

Canada Has Agreements With Seven Vaccine Companies For 358 Million Doses

Canada Will Get Vaccine Early 2021

PICTURE COURTESY - FACEBOOK.COM/JUSTINPJTRUDEAU

CANADIANS SITTING ON RECORD CASH - \$170 BILLION : CIBC

Covid-19 has triggered the largest cash accumulation in recorded history. We estimate that households and businesses are currently sitting on no less than \$170 billion of excess cash. Redeployment of that cash will have a notable impact on the future trajectory of consumer spending and the economy as a whole.

Surging Household Savings and Cash Positions

In the second quarter of 2020, labour income plummeted by just over \$100 bn saar, while government transfers grew by close to \$225 bn saar, with "other" benefits including the pandemic emergency programs growing by \$151 bn saar. That spike in disposable incomes coincided with a notable decline in spending, which resulted in the savings rate surging from 3.6% to 28.2% as of June.

Since then, government support has become increasingly more tailored to those who need it the most, while the re-openings have seen a nascent recovery in consumer spending. Using US data for the third quarter as a guidepost, the Canadian savings rate likely fell to 13% in Q3—still miles above the 3.6% level seen prior to the pandemic. With the second wave of infection upon us, that rate is likely to remain elevated during the winter. Those new savings are quickly finding their way into households' chequings and savings accounts. On a year-over-year basis, consumer deposit balances are currently rising by an estimated 12% (Chart 1, left). And with current interest rates not so inviting, nearly all of that new cash is parked in notice and demand accounts, as opposed to term-deposits ready to be redeployed in short order.



We estimate that the recent surge in deposits has led to an accumulation of no less than \$90 billion of excess cash—beyond what we believe would have been the level of deposits were it not for the pandemic. That amount of excess cash is by far the largest on record and is equivalent to 4% of consumer spending.

Consumer Spending Growth To Slow in the Coming Months

How quickly will households deploy that extra cash into the economy? We don't think it will happen in the near future. The coming 4-5 months will see a notable slowing in consumer spending growth while income levels will remain relatively elevated. Here's why:

- The fear factor: The second wave of infections and its overlap with the flu season will work to elevate the fear factor, which we believe will soon take over the availability factor as a major driver of consumer spending. That is, the economic benefit of a business remaining open will diminish in the coming months relative to what was seen during the happy days of the summer.
- No panic: As illustrated in Chart 3, the panicky consumption diverted to grocery stores early in the crisis was not fully reversed, with recent months seeing a more normal trajectory. We are currently in the midst of a second wave, but another run on stores is unlikely, as the experience of the spring worked to alleviate any fears of essential supply shortages.
- Asymmetrical distribution of cash: We suspect that the vast majority of excess cash is parked in the chequing accounts of mid and high-income households.

I CONTD ON PAGE 3

ONTARIO DEPLOYS RAPID TESTING TO SUPPORT COVID-19 RESPONSE

TORONTO: The Ontario government has deployed new COVID-19 rapid tests to provide faster results in regions of high transmission and rural and remote areas. As an additional tool to help keep essential workers safe, rapid tests will also be used to screen staff in long-term care homes and select workplaces.

I CONTD. ON PAGE 5

213,000 CANADIANS MIGHT HAVE TO PAY BACK CERB OVERPAYMENTS, CRA WARNS

The Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) says it has called upon around 213,000 Canadians to repay the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) amount as they might have been paid twice. The CRA has issued letters to individuals who applied for the CERB amount from both CRA and Service Canada, as per media reports. Those individuals would need to reimburse the money.



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CENTRE CALLS PUNJAB FARMERS FOR SECOND ROUND OF TALKS ON DECEMBER 3

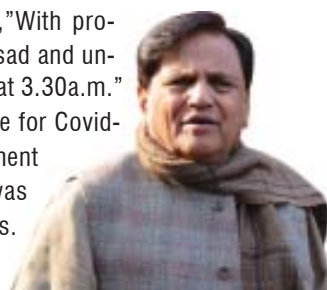


NEW DELHI: The Centre on Tuesday has said it has invited farmers' unions from Punjab for the second round of ministerial talks on December 3 to resolve differences over the new agriculture laws.

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CONGRESS LEADER AHMED PATEL PASSES AWAY AT 71

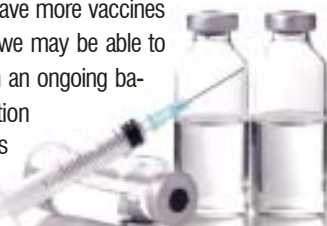
Congress leader Ahmed Patel passed away this morning at 3.30 a.m. at the age of 71 years after Covid-19 complication in Gurugram Hospital. His son Faisal Patel tweeted, "With profound grief I regret to announce that sad and untimely demise of my father on 25/11 at 3.30a.m." More than month after testing positive for Covid-19 infection, Patel was under treatment at a Gurugram-based hospital. He was being monitored by a team of doctors.



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20 MILLION AMERICANS COULD GET COVID-19 VACCINE IN DEC 2020

Roughly 20 million people could be vaccinated against the coronavirus in December, the chief of the Donald Trump administration's vaccine coordination program said today. Anywhere from 25 to 30 million people could be vaccinated each month afterward. The speed depends on a big if - the US Food and Drug Administration's emergency use authorization for one or more vaccines. "And as of the month of February or March, if we have more vaccines approved such as the live vector vaccine, we may be able to immunize a large number of Americans on an ongoing basis," Moncef Slaoui, chief advisor, Operation Warp Speed (OWS), said during comments at the White House Rose Garden Friday evening.



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BIDEN'S SECRETARY OF STATE-DESIGNEE BLINKEN SEES INDIA TIES AS 'HIGH PRIORITY'

NEW YORK: Antony Blinken — who has said that strengthening ties with India would be a "high-priority" in a new administration — has been designated for the post of Secretary of State by Joe Biden. Making the announcement of key foreign policy and national security designees on Monday, Biden said, "We have no time to lose when it comes to our national security and foreign policy. I need a team ready on Day One to help me reclaim America's seat at the head of the table, rally the world to meet the biggest challenges we face, and advance our security, prosperity, and values."



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DARREN ENTWISTLE, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF TELUS, ANNOUNCES \$100 MILLION TELUS POLLINATOR FUND FOR GOOD AT VIRTUAL EVENT.

I DETAILS ON PAGE 11

I have faith Ontario will weather through this storm together, please look out for each other. Please stick together. Because in this darkest hour, we see what we're made of.

We see what we can endure, and we will endure, we will persevere and we will get through this.

