



YUDHVIR JASWAL (GROUP EDITOR- Y MEDIA) RECENTLY APPEARED ON CBC NEWS FOR THEIR NATIONAL AFFAIRS PANEL ALONG WITH MATT GALLOWAY (CBC), MARIEKE WALSH (THE GLOBE & MAIL) & JASON MARKUSOFF (MACLEAN'S MAGAZINE). A PANEL DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON CBC NEWS - POLITICS & COVID19.

MOST CANADIANS COULD BE VACCINATED BY END OF 2021, SAYS FEDERAL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

PFIZER, MODERNA ANNOUNCE SUCCESSFUL TRIALS OF CORONAVIRUS VACCINES

Most Canadians could be vaccinated against COVID-19 by the end of next year, Canada's deputy chief public health officer said. In recent days, pharmaceutical companies Pfizer and Moderna have announced successful trials of their coronavirus vaccines. Dr. Howard Njoo said he is optimistic they can be approved by Health Canada and rolled out soon. "Hopefully these two vaccines get approved, because we still have to look at the clinical data, the clinical trials to make sure our regulatory colleagues are comfortable and approve them and the other vaccines," Njoo told reporters in Ottawa.

"We're looking at hopefully covering the vast majority of the Canadian population ... by the end of next year. But like I say, this is something that is happening in real time and certainly there will be adjustments made as we move along."

Canada has signed deals with several vaccine developers to reserve millions of doses under development to ensure Canadians have access to vaccines when they become available. The federal government has agreements with Moderna, Pfizer/BioNTech and Novavax and Janssen, a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson. It also has deals with Sanofi/GSK, AstraZeneca and Medicago. Canada will receive 20 to 76 million doses of each vaccine should they make it through clinical trials and be approved by Health Canada. Pfizer announced last week that its vaccine has proven to be 90 per cent effective at protecting people from COVID-19 in a study that contained almost 44,000 subjects.

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BRAMPTON'S HISTORIC DOWNTOWN CORE TO BENEFIT FROM SUBSTANTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT ANNOUNCED

BRAMPTON: Ensuring that Brampton's historic downtown core is protected from extreme weather incidents is a priority for Brampton's federal Members of Parliament, as well as The Government of Canada. That can only be done through the construction, rehabilitation, and expansion of important infrastructure assets.



I CONTD. ON PAGE 4

UK HOUSE OF LORDS PANEL RECOMMENDS INDIA CRITIC NAZIR AHMED BE EXPELLED FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT

Lord Nazir Ahmed, the first Muslim appointed to the House of Lords as a life peer, retired from the House on 14 November. The United Kingdom's House of Lords Conduct Committee published a report Tuesday on the conduct of former member Lord Nazir Ahmed, recommending that he be expelled from the House, and that his appeals against findings of the Commissioner for Standards be dismissed. The report will be presented to the House of Lords Thursday, 19 November.



I CONTD. ON PAGE 4

BARACK OBAMA TALKS ABOUT LINKS BETWEEN SOME ELEMENTS OF PAKISTAN ARMY & TALIBAN IN HIS BOOK 'A PROMISED LAND'

Former US President Barack Obama recently unveiled volume 1 of his memoir: 'A Promised Land'. The book has already generated ripples across the world on account of its explosive content. From revealing US stereotypes on several issues to personal accounts of various political leaders, to highlighting watershed events that shaped the contemporary world, the book has been a window into the mind of the former US president.



I CONTD. ON PAGE 4

TRUMP CAMPAIGN'S COURT CHALLENGES FAIL, SEEKS PARTIAL RECOUNT IN WISCONSIN

U.S. President Donald Trump's re-election campaign said it was seeking a partial recount of Wisconsin's presidential election results as part of its long-shot attempt to reverse president-elect Joe Biden's victory. The president is also clinging to hope that a manual recount ordered by the state of Georgia can erase Biden's 14,000-vote lead there and is also challenging results in the swing state of Michigan. But election officials in Georgia said a soon-to-be-completed recount was not likely to change Biden's victory there. They also said the recount would not provide evidence for Trump's unsupported claims of widespread fraud.



US SURPASSES 250,000 DEATHS, 11.4 MILLION COVID-19 INFECTIONS

The United States has recorded a quarter-million COVID-19 deaths, and the death rate has been accelerating in recent weeks as cases have been surging across the country. In addition to deaths, the U.S. leads the world with 11.4 million COVID-19 infections. In the last four weeks there has been a 42 percent increase in the number of fatalities, from a weekly average of 821 per day in early October to last week's average of 1,167 fatalities per day.

Peel Police leads Joint Project Resulting in Hundreds of Charges



PEEL POLICE CHIEF NISHAN DURAIAPPAH.

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Monday - Sunday 7:30pm

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Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Sat and Sunday: Current affairs

Wed: Economic updates

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BRICS umbrella to increase India, Russia collaboration on artificial intelligence



The organisers of the Russian government-backed mega artificial intelligence event have said that they see increased collaboration between Indian and Russian companies under the BRICS umbrella. First Deputy Chairman of the Executive Board, Sberbank, Alexander Vedyakhin told WION that, "R&D in AI is gaining momentum in Russia and India as both countries aspire to gain leading positions in the global market. Close interaction within BRICS could give an additional impetus to future joint AI projects between Russia and India as the two countries share a time-tested strategic partnership." Sberbank, the largest bank in Russia, is the main organiser of the 'artificial intelligence journey' event that will take place in December

and will see considerable Indian participation. Alexander Vedyakhin said, "India tops the list of foreign participants at the international artificial intelligence conference AIJ-2020, to be held online December 3-5. This is yet another manifestation of the untapped potential of cooperation between Russia and India in this high-tech field. I am quite confident that by joining effort we can achieve tremendously great results." Three Indian-origin speakers will also speak at the event this year. The event was inaugurated by Russian President Vladimir Putin last year and saw the participation of 9,000 participants from around the world.

US VACCINATION PLAN COULD LOSE 'WEEKS OR MONTHS': BIDEN ON TRANSITION DELAY

US President-elect Joe Biden has warned that a delay in transition by the outgoing Trump administration will put behind the Covid-19 vaccination plan by "weeks or months". In a virtual roundtable with healthcare workers on Covid-19, Biden alleged on Wednesday that his transition team has not been receiving any cooperation from the Trump administration. President Donald Trump has refused to concede the November 3 US election and has filed multiple lawsuits challenging poll results in several States. "One of the problems that we're having now is the failure of the administration to recognise - the law says that the General Services Administration has a person who recognises who the winner is and then they have to have access to all the data and information that the government possesses to be prepared," he said.

UK ANNOUNCES BIGGEST MILITARY INVESTMENT SINCE COLD WAR

Britain is set to increase its defence budget by 16.5 billion pounds (USD 21.8 billion) in the next four years to deal with "perilous" international situation and "bolster its global influence." Prime Minister Boris Johnson said, "I have taken this decision in the teeth of the pandemic because the defence of the realm must come first." "The international situation is more perilous and more intensely competitive than at any time since the Cold War and Britain must be true to our history and stand alongside our allies," he said. He further said this is UK's chance to transform their Armed Forces and increase its global influence. "This is our chance to end the era of retreat, transform our Armed Forces, bolster our global influence, unite and level up our country, pioneer new technology and defend our people and way of life," Boris said.

Farmers gear up for Nov 26 'Delhi Chalo'



NEW DELHI: Even as Punjab farm unions today announced that thousands of protesters would participate in the "Delhi Chalo" march on November 26, the Supreme Court today restored a PIL against the Centre's three farm laws that it had dismissed earlier. The Supreme Court restored the petition after the petitioner, advocate ML Sharma contended that Parliament didn't have the legislative competence to make laws on agriculture as it was a state subject under the Constitution's Seventh Schedule. "We will restore and keep the matter for admission after two weeks," said the Bench after Sharma submitted that he couldn't argue his case on the last date of hearing. A Bench led by CJI SA Bobde had on October 12 dismissed Sharma's PIL even as it issued notices to the Centre on several other petitions against the farm laws that have triggered protests in various parts of the country, particularly Punjab. Dr Darshan Pal of the Joint Kisan Morcha said on the occasion of the Constitution Day (November 26), the country would witness the beginning of a historic struggle of farmers. "The movement has reached a decisive phase. Farmers from across the country are arriving in Delhi... We have the support of over 500 farmer unions," he claimed. Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, meanwhile, urged the Centre to "show magnanimity and not link the restoration of freight services with the movement of passenger trains". He said the Centre should back the state's efforts towards ending the agitation, which had grave repercussions for Punjab and the nation.



