour avoir déposé ce projet de loi en mars dernier. Natalia est définitivement une alliée des francophones. Au tout début de la pandémie, elle faisait des publications sur son compte Twitter dans les deux langues officielles en plus de s'exprimer souvent en français en Chambre lors de son temps de parole. Nous saluons son engagement. C'est en travaillant ensemble que l'on pourra faire avancer les dossiers de notre communauté et continuer de développer de bonnes relations avec nos élu.e.s provinciaux.ales" said Carol Jolin, President of the AFO.



Minister Michael Tibollo, PA Gila Martow, MPP France Gélinas, MPP Natalia Kusendova, and the President of the AFO Carol Jolin at a reception following the second reading of Bill 182.



FAIR AND FLEXIBLE FEDERAL FUNDING NEEDED TO FIGHT COVID-19, MODERNIZE LONG-TERM CARE, AND BUILD CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

TORONTO: Premier Doug Ford is pressing the federal government to immediately lay out a plan to fund provincial priorities, including responding to future waves and surges of COVID-19, strengthening health and long-term care, increasing testing and quarantine enforcement at the border, and making strategic investments in infrastructure projects to spur long-term recovery.

The Premier was joined today by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, in calling for an increase to the Canada Health Transfer to cover at least 35 per cent of provincial-territorial health spending starting this year. The funding will be used to enhance the province's fall preparedness plan and help end hallway health care. The Ontario government is making an unprecedented investment of \$67 billion in health care this year.

"As we prepare for future surges and waves of COVID-19, we have to be nimble and able to respond immediately to any change in the public health trends," said Premier Ford. "That's why I'm calling on the Prime Minister to meet the urgent needs of the provinces and territories with an additional \$28 billion through the Canada Health Transfer. A strong health care system is the foundation on which we can build a strong economic recovery for Ontario and for the country." The pandemic further underscored the need for increased investment in the long-term care sector. Ontario is calling on the federal government to provide immediate and ongoing supports to long-term care residents and those who care for them, including investments for staffing, infection prevention and control, and infrastructure funding to help build new beds and redevelop existing ones to provide quality homes for vulnerable seniors. The Ontario government is investing over \$4.8 billion in long-term care this year.

"While our best defence continues to be our everyday actions to stop the spread of COVID-19, including practising physical distancing, wearing face coverings and staying home when ill even with minor symptoms, we require the necessary resources to prepare for the worst should it come," said Minister Elliott. "This includes dramatically expanding our testing capacity, launching more testing locations and adding more case and contact management resources to trace and isolate new cases."

Enforcing public health rules at the border is critical to help contain and prevent the spread of COVID-19. That's why the Ontario government is asking Ottawa to play a more active role in testing and enforcing quarantine measures in order to keep Ontarians safe. Increasing testing and screening at the border and hiring additional federal staff to enforce the quarantine rules are necessary, especially with case numbers on the rise. The province is also calling on the federal government to ensure an effective strategy is in place to expand testing and screening at the border before any restrictions are loosened. As Ontario continues down the road to recovery, key investments in infrastructure projects across the province will help restart the economy and create jobs. The province is calling on the federal government to invest an additional \$10 billion per year over 10 years in infrastructure. Ontario alone has nearly \$10 billion in shovel-ready

infrastructure projects over and above the approximately 750 submissions to the federal Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. Additionally, Ontario has four nationally significant subway projects in the Greater Toronto Area with a total value of \$28.5 billion that will support over 22,000 jobs and reduce annual emissions by over one million tonnes.

Ontario also has over 360 shovel-ready projects not yet approved by the federal government. The province is looking to the federal government to help quickly remove roadblocks to these projects and expedite approvals so communities can start building right away and get people working again.

The province is further calling on the federal government to make additional investments to expand and improve broadband service in more unserved and underserved communities. Improved access to high-speed Internet and reliable cellular service will help schools and skills training providers deliver remote learning, allow businesses in communities across the province to adapt and fully participate in the digital economy, contribute to public safety, and improve the quality of life for residents in these communities.

Ontario stands ready to work with the federal government and its provincial partners to deal with a potential second wave of COVID-19 and keep people safe, while ensuring the province and country can chart a path to a strong, resilient economic recovery.

QUICK FACTS

Ontario has invested \$67 billion in health care this year, including an additional \$7.7 billion as part of Ontario's Action Plan: Response to COVID-19.

Through the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund, the Ontario government is investing \$175 million this year to address critical upgrades, repairs and maintenance in 129 hospitals across the province, including \$50 million for COVID-19 related and other urgent projects. Ontario is investing \$1.75 billion in long-term care over five years to create more urgently needed long-term care beds and redevelop older beds to modern standards.

Under the original Medical Care Act passed in 1966, the federal government covered 50 per cent of eligible hospital and physician expenses. Today, the federal share has fallen to just over 22 per cent of provincial-territorial health spending and is projected to decline to 16 per cent by 2040.

Because of factors such as an aging population, new drugs and technology, and new expenses associated with COVID-19, the cost of health care is forecast to grow at an annual average rate of approximately 6 per cent, yet the federal Canada Health Transfer is forecast to grow at approximately half that rate.