- PREMIER DOUG FORD

IT IS NOT AS SIMPLE AS THINKING THE NUMBERS WILL GO DOWN AFTER 28 DAYS; - MAYOR BROWN

ON GURU NANAK DEV JI'S 551ST BIRTH
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Sheref Sabawy, MPP
Mississauga-Erin Mills
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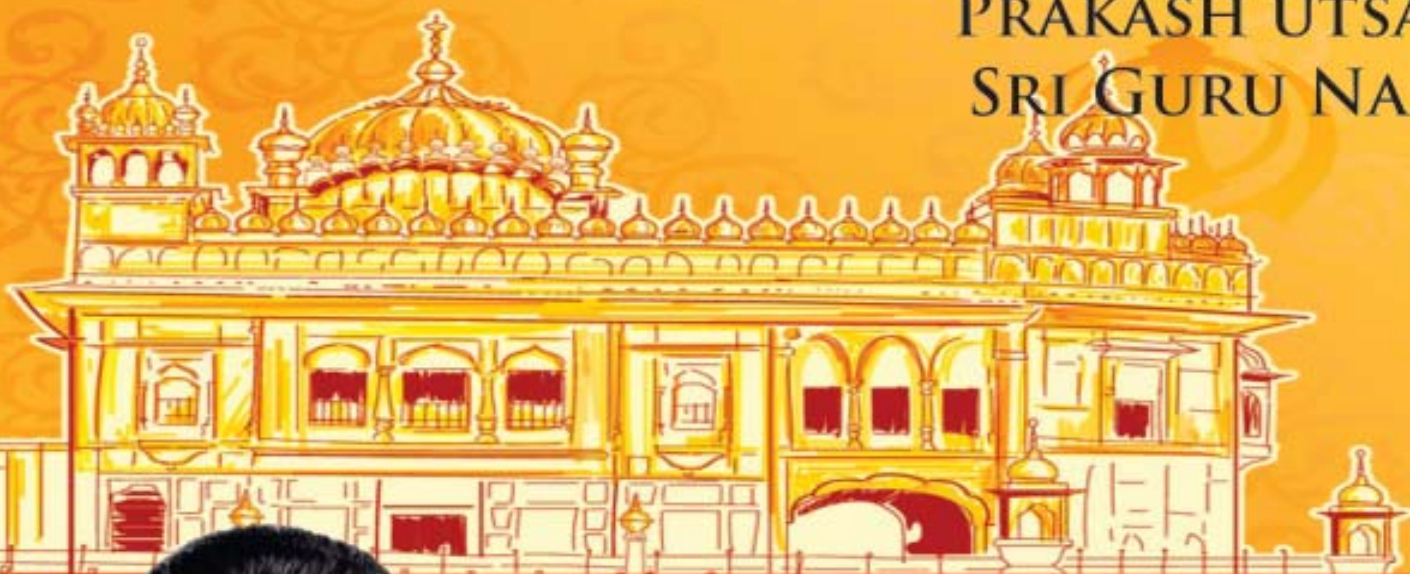
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INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS CANCELLED TILL DECEMBER 31, KNOW DETAILS



The Indian government on Thursday extended the suspension of scheduled international commercial passenger services till December 31 in view of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), in a notification 'Travel and Visa restrictions related to COVID-19', said, "In partial modification of circular dated 26-06-2020, the competent authority has further extended the validity of circular issued on the subject cited above regarding Scheduled International commercial passenger services to/ from India till 2359 hrs IST of 31st December, 2020."

"This restriction shall not apply to international all-cargo operations and flights specifically approved by the DGCA," the order stated.

The aviation regulator further clarified that international scheduled flights may be allowed on selected routes by the "competent authority

on case to case basis". Earlier this month, the DGCA had extended the ban on scheduled international passenger flights till November 30. India has entered into air bubble arrangements with multiple countries even though regular international flights remain banned owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under an air bubble pact between two countries, special international passenger flights can be operated by their airlines into each other's territories.

Scheduled international flights have been suspended in India since March 23 due to the coronavirus outbreak. However, special international passenger flights have been operating in India under the Vande Bharat Mission since May and under bilateral air bubble arrangements formed between India and other countries since July.

CANADIANS SITTING ON RECORD CASH - \$170 BILLION : CIBC

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As is well documented, the vast majority of job losses since February were amongst low-income Canadians. And those households did not reduce their consumption dramatically, given that a large portion of their income (be it government transfers or wages) goes to necessities. Where we see a much more dramatic decline in spending is amongst mid and high-income households that usually spend much more on "non-essential" goods, and more so on services.

We do not have current data on spending by level of income for Canadians, but utilizing high-frequency US data, we learn that spending amongst high-income households is currently 10% below its January level—notably weaker than the 3% drop seen amongst low-income households. With the happy days of summer over, it is reasonable to assume that mid and high-income households will, in fact, reduce consumption of nonessentials again.

Spending Amongst High-Income Households Falling Fast

- **Front Loading:** Sure, those high-income individuals will find it difficult to consume non-essential services in the coming months, but nothing is preventing them from consuming non-essential goods. However, they may have had their fill already. Their home office is already well equipped. There is no need to buy another computer, printer, desk or office chair. Most of the landscaping work has already been done, and there is no need for another exercise bike. Those spending categories are already notably above prepandemic levels, but have shown signs of levelling off or have fallen in recent months, and there is no reason to expect a reversal of that trend.

Income Will Remain Elevated

While consumption growth is projected to slow, we suggest that the level of personal income will remain elevated in the coming months. Sure, the modified EI system and the CRB program are more targeted than their predecessors, but a closer look suggests that disposable income will not see a notable decline from current levels. Estimates from the PBO put the cost of the CRB program at \$17.9 bn through 2022. Combined with the modifications to the EI system, which are expected to cost an additional \$13.5 bn over that time frame, these new programs amount to less than half of the almost \$82 bn in

CERB funds that have been doled out to households since the pandemic began. However, that estimate does not include the base cost of regular EI payments apart from modifications, which are expected to bolster incomes substantially, in conjunction with a rise in labour market income as jobs are gained back. Those sources of income will work to reduce the need of low-income Canadians to deploy any cash that might be currently sitting on the sidelines, or to increase borrowing (negative savings) to finance ongoing consumption. Cash Held by Businesses Also on the Rise

Cash is also king for Canadian businesses, which are now growing their cash positions by close to 15% on a year-over-year basis. All of that growth is coming from operating accounts, which are experiencing a dazzling 30% y/y pace of growth.

This trajectory is very different than what we have seen in previous recessions where the risk aversion factor was offset by reduced profitability and resulted in a relatively flat trajectory for biz deposit balances.

Businesses Sitting on \$80 Billion Excess Cash

We estimate that Canadian corporations are currently sitting on no less than \$80 billion in excess cash that is ready for deployment. Here again, we expect little change in cash positions in the coming months given that we suspect that the vast majority of that extra cash is held by sectors that were not damaged notably by the crisis. Another factor here might be the \$32 billion of CEBA loans taken by no less than 785,000 businesses. It is very possible that many companies took these loans as insurance, but kept them in deposit accounts—hence adding to their overall cash position.

Redeployment

Keeping cash positions at current levels is hardly optimal and is thus unsustainable. While households and businesses will keep cash positions elevated during the winter, we expect a relatively swift deployment of excess cash in the Spring and into the summer. Pent-up demand from mid and high-income households will be utilized rapidly, while businesses will be eager to deploy their cash in a more productive way. Repayment of CEBA loans will also play a role here.

US REPORTS HIGHEST DAILY DEATH TOLL SINCE MAY WITH HOSPITALS ALREADY FULL

Daily US deaths from COVID-19 surpassed 2,000 for the first time since May and with hospitals across the country already full, portending a surge in mortalities to come as the coronavirus pandemic casts a shadow over the holiday season.

The death toll reached 2,157 on Tuesday - one person every 40 seconds - with another 170,000 people infected, numbers that experts say could grow with millions of Americans defying official warnings and traveling for Thursday's Thanksgiving holiday.

The deadliest day in more than six months was still short of the record of 3,384 deaths on April 14, in the early stages of the pandemic, according to a Reuters tally of official data.

US hospitalizations for COVID-19 surpassed 87,000 on Tuesday, an all-time high.

Since the global pandemic began, the US totals of nearly 260,000 deaths and 12.6 million infections lead the world and "all the Thanksgiving travel ensures no one will catch us, either," said Dr Tatiana Prowell of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

"The US 'each person for himself' mindset is killing hundreds of thousands of us. Devastating to watch," Prowell said on Twitter.

Families with university students have been forced to evaluate the risk of reuniting for Thanksgiving.

Meanwhile, school districts across the United States face pressure from all sides as they grapple with how to educate children during the pandemic, a Reuters survey of 217 districts showed.

Many parents are balking at online instruction, while others worry about sending kids back into classrooms prematurely.