Raninder questioned by ED for six hours



JALANDHAR: Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh's son Raninder Singh appeared before the Enforcement Directorate in the alleged Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) violation case today. He was questioned for over six hours. Raninder, who arrived at the ED office at 11 am, was accompanied by Congress spokesperson and lawyer Jaiveer Shergill. This is the third time Raninder has been summoned by the ED this year. On October 27, he failed to appear before the ED owing to a meeting in the Rajya Sabha and again on November 6 (in the same case) citing health reasons. He last appeared before the ED on July 21, 2016. "I am a law-abiding citizen and have appeared before the ED today. I am ready to appear whenever summoned by the ED or any government agency, subject to inquiry. We will continue to cooperate with the authorities in the inquiry," Raninder told mediapersons after emerging out of the ED office. While key Congress leaders have time and again alleged political vendetta in the timing of his summoning by the ED, Raninder said: "I can't comment any further on the issue as the case is subject to inquiry. I leave this to your judgment." While commenting on the long duration of the questioning, Shergill said: "That is the standard operating procedure of the ED. He has earlier, too, been questioned for five hours. We are extending all cooperation." The ED probe concerns an investigation into assets acquired abroad and movement of funds, a case first investigated by the Income Tax Department. The IT probe alleged there were discrepancies in the full disclosure of assets — a charge denied by Raninder.



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BARACK OBAMA TALKS ABOUT LINKS BETWEEN SOME ELEMENTS OF PAKISTAN ARMY & TALIBAN IN HIS BOOK 'A PROMISED LAND'



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Among other things, the most important event that Barack Obama described in vivid detail is the US operation that eliminated the mastermind of the 9/11 attacks, Osama Bin Laden, and the doubts harboured by the former US President in informing Pakistan about the covert operation. In his book, Obama has provided a blow-by-blow account of the assassination of the Al Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden in 2011. However, what's perhaps more intriguing, from an Indian perspective, is the Obama's and by extension the United States' suspicions on Pakistan's commitment to its fight against terrorism. **Barack Obama has said in his book that he refused to involve Pakistan in the raid on the whereabouts of Osama bin Laden because it was an "open secret" that some elements inside Pakistan's military and especially its intelligence services contacted the Taliban Maintaining and perhaps al- sometimes, using them as strategic assets against Afghanistan and India.**

"The fact that the Abbottabad compound was just a few miles from the Pakistan military's equivalent of West Point only heightened the possibility that anything we told the Pakistanis could end up tipping off our target," Obama wrote, expressing the fear that if Pakistan was informed about the mission, it would be leaked.

The former president also revealed that the then defence secretary Robert Gates and his vice president Joe Biden had opposed the secret operation inside Pakistan. Both of them were worried about possible consequences if the mission fails. Obama was aware of such a risk, and he

remarked that he was likely to end up a one-term president if he got it wrong.

Obama's newly published memoir has ruffled feathers in India, in a mixed bag of observations on the country that reserves some blunt comments for opposition leader Rahul Gandhi.

Obama reflects in some detail on his first visit to India in November 2010. He praises India's pluralism, calling it a success story that "survived repeated changeovers in government, bitter feuds within political parties, various armed separatist movements, and all manner of corruption scandals".

Obama writes at length about icon Mahatma Gandhi, whom he says was the primary reason behind his fascination with India, and "profoundly influenced my thinking".

He has warm words for ex-prime minister Manmohan Singh, "wise, thoughtful, and scrupulously honest", while opposition Congress party president Sonia Gandhi is described as "shrewd and forceful intelligence". However, there was no such flattery for opposition leader Rahul Gandhi, Sonia's son.

Obama describes him as seeming "smart and earnest, his good looks resembling his mother's".

"But there was a nervous, unformed quality about him, as if he were a student who'd done the coursework and was eager to impress the teacher but deep down lacked either the aptitude or the passion to master the subject."

UK HOUSE OF LORDS PANEL RECOMMENDS INDIA CRITIC NAZIR AHMED BE EXPELLED FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT

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Lord Nazir Ahmed retired from the House of Lords on 14 November, but the committee had decided before that to recommend his expulsion. In 2019, Lord Nazir Ahmed was accused of exploiting his position to "pursue sex with vulnerable women who asked him for help". It has been reported that in 2017, Tahira Zaman (43) approached Ahmed, hoping he would help her in getting the police to investigate a Muslim healer who she thought was a danger to women. Zaman told BBC that he repeatedly asked her to dinner and she finally agreed. Weeks after when she contacted him about the case, he asked her to come to his east London home. The two had a consensual sexual relationship. However Zaman said: "I was looking for help and he took advantage of me. He abused his power." In another case, a woman who did not want to be identified told BBC Newsnight that when she had reached out to Lord Ahmed for help, he allegedly suggested that she should spend the night at his London home. She thought of this as a proposition for sex, which she refused. Lord Ahmed has denied any wrongdoing. In a statement in 2019, he said: "I completely deny the allegation that I have exploited my position to pursue an inappropriate relationship with any member of the public (vulnerable or otherwise) or that I have acted inappropriately in the presence of women either in my personal or professional capacity."

Ahmed, who was born in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, migrated to the United Kingdom as a child and became the first Muslim member of the House of Lords for life.

He has been a critic of the Indian government's policies, especially on



Jammu and Kashmir. When Article 370 was scrapped, Ahmed said India was an "occupation force" in J&K, which wanted to pursue "demographic changes to settle BJP/RSS extremists".

In 2018, he also organised a protest outside the Indian High Commission in London, to say that minorities in India were not safe. He is also reportedly a supporter of Khalistani groups.

He was severely castigated by both Congress and BJP leaders for his tweet against Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

BRAMPTON'S HISTORIC DOWNTOWN CORE TO BENEFIT FROM SUBSTANTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT ANNOUNCED

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

Today, the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities along with Sonia Sidhu, Member of Parliament for Brampton South, along with all Brampton's Members of Parliament and Patrick Brown, Mayor of Brampton, announced funding improvements for the Downtown Brampton Flood Protection project.

The Government of Canada is investing more than \$38.8 million through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF). The City of Brampton is contributing over \$58.2 million to the project.

Key elements of this project will aim to widen a 600-meter concrete channel through downtown Brampton, replace bridges and raise roadways. The current channel, built in 1952, will be widened and deepened to increase Etobicoke Creek capacity levels, bridges in the project area will be replaced with larger span structures and elevated roadways will prevent flooding into urban areas.

Quotes

"The Government of Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund supports large-scale infrastructure projects to help communities better manage the risks of disasters triggered by natural hazards. The \$38.8 million investment in will help transform Brampton, ensure safety for residents, and will limit the impact of floods on local businesses." The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities

"The Government of Canada is proud to partner with the City of Brampton for infrastructure enhancements made through the Downtown Brampton Flood protection project. The upgrades will not only protect our residents and business owners, it will also help with the revitalization and transfor-

mation of Brampton's downtown core."

Sonia Sidhu, Member of Parliament for Brampton South

Quick facts

* The Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) is a \$2-billion, 10-year program to help communities build the infrastructure they need to better withstand natural hazards such as floods, wildfires, earthquakes and droughts.

* To date, close to \$1.9 billion has been announced through DMAF for 66 large-scale infrastructure projects that will help protect communities across the country from the threats of climate change.

* DMAF is part of the federal government's Investing in Canada plan, which is providing more than \$180 billion over 12 years for public transit projects, green infrastructure, social infrastructure, trade and transportation routes, and rural and northern communities.

* To support Canadians and communities during the COVID-19 pandemic, a new stream has been added to the over \$33-billion Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to help fund pandemic-resilient infrastructure. Existing program streams have also been adapted to include more eligible project categories.

* The COVID-19 Resilience Stream will help other orders of governments whose finances have been significantly impacted by the pandemic by increasing the federal cost share for public infrastructure projects.

* The Canada Healthy Communities Initiative will provide up to \$31 million in existing federal funding to support communities as they deploy innovative new ways to adapt spaces and services to respond to immediate and ongoing needs arising from COVID-19 over the next two years.

PM Modi hails Digital India as way of life, says governance model is 'Technology First'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said that Digital India, which was launched by the Centre in 2015, is no longer being seen as any regular government initiative but it has become a way of life.

Speaking at Bengaluru Tech Summit, 2020, via video-conferencing, he said that his governance model is 'Technology First'.

"We launched Digital India 5 years back. Today, I am glad to say that Digital India is no longer being seen as any regular government initiative. Digital India has become a way of life. Particularly, for the poor, marginalised and for those in the government," he said.

"Thanks to Digital India, our nation has witnessed a more human-centric approach to development. Using technology on such a large scale has brought about several life changes for our citizens. The benefits are for everyone to see," he said.

The Prime Minister said that his government has not just successfully created a market for digital and tech solutions but it has made technology a key part of all schemes.



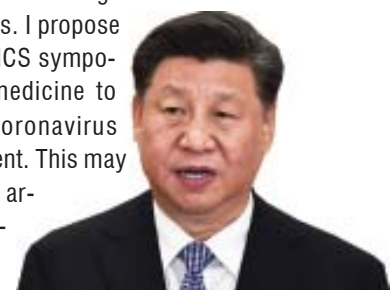
Did you know US President-elect Joe Biden supported India during 1998 nuclear tests?