Ontario is making the single largest investment in Canadian history in new subway builds and extensions through the province's \$28.5 billion Subway Plan for the GTA.

Ontario is investing \$315 million in Up to Speed: Ontario's Broadband and Cellular Action Plan to expand and improve broadband access in more rural, remote and Northern communities.

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ONTARIO LIMITS THE SIZE OF PRIVATE SOCIAL GATHERINGS - INDOOR 10, OUTDOOR 25

Province Takes Decisive Action to Stop the Spread of COVID-19



CONTD. FROM PAGE 2

"Over the past several days, we have seen an alarming growth in the number of COVID-19 cases in the province," said Premier Ford. "Clearly, the numbers are heading in the wrong direction. That's why we are taking decisive action to lower the size of unmonitored private social gatherings in every region of Ontario. We need everyone to follow the public health rules in order to prevent another provincewide lockdown, and protect all our citizens, especially the elderly and the vulnerable."

Unmonitored and private social gatherings include functions, parties, dinners, gatherings, BBQs or wedding receptions held in private residences, backyards, parks and other recreational areas.

The new limit on the number of people allowed to attend an unmonitored private social gathering across the province is: 10 people at an indoor event or gathering (previous limit of 50); or 25 people at an outdoor event or gathering (previous limit of 100). Indoor and outdoor events and gatherings cannot be merged together. Gatherings of 35 (25 outdoors and 10 indoors) are not permitted.

"We are taking further action to slow the spread and limit new cases of COVID-19 by reducing the size of private social gatherings across Ontario. This action is based on the increasing case counts that we are seeing," said Minister Elliott. "As we continue to closely monitor the spread of this virus, we will never hesitate to take further action to protect the health and well-being of all Ontarians."

The new limits will not apply to events or gatherings held in staffed businesses and facilities, such as bars, restaurants, cinemas, convention centres, banquet halls, gyms, places of worship, recreational sporting or performing art events. Existing rules, including public health and workplace safety measures for these businesses and facilities, continue to be in effect.

These new limits are effective immediately.

To support better compliance with public health guidelines, amendments to the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act would, if passed, establish:

A new offence regarding hosting or organizing a gathering in residential premises or other prescribed premises that exceeds limits under an order.

A minimum fine of \$10,000 for organizers of these gatherings.

Authority for the Lieutenant Governor in Council to prescribe additional types of premises for the purpose of the new offence.

Authority for a police officer, special constable or First Nations constable to order the temporary closure of a premises where there are reasonable grounds to believe that any gathering exceeding the number of people allowed is taking place and require individuals to leave the premises.

"It is critical that we continue to take the necessary steps to protect the health and safety of all Ontarians," said Solicitor General Sylvia Jones.

"We are making it easier for communities to keep people safe through a broad array of tools and deterrents including stiffer penalties for organizing social gatherings at private residences that violate the applicable size restrictions. Today's expansion of gathering restrictions across the province shows that we remain agile in our response to the increase in COVID-19 cases in Ontario."

The Chief Medical Officer of Health and other public health experts continue to closely monitor the evolving situation to advise when public health measures or restrictions can be further loosened or if they need to be tightened.

It remains critically important for everyone to continue following public health advice. This includes:

- staying home when ill, or keeping your child home from school when ill, even with mild symptoms;
- practising physical distancing with those outside your household or social circle, or at gatherings;
- protecting your social circle;
- wearing a face covering when physical distancing is a challenge or where it is mandatory to do so;
- washing your hands frequently and thoroughly; and
- adhering to gathering limits and rules.

For additional protection, the Ontario government is encouraging everyone to download the new COVID Alert app on their smart phone from the Apple and Google Play app stores.

QUICK FACTS

On July 24, 2020, the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act (ROA) came into force to ensure important measures remained in place after the provincial declared emergency came to an end. Under the ROA, orders can be extended for up to 30 days at a time. The government will continue to review all orders continued under the ROA and will report on order extensions to the Select Committee on Emergency Management Oversight.

Some local municipalities may have enacted by-laws or local medical officers of health may have issued Section 22 orders under the Health Protection and Promotion Act, mandating the use of face coverings, and other restrictions, in some settings. Other medical officers of health may have mandated the use of face coverings, and other restrictions, through reference to emergency orders. Refer to local municipal or public health unit webpages for more information.

Over 180 guidance resources are available to businesses to help them safely reopen and keep customers and workers safe.

Testing is available at any of the province's 147 assessment centres currently open. To find your closest assessment centre, please visit [Ontario.ca/coronavirus](https://ontario.ca/coronavirus).

SIKH MAN ASSAULTED IN ENGLAND; ASKED IF HE WAS A TALIBAN MEMBER

CONTD. FROM PAGE 2

"After he got out, he came up to my window holding a black box of substance which I think was cannabis. He asked me to try it and I said it was against my religion and then he lifted up my face mask and forced it up to my nose. It left me feeling intoxicated," Singh claimed.

Another man asked Singh to stop to urinate.

"He got out and asked to drive the car and I refused. Then he started trying to pull my taxi plate off. I tried to call the police but the network was very poor. Back in the car, they slid their fingers inside my turban and tried to pull it off," Singh said.

