

NEWS MANIA

WEEKLY

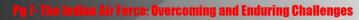
Different Voice of Analysis

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Sushant Singh Rajput's suicide facts are still unconvincing!!

Shampa Adikari, Mumbai

Sushant Singh Raiput's fans came across a video by famous paranormal expert Steve Huff who claimed to have spoken with the spirit of the late actor. He is seen asking a lot of questions to him and the answers he got were guite surprising. In his recent 'spirit-box' session, Steve asks Sushant about what happened before the night of his death to which the voice replied, "Big grauments with men."

Actor Sushant Singh Rajput's untimely demise came as a shock to many. The actor was found hanging at his Bandra apartment on June 14, 2020, and ever since an investigation is on in the case.

There were many fans who claimed that his death wasn't a suicide but something else. Apart from this, they kept on sharing photos and videos to keep his memories alive until one day they came across a video by famous paranormal expert Steve Huff who claimed to have spoken with the spirit of the late actor. After the massive success of his first video, he came with the other two that had some shocking explosions by the 'so-called spirit.' He is seen asking a lot of questions to him in what he terms as the 'spirit-box' sessions and the answers he got were quite surprising. In the third video which also features Steve's wife Debby, he asks Sushant about what happened before the night of your death to which the voice replied, "Big arguments with men."

At the beginning of the first video Huff says, "I have been doing this for last 10 years, I have created this device and I welcome SSR and speak to his fans and family, if you have a message Sushant you can feel free to come through. I was not familiar with your work but you are well loved, u have lot of fans out there, would you like to tell anything to your fans?" He even asks the spirit if he was in light to which SSR reponds, "Tell Steve I am getting light."The second video shows the paranormal expert saying, "I am working on a follow-up session for Sushant and he talks more, answers my questions and it is incredible. Here's a sneak peek.

The third video came as a shocker as there were a lot of things that were exposed. The spirit also revealed that his mother was with him. When Steve asks, "Sushant, can you tell me what happened before the night of your death," he gets an answer - "Big arguments with men". "Did someone murder you? Do you remember how you died?" is what Steve asks next and the voice says, "They brought nails."

Not only this, but the spirit also mentioned that he "Want some love" when asked about one thing he wants to say before the activity ends. Though this claims and theories are still under scanner.

Sushant Singh Rajput's demise has stirred a storm in the Bollywood fraternity. The untimely demise of Sushant Singh Rajput left his fans devastated and sent jitters through the film fraternity. The actor died by suicide, which raised many eyebrows. This raised talks about mental health and depression



and further threw light on how the actor reportedly became a victim of nepotism, favouritism and lobbies that exist in the Bollywood industry. His death sparked debates about how differently insiders are treated as compared to outsiders. The actor's death also stirred controversies about how Bollywood bullies and certain lobbies that are controlling the careers of many people.

Certain controversies that shook Bollywood after his tragic suicide

- 1) there were number of missing links and doubts which despite the post mortem report arouse that whether he committed suicide or was murder? no suicide note was found, his duplicate key was missing, his green t shirt unbelievable to take the weight of his 80 Kg, friends at house and many more question are still being investigated.
- 2) Nepotism debate is back in the spotlight -Sushant Singh Raiput's death brought back debates on nepotism into the spotlight. The film fraternity was split in two as the actors took sides based on their experi-
- Tiger Shroff recently broke his silence on the nepotism debate and said that though star kids have an advantage over outsiders, they have added pressure as well to sustain in the industry.
- Recently Alia Bhatt released her upcoming film, Sadak 2's first teaser poster. The teaser received mixed response and netizens started urging fans to boycott the film.
- Several star kids in the industry were targeted by netizens. Due to this.



Sonakshi Sinha left Twitter as she felt there was a lot of negativity on social media.

- Netizens in reaction to Sushant Singh Raiput's demise started unfollowing many star kids on social media. Alia Bhatt, Ananya Panday, Salman Khan, Sonam Kapoor and Karan Johar lost many followers on their social media handles.
- Several celebrities disabled their comment sections on social media. 2) Jiah Khan's mother raises auestions: Jiah Khan was an actor who died by suicide in the year 2013. Her mother opened up about how her daughter death's investigation was hampered due to the involvement of Bollywood biggies. She released two videos as well on social media
- 3) Jiah Khan's mother raises questions: Jiah Khan was an actor who died by suicide in the year 2013. Her mother opened up about how her daughter death's investigation was hampered due to the involvement of Bollywood biagies. She released two videos as well on social media.
- 4) Abhinav Kashyap calls Salman Khan a "bully": Post Sushant Singh Rajput's suicide, filmmaker Abhinav Kashyap was emboldened and dropped names of Salman Khan & family. Abhinav Kashyap blamed them for destroying his career in Bollywood and called them "Bollywood bullies".
- 5) Kangana Ranaut opened up about Sushant Singh Raiput's suicide: The actor claimed that people in the industry could not see her progress and threatened her, demoralised her and bad mouthed her. She revealed on social media that she was told several times that she would commit suicide.
- 6) Big production houses steering careers: Sushant Singh Rajput's death unveiled how big production houses are able to steer careers of certain actors. In the ongoing investigation, the case against 8 celebrities was filed. Many big names from the industry, including Sanjay Leela Bhansali, were interrogated for hours regarding the case. Yash Raj Films were made to submit their contracts and proceedings. This was done because it was revealed that certain big production houses sign contracts with actors. Sometimes the contracts bind them to not work on other projects even if they like them. This narrows down the projects an actor can work on and is limited to work only with those certain ban-