In his 40-year-long career in politics, US President-elect Joe Biden has time and again shown his support for India. During his term as the Vice President and even before that, he has engaged with the Indian establishment and showed his commitment to support strong India-US partnership. When Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the US after his win in 2014, a lot of focus was on his meeting with President Barack Obama. Biden had at the time hosted a lunch for the prime minister, where the Secretary of State, John Kerry, was also present. They spent time with each other before the luncheon and were convinced of the possibility of India and the US becoming strong partners. PM Modi will now find a familiar face and ally in Washington in Joe Biden after he takes his oath as the President in January. Biden's support for India goes as back as 1998 when India conducted its nuclear tests. As a ranking member of the Senate foreign relations committee, Biden had issued a statement of support. Biden said that a nation of India's size, importance, and stature cannot be isolated forever and that the United States will have to engage with India, at a time when the US was opposed to India's nuclear aspirations. As the Chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee three years later, he wrote to the then-President George W. Bush and called on his administration to lift the sanctions imposed on India.



China ready to cooperate with India, other BRICS nations on COVID-19 vaccine development: Xi Jinping

China is prepared to cooperate with India and other BRICS nations in the development of vaccines against COVID-19, said Chinese President Xi Jinping as he proposed to convene a BRICS symposium on traditional medicine to explore its role in coronavirus prevention and treatment. Speaking at the 12th BRICS summit, Xi said, "It is important that we support WHO's a crucial leadership role in this endeavour. As we speak, Chinese companies are working with their Russian and Brazilian partners on phase-III clinical trials of vaccines, and we are prepared to have cooperation with South Africa and India as well. China has joined the COVAX facility, a platform on which we will share vaccines with other countries, developing countries in particular." "We will actively consider providing vaccines to BRICS countries where there is a need. To support the development of the BRICS Vaccine R&D Center, China has designated its own national center. We will work with other BRICS countries both online and offline to advance collective vaccine research and trials, set up plants, authorise production and recognise each other's standards. I propose that we convene a BRICS symposium on traditional medicine to explore its role in coronavirus prevention and treatment. This may well boost the global arsenal against COVID-19," he added.



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PEEL POLICE LEADS JOINT PROJECT RESULTING IN HUNDREDS OF CHARGES



Region of Peel – Peel Regional Police Specialized Enforcement Bureau, joined forces with services across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) in a 14-month long investigation resulting in numerous arrests and seizures of firearms, drugs and property. “In September of 2019, Peel Regional Police, Specialized Enforcement Bureau, began a Controlled Drugs and Substance Act (C.D.S.A.) investigation into a drug network in the Mississauga and Brampton areas. “On November 12, 2020, nearly 600 officers from various police services conducted search warrants across the GTA in relation to Project Siphon. In total, over 800 charges have been laid against the 88 people that were arrested during this project. These arrests relate to offences including; participating in a criminal organization, firearms offences including shootings, attempt murders and homicides, human trafficking, drug production, drug trafficking and possession.” “We will not accept these kinds of criminal activity, as a police service or as a community. Tackling violent crime, including guns and gangs, is a priority for Peel Regional Police. Through work like this we will push towards the extinction of gang violence by insisting that those who are responsible, are brought to justice and held accountable” said Chief Nishan Duraipappah. “The hard work and perseverance of investigators led to charges being laid in relation to the murder of Abdifatah Salah, who was shot in August 2020. Mahmoud Al Ramahi, a 29-year-old man from Mississauga, has been charged with First Degree murder along with multiple other offences.” “Project Siphon has assisted with multiple homicide investigations across the GTA, from identifying victims, possible suspects and potential person(s) responsible for these crimes. “By dismantling this street gang, this project sends a strong message to the community that public safety is at the forefront for strategies employed by Peel Police. It sends a message to criminals that you will be arrested, charged and be held accountable for endangering the lives of innocent people and putting public safety at risk. Gangs know no borders and have a significant impact on public safety. Joint projects such as Project Siphon show a united front that agencies will work together to take guns and drugs off the streets of Peel Region and across the GTA. “Successes of projects such as this would not be possible without assistance from various partners including:” – Gun and Gang Support Unit of the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario, funded by Public Safety Canada’s grant to combat gang violence. Their assistance provided outstanding guidance, legal advice and support to the investigative team.” – The Ministry of the Attorney General and the Public Prosecution Services of Canada. “ – The Canada Revenue Agency” – The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) – The Criminal Intelligence Service Ontario (CISO) “Investigators are asking anyone with information relating to this investigation, to contact the Specialized Enforcement Unit at 905-453-2121, ext. 3502. Information may also be left anonymously by calling Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or by visiting www.peelcrimestoppers.ca.” “On behalf of the Peel Police Services Board, I want to congratulate Chief Duraipappah, the members of Peel Police and their partners in law enforcement on their ongoing efforts to combat gang

violence. We thank them for their relentless dedication to public safety which is severely compromised by the actions of these types of individuals” – Ron Chatha, Chair, Peel Police Services Board “This sends a strong signal that organized crime simply won’t be tolerated in our community. I want to thank Peel Regional Police and all the officers who worked on this investigation. This is yet another example of the incredible work that our officers do day in and day out to keep our community safe.” – Bonnie Crombie, Mayor, City of Mississauga “I want to congratulate the officers involved in this investigation. Guns and gangs have no place in our community. Today’s arrests will have a significant impact on improving community safety. As a Member of the Police Board, I know that Peel Police are committed to working with other forces to end the scourge of gun and gang violence.” – Patrick Brown, Mayor, City of Brampton “These arrests highlight the dedicated and diligent work of GTA police services to tackle and dismantle organized crime groups who continue to profit while communities suffer. This was a complex and high-level operation led by our partners at Peel Regional Police and the Toronto Police Service is proud to have supported them in combatting gun and gang-related activity. Multi-jurisdiction work is key to targeting and disrupting criminal enterprises and we will continue to work with our partners to make our streets safer.” – Myron Demkiw, Deputy Chief, Toronto Police Service “Gangs, and the havoc they wreak, know no boundaries. An investigation of this complexity and scope is only achievable through a deep commitment to collaboration. The Halton Regional Police Service is grateful for the tenacious efforts of police services across southern Ontario to bolster safety and well-being in the communities we serve.” – Jeff Hill, Deputy Chief, Halton Regional Police Service “Gangs and the illicit substances, firearms and the contraband they push do not know or pay attention to geographical boundaries. This highlights the importance of police joining together to combat street gangs and organized crime as a collective group, sharing resources, intelligence, expertise and our experiences.” – Deputy Chief Brian Bigras – York Regional Police “Criminal activity has no jurisdictional limits. Gun, gang and drug activity create a rippling effect in our community, this is why it is important for police agencies to work together to take all necessary actions to mitigate this within our communities. The outcome of Project Siphon demonstrates this.” – Paul Hamilton, Superintendent, Hamilton Police Service “We know these urban-based organized crime groups don’t respect the boundaries that exist between our jurisdictions. As law enforcement, we’re a team and we are collectively fighting for the same outcome – preserving the safety of our citizens and removing these criminals from our communities. It is imperative that law enforcement continues to work together to cripple these criminal networks.” – Paul Mackey, Chief Superintendent, Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau “Violent criminal activity knows no geographical boundaries. The number of weapons and drugs seized during this joint investigation should be concerning to all communities and demonstrates the commitment from Ontario police services to disrupt illegal trafficking and gun and gang violence in our province.” – Eugene Fenton, Superintendent, Waterloo Regional Police Service

Temporary Outdoor Restaurant Patios Extended to December 2021

Today, City Council extended Mississauga’s temporary patio program and amended the Temporary Use By-law to allow restaurants, bars and other food and drink establishments to operate their temporary outdoor patios until December 31, 2021. As part of the extension, these businesses can also install temporary tents/covered areas and heating devices as part of their patios, in accordance with provincial and City regulations, to ensure they can continue to serve patrons during the winter months. “This is a vital step to help our restaurants get through the next year,” said Mayor Bonnie Crombie. “We know what a devastating impact COVID-19 has had on all our restaurants and small businesses. By permitting businesses to continue to operate their temporary outdoor patios, and allowing temporary outdoor tents and heating devices, restaurants can continue to serve customers through all types of weather while also adhering to all COVID-19 health and safety protocols.” On July 8, 2020, Council passed the Temporary Use By-law to permit outdoor patios accessory to restaurants, convenience restaurants and take-out restaurants on private and public property until December 31, 2020. A temporary patio program was also endorsed to help restaurants meet City conditions when developing their patios on public lands. As of today, temporary outdoor patios on both private and public land are permitted until December 31, 2021. “We have a dedicated team who are working directly with restaurant owners to help them understand the steps they need to take if they want to install a temporary outdoor patio, extend their existing permit or put in a temporary tent, covering or heating device,” said Andrew Whittemore, Commissioner, Planning and Building. “This is an important initiative, and our team is working hard to ensure all applications are reviewed and processed in a timely manner.”

TEMPORARY OUTDOOR PATIOS

Restaurants with temporary patios on public land can submit a request to extend their permit. Applications to extend existing permits will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to ensure the temporary patio and surrounding area meets the requirements. An establishment looking to install a new temporary patio on public land can also still apply for a permit.