"They also kicked and punched me in the back through the seat and kept tightening my safety belt. They said, 'Are you Taliban?' I said, 'No, I'm a Sikh', and told them it was a religious symbol and asked them not to touch my turban," he added.

All three men got out at red traffic in Basingstoke, kicked the back of his car, leaving a dent and left.

Besides driving a cab, Singh also teaches tabla in Berkshire.

"I have neck pain and chest pain now and my body keeps vibrating. This was 100 per cent a racist attack. I am usually a friendly guy, always laughing but this has made me scared," he added.

Thames Valley Police said they were investigating the case. No arrests had been made so far.

WORKER'S FALL FROM PLATFORM RESULTS IN \$60,000 FINE FOR CALEDON COMPANY

Convicted: Aurora King Masonry Ltd., 76 Wiltshire Avenue, Toronto, a company specializing in masonry work.

Location of Workplace: 12600 Kennedy Road, Caledon.

Description of Offence: A worker received critical injuries after falling from a platform. By law, a work platform over 2.4 metres (7.87 feet) must have a guardrail.

Date of Offence: January 12, 2019.

Date of Conviction: September 10, 2020.

Penalty Imposed: Following a guilty plea, Aurora King Masonry Ltd. was fined \$60,000 by Justice of the Peace Valerie G. Carthy; Crown Counsel Indira Stewart.

The court also imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge as required by the Provincial Offences Act. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

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Opposition parties hit out at govt over suspension of 8 MPs, hold protest on Parliament premises



OPPOSITION LEADERS SEEK MEETING WITH PRESIDENT, URGE HIM NOT TO SIGN FARM BILLS.

Opposition parties hit out at the government on Monday over the suspension of eight Rajya Sabha MPs and are holding a protest on the Parliament premises against the move.

Eight members from the Congress, CPI(M), Trinamool Congress and the AAP were suspended for the remaining part of the monsoon session over their "unruly behaviour" during the passage of farm bills in the Upper House of Parliament.

"Suspension of the 8 MPs who fought to protect farmers' interests is unfortunate and reflective of this autocratic govt's mindset that doesn't respect democratic norms & principles. We won't bow down & we'll fight this fascist Govt in Parliament & on the streets," West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said in a tweet.

Opposition parties like the Congress, CPI(M), Shiv Sena, JDS, TMC, CPI and the Samajwadi Party are holding a protest on the Parliament premises with placards that read 'Murder of Democracy', 'Death of Parliament' and 'Shame, shame'.

"Suspension won't silence us. We will stand with farmers in their fight. Deputy chairman throttled parliamentary procedures yesterday. Suspension of MPs exposed the coward face of the BJP. People will see through the attempt to divert attention from their undemocratic actions," said CPI(M) MP Elamaram Kareem, who is among those suspended.

"Wake up crores of farmers of the country, BJP government has mortgaged your life to Adani-Ambani, wake up and oppose this black law. We are on agitation in Parliament, you should agitate outside. The BJP government has passed a black law against farmers. We were terminated for opposing the bill," said AAP MP Sanjay

Singh. "That is why we are sitting on dharna and will keep sitting till the BJP government explains why this black law was passed by strangling democracy," he added.

The MPs came to the protest site carrying blankets, and pedestal fans were being fitted to help them fight the scorching heat. A number of non-NDA parties have also written to President Ram Nath Kovind over the manner in which the government "pushed through its agenda" and urged him not to grant his assent to the proposed legislations.

According to sources, leaders of various political parties including the Congress, the Left parties, NCP, DMK, SP, Trinamool Congress and the RJD have in a memorandum to the President sought his intervention in the matter and asked him not to sign the bills.

The bills will become a law only after the President grants his assent to them.

The two key farm bills, dubbed by the government as the biggest reform in agriculture, were passed by Rajya Sabha on Sunday with voice vote amid unprecedented unruly scenes by protesting opposition MPs.

The Shiromani Akali Dal leadership will meet President Ram Nath Kovind separately on Monday to urge him not to sign on the bills.

Sources said the memorandum of opposition leaders has been sent to the President. Congress MP and noted lawyer Abhishek Singhvi is learnt to have framed the memorandum.

The opposition leaders wish to present their case in urging the President not to grant his assent to the bill after both the Houses of Parliament passed the two bills.

BJP- AKALI DAL ALLIANCE IN DANGER

CONTD. FROM PAGE 2

Coming out of the meeting, SAD leader Sukhbir Singh Badal, told the media: "We have requested the President against signing the anti-farmer Bills passed in Parliament by force. We requested him to send back those Bills to Parliament."

Apart from Badal who led the delegation, Akali MP Naresh Gujral and former MP Prem Singh Chandumajra were also present at the meeting. The delegation also submitted a memorandum to Kovind.

The SAD has been a longstanding ally



of the ruling BJP. SAD's Lok Sabha MP and Sukhbir's wife Harsimrat Kaur Badal had resigned from the Union Cabinet on September 17, citing her party's opposition to the three Bills.

The two Bills Badal was referring to were The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020, and The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020, which were passed by the Rajya Sabha on Sunday. The Lok Sabha passed these Bills last week.