- 7) Sushant Singh Rajput's brother-in-law Vishal Kirti has launched 'Nepometer', an app which will provide score and rating on nepotism and independent Bollywood films and TV shows. Vishal said that it is a small tribute to Sushant and it is not for profit voluntary effort. According to Nepometer, Sadak 2 was reported to be 98% nepotistic.
- 8) The outsider vs insider treatment: The debate about nepotism led to many 'Outsiders' in Bollywood to share their experiences of being left out. Reportedly, two actors' separate movies are to be released on OTT platforms along with some popular stars' films. However, out of all the seven films, only 5 movies were represented on posters, chat shows and interviews conducted by certain media portals. This filled Kunal Kemmu and Vidyut Jammwal with rage and they tweeted their feelings.
- 9) Aditya Chopra is not at all convinced that Sushant Singh Raiput went into depression due to the film Paani getting shelved. According to him, Sushant's contract was supposed to end in November 2015 and YRF had also offered him a contract renewal. Chopra stated that he had a word with Sushant regarding Paani and had explained to him the reason behind backing out of the project. He had also assured him that he will get good projects in the future but Sushant did not want to continue his collaboration with YRF. Aditya Chopra shared that they ended the deal on mutual grounds so there cannot be an issue of re-
- 10) Sushant Singh Rajput psychiatrists open up, reveal actor was suffering from depression and was undergoing treatment since November 2019. From all his old records. it's seen that he might get depressed at times, but can't remain in depression for long. He was that kind of person, who had many other things to keep him busy, rather than just dependency on films. Seeing this positive potential of him, of aetting involved in many other technical developments, those who were after him, might have seen their failure to make him commit a suicide and then he was killed...as seen from the marks on his neck...savs one of his fans...

To be successful, you have to fall in love with your work. Sushant inspired fans to be fearless.

Raiiv Gandhi Assassination Case: Nalini's suicide attempt in iail. suspects foulplay



Amid reports of Rajiv Gandhi Assassination case life-convict Nalini's suicide attempt in the Vellore Prison for women, her advocate Pugalendhi in a telephonic conversation told media that the preliminary information was not convincing enough. "Nalini is a fighter and has endured so much in her 29-year incarceration, I doubt if the reasons stated by officials would lead her to take such an extreme step. She has never done anything of this kind during her nearly 3-decade jail term. Perhaps, there is more to it than meets the eye" her advocate Pugalendhi says. Apparently, the jailer had conducted an inquiry with Nalini at around 8:30 pm, after which a disturbed Nalini attempted suicide. Pugalendhi stated that tussles between prisoners and wardens taking sides were common occurrences in jails. But he rights and believed in fighting legal battles

points out certain anomalies - "it is likely that the prisoner might have complained to the jailer before 6 pm when the prisoners are required to return to their cells. If the complaint was given at 6 pm, why was it necessary for the jailer to visit Nalini and question her at 8:30 pm for what seems to be a normal issue? After 7 pm the jailer doesn't visit the prisoners who are in their cells, there are only routine visits that happen daily in the morning. What was the need to go in at night and question her ?"Suspecting that there is more to it than what is being said about this attempted suicide, Pugalendhi talks about the torture and mental agony that Nalini has faced over the last 29 years of her life, which she has spent in jail. He asserts that Nalini has always been a fighter who has stood up for her

Digital platforms have to be responsive and accountable towards the sovereign concerns of countries: Ravi Shankar Prasad at G20 Digital Minister's Meet

A virtual meeting of G20 Digital Economy Ministers hosted by Saudi Arabia which is holding the presidency of G20, took place on 22 July. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology represented India during this virtual meeting. In the wake of global pandemic like COVDI19, Mr. Prasad strongly emphasized the need for building a resilient global supply chain and shared the vision of Prime Minister of India for making India as attractive destination for investment closely integrated with global supply chains.



The Union Minister shared India's digital innovations that helped in fight against COVID19. He spoke about initiatives like Aarogya Setu mobile app, geo-fencing system for monitoring quarantined patients and COVID19 Saydhan bulk messaging systems during this meeting. He also spoke about how digital technology helped the government of India in providing relief to the economically weaker sections of society during this crisis. Using digital innovations of India like Direct Benefit Transfers and digital payments even the weakest in the society was provided various financial relief during the lockdown.