TEMPORARY TENTS/COVERED AREAS

Restaurants that wish to install a temporary tent or covered area on their temporary patio on public land will require written permission from the City. Restaurants will be able to indicate whether they’d like to set up a temporary tent or covered area when requesting to extend or obtain their temporary patio permit. Temporary tents or covered areas installed on public and private land must adhere to all provincial and City regulations.

OUTDOOR HEATING DEVICES

Restaurants that wish to install a heating device on their temporary patio on public land will require written permission from the City. Restaurants will be able to indicate whether they’d like to set up a heating device when requesting to extend or obtain their temporary patio permit. Restaurants are permitted to use a heating device on their outdoor patio so long as it adheres to the Patio Heater Safety Guidelines as outlined by the Technical Standards & Safety Authority. Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services will inspect all outdoor patios with heating devices to ensure conditions are met.

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Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India
(Overseas Indian Affairs-II Division)

Participate and get chance to visit India

BHARAT KO JANIYE QUIZ 2020-21
(Know India Quiz Contest 2020-21)

Eligibility:
Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz is open for 3 categories of participants - PIO, NRI & Foreigners between 18 to 35 years.

Registrations starts from: 30th September 2020

For registration & participation, please visit: www.bharatkojaniye.in

Brief Guidelines:
There will be four rounds of quiz in online mode.

1st round (1 to 30 November 2020) - Welcome round open to everyone. Winners from each country will get Gold, Silver and Bronze medals.

2nd round (7 to 13 December 2020) - Winners of 1st round participate.

3rd round (14 to 20 December 2020) - Top 10 contenders of second round participate- total 30 participants.

4th & Final round (21 to 27 December 2020) - Top 7 contenders of 3rd round will participate- total 21 participants.

Final winners - 5 in each category (3 medal winners and 2 consolation prizes). All 15 winners will invited for Bharat Darshan (India Tour).

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Dissolution of the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program

Earlier this year, Peel Regional Police announced the pause of the SRO program. The pause took place as an acknowledgement that the program had not changed over 20 years, and therefore required significant review. While there was support for the SRO program, which is primarily dedicated to secondary schools, in many segments of the community, there are also long-standing concerns about systemic racism and the disproportionately punitive effects this type of traditional programming can produce. Peel Regional Police committed to a review process focusing specifically on police and their interactions with students. PRP struck a community-facing committee to work in partnership with PRP throughout the review process to learn about the lived experiences of affected community members. It was evident during the consultation phase that the current SRO program caused a negative impact on segments of our student population. As a result, the first order of business was to dissolve the SRO program and acknowledge publicly that change was necessary. We are committed to action and working in partnership with the community to effect much-needed change. Based on recommendations made by those most negatively impacted by this programming, the SRO program no longer exists. Moving forward, PRP will continue to work with our community regarding student engagement programming. Peel Regional Police will continue to fulfil our role in the Region of Peel's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, which includes a specific commitment to partner with our community and advance the social development, safety, and overall success of our youth.

Banning Huawei Would Protect the Privacy of Canadians

OTTAWA, ON – James Cumming, Conservative Shadow Minister for Shadow Minister for Innovation, Science, and Industry, released the following statement regarding Bill C-11, An Act to enact the Consumer Privacy Protection Act and the Personal Information and Data Protection Tribunal Act and to make consequential and related amendments to other Acts: "If the Liberals were serious about protecting the privacy of Canadians – they would ban Huawei from Canada's 5G network and support our Opposition Day motion. "While other countries have taken decisive action to stand up for the privacy of their citizens and banned Huawei, the Trudeau Liberals have failed to make a decision and stand up for the privacy of Canadians. There is no excuse for this delay by the Trudeau government. "Canada's Conservatives will always stand up for the privacy of Canadians. We understand that with many Canadians now working from home and relying on digital platforms to connect with friends and family, the issue of privacy has become even more prevalent and action is needed. "When it comes to Liberal legislation, the devil is always in the details. Conservatives will review the legislation to ensure that it protects privacy without imposing burdensome regulations on small businesses who are struggling to keep their doors open during the second wave of the pandemic."

MidWeek

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'YMEDIA@SOUTHASIANDAILY.COM'

YUDHVIR JASWAL
CHIEF EDITOR & CEO
yudhvir@southasiandaily.com
647-272-8182

GURPREET SINGH LOONA
CONTENT EDITOR

DR. PUSHPINDER BRAR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

SIA LAKHANPAL
REBECCA TANDON
POOJA LUTHRA
REPORTERS

SUNIL VERMA
GRAPHICS DEPARTMENT

IMRAN MAHMOUD
PHOTOGRAPHERS

BASHIR NASIR
PHOTOGRAPHERS

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Joint Project Results in Hundred of Charges

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In September of 2019, Peel Regional Police, Specialized Enforcement Bureau, began a Controlled Drugs and Substance Act (C.D.S.A.) investigation into a drug network in the Mississauga and Brampton areas.

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By dismantling this street gang, this project sends a strong message to the community that public safety is at the forefront for strategies employed by Peel Police. It sends a message to criminals that you will be arrested, charged and be held accountable for endangering the lives of innocent people and putting public safety at risk. Gangs know no borders and have a significant impact on public safety. Joint projects such as Project Siphon show a united front that agencies will work together to take guns and drugs off the streets of Peel Region and across the GTA.

Successes of projects such as this would not be possible without assistance from various partners including:

- Gun and Gang Support Unit of the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario, funded by Public Safety Canada's grant to combat gang violence. Their assistance provided outstanding guidance, legal advice and support to the investigative team.
- The Ministry of the Attorney General and the Public Prosecution Services of Canada.
- The Canada Revenue Agency
- The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC)
- The Criminal Intelligence Service Ontario (CISO)

Investigators are asking anyone with information relating to this investigation, to contact the Specialized Enforcement Unit at 905-453-2121, ext. 3502. Information may also be left anonymously by calling Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or by visiting www.peelcrimestoppers.ca.

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

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SUPPORTING QUOTES:

"On behalf of the Peel Police Services Board, I want to congratulate Chief Duraipappah, the members of Peel Police and their partners in law enforcement on their ongoing efforts to combat gang violence. We thank them for their relentless dedication to public safety which is severely compromised by the actions of these types of individuals"

- Ron Chatha, Chair, Peel Police Services Board

"This sends a strong signal that organized crime simply won't be tolerated in our community. I want to thank Peel Regional Police and all the officers who worked on this investigation. This is yet another example of the incredible work that our officers do day in and day out to keep our community safe."

- Bonnie Crombie, Mayor, City of Mississauga

"I want to congratulate the officers involved in this investigation. Guns and gangs have no place in our community. Today's arrests will have a significant impact on improving community safety. As a Member of the Police Board, I know that Peel Police are committed to working with other forces to end the scourge of gun and gang violence."

- Patrick Brown, Mayor, City of Brampton

"These arrests highlight the dedicated and diligent work of GTA police services to tackle and dismantle organized crime groups who continue to profit while communities suffer. This was a complex and high-level operation led by our partners at Peel Regional Police and the Toronto Police Service is proud to have supported them in combatting gun and gang-related activity. Multi-jurisdiction work is key to targeting and disrupting criminal enterprises and we will continue to work with our partners to make our streets safer."

- Myron Demkiw, Deputy Chief, Toronto Police Service

"Gangs, and the havoc they wreak, know no boundaries. An investigation of this complexity and scope is only achievable through a deep commitment to collaboration. The Halton Regional Police Service is grateful for the tenacious efforts of police services across southern Ontario to bolster safety and well-being in the communities we serve,"

- Jeff Hill, Deputy Chief, Halton Regional Police Service

"Gangs and the illicit substances, firearms and the contraband they push do not know or pay attention to geographical boundaries. This highlights the importance of police joining together to combat street gangs and organized crime as a collective group, sharing resources, intelligence, expertise and our experiences."

- Deputy Chief Brian Bigras – York Regional Police

"Criminal activity has no jurisdictional limits. Gun, gang and drug activity create a rippling effect in our community, this is why it is important for police agencies to work together to take all necessary actions to mitigate this within our communities. The outcome of Project Siphon demonstrates this."

- Paul Hamilton, Superintendent, Hamilton Police Service

"We know these urban-based organized crime groups don't respect the boundaries that exist between our jurisdictions. As law enforcement, we're a team and we are collectively fighting for the same outcome – preserving the safety of our citizens and removing these criminals from our communities. It is imperative that law enforcement continues to work together to cripple these criminal networks." –Paul Mackey, Chief Superintendent, Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau

"Violent criminal activity knows no geographical boundaries. The number of weapons and drugs seized during this joint investigation should be concerning to all communities and demonstrates the commitment from Ontario police services to disrupt illegal trafficking and gun and gang violence in our province."

- Eugene Fenton, Superintendent, Waterloo Regional Police Service

ONTARIO OPENS COVID-19 RESILIENCE INFRASTRUCTURE STREAM FOR MUNICIPALITIES

TORONTO — To build on governments' commitment to protect the health and well-being of individuals and families during the pandemic, Ontario is now accepting applications from municipalities for local infrastructure projects under the new Local Government sub-stream of the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure stream to allow local governments to proceed with tendering and procurement as soon as possible.