FARM BILLS NEED OF 21ST CENTURY, MANDIS AND MSP WILL STAY: PM



CONTD. FROM PAGE 2

With opposition parties vehemently criticising the legislations as "anti-farmers" and protests continuing in states like Punjab and Haryana, Modi again mounted a strong defence of these measures, saying farmers will now have the freedom to sell their produce at a place and price of their choice. Attacking critics, he said a "clique" of people exploited farmers for long as they remained in shackles of rules regulating the sale of their produce and stated that this needed to change, which his government has done.

"After these historical changes in the agricultural sector, some people are losing their control of it. So now these people are trying to mislead farmers on MSP (minimum support price). They are the same people who sat for years on the recommendations of the Swaminathan committee on MSP," Modi said, in an apparent swipe at the Congress.

Describing the legislations as "very historic", the prime minister said if somebody says that government-regulated agriculture markets will be finished after these reforms, then he is "blatantly lying". Noting that his government had brought the farm ordinances, which these legislations will replace, in June, he said farmers are already getting a better price for their produce in several states.

Modi made the comments at a virtual ceremony to lay foundation stones of nine highway projects in Bihar and to inaugurate optical fibre internet services through which all 45,945 villages in the state will be connected. Seeking to dispel concerns among a section of farmers, he said he wanted to make it clear that the bills are not against agriculture 'mandis' (agricultural markets) and they will continue like they always have. No government has done as much to boost MSP and government procurement of farmers' produce than his dispensation, the prime minister said.

During the coronavirus pandemic, a record purchase of wheat was made from farmers during the Rabi season, he said, adding that farmers were paid Rs 1.13 lakh crore at MSP for wheat, paddy, pulses and oilseeds. The money is 30 per cent more than the last year, Modi said, asserting that the government lifted a record amount of grains amid the pandemic and also made a record payment to farmers.

Uttar Pradesh govt orders recruitment of over 31,000 assistant teachers in one week



Over 31,000 candidates are all set to be recruited for vacant posts of assistant teachers, as per notification issued by the Uttar Pradesh government.

The recruitment of these assistant teachers will be carried out within a week. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has directed the basic education department to recruit 31,661 assistant teachers within a week. The Chief Minister stated that the state government was committed to providing enough jobs and employment opportunities to the youth. A government spokesperson said the results of the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) held last year and the subsequent court orders would be the basis for filling vacancies. "Basic education department conducted Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) for recruitment of 69,000 teachers on January 6, 2019. A day later, the government fixed a 65 per cent cut-off for the general category candidates and 60 per cent for the backward and other reserved categories. The order was challenged by some students in the high court, which has given its judgment," the government spokesperson said. The high court, on March 29 passed an order in favour of the Uttar Pradesh government on the main petition of Ram Sharan Maurya versus state government and others. "Deciding on a special leave petition (SLP), the Supreme Court, on May 21, 2020, directed the state government to complete the recruitment process on all posts except those of assistant teachers which are held by Shiksha Mitras," the official said. A meeting with all boards and commissions which are responsible for the recruitments, has been called on September 21 in which the Chief Minister will review other vacancies in each department and draw up an action plan to fill posts within six months. The Chief Minister, earlier in the week, had asked all departments to identify vacant posts. The process of advertising for these posts should be completed within three months.

COVID-19: MORE THAN 90,000 PATIENTS CURED DAILY, INDIA'S RECOVERY RATE CROSSES LANDMARK 80%

In continued uplifting developments with respect to coronavirus disease (COVID-19) management, India has maintained more than 90,000 COVID-19 recoveries for the third successive day, continuing its streak of a record high in the number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19.

The total number of recovered cases have closed in on the 43 lakh-mark, which is the highest number of recoveries of coronavirus disease-affected patients in the entire world. With this current record, India's recovery rate on this day crossed the landmark of 80%. Statistics show that COVID-19 recoveries are four times that of the number of active COVID-19 cases.

India has used several measures to combat the ever-increasing coronavirus infection in the country. The biggest step was to increase the testing across the country.

The Union Health Ministry has also released new protocols for post-recovery care. In its The Post COVID-19 Management Protocol, the ministry recommends COVID-19 recovered patients to yoga, morning or evening walks, and to eat Chyawanprash with hot water or milk daily. Recovered persons are also being encouraged to share their positive experiences with their friends and relatives to create awareness, dispel myths, and stigma.

India is also actively participating in the development of the COVID-19 vaccine. Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan has said that although no launch date has been set, the coronavirus vaccine is likely to be ready by the first quarter of 2021. He said that the Indian government is taking utmost care in conducting human trials of the vaccine and issues like safety, cost, equity, cold-chain requirements, production time, etc. have also been considered in depth.

PM Modi gifts 9 highway projects, optical fibre internet services to poll-bound Bihar

In another gift to the poll-bound state of Bihar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday inaugurated nine infrastructure development projects, worth Rs 14,000 crores through video conferencing.

Along with the infrastructure projects, the PM also inaugurated the 'Ghar Tak Fibre' Project under which all 45,945 villages of Bihar will be connected through optical fibre internet service.

"Nine-projects have been inaugurated today which include making six-lane highways, and three bridges on rivers. I congratulate the people of Bihar for getting these projects. Today is not only important for Bihar but for the whole country, today India is taking a big step to make its villages a basis of Atmanirbhar Bharat and I am happy that it is starting from Bihar," Modi said.