The Minister specially emphasized on the data related issues and sovereign rights of countries to protect data privacy and security of its citizens. He mentioned that India is soon going to put in place a robust personal data protection law which will not only address the data privacy related concerns of citizens but also ensure availability of data for innovation and economic development. In view of these concerns, the digital platforms having presence in many countries must become trustworthy, safe and secure. He told the digital Ministers of the G20 countries that it is time to acknowledge that digital platforms anywhere in the world have to be responsive and accountable towards the sovereign concerns of countries including defence, privacy and securi-

Northeast has potential to become India's growth engine: PM Narendra Modi

Northeast has the potential to become India's growth engine. said Prime Minister Narendra Modi while asserting that peace has now established in the region. Speaking after laying the foundation stone for the Manipur Water Supply Project, through video conferencing, the Prime Minister highlighted that modern infrastructure is being built to improve connectivity."The Northeast has the potential to become the growth engine of the country. Day by day my faith is getting deeper because peace is now being established in the entire region. The mantra of peace, progress and prosperity is echoing in the Northeast," the Prime Minister said.





India is working on offering production linked incentives for up to five sectors to boost domestic manufacturing, a top finance ministry official said on 23 July, bolstering efforts to attract new investments in the coronavirus-stricken economy.Asia's third-largest economy is expected to contract by as much as 10% in the current fiscal year beginning April, some private economists' estimate, after the outbreak crippled business and consumer activity since late March, compared to government's earlier target of about 6% growth. The government has announced a raft of measures including direct food subsidy to nearly 810 million people and credit guarantees of 3 trillion rupees (\$40.17 billion) on loans to small businesses. Tarun Bajaj, economic affairs secretary at the Ministry of Finance, told a virtual conference that incentives

would be of and help struggling industries. The government earlier announced production linked incentives for large scale electronic goods makers for five years, to attract investments in mobile phone manufacturing and electronic component units. Incentives have also been announced for pharmaceutical companies for production of bulk drugs and on medical devices and for textile and food processing manufacturers. The latest data on 14-15 economic indicators including railway freight and tax collections showed a pick up in economic activities, Bajaj said, adding the government was open

to borrow more from the market to meet spending targets for infrastructure projects. fered to sectors to push manufacturina

Lockdown for two days a week in West Bengal

With the COVID-19 situation threatening to spiral out of control in West Bengal, the Trinamool Congress government faces an uphill task. While Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee continues to fall back on her rhetoric of Bengal's COVID management being among the best in the country and blame the Centre for its lack of cooperation, the State government has admitted that community spread has begun in certain areas. It has also announced complete lockdown across the State for two days every week. The government will announce in advance which two days those will be, perhaps on a weekly basis. As the numbers increase, repeated incidents of medical negligence and helplessness of the common people in the face of the pandemic have brought to the fore glaring lapses in the State's health-care system. The State government finds itself in a situation where it must contend with not only political agitations but also increasing public dissatisfaction. West Bengal's relatively high rate of discharge was a point of pride with the State government for quite some time. With positive cases increasing rapidly, however, it dipped drastically, from 65.35 per cent on July 1 to 59 per cent by July 20. The daily rate of testing, which had begun to pick up in June (it crossed the 10,000-mark on June 19), remained stagnant for nearly four weeks, hovering between 10,300 and 11,500. Only from July 16 was there a perceptible increase in testing,

with more than 13,000 tests taking place every day. As of July 20, the State had tested 7,16,365 samples (including 13,081 on July 20), with the rate of testing per million standing at a mere 7,960.0n July 20, the State government announced for the first time that community transmission had started. Home Secretary Alapan Bandopadhyay told the media: "After consulting with several scientists, experts and those related with the matter, we feel that community transmission has been taking place in certain areas." He also announced the move to impose lockdown for two days a week. Lockdowns in various "containment zones" are already in place. Earlier, the State had embargoed flights coming in from Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Nagpur and Pune until July 19; the ban has been extended to July 31.



Source: PIB, Reuters, ANI / Edited by News Mania Desk



Bornali Biswas

Editor in Chief



In the wake of India's deepening mistrust of all things China amid a bitter border feud, Modi government executed a ban on 59 Chinese apps in a dramatic move that may have been in the making for some

time. Though there was palpable relief among the users of south Korean owned PUBG — the highly-addictive, world-famous game that has held millions in India in thrall since its inception. Not only PUbg any game having or showing violence should be banned in all over India. Completely banned means their site should not be opened it should be completely blocked. By playing Pubg our new generation is becoming weak mentally and physically .There are many examples where children are forgetting their moral duties and imbibing much arrogant attitude. India tried to ban PUBG Mobile many times but games are 'technically' difficult to ban, say experts. In various states in India PUBG was banned but the result was violent than was anticipated. In the last few years, many cases of violence have been reported over the game. A Karnataka based 25 year old killed his father who was stopping him from playing the game. Another Delhi teen that killed his family was also known to be a PUBG addict. These video games formed part of the constitutional right to free speech and hence could not be regulated that is how fantasy sporting always won its case in High Court. Though The National Child Rights Commission has recommended barring the game for its violent nature. The game has settings for decreasing the intensity of violence. Almost all children have access to video games, especially with the universal ownership of mobile phones with pre-installed or easily downloadable games. A 2017 survey conducted by the Asian Institute of Gaming and Animation(Al-GA) among school children in Classes 1-5 in Bangalore showed that all children played video games, 97% using android phones. In a UK survey, 74% of children are playing more during the Covid closure of schools. The AIGA researchers used screen pictures and rapid fire questions to ascertain student familiarity with popular games, and found that even the younger children could not only immediately identify various games but could quickly spot the level of play. They found that boys and girls play equally, though boys preferred shooting and racing games while girls preferred