Teachers say they are not comfortable teaching in person.

"Every school district across the nation is in the position in which no matter what decision they make and how well thought out it is, it will leave some in the community thinking it's the wrong decision," said Larry Rother, senior executive director of pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade educational services in Chandler, Arizona.

Help may be coming with vaccines showing promise.

Officials from the US government's Operation Warp Speed program told reporters Tuesday they plan to release 6.4 million COVID-19 vaccine doses nationwide in an initial distribution after the first one is cleared by regulators for emergency use, which could happen as soon as December 10. If all goes well 40 million doses will be distributed by the end of the year, they said.

A Food and Drug Administration ruling on emergency use for Pfizer Inc's vaccine is expected on Dec. 10.

US President-elect Joe Biden has promised to make fighting the pandemic his top priority upon taking office on January 20 and will give a speech on the topic on Wednesday. Biden will have the help of Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, who said on C-SPAN on Wednesday he had been in contact with Biden's staff and was willing to serve on any task force. Outgoing President Donald Trump has remained largely silent on the subject, making a one-minute appearance in the White House briefing room on Tuesday to talk about the stock market.

FARMERS' MARCH: HARYANA TO KEEP DELHI, PUNJAB BORDERS SEALED FROM NOV 25-27



Fearing traffic blockades owing to proposed farmers' agitation, the Haryana government on Tuesday issued a travel advisory for the commuters at entry points from Punjab into Haryana for November 25 and 26 and on entry points from Haryana into Delhi on November 26-27.

A state police spokesperson said in view of the 'Delhi Chalo' call given by various farmer organisations, elaborate arrangements have been made by the civil and police administration. The spokesperson said a large number of protestors are likely to enter Haryana from Punjab through various border entry points for their onward journey towards Delhi. The main focus points of the protestors originating from within Haryana will be the four major national highways leading towards Delhi, i.e. Ambala to Delhi, Hisar to Delhi, Rewari to Delhi and Palwal to Delhi.

The primary objective of these arrangements is to maintain proper law and order to prevent any kind of violence, facilitate the functioning of traffic and public transport systems and to ensure public peace and order.

The spokesperson said to ensure appropriate law and order arrangement, it is likely that the traffic diversion or road-blocks by the police may be put into place on November 25, 26 and 27. There will be a diversion on road entry points from Punjab into Haryana in Panchkula, Ambala, Kaithal, Jind, Fatehabad and Sirsa districts. A specific call has been given by protesting organisations for the congregation at Shambhu border bordering Ambala city, Mundhal Chowk in Bhiwani district, Anaj Mandi in Gharaunda town in Karnal district, Tikri border in Bahadurgarh town in Jhajjar district, and the Rajiv Gandhi Education City in Rai in Sonapat district. After a large number of farmers from Punjab, who are heading for an indefinite 'siege' of Delhi from November 26 over their demand to revoke the Central farm laws, were not allowed to enter Haryana, farmers' bodies have threatened to block the highways. Chief Secretary Vijai Vardhan issued directions to establish control rooms to coordinate with the district administration, and directed to disseminate minute-to-minute information to the Home Secretary, the Director-General of Police and the Chief Secretary's office. He said as more farmers from Punjab are expected to travel towards Delhi, in such a situation, special monitoring should be conducted on the Shambhu border. Apart from this, additional police forces should be deployed in Gharaunda and Mundhal where huge farmer gatherings are expected. He also directed to set up multi-layer barricading on highways leading to Haryana.

Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) President Balbir Singh Rajewal said Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has sealed borders for Punjab farmers to prove that "Punjab is not part of India". "We will peacefully block the routes to Himachal and Jammu and Kashmir. Will start dharna on the roads," he tweeted. Farmers in Punjab have been observing several protests against the three new farm laws, passed by the central government in September this year. Parliament had passed the three agriculture Bills - The Farmers' and Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020, the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020 and The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020. Various opposition parties have termed these legislations as not farmer-friendly.

Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai tests positive for COVID-19; third minister in Kejriwal govt to get infected

Delhi environment minister Gopal Rai has been tested positive for COVID-19. Taking to Twitter, the Aam Aadmi Party leader urged everyone who came in contact with him to get tested. "I got a coronavirus test after experiencing initial symptoms. My report shows I am Covid-positive", Rai wrote on Twitter in Hindi.



Rai is the third minister in the Arvind Kejriwal government to have contracted the virus. Earlier, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and Health Minister Satyendar Jain had been infected with the coronavirus. The environment minister has requested those who recently came in contact with him to undergo a test for COVID-19.

An official said that Rai, who is also AAP's Delhi convenor, had met party workers around Diwali.

The minister had not attended the all-party meeting convened by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to discuss the COVID-19 situation in Delhi on November 19 as he was not feeling well. Delhi is currently witnessing the third wave of Covid-19 and registered 5,246 fresh cases of COVID-19 on Wednesday. India's COVID-19 caseload increased to 92.66 lakh with 44,489 new infections being reported in a day, while the recoveries surged to 86.79 lakh, the Union health ministry said on Thursday. The country's coronavirus tally mounted to 92,66,705, while the death toll climbed to 1,35,223 with 524 new fatalities, the ministry data updated at 8 am showed.

20 MILLION AMERICANS COULD GET COVID-19 VACCINE IN DEC 2020



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OVS is the Trump administration's national program to accelerate the development, manufacturing, and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics.

Slaoui's comments come at an anxious time in America's coronavirus chronicles. More than 244,000 are dead, more than 10.6 million are infected and daily cases are going off the charts. More than 100,000 daily cases have been reported in the last 10 days alone. Thanksgiving is around the corner and hospitals are running out of space.

Slaoui's remarks point in the direction of how America might begin to turn the corner later this year.

The US is working with a portfolio of six vaccines, using three different platform technologies and two candidates from each platform: messenger RNA, live viral vectors and recombinant protein.

Pfizer and Moderna's vaccines use the messenger RNA platform, Johnson and Johnson and AstraZeneca in partnership with Oxford University are on the live vector path while Novavax and Sanofi/ GlaxoSmithKline are building out their vaccine candidates on the recombinant protein platform.

Pfizer did not subsume its efforts under Trump's Operation Warp Speed initiative. In March, which is well before OVS was announced, Pfizer partnered with the vaccine's original developer, Germany's BioNTech

and began the first of many studies, in Germany.

Pfizer did, however, sign a \$1.95 billion agreement to supply 100 million doses to the U.S. government if the vaccine gets FDA clearance.

All six vaccines are in the "clinical development stage" and four of them are in Phase Three trials.

One of them - Pfizer - announced Monday that it has achieved 90 per cent efficacy, "demonstrating that vaccination is possible against Covid-19, that the kind of choices we have made in terms of the antigen selected was effective and made us optimistic that other vaccines may also be effective," Slaoui said.

Slaoui said he expects to hear "very good information" from Moderna too, echoing optimism from Dr. Anthony Fauci earlier this week.

"I would like to take this opportunity to invite as many Americans as possible who would like to volunteer to participate in these clinical trials, as that's the only way we are able to achieve a demonstration of the safety and efficacy of these vaccines." The last two vaccines - on the recombinant protein platform - plan to start their Phase Three trials within the next few weeks.

Slaoui said the US is ready with manufacturing capability to ramp up production as soon as any vaccine candidate demonstrates clinical efficacy and gets emergency use authorisation from the US Food and Drug Administration.

BIDEN'S SECRETARY OF STATE-DESIGNEE BLINKEN SEES INDIA TIES AS 'HIGH PRIORITY'



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Kamala Harris — who will be the Vice President — described Blinken as "crisis-tested" and among the "best of America."