On October 28, Ontario announced up to \$1.05 billion in federal-provincial funding through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure stream under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) to build or renovate health and safety-related projects in long-term care, education and municipalities that will help Ontario respond to the impacts of COVID-19. This includes up to \$250 million for the Local Government sub-stream that will help municipalities to address critical local infrastructure needs, which they can start applying for today.

"This investment in local infrastructure will help communities keep Ontarians safe and healthy while creating good local jobs and supporting local businesses," said Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure. "We are moving fast to respond to the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 global pandemic. Our government will continue to ensure that communities are able to get shovel-ready projects underway so they can kickstart their local economies and create jobs."

Eligible projects include infrastructure to support physical distancing, social infrastructure, active transportation and disaster mitigation projects. Each municipality is allocated a certain amount of funding for which they

can apply, with a minimum allocation of \$100,000. Successful projects will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis and be nominated by the Province to the federal government for approval by March 2021.

"We look forward to collaborating with the federal government to secure quick approvals for these important projects that will help keep communities across Ontario safe," said Minister Scott.

QUICK FACTS

The application deadline is December 21, 2020, for municipalities submitting single projects and January 7, 2021, for those with multiple projects through the Transfer Payments Ontario website.

In addition to nearly \$250 million allocated to municipalities under the Local Government sub-stream, up to \$700 million will be directed to education-related projects nominated by the Ministry of Education, and up to \$100 million for long-term care projects nominated by the Ministry of Long-Term Care. Those ministries are working directly with their respective sectors to nominate projects.

ICIP is a 10-year, \$30-billion federal, provincial and municipal program that provides funding to improve public transit; community, culture and recreation; green; rural and northern community, and other priority infrastructure. Ontario is investing \$10.2 billion in this program.

The federal COVID-19 Resilience stream has been adapted from ICIP by re-allocating funds to respond to the impacts of COVID-19. This stream will be 80 per cent cost-shared by the federal government and 20 per cent cost-shared by the Province for public infrastructure projects.

ONTARIO EXPANDING MOBILE CRISIS SERVICES TO RESPOND TO MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES

TORONTO — The Ontario government is providing over \$37 million to significantly expand mental health services across the justice system. The funding will be used to expand mobile crisis teams across the province, hire additional staff, and support the creation of tailored programs for First Nations communities. This is part of the government's \$176 million investment this year in the Roadmap to Wellness, Ontario's plan to build a comprehensive and connected mental health and addictions system. It is also a key component of Ontario's Action Plan: Protect, Support, Recover.

Details were provided today by Premier Doug Ford, Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, and Solicitor General Sylvia Jones.

"Ontario's police officers respond to tens of thousands of mental health calls a year and we need to make sure they have the right training, as well as extra support from professional mental health workers to respond to these calls, and save lives," said Premier Ford. "Expanding our mobile crisis services will help those in crisis get the mental health supports they need, while ensuring our police and their community partners can work more effectively together and stay safe while handling these types of calls."

"Our government is working collaboratively across all sectors to provide long-term stability to our mental health and addictions system, including our justice system," said Minister Elliott. "We are making it a priority to ensure that all Ontarians who need more mental health and addictions support, have access to the high-quality services and supports they need."

The impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak, including prolonged physical distancing, financial uncertainty, and being constantly inundated with new information about the virus, have caused many Ontarians to experience a range of mental health and addictions challenges, which has led to an increase in the demand for services and supports. As part of the \$176 million investment, the province is providing mental health and justice services that will lead to better supports for individuals with mental health and addictions challenges, including help to reduce their interactions with police. This includes:

- Over \$6.5 million for mobile crisis services. This funding will allow 33 communities across the province to expand or launch mobile crisis response services, including a brand-new service in Ottawa, a new Indigenous service in Six Nations of the Grand River, and additional teams in smaller communities in the Northwest, such as Red Lake, Sioux Lookout, Dryden, Atikokan, Fort William First Nation and the surrounding area of Marathon. These services support individuals in mental health and addictions crisis and help determine if the crisis can be resolved at the scene or if further supports, such as psychiatric attention at hospital emergency departments, are required;

- \$5 million for safe bed programs to support mobile crisis teams. This funding will enhance four existing programs while implementing seven new programs across Ontario, including two urban safe bed programs in downtown Toronto and Ottawa. Safe bed programs provide individuals in mental health and addictions crisis who are in contact with mobile crisis teams with short-stay, 24/7 community residential crisis services. The mobile crisis teams assist local police services in de-escalating high-pressure situations, and connect individuals with the mental health and addictions services they need;
- Over \$14 million for supportive housing programs designated for justice involved individuals. This will fund up to 524 new units across the province for individuals who are either on diversion plans from mental health court or have been released from a provincial correctional facility, including \$1.03 million for up to 20 units that are affiliated with five new post-court transitional case managers. Transitional case managers will also provide support to individuals involved in the justice system with mental health and/or addictions challenges to rapidly access services, such as counselling, therapy and peer support, so that they can live safely in the community;
- \$2 million for addictions/withdrawal specialists to support safe beds. This funding will provide eight communities with addiction specialists for their safe bed programs, as well as addiction specialist support for the Kenora and Toronto Downtown East Justice Centre pilots;
- \$4 million for enhanced addictions programming within adult correctional institutions. This funding will provide substance use and addictions training and resources for health care and operational staff as well as support the hiring of additional specialized positions;
- \$2 million for mental health and addictions peer support for offenders under community supervision. This funding will help establish partnerships with local community-based mental health and addictions service providers and Indigenous organizations;
- \$2.25 million for a corrections peer support program. This program will offer all corrections employees (including retirees and those on leave) who are experiencing distress of any kind, with non-clinical support for personal and workplace issues; and
- \$1.1 million for mental health and addiction supports to vulnerable and marginalized persons as part of the Ministry of the Attorney General's Justice Centres. Investments will provide critical mental health and addictions supports to prevent crime, break the cycle of offending and create safer communities in Kenora, London, Toronto's Downtown East and Toronto's Northwest areas. These investments will also enhance access to culturally-relevant mental health and addictions services for Indigenous and Black communities.

COAST is There to Provide Support; Health Crisis Has Many Faces

Anne is an older woman in her seventies. She struggles with severe depression. She has encountered many challenges finding support because her home is at the border between Toronto and Peel.

Her family decided to contact the 24/7 crisis line on her behalf to get her some help. At the time of the call, Anne had not been sleeping or eating in weeks and was always worrying. This behaviour escalated in September when the COVID restrictions loosened up. You see, Anne worried about her daughter, who is a school teacher. Her worries increased when her grandchild became ill with the COVID-19 virus shortly after returning to school. Anne's daughter's family lived in quarantine, leaving her isolated and paralyzed as there was nothing she could do to help them. An unbearable level of stress and anxiety consumed her.

Anne told the crisis team all of this information and how much she understood why a friend of hers had taken their own life several years ago. Anne felt that she could relate to how her friend was feeling beforehand. Anne sought assistance through her family doctor but no medications were prescribed. However, she also reached out to phone support systems that could not provide any genuinely useful help. At the end of each outreach event, she was given direction to attend a hospital emergency department if the symptoms of depression worsened.

They did. In a moment of symptomatic despair, Anne went to the emergency department at the hospital. She spent numerous anxious and uncertain hours there waiting. After getting her blood work done and being cleared medically by the doctor, she was discharged. She asked for additional assistance but left the hospital with no other supports or referrals. Her health crisis showed no sign of letting up.

When the COAST team followed-up with her concerning the original crisis call her family made, they scheduled to meet with Anne and her daughter at an outdoor public location in Brampton. They spoke in depth about all that had transpired.

The team's Crisis Support Worker completed an assessment during this meeting. They discussed the options and decided that the team would assist Anne. She would voluntarily attend the hospital with COAST to advocate on her behalf. It was not their goal to have her placed on a Form instead to get her referred to resources that would help her cope, have her medications reassessed, and provide her with some strategies to assist her with her depression and anxiety symptoms.

Anne and her daughter broke into tears during this conversation, explaining that they were so grateful for the extra efforts the COAST members were making. As the family believed they were falling through the system's gaps. Anne, escorted by the COAST team, attended the hospital where the emergency department mental health crisis team, nurses, and doctor assessed her. As hoped, they provided her with referrals, medication, sleep aids, and a services package identifying services in her home area. Anne agreed to have the assessment conducted by the Crisis Support Worker shared with her family doctor.

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Ontario Updating COVID-19 Response Framework to Help Stop the Spread of COVID-19

TORONTO — In consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Measures Table, the Ontario government is taking immediate action to respond to the rapid increase in COVID-19 cases and is updating the Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework, by lowering the thresholds for each level in the framework. These necessary updates will help limit the spread of COVID-19 while keeping schools open, maintaining health system capacity, protecting the province's most vulnerable, and avoiding broader lockdowns.

Details were provided today by Premier Doug Ford, Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health.