puzzles and strategy games. The youngest children liked

collecting points and prizes, escaping from a monster, or

just running. The video games industry is huge, larger than

Hollywood, Bollywood, TV, and the music industry. Many

children play frequently during the course of the day,

and their normal schedule of socializing, family time and homework can be altered by video games. But a lot of adults play too. In the age group 40-55 years, 71% play mostly women of 35-45 years. Some games carry children to extremes like the Blue Whale challenge in 2016 that led to at least 130 teenage suicides. In 2014, a Korean couple, became obsessed with Prius, a child raising game, playing virtually non-stop. They neglected their own three-month old daughter who died of neglect and starvation. The early medical literature in the 1980s and 90s reported addictive psychological problems such as depression, chronic fatique syndrome, obsessive—compulsive disorder, dysfunctional social performance, irregular dietary habits, sleep deprivation, nightmares, and even increased use of alcohol and tobacco. Other studies reported physical problems like wrist and neck pain. The leading mental health institution in the country, NIMHANS in Bangalore, started the Service for Healthy Use of Technology (SHUT) clinic for management of addiction due to video games.

Using addiction as a loose term, rather than a scientific definition, may be applicable to a few children that indulge in spree playing. A study from Iowa State University says that 8.5% of children show behavioral addiction, using the term to indicate that these children have lost balance with other normal teenage activities. Though number of guidelines etc has been given to parents to allot time and duration for playing video games. Play can be a reward for completing assigned tasks which will teach discipline and time management. All video games must be approved by parents. Those that have an M (mature) rating are for ages 17 and older, and can contain heavy-duty violence, strong language, and sexual content for security and over burdened reason. To Discuss games with the children and become part of it at times. But such guidelines and parental monitor is all in vein when you see drastic change in the behaviour of your children. On a flight a few months ago, a woman with a year-old infant was seated next to me. She gave the restless child the airline magazine to look at. Looking at the colourful cover, the child began to move her finger across the page, thinking it was a screen, and became frustrated when the picture didn't change. In another surprising instance a kid of 3yrs is well verse to tap his finger in the you tube symbol and scroll all fantasy games and cartoon in the phone. Such incidents are very common in every household where children tend to be much smarter this days and parent are delighted on it. So the question still remains the same either it is Covid 19 or normal days Children are becoming addicted and forgetting all moral values for such violent games. Playing games isn't necessarily all bad. There is growing evidence that gaming could be beneficial to you, from improving cognitive function to slowing down the ageing process. It's true that some studies have shown certain video games can improve hand-eye coordination, problem-solving skills, and the mind's ability to process information. But too much video game playing may cause problems which are my concern end of the day.

> Please comment your views by mailing me at :editor.newsmania@gmail.com

The Reality of Indian Education System! Where Is Our Education System Going Wrong?

Kaushik Mitra, Kolkata

The Indian education system is bizarre. Here, education is not about learning new things, but rather about memorising a lot of things for a short period of time. We have spent our childhood learning a lot of useless information that has no direct connection to our practical life. We are told to be disciplined from an early age when we don't even know what it means, and when one grow they tend to forget everything, as if discipline is meant for kids only.

Our society is growing but the syllabus in schools is still the same, and the ways of learning are also archaic. Moreover, many schools don't have a proper playground for physical activities. Teachers seem tired and there is no enthusiasm in their way of teaching. Also, during puberty, students face a lot of problems both physically and mentally, but have no one to talk to about it. Amidst all this, our parents and teachers expect good results from us. This is one of the reasons why many children dislike intensely going to school and don't respect their teachers.

A person who has a big sum of money spends that money in building a school and appoints someone to take care of the result of the school, so that they can attract more and more admissions. They could do anything to make their result better, either through bribe or torture. They don't even realise that these students are the future of this country and among these students, some are going to be at a very respectful and responsible place.

When we graduated from school, many of my friends did not have the self-confidence to give their introduction. This is the situation of our so-called education system, and the worst part is, everyone goes through it, despite knowing that it's not very helpful.

Our education system is biased. It has a place for a person who can memorise 100 problems, but there is no place for a person who can solve those 100 problems. If you are fast in memorising. then you will be appreciated, but if you take a little time to understand things, then you are posed as the worst person to be ever born on this planet.