"Under this project in the next 1,000 days, one lakh villages in the country will be connected through optical fibre. I have full faith that with Nitish Ji's good governance, strong will the work will be completed fast in a rapidly developing Bihar," he added. Modi further said just a few days back nobody would have imagined that the number of internet users in villages would have exceeded those in cities.

"Our farmers will benefit a lot from this, they will get real-time information about weather conditions, new techniques, seeds, crops and practices. They will also be able to sell their produce anywhere in the country and abroad," he added.

FARM BILLS: BHARATIYA KISAN UNION CALLS FOR NATIONWIDE PROTEST ON SEPTEMBER 25



POLICE PERSONNEL DETAIN CONGRESS PARTY WORKER DURING A PROTEST AGAINST FARM BILLS, IN NEW DELHI ON MONDAY. (ANI PHOTO)

A day after the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) and the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bills were passed in the Rajya Sabha, the Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) on Monday announced a nationwide protest against the new farm Bills on September 25. Protests are already taking place in Punjab and Haryana since the Bills were introduced in Lok Sabha on September 14, 2020, by Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar. Earlier in the day, BKU held protests across the district headquarters in Uttar Pradesh and while addressing the protest at the Muzaffarnagar District Magistrate office, the National Spokesperson of BKU, Ch Rakesh Tikait said that the government has become an autocrat. He stated that it was the first time that such 'unfortunate' incident has happened in the history of country's Parliament, where neither any discussion took place, nor the MPs were allowed to question while passing the agricultural Bills.

"If the MPs of the country don't have the right to ask questions, then why is PM Modi wasting Rs 900 crore of the public's income for the construction of the new Parliament amid the COVID-19 pandemic," added Tikait.

He alleged that the Centre government under the shadow of these Bills wants to take away the right of MSP of farmers.

"Till there is no agreement, the farmers of the entire country will remain on the roads," said Tikait.

The All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee has also announced to hold a country-wide protest on September 25 and as many as 10 central trade union have extended their support saying the BJP government should stop anti-farmers measures.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday gave an assurance that the system of providing Minimum Support Price (MSP) will continue as earlier.

Speaking at the foundation stone laying event of nine infrastructure development projects in Bihar, the prime minister said that the changes are not against agricultural markets and things will continue to be as they were before.

"I want to assure every farmer that the system of MSP will continue as it used to happen in the past. Likewise, as in every season, a campaign is run for buying produce by the government, that too will continue to run," he said.

"The biggest proof of it is the figures for purchases made by the government during the past five years and the purchases made prior to five years before 2014. If I only talk about the oilseeds and pulses then the purchases by the government have increased by 24 per cent," Modi added.

He also assured that these policies were not anti-Mandis and stated that his government was committed to their modernisation.

Earlier in the day, a total of eight MPs were suspended from Rajya Sabha on Monday for unruly behaviour on Sunday. The MPs include Derek O'Brien, Sanjay Singh, Raju Satav, KK Ragesh, Ripun Bora, Dola Sen, Syed Nazir Hussain and Elamaram Karim.

On Sunday, the Upper House of the Parliament, which witnessed a ruckus from the opposition over the Bills, has been adjourned till 9 am on Monday.

The ruckus was created when Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar was replying to the concerns raised by opposition MPs.

CENTRE ANNOUNCES MSP FOR 6 CROPS; RS 50 INCREASE FOR WHEAT

A day after the Parliament cleared the three agriculture legislations the Narendra Modi government on Monday announced support price for six Rabi crops, including wheat.

Making the announcement in the Lok Sabha after a CCEA meeting headed by the Prime Minister, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said the support price for wheat has been increased by Rs 50 to take it to Rs 1,975 a quintal for the coming Rabi season.

Tomar, while making the announcement on the floor of the House said "while the Congress is telling the entire country that the MSP and APMC will go, the decision is a proof of the fact that both will continue".

Announcing the MSP for six crops, including Chana, Tomar said: "I want to reiterate that the MSP and the APMC will both remain" Amid slogan shouting by Congress MPs from Punjab Congress' Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said the government should go and tell this to farmers in Punjab who are on the roads.

Khadoor Sahib MP Jasbir Singh Dimpa later told The Tribune that they want assurance from the government that they will continue to procure the grains in mandis.

As soon as Tomar stopped speaking, Congress party's Punjab MPs, including Jasbir Singh Gill, Manish Tewari, Ravneet Singh Bittu and



Gurjeet Singh Aujla, raised slogans in the House.

Gill claimed Opposition MPs' mikes were switched off after he asked Tomar to assure farmers of government purchase of the crops under MSP. He claimed that MSP "announced was too little, too late" and that the increase was "meagre".

Rs 1,400-crore bank fraud: CBI searches against dairy products firm

The CBI Monday conducted searches at eight locations after booking Delhi-based dairy products company Kwaliti Ltd and its directors for allegedly cheating a Bank of India-led consortium, causing a loss of over Rs 1,400 crore, officials said.

The CBI has registered the case against Kwaliti Ltd and its directors Sanjay Dhingra, Siddhant Gupta, Arun Srivastava besides other unidentified persons, they said.