Blinken, who was the Deputy Secretary of State in the administration of former President Barack Obama, said during the presidential campaign that from "Biden's perspective, strengthening and deepening the relationship with India is going to be a very high priority."

An important designation was that of former Secretary of State John Kerry as the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate and as a member of the National Security Council, highlighting the high-level of importance Biden places on the environment.

A close adviser to Biden, Jake Sullivan has been designated for the National Security Advisor's post. He had been National Secretary Advisor to Biden when he was the Vice President.

Avril Haines, who was designated for the Director of National Intelligence, will become the first woman to head the intelligence community. She is a former Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and Deputy National Security Advisor and had worked with Biden when he chaired the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Alejandro Mayorkas is the designee for Secretary of Homeland Security, the first Latino to hold the post if confirmed by the Senate.

For permanent representative to the United Nations, Biden has designated Linda Thomas-Greenfield, who will get a Cabinet rank. She is a former Assistant Secretary of State in-charge of Africa.

Harris said, "These crisis-tested national security and foreign policy leaders have the knowledge and expertise to keep our country safe and restore and advance America's leadership around the world. They represent the best of America."

Biden's choice of key staff is limited by the possibility that the Republicans may continue to control the Senate, which will have to approve the Cabinet-level appointments and some others like the CIA head. His nominees will, therefore, have to be moderates to get the votes of

some Republicans.

Blinken is considered closer to the Centre in New Delhi. He has met with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar when he was the Foreign Secretary and Blinken was the Deputy Secretary of State.

India is "fair, stable, and hopefully increasingly democratic and it's vital to being able to tackle some of these big global challenges," Blinken said in July while speaking at the Hudson Institute, a conservative think tank.

"It's usually important to the future of the Indo-Pacific and the kind of order that we all want," he said affirming President Donald Trump's emphasis on the region as a counterbalance to China.

He spoke of the differences Biden has with India over Kashmir and the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), which gives priority for citizenship to Christians, Buddhists and Sikhs fleeing persecution in neighbouring Muslim countries.

Rather than the punitive actions advocated by some in the Democratic Party, Blinken said at the Hudson Institute, "You're always better engaging with a partner and a vitally important one like India, when you can speak frankly and directly about areas where you have differences even as you're working to build greater cooperation and strengthen the relationship going forward."

"That would be the approach and again, I think we've seen evidence that it works."

But that would still be an irritant in the relations between the two democracies. Biden is taking a broader view of international relations integrating the strategic aspects of issues like climate change, for which he has given high priority. Blinken was a key figure in the Paris climate negotiations that produced the landmark agreement on fighting global warming. He said that the US team with Biden "worked hard to persuade India that it would be more prosperous and more secure if it's signed on to the Paris Climate Agreement. We succeeded. It wasn't easy."

Trump pulled out of the Paris pact, which Biden has vowed to rejoin.

CONGRESS LEADER AHMED PATEL PASSES AWAY AT 71

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Former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram tweeted, "Deeply shocked and saddened to learn that my dear friend Ahmed Patel passed away in the early hours of today...For two decades, he was one of the staunchest pillars of the Congress party and a trusted counsellor. He will be profoundly missed...I offer my tribute to his memory and convey my sincere and heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family."

CENTRE CALLS PUNJAB FARMERS FOR SECOND ROUND OF TALKS ON DECEMBER 3

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The meeting comes after farmer leaders laid a condition for another central ministerial meeting while calling off their 'rail roko' agitation in Punjab on Monday and lifted the nearly two-month-long blockade, allowing resumption of only goods trains. Speaking to PTI, Food Secretary Sudhanshu Pandey said: "We have called the representatives of over 30 farmer organisations for the second round of discussion on December 3 at Vigyan Bhawan at 11 am." The secretary has sent the invitation to the farmer bodies on behalf of Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar. Food Minister Piyush Goyal is also expected to be present in the meeting. Officials from Food and Agriculture Departments of the Punjab government have also been invited for the talks. The first round of talks was held on November 13 but it remained inconclusive, with both sides sticking to their ground.

Punjab farmers have been demanding the repeal of the new farm laws and replace them with another set of laws framed after wider consultation with stakeholders. They also demanded a guarantee on the MSP front, as they claimed that these new laws may lead to the end of minimum support prices (MSP) procurement, which the Centre has denied. When asked about their demand on MSP the secretary said: "Earlier laws, too, did not have any mention of MSP. Even the new agri-laws do not mention it. MSP is mentioned only in the National Food Security Act (NFSA) which has not been changed. Till Public Distribution System (PDS) is there, MSP will continue."

"The Prime Minister has also stated this and even the Union Agriculture Minister has said in Parliament that MSP will continue," he added. "We have explained in detail to farmer unions about this issue. Hopefully, we will resolve the issue with them at the December 3 meeting," he noted.

RUSSIA'S SPUTNIK V COVID-19 VACCINE TO COST LESS THAN RS 740 PER DOSE IN GLOBAL MARKETS

Russia's Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine will cost less than Rs 1,480 (USD 20) per person on international markets and will be free of charge for Russian citizens, according to a statement on the official Sputnik V Twitter account.

The Sputnik vaccine is administered in two shots, each of which will cost less than Rs 740 (USD 10) each, according to the official Sputnik V Twitter account.

Meanwhile, Moscow has aimed to produce more than a billion doses of Sputnik V at home and abroad next year, its backers and developers said on Tuesday.

Kirill Dmitriev, head of Russia's RDIF sovereign wealth fund, said Moscow and its foreign partners have capacity to make more than a billion doses starting from next year, enough to vaccinate over 500 million people.

The pricing announcement comes as Russia looks to scale up distribution and production.

Price of other coronavirus vaccines

The international market price for Sputnik V unveiled on Tuesday is cheaper than some other Western rivals such as a vaccine produced by Pfizer-BioNTech, which costs 15.5 euros per shot, but more expensive than a vaccine produced by AstraZeneca which will be sold in Europe for around 2.5 euros per shot.

Dmitriev told Reuters that Moscow had deliberately tried to get the price down to make it available to as many people around the world as possible.

RDIF had said in a statement, "Sputnik V will be two or more times cheaper than mRNA vaccines with similar efficacy levels."

It said it was basing its assessment on mRNA vaccines where pricing had already been announced and interim phase three clinical trials were underway.

Sputnik V 95% effective

RDIF and the Gamaleya National Center said earlier on Tuesday that new clinical trial data based on 39 confirmed cases and 18,794 patients who got both shots had shown that Sputnik V was 91.4% effective on day 28 and over 95% effective on day 42.

Moscow has been criticised by some scientists in the West who have accused it of cutting corners in an effort to try to rush out the vaccine.

Russia has denied that, alleging a Western dirty tricks campaign to put people off its vaccine in what it believes has become a battle for legitimacy and market share.



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Brampton joins partners across Region of Peel to raise awareness about Family and Intimate Partner Violence

BRAMPTON– In recognition of International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Brampton has joined its partners to launch a public awareness campaign to raise visibility and awareness about the issue of Family and Intimate Partner Violence (FIPV) and to help identify and reduce cases in the community.

The City's partners include the Region of Peel who led the development of the campaign, along with the City of Mississauga, Town of Caledon, Peel Regional Police, Ontario Provincial Police, and more than 10 community organizations.

On January 29, 2020, Brampton Council passed a motion directing staff to collaborate with partners to establish a public education and awareness campaign to end domestic violence in Brampton and Peel Region. Since that time, partners have worked together to develop an inclusive and engaging campaign to shed light on this important issue.

FIPV is any type of controlling or threatening behavior, physical or sexual violence or abuse between intimate partners or family members. In 2019, police in Peel responded to more than 19,000 incidents of domestic violence. On average, that's 50 disputes every day or two each hour. These numbers are just what gets reported; most incidents are not reported.