"Our number one priority right now is getting the numbers down and keeping people safe. That's why, on the recommendation of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, we're updating the framework with new thresholds so we can slow the spread of this virus," said Premier Ford. "These adjustments are necessary to respond to the latest evidence we're seeing and we are prepared to make further adjustments as the health experts continue to review the current public health restrictions. We must do whatever it takes to stop our hospitals from being overwhelmed and protect our most vulnerable."

The latest modelling shows that if the number of new cases continues to grow at its current rate, the province could register up to 6,500 new cases per day by mid-December. Within the next two weeks the province will likely exceed its intensive care threshold of 150 beds, under any potential scenario.

The framework changes are in response to the current data and trends, and will lower the threshold for each of the five levels for: weekly incidence rates, positivity rate, effective reproductive number (Rt), outbreak trends and the level of community transmission. Based on these new thresholds, the following public health unit regions would be moved to the following levels in the framework:

Red-Control:
Hamilton Public Health Services
Halton Region Public Health
Toronto Public Health
York Region Public Health

Orange-Restrict:
Brant County Health Unit
Durham Region Health Department
Eastern Ontario Health Unit
Niagara Region Public Health
Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health
Region of Waterloo Public Health
Yellow-Protect:

Huron Perth Public Health
Middlesex-London Health Unit
Public Health Sudbury & Districts
Southwestern Public Health
Huron Perth Public Health
Windsor-Essex County Health Unit

Please visit [Ontario.ca/COVID19](https://ontario.ca/COVID19) for the full list of public health region classifications that will come into effect as of Monday, November 16, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. Toronto Public Health will move into the framework on Saturday, November 14, 2020 at 12:01 a.m.

For long-term care homes, visitor restrictions will apply to public health regions within the Orange-Restrict and Red-Control levels in the framework. This will go into effect on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 12:01 a.m.

"Over the last week we have seen an alarming shift in the trends of key public health indicators in regions across the province," said Minister Elliott. "The COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, and our government's response must evolve with it. These updates to the COVID-19 Framework will ensure that the necessary targeted measures are in place in hotspots to help stop the spread of the virus and keep our schools and businesses open. Protecting the health and well-being of Ontarians remains our top priority."

The framework takes a gradual approach that includes introducing preventative measures earlier to help avoid broader closures and allow for additional public health and workplace safety measures to be introduced or removed incrementally. It categorizes public health unit regions into five levels: Green-Prevent, Yellow-Protect, Orange-Restrict, Red-Control, and Lockdown being a measure of last and urgent resort.

Ontario's COVID-19 Response Framework has been designed to:

- Be responsive and flexible to latest data;
- Introduce preventative measures earlier to help limit the spread of COVID-19, while keeping schools open, supporting mental health, protecting our most vulnerable, and keeping businesses open where possible;
- Recognize that every community is different and provide the flexibility to allocate resources where they are needed most; and
- Support the ability for local officials to tailor restrictions in their communities based on regional circumstances. The framework serves as a baseline that municipalities and local medical officers of health can build on by imposing additional restrictions or targeted requirements in their region, on top of the public health and workplace safety measures required at their specific level.

"The latest modelling shows a concerning situation in our province. World-wide we are seeing COVID-19 cases continue to rise, and Ontario is no exception," said Dr. Williams. "It remains critical that everyone continue to strictly follow public health advice to protect yourself and your community. We bent the curve during the first wave and, although it will be challenging, we can do so again through the collective actions of all Ontarians."

Assignments to the current levels would last for a minimum of 28 days or two-incubation periods, at which time the status of these public health unit regions will be reassessed on a weekly basis. However, movement to a more restrictive zone will be considered sooner if there are rapidly worsening trends.

Since the beginning of the outbreak, Ontarians have been playing their part to help bend the curve and stop the spread of the virus. Today more than ever, it is critical for everyone to follow public health advice and strictly comply to the restrictions applied in their regions, especially when connecting with others. The following recommendations apply to all public health unit regions in the province:

- Avoid social gatherings and limit close contacts to your household or the people you live with;
- Adhere to the restrictions in your region on public and private gatherings;
- Maintain two metres of physical distancing from everyone else;
- Wear a face covering indoors and wear one outdoors if physical distancing may not be maintained or if wearing one is required;
- Wash your hands thoroughly and regularly;
- Stay home if you have COVID-19 symptoms, even if they are mild;
- Cover your cough;
- Get tested if you have symptoms compatible with COVID-19, or if you've been advised of exposure by your local public health unit or through the COVID Alert mobile app;
- Individuals and families from higher transmission regions should avoid travel to lower transmission regions, except for essential reasons; and
- Download the COVID Alert mobile app.

In addition, as the province continues to expand access to real-time data, enhancements have been made to [Ontario.ca/coronavirus](https://ontario.ca/coronavirus), Ontario's one-stop shop for information on COVID-19. Beginning today, users will now be able to view new, active, resolved, deceased, and total cases, by public health unit, on a map. In addition, the website will now provide Ontarians with an effective reproduction number, as well as enhanced long-term care data. The government will continue to update the dashboard with relevant data to ensure as much transparency as possible. This information will better help businesses, organizations and local communities access key information to prepare in advance for any changes in their region.



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FARMERS' AGITATION IN PUNJAB DISRUPTS TRAIN SERVICES; 9 CANCELLED, 37 SHORT-TERMINATED



ACCORDING TO A CIRCULAR RELEASED BY THE INDIAN RAILWAYS, 27 FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED AND 37 HAVE BEEN SHORT-TERMINATED DUE TO THE FARMERS' AGITATION.

The agitation by farmers in Punjab has been causing great inconvenience to the Indian Railways and its travellers. The protesting farmers have been squatting on railway tracks thus disrupting smooth movement of trains through the state. In view of the ongoing protest, the Railways has cancelled the operation of trains to Mata Vaishno Devi from Monday. Train no. 02919 (UP) Dr Ambedkar Nagar Shree Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Special Express and 02920 (Down) Shrimata Vaishnodevi Katra Dr Ambedkar Nagar Special Express running on November 18 have been cancelled due to the protests, say railway officials. The same set of Special Express trains will also remain cancelled on November 21. According to a circular released by the Indian Railways, 27 festival

special trains have been cancelled and 37 have been short-terminated due to the farmers' agitation. The Railways has been forced to cancel 9 express trains as well. Protests by the farmers have caused massive loss to the Indian Railways. Officials say that the losses incurred are to the tune of Rs 1,670 crore. The protest is for the repeal of the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill 2020, Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020 and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill. Last week, both the parties - government and farmer unions - had a meeting and tried to break the logjam but failed. However, both the sides agreed to continue with discussions to find a solution.

PAK TAKING ADVANTAGE OF CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC TO ENHANCE CROSS-BORDER TERRORISM: INDIA



After the formation of the new government, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar held the first cabinet meeting on Tuesday in which the portfolios of ministers were distributed. A proposal for the winter session was also proposed in the meeting. JDU leader Vijay Chaudhary, a close aide of Nitish, has been given the Rural Development and Rural Affairs Department, while Ashok Chaudhary has been given the responsibility of building construction and minority welfare department. Apart from this, JDU leaders have also been given social welfare and science technology department. Apart from this, JDU leader Mevalal Chaudhary has been made Education Minister. This time Mangal Pandey's responsibilities have increased and he has been given the charge of Health and Road Construction Department. All the responsibilities of former Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Sushil Modi have been given to both the Deputy CMs. Tarkishore Prasad has got the responsibility of all old departments of Sushil Modi. **Here is how the new Bihar cabinet looks like:** Nitish Kumar- Home Department, Law and Vigilance, Cabinet, Election and other departments which were not handed over to any minister.

Tarkishore Prasad- Finance Minister, Environment and Forest Department, IT Department, Disaster Management, Urban Development Department
Renu Devi - Panchayati Raj Department, Backward Caste Regeneration and EBC Welfare, Industries Department
Vijay Chaudhary - Rural Development Department, Water Resources Department, Information and Broadcasting Department, Parliamentary Affairs
Bijendra Yadav - Energy, Food and Authority Department
Mewa Lal Chaudhary - Education Department
Sheila Kumari - Transport Department
Santos Manjhi - Irrigation Department, SC / ST Welfare Department
Mukesh Sahni - Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department
Mangal Pandey - Health, Path Building, Arts & Culture Department
Amarendra Pratap Singh - Department of Agriculture, Cooperative, Sugarcane Department
Rampreet Paswan - PHED Department
Jivesh Mishra - Tourism, Labor and Mines Department
Ram Surat Rai - Revenue, Law Department

BJP CHIEF JP NADDA BEGINS PREPARATIONS FOR 2024 POLLS; TO GO ON 100 DAYS NATIONWIDE TOUR

National president of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), JP Nadda is set to tour the country to strengthen the organisation with an aim to begin preparing for 2024 general elections. Nadda, not resting on the laurels of a big victory, would soon be undertaking a 100 day 'Rashtriya Vistrit Pravas' throughout the country. He has further divided days of his stay in a state to work on devising a strategy for the 2024 general elections. One of the objectives would be to work on seats that were not won by the party in 2019 and also on how to win those seats in 2024 has been listed as one of the crucial aspects of the trip. Nadda, who has been praised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for winning Bihar polls, would be meeting party's public representatives, debating and discussing new possible coalitions, improving state governments image, interacting with various influential groups, bringing clarity on the party's ideology in the cadre and initiating dialogue with senior functionaries of the party and coalition partners in the states. The states too have been categorized in A, B, C and D categories. Category A are the states where BJP is in government or is a principal coalition partner like Nagaland, Bihar, Karnataka, Tripura,



etc. Category B pertains to those states where BJP is not in power like Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Delhi, Punjab, Odisha. Category C pertains to small states like Lakshadweep, Meghalaya and Mizoram and Category D is for election-bound states like Kerala, West Bengal, Assam, Pudducherry and Tamil Nadu. Except for Uttar Pradesh, Nadda will stay in the category C states for 2 days as for categories A and B are concerned, the national president will stay for 3 days. In UP, the national president will be doing pravas for 8 days.