"It was alleged in the complaint that the said accused had cheated the Bank of India-led consortium comprising BOI (lead bank), Canara Bank, BoB, Andhra Bank, Corporation Bank, IDBI, Central Bank of India, Dhanlaxmi Bank, Syndicate Bank to the tune of Rs 1400.62 core (approx.)," CBI spokesperson RK Gaur said.

They allegedly cheated the banks by way of "diversion of bank funds, sham transactions with related parties, fabricated documents/receipts, falsified books of accounts" and created false assets and liabilities, etc., Gaur said.

The searches were conducted Monday at eight locations, including at Delhi, Saharanpur, Bulandshahr (Uttar Pradesh), Ajmer (Rajasthan), Palwal (Haryana), etc., on the premises of the private company and other accused.

Two workers killed as quarry explosives go off in building in Kerala

KOCHI: Two workers were killed in a blast that occurred at a building adjacent to a quarry in Malayattoor near here on Monday, police said. The incident occurred when explosives kept at the building for quarrying activities allegedly went off at around 3 am, police said. Two migrant workers, who were staying there, died in the blast.

They have been identified as D Naga, 36, from Karnataka and Periyannan Latchumanan, 38, from Tamil Nadu, police said. The workers, who had returned from their hometowns recently, were using the building as a quarantine facility.

The 1500 sq ft concrete building in which the explosives were kept, was heavily damaged in the explosion, police said. Body parts of one worker were found strewn around. The reason for the blast is not known, police said, adding, an investigation has been launched into the incident. Ernakulam District Collector S Suhas has ordered a magisterial inquiry.

Additional District Magistrate will conduct the probe based on the preliminary report prepared by the Tahsildar, a district administration official said. Officials said initial inquiry has revealed lapses on the part of quarry owners. The explosives were not stored as per rules, they said. The district collector has also sought a report from police about the incident.

Multani murder case: SIT notice asks Punjab ex-DGP Saini to join investigation on Sept 23

Days after the Supreme Court issued directions to former Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Sumedh Singh Saini to join investigation in the Balwant Singh Multani murder case, the Special Investigating Team (SIT) on Monday summoned him to join investigation by September 23. Not finding Saini at his residence in Chandigarh's Sector 20, the SIT pasted the notice outside the house and also gave a copy to his counsels — advocates Himmat Singh Shergill, HS Dhanoa and Misha Rohtagi.



The notice pasted on the wall reads "Saini is summoned to reach Mataur police station in Mohali at 11 AM on September 23, 2020 to join investigation".

Pertinently, Saini was given relief by SC on September 15 by ordering interim stay on his arrest at the hands of the Punjab Police in the Balwant Singh Multani murder case and directed him to co-operate and join investigations with SIT. According to sources, the Punjab police said they are not aware about Saini coming out of the hiding to make himself available for joining the investigations.

Multani, a junior engineer with Chandigarh Industrial and Tourism Corporation, was allegedly picked up by the police in December 1991 after a terror attack on Saini that left three policemen killed. Saini was injured in the attack.

GOVT SETS FOODGRAIN OUTPUT TARGET AT RECORD 301 MILLION TONNES FOR 2020-21



The government has set foodgrain production target at a record 301 million tonnes for the 2020-21 crop year, up nearly 1.5 per cent from the previous year's output, on the back of good monsoon rains and higher acreage in the kharif season. The target for the 2020-21 crop year (July-June) was set at the National Conference for Rabi Campaign 2020, which was held on Monday to review the progress of the kharif (summer-sown) season and plan for the rabi crops.

Addressing the event, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar congratulated farmers and state governments for record foodgrain production of 296.65 million tonnes in the 2019-20 crop year. "The conference set a target of 301 million tonnes of foodgrains production for 2020-21...", an official statement said. Rice production target has been fixed at 119.6 million tonnes (MT) in 2020-21 as against 118.43 MT output in the last year. The target of wheat output has been set at 108 MT as compared to 107.59 MT. Coarse cereals output target is almost flat at 47.80 MT as against 47.48 MT in the previous year.

PAKISTAN TARGETING INDIAN PROFESSIONALS WORKING IN AFGHANISTAN: GOVT

India on Monday said Pakistan was targeting Indian professionals working in Afghanistan through a variety of ways and several of them engaged in various development projects have been attacked and kidnapped over the past 12 years. Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan, replying to a question in Lok Sabha, said Pakistan attempted to designate four Indian nationals, who had previously worked in Afghanistan, as terrorists under UN Security Council resolution 1267. "However, the 1267 Sanctions Committee, based on its internal procedures, has not approved the request," he said. Muraleedharan said Pakistan has been targeting Indian professionals working in Afghanistan in a variety of ways. "Several Indians working in Afghanistan on various development projects have been attacked and kidnapped over the past 12 years. With the assistance of the government of Afghanistan, India has been able to secure the release of many Indians from captivity," he said. Following India's persistent efforts, the minister added that there is enhanced concern globally over terrorism emanating from Pakistan, including the activities by terrorist entities such as Jamaat-ud Dawa (JuD), Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammad and Hizbul Mujahideen.