Residents who need support, or know someone who does, can confidentially call toll-free: 211, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In an emergency,

residents are advised to call the police at 911.

QUOTES

"Family and Intimate Partner Violence affects people of all ages, from all backgrounds. The City of Brampton is committed to creating a healthy and safe community, and this campaign will help shed light on this important issue and raise awareness about where people can seek help, whether they need help themselves or know someone who does."

- Patrick Brown, Mayor, City of Brampton

"The prevalence of domestic violence is a tragic reality for far too many in Peel. It has no color and crosses all economic lines. With this public awareness campaign, we are taking the issue of domestic violence out of the shadows. One of our first steps is to raise awareness and face this problem collectively as a community, so victims can feel empowered to seek the support they need. A safe community must fundamentally include women and children feeling safe in the place they live."

- Rowena Santos, Regional Councillor, Wards 1 & 5, City of Brampton

"We all have one common goal – to make Brampton the best it can be, and that includes a focus on community safety, improving mental health support, and encouraging active and healthy lifestyles as part of our Healthy and Safe City Term of Council priority. This campaign demonstrates our commitment to helping all members of our community feel safe in our City."

- David Barrick, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Brampton

COVID-19 LOCKDOWN: MISSISSAUGA OFFERS TOOLS AND SUPPORTS FOR LOCAL SMALL BUSINESSES

Mississauga, as part of Peel Region, entered the Grey-Lockdown level of Ontario's COVID-19 Response Framework today. As such, the City has made available resources to continue to support Mississauga's small business community. Guidance for businesses can be found on the City's website and includes assets such as relevant news and updates for the business community as well as free webinars to help businesses respond to the impacts of COVID-19.

"Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and so important to the vibrancy of neighbourhoods across our city," said Mayor Crombie. "Many business owners are our friends, neighbours and family members whose livelihoods have taken a significant hit as result of this pandemic. Our city can't recover if our businesses can't recover. Shopping locally, liking your favorite restaurant's social media page or leaving a review of your local pet groomer – all these actions help."

To help shine a light on these small businesses and to remind residents to shop locally, the City of Mississauga and Tourism Mississauga launched the Mississauga Made campaign earlier this year.

Mississauga Made is an online initiative inspired to support and promote local products, businesses, artists, stories, activities and experiences. The Mississauga Made marketplace is a free promotional advertising opportunity for all Mississauga-based businesses.

Resources offered by the City to help small businesses today can be accessed through the below links:

Business Relief Portal – A self-selection tool that helps identify relief programs and incentives that best apply to specific business needs and links to the government source of support

Digital Main Street – A Program that helps main street businesses achieve digital transformation through website enhancements and digital marketing.

Free Webinars – A series of free webinars to support small business owners and entrepreneurs during this pandemic

Business Advisory Services – Free advisory services with professionals in legal, accounting, business operations and sales and marketing

Mississauga ShopHERE – Provides independent Mississauga small businesses and artists with a quick, easy and no-cost way to set up an online store to sell products and services.

Ritual One – A 100 per cent commission-free digital ordering platform available for all Mississauga restaurants and food service providers. Offer available for free through the end of 2020.

PROVINCE DECLARES MISSISSAUGA IN GREY-LOCKDOWN LEVEL AS PART OF ONTARIO'S COVID-19 FRAMEWORK

Business and innovation | November 20, 2020 Today, as announced by the Government of Ontario, Mississauga, as part of the Region of Peel, was placed in the Grey-Lockdown Level of the Government of Ontario's Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework as of Monday November 23, 2020.

Measures under Lockdown include, but are not limited to:

Schools, before and after school programs, and child care will remain open;

Post-secondary schools open for virtual learning with some limited exceptions for training that can only be provided in-person, such as clinical training or training related to a trade;

No indoor organized public events or social gatherings except with members of the same household. Individuals who live alone, including seniors, may consider having exclusive, close contact with one other person;

Outdoor organized public events or social gatherings limited to a maximum of 10 people;

Wedding services, funeral services and religious services, rites or ceremonies where physical distancing can be maintained can have up to 10 people indoors or 10 people outdoors;

Retail permitted to be open for curbside pick-up or delivery only, with certain exceptions such as for supermarkets, grocery stores, pharmacies, hardware stores, discount and big box retailers selling groceries, beer, wine and liquor stores, safety supply stores, and convenience stores, which will be allowed to operate at 50 per cent capacity;

Restaurants, bars, and food and drink establishments will only be able to provide takeout, drive-through and delivery. Indoor and outdoor dining services are prohibited;

Personal care services closed;

Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments closed; and

Indoor sports and recreational facilities, including pools, closed with limited exceptions.

City of Brampton is ready to clear the way this winter

BRAMPTON– Winter weather has arrived and Brampton's crews are ready! Our team has been working around the clock to ensure we are prepared to clear roads, City-owned sidewalks, transit stops, school crossings, and recreational trails so that residents can get to where they are going safely.

The City reminds residents that being winter-ready is a team effort and with everyone's help, this season can be safer for all:

- Clear sidewalks of ice, snow, and slush promptly after snowfall;
- Parking on streets is not allowed and will be enforced during winter weather events. Please move vehicles to ensure plows and emergency vehicles can safely pass by;
- If it has been more than 24 hours since the snowfall has ended and your street still requires attention, let the City know by calling 311, emailing 311@brampton.ca, visiting www.311brampton.ca; or using the 311 app;
- Snow removal financial assistance is available to eligible seniors and homeowners with physical disabilities.

Last year, Brampton City Council approved increasing service levels on local roads from 7.5 cm accumulation to 5.0 cm, meaning crews are dispatched sooner during a winter weather event. Additionally, residents can see what roads and sidewalks crews have been cleared using the City's Plow Tracker on www.brampton.ca/snow, and new this year, on the 311 mobile app.

Ontario Welcomes New Canada-United Kingdom Trade Continuity Agreement

TORONTO — Today, Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade issued the following statement in response to the Canada-United Kingdom Trade Continuity Agreement:

"Ontario welcomes this important new interim agreement that will support continued trade between Canada and the United Kingdom (UK). The UK has been an essential trading partner for Ontario for generations, accounting for \$19.6 billion CDN in two-way trade in 2019 alone and making the UK Ontario's second biggest export market. We encourage the timely ratification of the new agreement to ensure that essential trade relationships are not disrupted, and businesses are not impacted.

Our Ministry looks forward to working with the federal government to fully assess this new interim agreement, and to supporting federal efforts to negotiate a comprehensive agreement in the near future. We would also like to express our congratulations to the Canadian and British negotiating teams on accomplishing this major milestone."

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Model: R-8168M
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Wind Exhaust: 250-680 CFM
White or Stainless Steel

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- Front steam baffle
- Maximum power with intelligent sensor
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PM MODI HOLDS MEETING WITH CMS OF SOME STATES WORST-HIT BY COVID-19



PM MODI HAD EARLIER CHAIRED SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH CHIEF MINISTERS IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS OVER THE PANDEMIC.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is holding a meeting with chief ministers of various states over the COVID-19 situation, through video conferencing. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray, Gujarat CM Vijay Rupani, Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot, Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal are among those are present at the meeting, being held via video conferencing. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan, NITI Aayog's Dr VK Paul, Cabinet secretary, and Health Secretary are also attending the crucial meet. According to Delhi Chief Minister's Office (CMO), Kejriwal informed the Prime Minister that Delhi saw a peak of 8,600 COVID-19 cases on November 10 in the third peak. He had earlier chaired several meetings with chief ministers in the past six months over the pandemic. The Central government has decided to depute high-level Central teams to Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh to support these States in COVID-19 response and management. These states have been either reporting a rise in the number of active cases i.e. those who are hospitalised or are in home

isolation under medical supervision, or demonstrating a rise in the daily new cases, the Union Health Ministry said. The Health Ministry said that the three-member teams will visit the districts reporting a high number of COVID cases and support the state's efforts towards strengthening containment, surveillance, testing, infection prevention and control measures and efficient clinical management of the positive cases. On November 20, the Prime Minister held a meeting to review India's vaccination strategy and discussed important issues related to progress of vaccine development, regulatory approvals and procurement with top officials. India reported 37,975 new COVID-19 infections in the last 24 hours and 480 deaths due to the disease, according to the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on Tuesday. The total cases in the country now stands at 91,77,841 including 86,04,955 recoveries and 4,38,667 active cases. With 480 new deaths, the cumulative toll reached 1,34,218. The country is reporting around 30,000 to 47,000- daily new cases for the past some days. Today is the seventeenth day when India reported less than 50,000 cases in a day.