JAISHANKAR HIGHLIGHTS PAKISTAN'S ROLE IN TERROR, CALLS IT 'EGREGIOUS EXAMPLE OF STATE-SPONSORED CROSS-BORDER TERRORISM'



External affairs minister S Jaishankar has highlighted Pakistan's role in supporting terrorism, calling it a "particularly egregious example of state-sponsored cross-border terrorism." Speaking virtually at the Deccan Dialogue, Jaishankar said, "As regards terrorism, the era of "not my problem" came to an end in 9/11" and called for "whole-hearted international collaborative effort." His comments come even as Islamabad is yet to be seen acting on the issue of terror. Last week, Islamabad accepted its involvement in the 26/11 terror attacks with the country's federal investigation agency issuing an 800-page list of the country's most wanted which included 11 terrorists involved in the 2008 attacks on India's financial center. The EAM said, "The world is gradually becoming aware of the global nature of international terrorism. Our relentless efforts have kept it in the spotlight, bringing out related aspects like terror finance, radicalisation and cyber recruitment." Adding, "The goal remains to reach a comprehensive convention on the subject and we will not rest till that happens." India-backed CCIT or comprehensive convention on international terrorism at the United Nations calls for a common definition of terrorism. It was introduced in 1996 and due to lack of global consensus on the issue of terror has not been passed.

Political parties in Punjab gearing up for 2022 assembly elections



Experimenting with potpourri of political ideas spun out of opportunism, weak and floating ideologies by respective political parties coupled with lack of idealistic and towering personalities have so far failed to make a telling impact on the mindset of Punjabi's and is instead causing political instability in context with the assembly elections to be held in 2022. Capt Amrinder Singh led Congress government is ruling the state for about four years but the Congress party seems to be facing anti-incumbency owing to delay in fulfilment of pre-poll promises especially those made to farmers and youth and its inability to create job opportunities. The internal unrest and rift in the party which is no more a hidden fact have only caused embarrassment to the party especially with regards to MLA Navjot Singh Sidhu and member of parliament Partap Singh Bajwa who have been singing their own tunes while ignoring chief minister Captain Amarinder Singh. Congress party's main political opponents Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD(B)) and BJP are fighting their own battle of survival. The Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP) after a dismal end of its political honeymoon with SAD (B) and Aam Admi Party (AAP) are still finding their ground in Punjab and splinter Akali groups watching and waiting to redefine their own political narratives have left the voter perplexed. After SAD (B) broke its ties with alliance partner BJP on the issue of recently introduced three controversial farm bills and the resignation of Harsimrat Kaur Badal from the central cabinet, the latter is finding hard to make its base in rural Punjab due to lack of its own grassroots support despite the presence of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak (RSS) cadre. SAD (B) had been facing the wrath of the alleged sacrilege issue as it claims to be a "Panthic" party, as the sacrilege incidents including Bargari incident happens during the regime of Akali Dal in the state. BJP also lacks a public face especially a Sikh face in Punjab to project as its chief ministerial candidate and has ideological differences with Akali's which were deliberately ignored by the saffron party due to its political compulsion when in alliance with SAD (B) whose leadership often attends the ceremonies held in memory of those whom centre government termed militants but SAD dubbed them as 'jewels of Sikh nation. Political experts say that there is no state-level leadership of BJP.



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Delhi plans to impose lockdown in markets which may emerge as COVID-19 hotspots



DELHI PLANS TO IMPOSE LOCKDOWN IN MARKETS WHICH MAY EMERGE AS COVID-19 HOTSPOTS.

Delhi government is considering shutting down markets for a few days due to the increase in coronavirus cases in the national capital. This comes a day after Health Minister Satyendar Jain clarified that there is no need to enforce another phase of lockdown in Delhi again while adding that the third wave of COVID-19 has passed its peak. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday sought power from the Centre to impose lockdown in those market areas which may emerge as COVID-19 hotspots.

"We are sending a proposal to the Centre to give power to the Delhi government to impose lockdown in market areas which may emerge as COVID-19 hotspots," the chief minister said.

The state is also looking at reducing the number of people allowed for public gatherings back to 50. Kejriwal, addressing an online media briefing, said the Delhi government has sent a proposal to Lt Governor Anil Bajjal to allow only 50 people to attend wedding functions

against the earlier limit of 200. Kejriwal also appealed to Delhiites with folded hands to wear masks and follow social distancing norms. "People think it (COVID-19) will not happen to them. I request you with folded hands that the Coronavirus disease can happen to anyone, and can turn fatal once it infects you. Please follow social distancing. People didn't wear masks during Diwali, didn't follow social distancing while shopping," he said. Delhi has witnessed a spurt in novel coronavirus cases since October 28 when the daily rise breached the 5,000-mark for the first time and it crossed the 8,000-mark on Wednesday. On Thursday, 104 coronavirus-related deaths, the highest in over five months, were recorded in the city.

The Health Minister on Monday had said that stern action will be taken against people who do not wear masks and do not follow social distancing norms in the national capital. "Fine worth Rs 45 crore has been imposed on such defaulters in the past few days," he had said.

NATIONS SUPPORTING TERRORISM SHOULD BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE, SAYS PM MODI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his address at the virtual BRICS Summit on Tuesday, said nations supporting terrorism should be called and that such countries should be "brought to the book". Speaking at the 12th summit of the Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa (BRICS) grouping, the PM said, "Terrorism is the biggest problem facing the world today. We have to ensure that the countries that support the terrorists are held accountable and this problem is tackled in an organised manner."

This year's theme is 'Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth'. The summit is being held in the backdrop of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations and in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, BRICS will complete 15 years. Our 'sherpas' can make a report to evaluate the various decisions taken by us in the past years, the Prime Minister said. India's vaccine production and delivery ca-

capacity will also work in the interest of humanity to tackle the COVID crisis. A self-reliant and resilient India post-COVID can be a force multiplier for the global economy, said PM Modi.

Even during the pandemic BRICS has been progressing well. The role of BRICS is significant when it comes to stability, he said.

He also said that there was a need for reforms of the UN Security Council and organisations like IMF, WTO.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in a statement said that the Prime Minister will be attending the virtual summit at the invitation of Russian President Vladimir Putin, "At the invitation of President Vladimir Putin, PM Narendra Modi will be attending 12th BRICS Summit hosted by Russia, under the theme 'Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth' on 17 November. The meeting will be held in a virtual format," MEA said.

HOLD COUNTRIES THAT SUPPORT TERROR GUILTY, SAYS PM MODI. PUTIN ENDORSES HIM

As the Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa (Brics) grouping adopted a new counter-terrorism strategy on Tuesday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for countries that help and support terrorists to be held guilty.

Participating in the virtual Brics Summit chaired by Russian President Vladimir Putin, Modi also called on members of the grouping to back a move by India and South Africa to secure exemption of Covid-19 vaccines from intellectual property agreements.

Multilateralism, Modi said, is facing a crisis and questions are being raised about the functioning of global institutions since they haven't kept pace with the times and are based on the mindset of 75 years ago.

In a tacit reference to Pakistan-backed terrorism, Modi, who was speaking in Hindi, said: "Terrorism is the biggest problem the world is facing today. We must ensure that countries that help and support terrorists are also held guilty and this problem is dealt with in an organised manner." He described the finalisation of the Brics Counter-Terrorism Strategy as an "important achievement" and said India, as the chair of Brics from next year, will take this work forward. In a subsequent intervention, Modi suggested the national security advisers of Brics states should discuss the formulation of a counter-terrorism action plan.

The Brics Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which will allow member states to work out common measures and coordinate more closely at the UN and other forums and promote the implementation of UN's global counter-terrorism strategy, was adopted at the conclusion of the summit.

Modi's remarks on terrorism were endorsed by Putin, who said some countries were like the "black sheep of the family" and the world cannot afford any complacency in dealing with problems such as terrorism and the pandemic. With a group of developing nations led by India and South Africa set to urge the World Trade Organization (WTO) this week to waive patent protections for Covid-19 vaccines so that they become accessible to poor countries, Modi said: "India and South Africa have proposed that Covid-19 vaccines and treatments be exempted from intellectual property agreements. We hope that other Brics countries will support this."