"The international community strongly condemned the cross-border terrorist attack in Pulwama in February 2019. Several countries have called upon Pakistan to not allow its territory to be used for terrorism in any manner," he said. Muraleedharan said many terrorist entities and individuals, who find shelter in Pakistan and are engaged in terror activities against India, have been proscribed by the United Nations (UN), the European Union and other countries.

"On May 1, 2019, the UN 1267 Sanctions Committee designated Masood Azhar, the leader of JeM, as a UN proscribed terrorist. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) at its plenary in June 2018, notified Pakistan in the 'Grey List' due to continuing terror financing related concerns," he said. To a separate question, he said the total number of Indian citizens abroad who were infected with coronavirus, stood at 11,616 as on September 10.

SIKH GIRL ABDUCTED BY MUSLIM MEN IN
PAKISTAN'S PANJA SAHEB



THE SIKH FAMILY IS WORRIED THAT SHE MAY BE FORCED TO CONVERT INTO ISLAM AND GET MARRIED TO A MUSLIM MAN.

Despite India continuously raising the issue of atrocities on Sikhs in Pakistan, another incident has come to light where a 17-year-old girl was abducted by two Muslim men in Panja Saheb. Bulbul Kaur, the daughter of Gurdwara Panja Sahib Preetam Singh, was abducted 15 days ago. Since then, there has been no news about the girl. The family is worried that she may be forced to convert into Islam and get married to a Muslim man. In a video sent to Bulbul's father, she has expressed fear of being killed if she came back to her parents. "We are meeting JP Singh, Joint Secretary, Foreign Affairs, Incharge

Pakistan Desk to urge them to raise this issue and seek justice," said Bulbul's family. Her father Pritam Singh has also filed a complaint with the deputy commissioner of Attock in Pakistan in connection with this matter. Singh informed that she had gone to dump garbage in the street at 10 PM on August 31 and had not returned to home since then. He added when the family couldn't find her, they lodged a police complaint and the police zeroed in on one Imran Masih, who was allowed to go after initial investigations. He said that Bulbul called him on September 15 and said that she was in a 'madrassa'.

COVID-19 PROTOCOL VIOLATORS IN UK NOW FACE UP TO 10,000-POUND FINE

Those found violating Covid-19 restrictions by refusing to self isolate could face a fine up to 10,000 British pounds (USD 13,000) under new regulations imposed in the UK in the wake of a surge in new coronavirus infections. The rules are set to apply from September 28 for anyone in England testing positive for Covid-19 or are notified by public health workers that they have been in contact "with someone infectious", the Al Jazeera reported.

"People who choose to ignore the rules will face significant fines," UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson said in a statement on Saturday (local time). Fines would range from 1,000 pounds for the first offence and would rise to 10,000 pounds for offenders or cases where employers would threaten to sack staff who self isolate rather than going to work, Al Jazeera reported further adding that some "low-income" workers who would incur a loss in earnings, would receive a support payment of 500 pounds along with benefits such as sick pay, to which they may be entitled. "While most people are doing their absolute level best to comply with the rules, I don't want to see a situation where people don't feel they are financially able to self-isolate," Johnson said further. The United Kingdom is currently experiencing the start of the COVID-19 pandemic's second wave, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said on Friday.

Woman suspected of sending letter containing poison to US President Donald Trump arrested

A woman who is suspected of sending the package containing the deadly poison ricin to US President Donald Trump was arrested after she attempted to enter the United States from Canada through the border, a federal law enforcement official said. The accused was arrested by US authorities and carrying a gun, the official was quoted by CNN as saying. She is expected to face charges.

A person familiar with the probe told CNN that the package was mailed from St. Hubert, Quebec and contained a granular substance with similar physical characteristics to ground castor beans. The arrest was confirmed by a spokeswoman from the FBI Washington Field Office and the investigation is currently underway. Authorities are probing additional similar packages mailed to addresses in Texas that may be connected to the same sender in Canada, according to a US law enforcement official. "We are aware of the concerning reports of packages containing ricin directed toward US federal government sites," Mary-Liz Power, chief spokeswoman for Canada's Minister of Public Safety Bill Blair, told CNN on Saturday. "Canadian law enforcement is working closely with their US counterparts. As this is an active investigation we cannot comment further," she had said.

OPPOSITION PARTIES JOIN HANDS TO 'RID' PAKISTAN OF IMRAN KHAN GOVERNMENT

Opposition parties in Pakistan on Sunday announced that it will come together to form a new alliance called the 'Pakistan Democratic Movement' with an aim to oust the Imran Khan-led government.

The consensus of an alliance came following a multi-party conference in Islamabad, where the opposition described the next course of action to "rid the country" of the ruling Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government, Geo News reported. Addressing a press briefing, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (F) (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman said the opposition is demanding the "immediate resignation of elected Prime Minister Imran Ahmed Niazi."

Nationwide protests will be held from October and will include the participation of lawyers, traders, labourers, farmers and civil society. "In the first phase, beginning October, rallies will be held in Sindh, Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Punjab. In the second phase, starting in December, huge demonstrations will take place country-wide. In the third phase, to begin in January next year, a long-march will move towards Islamabad," Rehman was quoted as saying.