MAHARASHTRA MAKES COVID NEGATIVE REPORT MANDATORY FOR PEOPLE FROM THESE STATES

As Covid-19 cases are on the upswing in several parts of the country, Maharashtra on Monday imposed conditions for all travellers arriving in the state from Gujarat, Goa, Rajasthan and Delhi, starting from Wednesday (November 25). The state has made it compulsory for an RT-PCR negative test report for all people arriving by air, road or rail from these four states. **SOPS TO BE FOLLOWED** In a notification, the state has said that for people who land here by flights, the RT-PCR test must have been done within 72 hours of their scheduled arrival at the Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur and Aurangabad airports. These SOPs pertaining to travel restrictions are in addition to those issued earlier by the state, which remains the worst-hit in India both in terms of the total infections and fatalities. For those entering the state by roads, the administrations in the state's border districts will make arrangements for checking symptoms, body temperature and conducting tests before they are permitted onward travel in Maharashtra. The order states that "those who are coming by flights and have not undertaken tests would have to undergo the tests in Maharashtra airports at their own cost". The incoming passengers would also have to provide their addresses and in case, their report is positive, would have to undergo the full treatment as per the state's protocols. Similarly, those coming by trains but not carrying RT-PCR negative reports would be required to undergo screening at railway stations, and only those passengers without any symptoms would be allowed to go. For those showing symptoms, they would have to undertake the Rapid Antigen Tests - and those negative would be allowed to go, but if found positive, they would be admitted to Covid Care Centres, for which the entire costs shall be borne by them. A similar drill would be followed for those who are arriving by roads



at the state's borders with Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Telangana, besides the Union Territories of Dadra & Nagar Haveli. The detailed circular with orders has been sent to all District Collectors and Municipal Commissioners across the state. The order by Chief Secretary Sanjay Kumar came just a day after Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar expressed concerns over the Covid-19 situation and warned of a possible second wave which could be a "tsunami". Late on Sunday, Thackeray hinted at Lockdown 2.0, warning that the possible second wave may be a 'tsunami', while Pawar stated that the government will review the situation carefully for the next 8-10 days before taking a decision on a shutdown. Both Thackeray and Pawar have urged people not to throw precautions to the winds, but remain on high-alert and follow all protocols scrupulously.

NIGHT CURFEW, SECTION 144: FRESH RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED IN THESE CITIES AMID RISING COVID CASES; CHECK LIST

Amid the rising number of coronavirus cases, a number of states decided have decided to impose new restrictions to keep a check on the surge in coronavirus cases. While Delhi and Noida reverted to the earlier cap on the number of wedding guests, night curfews, and Section 144 returned in states like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and others. Take a look at the city/state which have brought in new regulations: **Delhi** The Delhi Lieutenant Governor has amended the Delhi Epidemic Disease Management of Covid-19 regulations 2020, which empowers any 'authorised person' to slap a fine of Rs 2,000 for a series of activities including not wearing masks. The activities listed are observation of quarantine rules, maintaining of social distancing, wearing of face masks or cover in all public places. It also includes the prohibition of spitting in public places as well as a prohibition on consumption of paan, gutka, tobacco in public areas. Apart from this, only 50 guests instead of 200 will be allowed at wedding ceremonies. Markets will remain open but there will be strict surveillance. Delhi has recently seen an unprecedented spike in COVID cases that made the Delhi government bring certain restrictions back in the national capital and the MHA issue a set of 12-point instructions to follow in order to bring the situation under control.

Mumbai BMC has directed all schools in Mumbai to stay closed till December 31, 2020. Schools for classes 9 to 12 were earlier scheduled to reopen on November 23. Mumbai mayor said that local trains should not begin operations in the city either. However, schools in other parts of Maharashtra will reopen on November 23, as directed by the state government. **Gurugram** The Haryana government has closed all schools in the state till November 30 as 174 students and 107 teachers were tested positive after schools were reopened. **Noida** Gautam Buddh Nagar administration has capped the number of guests who will attend the wedding to 100 instead of 200. **Rajasthan** The Rajasthan government had imposed Section 144 of the CrPC in Jaipur till December 20. The government on Saturday imposed a night curfew in eight district headquarters including Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Bikaner, Udaipur, Ajmer, Alwar and Bhilwara. Markets, restaurants, commercial shops, etc shall close by 7 pm and a curfew will be imposed in these cities from 8 pm to 6 am. In marriages, religious, social, cultural functions and political events, only 100 people will be allowed.

RJD OFFERS CM NITISH KUMAR TO JOIN MAHAGATHBANDHAN, SAYS NDA GOVERNMENT NOT STABLE



In a surprising move, the Rashtriya Janata Dal of Tejashwi Yadav has offered Bihar Chief Minister and Janata Dal-United chief Nitish Kumar to join the RJD-led 'Mahagathbandhan'. Notably, the 'Mahagathbandhan' alliance of the Congress and the RJD had been the main rivals of the JD(U) in the recently concluded Bihar assembly elections. Senior RJD leader Amarnath Gami made this sensational offer to Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. Gami said that Nitish Kumar should join the 'Mahagathbandhan' and lead the third front at the Centre against the BJP. He also said that the NDA government in Bihar is not a stable one and will soon drop out of power. Gami further said that the NDA has won the Bihar assembly election by fraud but it will not help them to form a stable government in the state. He said that the majority of 125 that the NDA got in the elections is not enough to hold the government in power. Gami was confident that RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav will become the Chief Minister of Bihar as the NDA government of Nitish Kumar will fall soon. In the recently concluded Bihar assembly elections, the National Democratic Alliance with 125 seats was voted to power in the 243-member Assembly. The NDA constitutes of BJP that won 74 seats, JDU 43, HAM 4 seats and VIP 4 seats. It also has the support of one independent MLA which takes its tally to 126

MAMATA BANERJEE ATTACKS AMIT SHAH AT BANKURA EVENT, SAYS LUNCH WITH TRIBAL FAMILY IS A PHOTO OP

West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee alleged during her visit to Bankura district that Union Home Minister Amit Shah was having lunch only for cameras at a tribal BJP worker's house. As the Bengal fight intensified, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee targeted Union Minister Amit Shah, calling the senior BJP leader's lunch at the home of a tribal party worker in Bankura district a photo-op. Mamta Banerjee attacked Amit Shah during his visit to the region, during a visit to Khatra in Bankura. The CM of Bengal alleged that Amit Shah had not eaten the food prepared by the tribal family, and the food was brought from outside. Mamta Banerjee said that Amit Shah's visit to Bankura was only a public event. Bengal CM Mamta Banerjee arrived in the district on Sunday, a few days after the visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, during which she dined at the home of a tribal family. At an event in Bankura, Mamata Banerjee claimed that TMC would return to power in Bengal. "Our government will stay in Bengal, and we will further extend the period of free ration," said the CM. "We have taken good care of our people, announced free rations till June. False accusations will not last long. " Targeting the BJP, Mamta Banerjee said, "Amit Shah is giving false assurances. People have understood this. "