Whenever you think of kickback in defence deal, think of Congress leaders: BJP's Ravi Shankar Prasad

No deal without a deal and no contract without a cut has been the policy of Congress leaders, the BJP said on Tuesday, attacking the opposition party over reports of kickbacks allegedly received by its members in the AgustaWestland chopper deal.

Demanding answers from the Congress leadership, senior BJP leader and Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad alleged that from the Jeep scandal, the Bofors scam to the submarine scandal and several more, Congress leaders for their benefit made a "mockery" of national security.

Citing a media report on the key accused in the chopper deal mentioning the names of senior Congress leaders like Salman Khurshid and Ahmed Patel, and Kamal Nath's nephew Ratul Puri, he said, "Whenever you think of a kickback in a military deal, think of some Congress leaders."

"No defence deal without a loot, no defence deal without a kickback and no defence deal without some Congress leaders becoming beneficiary of it has been the go-to policy of Congress leaders," the BJP leader said at a press conference. The Congress president and "the prince of the party" have to answer to the people, Prasad said.

In 2010, there were talks of buying AgustaWestland helicopters for VVIPs like the president and the prime minister at a cost of Rs 3,600 crore, Prasad said. Two years later, media reports revealed that kickbacks had been given in the deal, the Union minister said. Though the Manmohan Singh-led UPA-2 government had ordered a CBI inquiry but no progress was made until the BJP-led NDA government was formed in May 2014. Thereafter, arrests were made in the case, Prasad said.

CONGRESS NOT PART OF GUPKAR ALLIANCE: SURJEWALA

Congress general secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala on Tuesday said that the Congress party is not a part of the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD). In a press statement on Tuesday, Surjewala hits out at Union home minister Amit Shah over asking Congress interim President Sonia Gandhi and party leader Rahul Gandhi to clear their stand if they support the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration. Surjewala in the statement in Hindi said, "Congress party is not a part of Gupkar alliance or People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration."

Hitting out at the BJP government in the Centre, the Congress leader said, "To spread lies, fraud and creating new illusions have become the way of the Modi government. It's a shame that Home Minister Amit Shah is keeping aside the responsibility of the national security and is making false, misleading and mischievous statements on Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh." While asserting that Congress is fighting the DDC elections in Jammu and Kashmir and said, "The Indian National Congress favours democratic elections in Jammu and Kashmir and for this purpose the Congress Party is contesting the District Development Council elections.... in a democratic manner." Earlier in the day, Amit Shah said that the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration wants foreign forces to intervene in Jammu and Kashmir and asserted that Indian people will no longer tolerate an "unholy global gathbandhan" against national interest. Taking to Twitter, Shah asked Congress interim President Sonia Gandhi and party leader Rahul Gandhi if they support the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration which, he said, insults India's tricolour.

'BJP RIGS POLLS, BE ALERT IN 2022 POLLS': AKHILESH YADAV TO PEOPLE

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Tuesday alleged that the BJP rigs elections and urged people to stay vigilant in the 2022 assembly polls. He also accused the BJP of not letting free and fair polls happen. The SP chief's statement has come in the wake of his party's poor show in the bypolls to seven assembly seats in the state. The BJP had bagged six seats while the SP won one. He had earlier too accused the BJP of rigging elections.

"The party (BJP) uses rigging as its weapon in elections. In 2022, you will have to cast your votes carefully. The victory of the Samajwadi Party is necessary to save democracy," the former UP CM said addressing a delegation of weavers at the party's headquarter here. He said the BJP was deliberately harassing weavers and did not want their progress and prosperity. The BJP government has targeted the weavers by scrapping the electricity rate scheme of 2006, he said, promising more facilities to them once his party comes to power in the state. He alleged that in the present regime, not a single unit of extra power was generated in the state.

Gupkar gang insults tricolour, wants foreign forces to intervene in J&K: Amit Shah

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said that the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration wants foreign forces to intervene in Jammu and Kashmir and asserted that Indian people will no longer tolerate an "unholy global gathbandhan" against national interest. Taking to Twitter, Shah asked Congress interim President Sonia Gandhi and party leader Rahul Gandhi if they support the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration which, he said, insults India's tricolour.

"The Gupkar Gang is going global! They want foreign forces to intervene in Jammu and Kashmir. The Gupkar Gang also insults India's Tricolour. Do Sonia Ji and Rahul Ji support such moves of the Gupkar Gang? They should make their stand crystal clear to the people of India," Shah tweeted. Congress and the Gupkar Gang want to take J&K back to the era of terror and turmoil. They want to take away the rights of Dalits, women and tribals that we have ensured by removing Article 370. This is why they're being rejected by the people everywhere," he said in another tweet. "Jammu and Kashmir has been, is and will always remain an integral part of India. Indian people will no longer tolerate an unholy 'global gathbandhan' against our national interest. Either the Gupkar Gang swims along with the national mood or else the people will sink it," Shah said. Parties including the National Conference, PDP, Peoples Conference and CPI(M), formed the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration and are fighting the maiden District Development Council (DDC) elections together.

On October 24, National Conference leader Omar Abdullah had said that the PAGD has been formed to ensure the rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are restored. "All of us united that the pre-August 5th, 2019 position must be restored," he added. While Farooq Abdullah was chosen as president of the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration, Mehbooba Mufti was picked to play a role of vice-president. The DDC polls will be conducted in Jammu and Kashmir in eight phases between November 28 and December 19, and the counting of votes will take place on December 22.

Biden says 'more people may die' if Trump continues to delay smooth transition

President-elect Joe Biden said on Monday "more people may die" if outgoing President Donald Trump continues blocking a US transition of power as the coronavirus pandemic worsens, and he urged Congress to pass new relief legislation.

Biden said business and labor leaders had signaled willingness to work together to bolster the pandemic-battered US economy but stressed COVID-19 first must be brought under control.

The Democratic president-elect delivered a speech and took questions from reporters in Wilmington, Delaware, after consulting jointly with the CEOs of top US companies and labor leaders on Monday. He welcomed further progress in COVID-19 vaccine development.

Xi Jinping offers to cooperate with India, BRICS countries to develop Covid-19 vaccine

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday offered to cooperate with India and other BRICS nations in the development of vaccines against the coronavirus and called for holding a symposium by the five-member bloc on traditional medicine to explore its role in the Covid-19 prevention and treatment. "As we speak the Chinese companies are working with their Russian and Brazilian partners on phase three clinical trials for vaccines. We are prepared to have cooperation with South Africa and India as well," Xi said while addressing the 12th BRICS summit via video link. The virtual summit, hosted by Russia President Vladimir Putin, was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.

FINANCIALLY TROUBLED STARTUP HELPED POWER TRUMP CAMPAIGN

President Donald Trump's 2020 reelection campaign was powered by a cell phone app that allowed staff to monitor the movements of his millions of supporters, and offered intimate access to their social networks.

While the campaign may be winding down, the data strategy is very much alive, and the digital details the app collected can be put to multiple other uses — to fundraise for the president's future political ventures, stoke Trump's base, or even build an audience for a new media empire. The app lets Trump's team communicate directly with the 2.8 million people who downloaded it — more than any other app in a US presidential campaign — and if they gave permission, with their entire contact list as well.

Once installed, it can track their behavior on the app and in the physical world, push out headlines, fundraise, sell MAGA merchandise and sync with mass texting operations, according to the app's privacy policy and user interface.

Amid reports of rigging, Imran Khan's PTI emerges as single-largest party in Gilgit-Baltistan elections

Amid reports of poll rigging in Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly elections, Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has emerged as the single largest party in the elections by securing 10 seats.

PTI was followed by Bilawal Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples' Party (PPP), which secured 3 seats and Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) got two seats, reported Dawn.

Majlis Wahdatul Muslimeen (MWM) won one seat, while seven seats of the GBLA have been won by independent candidates. In GBLA-02 (Gilgit-II) constituency, PTI's Fatehullah Khan was declared the winner with a lead of only two votes after the recounting of votes. He received 6,696 votes against 6,694 bagged by PPP's Jameel Ahmed. Earlier, Ahmed was declared the winner with 8,817 votes against 8,200 secured by PTI candidate Fatehullah Khan.

As the elections favoured Imran Khan's party, major political parties have hit the streets alleging that the polls were rigged. Thousands of people have taken to the streets in Skardu and Gilgit areas against alleged vote-rigging in the elections, according to sources. Incidents of several tires being set on fire and many roads blocked for hours were reported in the region. PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari alleged rigging in three constituencies. Addressing a sit-in in Gilgit, he said rigging was made to snatch the mandate of PPP in Gilgit 1, Ghizer 3 and a constituency in Skardu. Dawn quoted Bilawal as saying at a press conference that results were manipulated "overnight" for elections on seats that the PPP was winning and the party was declared to have lost them during the day.



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Date: **Wednesday, December 2, 2020**
Time: **7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Register online at www.williamoslerhs.ca/townhall or leave a voice message with your phone number at (905) or (416) 494-2120 ext. 50200 before 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2.



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