"To oust the elected government, the joint opposition will use all tactics, including a vote of no confidence and resignations from the Parliament," he said.

Know where to go when you think you have
THE FLU, A COLD, OR COVID-19

COVID-19, cold and flu symptoms are very similar and testing is the best way to diagnose which of these illnesses a person may have. William Osler Health System provides convenient, safe options for COVID-19 testing, as well as assessment and care for people who have flu-like symptoms.

Visit a Drive-Thru COVID-19 Testing Centre if you:

Have no symptoms or mild flu-like symptoms such as:

- Runny nose
- Mild cough
- Sore throat

Do not need to see a doctor

Feel you need to be tested for COVID-19

Anyone over the age of 2 years can be tested

Visit Osler's COVID-19, Cold and Flu Clinic if you:

Have moderate symptoms such as:

- Fever (temperature of 37.8°C or above) that's not caused from a known infection or illness
- Any worsening:
 - Cough, shortness of breath
 - Sore throat or hoarse voice
 - Runny nose or sneezing, nasal congestion
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Pink eye/redness of eye(s)
 - Nausea and vomiting, or diarrhea, or abdominal pain
 - Flu-like illness

Need to see a doctor

Anyone over the age of 6 months can be tested

LOCATIONS

South Fletcher's Sportsplex (north parking lot)
500 Ray Lawson Boulevard, Brampton

Humber College (overflow parking lot)
2 Janda Court, North Etobicoke

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., seven days a week

No referral or appointment needed

LOCATION

Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness*
20 Lynch Street, Brampton

SEPTEMBER 15 - 30

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., seven days a week

STARTING OCTOBER 1

Hours: Open 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., seven days a week


No referral or appointment needed

*Note: This clinic is located in the temporarily-closed Urgent Care Centre space at Peel Memorial

If you are feeling severely ill and require emergency care, always
CALL 9-1-1 or go to your nearest EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT.

NOT SURE WHERE TO GO?

Contact your family doctor or Telehealth Ontario (1-866-797-0000) for advice.

 William Osler Health System

For more information about your COVID-19 testing options, go to
www.williamoslerhs.ca/coronavirus

A HIGHRISE THAT RAISES THE BAR ON DOWNTOWN LIVING - BURKE

If you have ever wanted to live the quintessential downtown Toronto lifestyle, steps from the subway and everything the city has to offer, the opportunity has now arrived to Sherbourne and Bloor–Burke. Inside, these sophisticated residences reflect the finest urban sophistication, with a level of polish that suits your urban lifestyle. Combined with a well-rounded amenity package and the experience of one of

Canada’s most esteemed developers, Concert, Burke represents a not-to-be-missed real estate opportunity. With an 87 Walk Score and 89 Transit Score, Burke’s interconnected location in St. James Town puts you at the crossroads of so many diverse experiences. Stroll west on Bloor Street and explore the city’s most vibrant shopping, A-list restaurants and premier exhibits. Head the opposite direction and find yourself on

Danforth savouring truly authentic Greek food. Head south to Cabbagetown and explore the area’s quaint stores and unique character. Or perhaps escape from city life and connect with nature in the nearby Rosedale Ravine. In every direction, there is always something new. Standing 53 storeys, this sleek, contemporary tower carves a striking silhouette in the skyline and offers stunning city and treetop views. Far from just another skyscraper, Burke is thoughtfully designed at the ground level and features the integration of rich heritage homes as well as a dynamic and colourful pathway with benches, landscaping and architectural lighting. This is all part of an impressive sense of arrival that leads to an abundance of amenities spanning three floors and just about everything you and your guests could desire. Complete with chef’s kitchen, private dining room and expansive fireside terrace, the second floor is where you will entertain friends and family over a meal, movie or game of pool. The 27th floor is split between a state-of-the-art Fitness Centre that will have you canceling your fitness membership, and co-working and meeting spaces that make working from home seamless. At Burke, you can choose from a diverse selection of homes ranging from Junior One to Three Bedroom. Whatever your choice, each home has been elevated by sophisticated



design and a timeless palette of natural tones. Featuring a German-engineered Bosch appliance package, quartz countertops and thoughtful layouts, the modern kitchens have been designed to inspire your inner gourmet. Begin and wind down each day in your bathroom sanctuary – featuring

impressive, large-format marble-patterned porcelain tile floor and accent wall in striking contrast with matte black hardware. Peace of mind is also a standard feature at Burke. Over 30 years and 12,000 homes developed across Ontario and British Columbia, Concert has garnered more

than 100 industry awards. This means you can buy with confidence knowing that Concert is an experienced developer with a well-earned reputation for quality and homebuyer satisfaction. Burke is coming this September. Visit BurkeByConcert.com to register your interest.

AUTO INSURANCE

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COMMERCIAL INSURANCE

Protect your business! Grow your business! Over the years, Insurance Tiger has grown and prospered by paying attention to our clients. We have a strong commitment to giving personal service and providing competitive Commercial and Business Insurance products.



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- ❖ Gas Stations
- ❖ Products Liability
- ❖ Retail
- ❖ Hospitality Services
- ❖ Cyber Liability
- ❖ Retail
- ❖ Hospitality Services
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