When a child commits a mistake, they are not allowed to rectify it, rather, they are reminded of that same mistake every second. Even teachers do the same. They make money without even realising that they are handling the future of this country. They teach us only to think unidirectional and make us believe that the rest of the ways are useless. There are a lot of teachers who are trying to make a change but most of them "work like this only" is the common criticism they face

Students become really under confident and have very low self-esteem. They are unable to grow into better personalities because for 10-12 years, they have imbibed a lot of bad habits that are really difficult to leave. According to a survey, more than 80% of Indian employees are unem



ployable because they lack innovation and creative thinking. This system needs to be changed.Last year's employability report has found that over 80 percent of engineers in India are unemployable as they lack the technological skills required by employers now.

Every year, thousands of engineering graduates pass out of college, but only a tiny handful of them are trained in the skills that employers need now. Over 80 percent of them are unemployable for any job in the knowledge economy, said a report by employability assessment company Aspirina Minds.The employability report is based on a research conducted on engineering students from India, the US and China. "We find that a low proportion of engineers take up projects beyond curriculum and do internships. Further, there is a lack of faculty talking about industry application of concepts in class or students getting exposure through industry talks," said by experts.

Main highlights about engineering from the employability report

1. The report stated that only 3.84 percent of engineers in the country have the technical, cognitive and linguistic skills required for software-related jobs in start-ups.

2. Only 3 percent of engineers have new-age technological skills in the areas which are booming now such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, data science and mobile development.

3. Thus, only 1.7 percent of engineers have the skills needed to work in new age jobs.

4. The report provides the primary reasons for low employability of India's engineers -- only 40 percent engineering graduates do an internship, while a mere 7 percent students do multiple internships. 5. Apart from a lack of internships, engineers also have low employability because only 36 percent do projects beyond their curriculum. Thus, they don't always build the skills to solve problems in a variety of situations.

6. Another problem adding to low employability of engineers is that the subject is taught in a very theoretical manner in colleges -- 60 percent faculty doesn't talk about application of concepts in the industry and only 47 percent of the engineers attend any industry talk.

Whereas employability report also found that the number of engineers in the US who know how to code is almost four times than Indian engineers. When compared with engineers in China, Indian engineers show better potential in writing correct code. This studies shows how education in India is

bookish and lack of practical skill.

The Concurrent Talks



Dr Rajlaxmi Basu Columnist

Remembering "The Battle Blenheim", A child with the scalp of a dead soldier, asking "But what came of it at last/ quoth little Peterkin" ...

Yes we are like this child, all are fighting against Corona.

The rising number of Covid-19 affected cases in West Bengal and in many states throughout India prompting many scientist that it may go towards community transmission. In West Bengal district like Malda ,North Dinajpur and Siliguri has already got the tag for community transmission. Let us understand what community transmission is? It simply means that the epidemic has become so widespread in a community that it gets difficult, if not possible to determine who is passing on the infection to whom. If we check with the district Darjeeling, within 24 hours 85 new Covid-19 cases has been found in Naxalbari area which is further witnessing steady rise, the scenario is a more or less same in Siliguri too. Many new cases are coming who are not being able to detect the specific source of infection as leads to apprehended community transmission. Determining the chain of infection is key to the containment strategy that is being followed. Contact tracing, identification, testing and isolation of suspected cases are all dependent on establishing the chain. Let's investigate why in North Bengal this type of unknown transmission which pushing us to say 'community transmission ' is high. The fact may faint us. Now all domestic flights were suspended from hotspot regions but desperate passengers were deliberately entering West Bengal through Siliguri chicken neck. Is not it horrible? Last week there were two cases when a patient was found with a COVID19 positive report from Siliguri who intended to come to Kolkata and another patient who from Delhi already travel via Guwahati was caught in Kolkata airport with Covid 19 positive test report in his pocket. For that fear Chief Secretary of Sikkim Government on 19th July compelled to issue an order for further complete lockdown. Sikkim managed to remain Corona free but recently few cases has reported which is sparking the doubt for loose chicken neck in Siliguri. "It is a shame that a tiny hilly state like Sikkim is blaming Siliguri since people have to come here for essential commodities" said a local citizen. Central Government has warned every state Government to tackle the lockdown properly, otherwise it may lead to community transmission. West Bengal government has always violated the lockdown norms. This Government was not willing to accord with the terminology of " community transmission ", but now



things are beyond control. Many school of thoughts is saying that once you accept that there is community transmission then none of these containment zones, red zones or green zones makes any sense. People may question the significance and meaning of such restrictions? So can Mamata Banerjee answer this terminology of community transmission?

On some experts suggesting that there is already community transmission (stage 3) of the virus in the country, President of Public Health Foundation of India, Prof. K Srinath Reddy maintained that it is a matter of definition.