FOREIGN SECRETARY SHRINGLA SET TO VISIT NEPAL ON NOV 26-27

India has officially announced the visit of foreign secretary Harsh Shringla to Nepal, a visit that comes in the backdrop of tensions between the two countries earlier this year. He will be in Nepal from 26 to 27 November and this will be his first such visit to the country after taking charge as the Foreign secretary. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in a release announcing the visit said, "The visit is in keeping with the tradition of regular high-level exchanges between the two countries and the priority India attaches to its relations with Nepal. During the visit, the Foreign Secretary will meet his counterpart and other Nepalese dignitaries to discuss the wide-ranging bilateral cooperation between the two countries." Kathmandu-Delhi ties hit a low earlier this year after Nepal's KP Sharma Oli government had issued a new map of the country staking a claim on Indian territories. The new Nepal map showed Indian territories of Lipulekh, Kalapani and Limpiyadhura drawing a sharp reaction from New Delhi who called it "unjustified cartographic assertion". During his visit, the FS will also hand over Covid-19 related support to the Government of Nepal. This is the third high-level visit from India to Nepal, following the visit of the RAW chief and Indian army chief. FS has been to Bangladesh, Myanmar, the Maldives in the region amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, besides his Europe visit during which he visited France, Germany, and the United Kingdom.





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Uttarakhand CM Trivendra Singh Rawat says Kumbh Mela in Haridwar to be held despite COVID challenges



UTTARAKHAND CHIEF MINISTER TRIVENDRA SINGH RAWAT SAID THAT DESPITE THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS THAT COVID-19 WILL BE IN ITS DIVINE FORM.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat said that despite the practical problems posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Kumbh Mela would be held in Haridwar next year in its "divine form." The Kumbh Mela will start from January 2021. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat said that despite the practical problems that COVID-19 will be in its "divine form." On Sunday, CM Rawat attended a meeting with Akhil Bharatiya Akhara Parishad (ABAP) office bearers on preparations for the 2021 Kumbh Mela starting from January 14. "The scope of the Kumbh Mela will depend on the status of COVID-19 at that time. Indications of ABAP and religious brotherhood will also be taken in the decisions taken in the light of the current situation. The Chief Minister said that the work of the Kumbh Mela would be reviewed from time to time. "The departmental secretaries have been directed to monitor the ongoing work. The chief secretary has been

directed to review the situation within 15 days," he said. Kumbh Mela official Deepak Rawat said most of the work was nearing completion and completed by December 15. "Work on nine new ghats (river banks), eight bridges, and roads under construction for the Kumbh Mela has been completed. Special attention is being paid to sanitation. Removal of drinking water facility, parking facility, and encroachments is also underway." he said. Urban Development Minister Madan Kaushik said in a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office that planned arrangements would be made to avoid any trouble to the devotees during the Kumbh Mela. ABAP chief Mahant Narendra Giri assured the government that the bodies would fully co-operate with the state government for the successful conduct of the Kumbh Mela. Kaushik said 35 to 50 lakh people are expected to bath in the holy river Ganga every day during Kumbh Mela 2021.

G20 SUMMIT: INDIA EXCEEDING PARIS CLIMATE TARGETS, SAYS PM MODI

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaking at G20 summit Climate Change event has highlighted that India is "exceeding" its Paris Agreement targets and New Delhi is taking a number of "concrete actions" such as making LED lights popular which is saving 38 million tons of Carbon Dioxide emissions per year and smoke-free kitchens being provided to 80 million households. He said, "Climate change must be fought not in silos but in an integrated, comprehensive and holistic way." Explaining, "Inspired by our traditional ethos of living in harmony with the environment, and the commitment of my Government, India has adopted low-carbon and climate-resilient development practices." India has taken several measures such as elimination of single-use plastics, expansion of forest cover, restoring 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030, achieving 175 giga watt of renewable energy aimed at reducing carbon footprint and preventing climate change. Indian Prime Minister batted for the International Solar Alliance, pointing out how it is "among the fastest growing International Organizations, with 88 signatories" and has plans to mobilise billions of dollars train thousands of stake-holders, and promote research and development in renewable energy, the ISA will contribute to reducing carbon foot-print".



The Gurugram headquartered alliance is an India initiated project aimed at using solar energy to reduce dependency on fossil fuel. He said, "This is the best time for further increasing research and innovation in new and sustainable technologies. We should do so with a spirit of cooperation and collaboration." The side event saw the participation of Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud who is the host of G20, along with Italy's PM Giuseppe Conte, Japan's PM Yoshihide Suga, Australia's PM Scott Morrison, Chinese President Xi Jinping and US President Donald Trump.

23 anti-smoke guns installed across Delhi to combat dust pollution



To improve the national capital's air quality, the Delhi government on Sunday said it has installed 23 anti-smog guns at key intersections and construction sites across the city, and assured that this number will be increased, if necessary. Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai said that the Public Works Department (PWD) has installed these 23 anti-smog guns. He also said that PWD officials have also been instructed to sprinkle water on trees, roads and on the construction sites to combat dust pollution. "A total of 150 water tankers have been deployed for sprinkling water," Rai said. "I have also instructed the PWD officials to increase the number of tankers further so that all the key roads of Delhi can be covered. If necessary, we will install more anti-smog guns as well at the key intersections of Delhi." The Delhi government this year has launched a massive anti-pollution campaign - 'Yuddh Pradushan Ke Viruddh' - which is being led by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Rai. However, pollution levels breached the emergency threshold twice this month here with a grey apocalyptic smog enveloping the city for days, blotting out the sun and obsuring landmarks. To curb increasing pollution, the Delhi government had on November 5 also banned the sale and use of all kinds of firecrackers in the city till November 30. The National Green Tribunal had also imposed a total ban on sale or use of all kinds of firecrackers in the National Capital Region from November 9 midnight to November 30 midnight. Sources in the government said that over 70 lakh litres of water was sprinkled at 13 pollution hotspots in the past 36 days by the Delhi Fire Service to hold down dust as a measure to improve the deteriorating air quality in the city. The drive began on October 17 following orders from the Delhi government to check the dust pollution in the city, said the officials. Delhi's Fire Service Department has been also participating in the exercise and springling about two lakh litres of water on city's roads, construction sites and other key places regularly. The major 13 places, declared as pollution hotspots by the Delhi government, are Jahangirpuri, Narela, Ashok Vihar, Vivek Vihar, Dwarka, Mundka, Rohini, Wazirpur, Okhla, Bawana, Anand Vihar, Punjabi Bagh and R.K. Puram.

STATES MUST START WORKING ON COLD STORAGE FACILITIES FOR COVID-19 VACCINE, SAYS PM MODI AT MEETING WITH CHIEF MINISTERS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a meeting with chief ministers of all the states and Union Territories on Tuesday to review Covid-19 situation where he asked them to start working on cold storage facilities for coronavirus vaccine. The prime minister also assured the states that the vaccine against Covid-19 which Indian will get for its citizens, will be safe on "all scientific standards". "Safety is as important as speed for us, whichever vaccine India will give to its citizens will be safe on all scientific standards. Vaccine distribution strategy will be chalked out in collective coordination with states. States must also start working cold storage facilities," PM Modi said at the meeting. PM Modi's meeting with the chief ministers comes at a time when India's Covid-19 caseload has soared past 9.17 million. Though the country has been recording good recovery rate, it still continues to witness a surge in Covid-19 cases across India. "Seeing good recovery rates, many think virus is weak & they'll recover soon, this has led to rampant carelessness... Those working on vaccine are doing it but we need to focus on ensuring that people are alert & transmission is curbed. We've to bring positivity rate under 5%," the prime minister added.