These should be

- # Incident management, planning and multi spectral coordination
- #Surveillance and risk assessment
- # More laboratory facilities
- # Non pharmaceutical public health measures
- # Risk communications
- # Point of entry
- # Operational logistics

In a large scale community transmission scenario individual case identification, contact tracing, and quarantine are no longer necessary. Instead surveillance will focus on monitoring trends for geographical speed, transmission intensity, affected population, virological features and impact of the health care services. This multisource information informs ongoing risk assessment for decision making on appropriate public health measure. Not only in New Delhi, few days back Kerala Chief Minister also announced that the disease is spreading very fast and it is like community transmission. Main reason is, Initially, number of testing were higher ,but now it is lowest in the country. Hence the result is low and confusing. This type of transmission model is called " silent transmission". On 17th July Union Health Secretary wrote to Bengal health Secretary that this state is reporting 1600 daily cases, the overall testing remains very low vice-a-visa as per the national average records.

What is overall India's scenario? If we look back on 14th March, Director of Indian Council of Medical Research ,Balram Bhargave said that India had a 30

days window to halt the beginning of community transmission. For first 30 days India was able to manage the good wicket. Still hoping here is no severe type of community transmission, what is happening it could be a localized transmission which can be immediately contained like it happened during Zika virus. The model of transmission for Corona are varied. Person to person transmission is documented through respiratory droplets, contacts, and fomites- objects or materials which are likely to carry infection, such as clothes, utensils, and furniture. In addition to the respiratory zoonotic, nosocomial, faecal-oral and aerosol mechanisms. Remembering the route of transmission are thought to be influenced by socio ecological contact, the bio- geo physical variables influencing spread of disease, such as

population density, weather, population mobility and social behaviour. West Bengal Government should make predictable model to capture transmission dynamics focused on different elements, such as effects of lockdown measures and projections on the speed of spread. Now, I share a ray of hope. Presently the reproduction rate of this virus is 0.32. According to the language of epidemiology when it comes under 1.0, then chances of broad based epidemic come thin but not Infection free. Now we need to keep social distance and make the infection cluster more and smaller. Next responsibility will be to lock those clusters. By time hope to get vaccine and will win the Corona battle. This is high time to keep yourself safe, corona free and tolerant.



Coronavirus vaccine update

There are 23 coronavirus vaccine candidates in human trials, including Moderna, AstraZeneca Plc. BioNTech. Novavax. Sinovac. CanSino Biologics and Inovio. In a major breakthrough, the early-stage human trial data has revealed that the coronavirus vaccine candidate developed by AstraZeneca and Oxford University is safe. German biotech firm BioNTech and US druamaker Pfizer also reported that their experimental Covid-19 vaccine was safe and induced an immune response in patients. The latest developments raise hope as these could contribute to ending the pandemic, which has infected over 14.7 million people worldwide and claimed over 600,000 lives so far. More than 150 possible vaccines are being developed and tested around the world, including in India, Britain, China, the US, Russia and Israel to try to stop the pandemic. At present, 23 vaccine candidates are in human clinical trials. These include those of Moderna, AstraZeneca Plc, BioN-Tech, Novavax, Sinovac, CanSino Biologics and Inovio Pharmaceuticals

1. Russia claims its coronavirus vaccine is ready for use

A Covid-19 vaccine developed with the Russian Defense Ministry completed Phase 2 trials, leading First Deputy Defense Minister Ruslan Tsalikov to say the first domestic inoculation is ready for use.

2. UK Vaccine safe, gives immunity; The early-stage human trial data has revealed that the Covid-19 vaccine candidate developed by AstraZeneca and Oxford University is safe and induces

immune response, with mild side effects in some participants, which scientists say can be treated with the commonly available pain medication paracetamol.

3. Pfizer-BioNTech potential Covid-19 vaccine shows promise.

German biotech firm BioNTech and US drugmaker, Pfizer also reported on July 20 that their experimental Covid-19 vaccine was safe and induced an immune response in patients. The companies said the data also demonstrated an induction of high level of T-cell responses against the novel coronavirus. Pfizer is hoping to seek regulatory approval for a vaccine "as early as October" this year and have a vaccine on the market by

4. China-made coronavirus vaccine could be ready for market as early as the end of this year,

China's State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission(SASAC) said in a social media post. In trials, more than 2,000 people have received vaccines developed by the Wuhan Institute of Biological Products and the Beijing Institute of Biological Products. A vaccine could be ready for the market as early as the end of this year or early 2021, according to the May 29 post on Chinese social media platform WeChat. Vaccines from the Wuhan Institute of Biological Products and the Beijing Institute of Biological Products had entered Phase II clinical trials. Both groups are affiliated with state-owned pharmaceutical group Sinopharm, whose management is overseen by SASAC.

5. AllMS-Delhi begins recruiting volunteers for Covaxin human trials: AIIMS-Delhi has begun the process of recruiting volunteers for conducting human clinical trials of the indigenously developed Covid-19 vaccine candidate Covaxin, the premier medical institute's director Dr Randeen Guleria said.He also said that there is not much evidence of community transmission of Covid-19 happening at the national level.AIIMS-Delhi is among the 12 sites selected by the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) for conducting Phase I and II randomised, double-blind and placebo-controlled clinical trials of Covaxin.In phase I, the vaccine would be tested on 375 volunteers and 100 of them, the highest, would be from AIIMS. The second phase, would include around 750 volunteers from all 12 sites put to-

6. SII to apply for Oxford vaccine trials in India

The Serum Institute of India (SII) will soon apply to the Indian regulator for the licensure trials of the AstraZeneca-Oxford Covid vaccine. Commenting on the AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine's results, Adar Poonawalla, CEO, Serum Institute of India, said. "The trials have shown promising results and we are extremely happy about it. We will be applying for the licensure trials to the Indian regulator in a week's time. As soon as they grant us permission, we will begin with trials for the vaccine in India. In addition, we will soon start manufacturing the vaccine in large volumes." By end of August, between 4,000 to 5,000 people in Pune and Mumbai will be injected with the vaccine as part of trials that are scheduled to last over two months, SII

7. US Moderna expects to start late-stage Covid-19 vaccine trial on July 27.

Moderna Inc plans to start a late stage clinical trial for its Covid-19 vaccine candidate on or around July 27, according to its listing for the phase 3 study at clinicaltrials.gov.Moderna said it will conduct the trial at 87 study loca

tions, all in the United States. The experimental vaccine will be tested in 30 states and Washington, D.C. Around half of the study locations are in hard-hit states like Texas, California, Florida, Georgia, Arizona and North and South Carolina.

8. Zydus begins human trials for potential coronavirus vaccine Indian pharmaceutical company Zydus said it has started human studies for its potential Covid-19 vaccine.

ZvCoV-D. its plasmid DNA vaccine, was found to be safe. immunogenic and well-tolerated in the pre-clinical toxicity studies. Zydus said. In the human trials. Zydus will enrol over 1,000 subjects across multiple clinical study sites in India.

9. Novavax gets \$1.6 billion in US funding:The US government has awarded Novavax Inc \$1.6 billion to cover testing and manufacturing of a potential vaccine for the novel coronavirus in the United States, with the aim of delivering 100 million doses by January. Novavax is somewhat of a dark horse in the race for a coronavirus vaccine. The company was not on the list of vaccine finalists for Warp Speed previously reported by the New York Times that included Moderna, AstraZeneca, Pfizer Inc, J&J and Merck & Co.

Bharat Biotech starts human trial at PGI-Rohtak: Haryana Health Minister Anil Vij on Friday said that human trial of a vaccine against novel coronavirus has begun at the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences in Rohtak.Human trial of COVAXIN of Bharat Biotech has started at PGIMES, Rohtak.

US to pay Pfizer, BioNTech \$1.95 billion for 100 million coronavirus vaccine doses

The US government will pay \$1.95 billion to buy 100 million doses of a coronavirus vaccine being developed by Pfizer Inc and German biotech BioNTech if it proves to be safe and effective, the companies

The contract is the most the United States has agreed to spend on a vaccine, although previous deals with other vaccine makers were intended to also help pay for development costs.Pfizer and BioNTech will not receive any money from the government unless their vaccine succeeds in large clinical trials and can be successfully manufactured, according to a Pfizer spokeswoman. Although it is still unclear which if any of the vaccines will ultimately prove effective against the virus, Britain and other rich countries are already investing in the vaccines to ensure there is enough manufacturing capacity to deliver any successful candidate. Vaccines typically take years to develop and more than a dozen are in the early stages of



HE PEN OF THE REVEREND



The Indian Air Force: Overcoming and Enduring Challenges

Retd. Lieutenant Colonel Kaaushik Sircar

A Brief Intro

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is the air arm of the Indian Armed Forces. Its complement of personnel and aircraft assets ranks fourth amongst the air forces of the world. Its primary mission is to secure Indian airspace and to conduct aerial warfare during armed conflict. It was officially established on 8 October 1932 as an auxiliary air force of the British Empire which honored India's aviation service during World War II with the prefix Royal. After India gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1947, the name Royal Indian Air Force was kept and served in the name of Dominion of India. With the government's transition to a Republic in 1950, the prefix Royal was removed.

Since 1950 the IAF has been involved in four wars with neighboring Pakistan and one with the People's Republic of China. Other major operations undertaken by the IAF include Operation Vijay, Operation Meghdoot, Operation Cactus and Operation Poomalai. The IAF's mission expands beyond engage ment with hostile forces, with the IAF participating in United Nations peacekeeping missions.

The President of India holds the rank of Supreme Commander of the IAF. As of 1 July 2020, approximately 1.5 Lac personnel are in service with the Indian Air Force. The Chief of Air Staff, an Air Chief Marshal, is a four-star officer and is responsible for the bulk of operational command of the Air Force. There is never more than one serving ACM at any given time in the IAF. The rank of Marshal of the Air Force has been conferred by the President of India on one occasion in history, to Late Arjan Singh. On 26 January 2002 Singh became the first and so far, only five-star rank officer of the IAF.