COVID-19 SITUATION IN BENGAL UNDER CONTROL, CM MAMATA BANERJEE TELLS PM NARENDRA MODI



The Covid-19 situation in West Bengal is under control and the state is tackling the pandemic situation well, chief minister Mamata Banerjee told Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a video conference on Tuesday, a senior government official said. Banerjee is learnt to have urged the Prime Minister to send funds to tackle the pandemic situation and release the due GST compensation. "The chief minister briefed the PM that the Covid-19 situation in West Bengal is under control despite the fact that the state shares international boundaries, festive season has just ended and train services have resumed," the official added. She has also reminded the Prime Minister that the state has already spent more than Rs4,000 crore to tackle the pandemic but the Chas sent less than Rs200 crore. "The chief minister has assured the PM of full cooperation when it comes to the vaccine and its distribution," the official said. West Bengal has reported 459,000 Covid-19 cases till Monday with more than 3,500 new cases added on November 23 alone. As many as 8,072 persons have died of the disease in the state.

COVID-19: DAILY POSITIVITY RATE DIPS BELOW 4 PER CENT IN INDIA



India has conducted over 13.36 crore tests so far to detect Covid-19 cases, including 10,99,545 in a day, while the cumulative positivity rate in the country is sustained at low levels and the daily positivity rate has fallen below four per cent, the health ministry said on Tuesday. The country registered less than 40,000 fresh coronavirus cases in a span of 24 hours after six days. Since November 8, the number of daily cases has been sustained below the 50,000-mark, the ministry said. On an average, more than 10 lakh daily tests have ensured that the cumulative positivity rate is sustained at low levels, the ministry underlined, adding that it is presently following a downward trajectory.

Work from home until April a blow for businesses reliant on commuters in UK

The British government's call to the workers that they should work from home if possible until April 2021 would be a further blow to the businesses in the city centres that rely on commuters. Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday brought about a new three-tier system of restrictions, under which workers who can do their work from home should continue to do so. If this system is voted through by the parliament, it will last until at least the end of March 2021. Under the conservative government's 64-page winter plan for COVID-19 during the winters, working from home is one of the key areas highlighted by the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (Sage). Other highlights reportedly include closing all hospitality venues in tier 3 areas and closing all pubs that do not serve food in tier 2 areas. "The previous tiered system had an impact on viral transmission, but Sage advised that stronger measures would be needed in some areas to prevent the epidemic from growing," it said.

TELUS LAUNCHES NEW \$100 MILLION SOCIAL IMPACT FUND TO INVEST IN NEW SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES WITH BOLD IDEAS TO DRIVE SOCIAL CHANGE

The TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good will invest in new businesses that drive enhanced societal outcomes in health, agriculture, environment, and social and economic inclusion



Darren Entwistle, President and CEO of TELUS, announces \$100 million TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good at virtual event on November 24, 2020.

VANCOUVER - Today, TELUS announced the launch of its new TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good, a \$100 million social impact investment fund created to power the biggest, boldest, bravest ideas in new responsible and sustainable startup businesses. The fund will invest in entrepreneurs building solutions aimed at improving healthcare, furthering social and economic inclusion, ensuring sustainable food production, and reducing our environmental footprint. The TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good will fuel greater social innovation in Canada through investments in companies that generate both financial and social returns benefiting our society. “The Pollinator Fund for Good represents the progression of TELUS’s social capitalism thesis, as we invest in entrepreneurs and prescient business models that share our belief that to do well as an organisation , we must do good

in the communities where we live, work, and serve,” said Darren Entwistle, President and CEO, TELUS. “This \$100 million investment will accelerate potent, scalable and socially responsible products and services coming to market , helping to answer some of the most pressing social challenges facing our world, including socio-economic inclusiveness. As one of the largest corporate impact funds globally, our TELUS Pollinator portfolio will improve health, environmental and food sustainability outcomes by investing in our next generation of innovators, leveraging transformative digital technologies, to advance TELUS’s promise of a friendly future for all. TELUS remains committed to helping Canadian businesses and entrepreneurs adapt and navigate the massive social and economic disruptions posed by COVID-19.

The TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good will help scale early-stage companies and invest in those brave enough to tackle societal challenges, deliver value to communities, and fuel economic growth. Investments will focus on for-profit companies and founders committed to driving social innovation and economic growth in the following four areas:

- **Transforming healthcare:** Digital solutions that make safe and quality physical and mental healthcare accessible and efficient for all Canadians.
- **Enabling inclusive communities:** Startups building solutions to further social and economic inclusion and ensuring everyone has an opportunity to reach their full potential.
- **Supporting responsible agriculture:** Companies providing innovative technology-first solutions that empower the agriculture industry to improve Canada’s food systems.
- **Caring for our planet:** Companies and entrepreneurs building solutions to better the planet and reduce our environmental footprints.

An advisory board of entrepreneurs, investors and thought leaders with expertise across the impact areas is being formed to advise on strategy, markets, and deal sourcing. Early-stage companies receiving investment will benefit from the insights and expertise from TELUS’s depth and breadth of resources, including the TELUS Friendly Future Foundation, TELUS’s Community Boards, TELUS Health, Sustainability, and TELUS Ventures with its broad-reaching network within the venture capital space, to drive meaningful social impact in Canada.



TELUS Garden in Vancouver, BC, one of the Canadian headquarters for the \$100 million TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good.

“As a leading corporation in the world, we have an accountability to invest in new responsible businesses to ensure their success and impact,” said Jill Schnarr, Chief Social Innovation Officer. “At TELUS, we boldly believe profit and purpose are mutually inclusive and we’re doing our part to support purpose-driven businesses that are addressing the needs of our communities today, as well as those we expect to be significant drivers of our economy for years to come. The TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good is proud to announce its first three cornerstone investments :

- **Windmill Microlending** is Canada’s largest microlending program, offering microloans and individualized learning plans to help skilled immigrants and refugees continue their careers in Canada. On average, client’s incomes increase 3.4x upon completion of the learning plan.
- **Rhiza Capital** is a Sunshine Coast-based impact investment fund that invests in B.C.-based companies that drive both social and economic impact within the regions that they serve.

- **Tidal Vision** is a US based company that has developed a proprietary process for upcycling crustacean shells to develop a non-toxic, zero waste biopolymer that has applications across many industries, including textiles, agriculture, and wastewater treatment.

“As a global leader in social capitalism, we believe that responsible business means purpose and profit go hand-in-hand. The investments made by the TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good aren’t restricted to Canadian-based companies driving social innovation; it’s open to entrepreneurs worldwide looking to scale and grow their impact in Canada,” said Blair Miller, Managing Partner. “We look forward to working with our partners and advisors to identify and support purpose-driven companies doing good around the world.” Since 2000, TELUS has contributed \$1.3 billion in value, time, and financial support to Canadian charities and grassroots organizations, making TELUS one of the most giving companies in the world. The new

TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good is an extension of TELUS’s continued commitment to lead the charge in social capitalism through new investments in socially innovative and responsible products to drive financial return and economic growth while providing portfolio companies with the expertise and support from a world-leading communications and information technology company.

About the TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good

The \$100 million TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good is one of Canada’s largest corporate impact funds, and will focus its investment on for-profit companies and founders committed to driving social innovation. The TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good is an extension of TELUS’s long-standing commitment to leveraging the power of technology to drive positive social and environmental outcomes for all Canadians by funding the development of solutions for transforming healthcare, caring for our planet, supporting responsible agriculture and enabling inclusive communities. To learn more about the TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good, please visit: telus.com/pollinatorfund.

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