Present Scenario

Eastern and Northern Ladakh is boiling today and a center of attraction. China from Aksai Chin, Pakistan from Skardu are continuously poking the sectors to destabilize India, but a potent Air Force with currently the Raphael, Apache, SU-30 MKI and Mirage 2000 India stands tall with BRAHMOS munitions fixed and ready to deliver in the need of the hour and if the situation so demands.

The air force over the years have graduated to be one of the most potent force in air dominance and air supremacy thanks to its dedicated Pilots, air maintenance crew and the machine they fly and keep them airborne to maintain integrity and sovereignty of India. Whatever may be the situation the air force believes on the man behind the machine starting from the Westland Wapiti of World War —II to the current Raphael Jet in the current Sino-India eastern Ladakh skirmishes across the border. The air force has in its kitty the age old warhorse the Mig-21 Bison that recently shot down the PAF F-16 (advanced fighter jet), Mig-29 Upgraded, Su-30 MKI, and the ever reliant Mirage 2000, age old Jaguars, Raphael and the indiaenized Teias variant. Every aircraft herein has a specific role to play right from Combat Air Patrol, close air support, Deep strike penetration, Bombing, Reconnaissance, Air Defence and maintaining air supremacy. The transport aircrafts comprises of AN-32, IL-76, IL-78 (Refuellers), CJ-130 Hercules, Chinook, C-17 Globemaster and the HS-748 Avro. The helicopter wing consists of the latest Apache, MI-25/35/26, MI-17, Chetak, Cheetah, Dhruy, MI-8 and CH 47 The Chinook. The 06 Raphael jets are awaited by 29 July and will soon be operationally deployed along the LAC if the situation so permits with a formal induction ceremony suppose be held in Ambala in the second half of August..

Recently owing to this ongoing crisis India has taken two steps at a time to procure the Russian Mig-29 Upgraded and Suk



and Pakistan. We may be twelve squadron short of maintaining the strike balance in case of a two front war, our force always has an edge over the adversaries on the superior quality of training of the pilots and maintenance staff. Our air force is time tested and battle worthy and inoculated as compared to most air forces in the world.

the western sector, in case of a two front war with both China

There are many schools of thoughts against purchase of the old 33 Russian airplanes that India is planning to procure today, however there are a few salient reasons for the same: ¬ Russia is an old ally of India having stood by them in the

worst of time. Timely strategic and tactical support had always been forthcoming from the Russians though at a heavy commitment

¬ The Russian aircraft are cheaper as compared to western aircrafts e.g. we can get three SU-30 in the price of one Raphael; though Raphael is a 4++ generation aircraft, mind you SU-30 MKI is still one of the deadliest war horse been flown both by India, Russian Air force and Chinese.

¬ Since Indian Air Force has been using MIG series and Sukhoi for last almost 4 decades a conversion training of our pilots in any of Russian aircrafts is faster and less complicated. Most Russian aircrafts are today upgraded to meet the demands of the Indian skies and threat perception across.

¬ The Make in India theory holds good for all these Russian equipments that gets an easy go ahead for transfer of technology for mass production in Indian Ordnance factories, HAL and DRDO.

- Last but not the least, Russian S-400 anti missile system today is one of the best in the world that is concurrently being used by both Russia and China and in a matter of time India too shall posses the missile defence system.

India is also entering the group of countries who are today producing indigenous aircrafts suiting the individual needs by maintaining the Teias aircraft for air force and naval variants and considering up gradation to the Tejas MK-2 and MK1A configuration with advanced avionics and radar system for better survivability. Under the MMRCA project Medium Multi Role Combat Aircraft project tenders are being floated to procure close to 200 aircrafts (12 squadrons) to replace the ageing MIG-21 Bison and Jaguars. The main contenders are the US F-A-18, MIG-35, the Swedish Gripen and Euro-fighter. This 4++ generation fighters shall

regards improving both on quality and quantity as under:-

RUSSIAN SUKHOI-35

The Su-35 is an improved derivative of the Su-27 air-defence fighter. It is a single-seat, twin-engine, super-maneuverable aircraft. The first variant known as the Su-27M, made its maiden flight in 1988. Sukhoi re-desiqnated the aircraft as Su-35 to attract export orders. It has seen improvements ever since with redesigned cockpit and weapons-control system. A sole Su-35UB two-seat trainer was also built in the late 1990s that resembled the Su-30MK family. In 2009, the Russian Air Force became the launch customer of the aircraft. The Chinese People's Liberation Army Air Force and Indonesian Air Force have ordered the aircraft in small numbers. MIKOYAN MIG-35

The MiG-35 is a Russian multi-role fighter which is essentially a further development of the MiG-29-M2. First presented internationally during Aero India 2007, It has improved avionics and weapon systems, a new AESA radar and precision-auided taraeting capability. With IAF having already upgraded the MiG-29s, it has already partially imbibed the new technologies.

BOEING F/A-18E/F SUPER HORNET

The Boeing F/A18E/F Super Hornet is a twin-engine multirole fighter. The aircraft evolved from YF-17 which had lost the competition to F-16 in mid 1970s. The F-18 first flew in 1978 as Hornet and is operated by the US Marines, the US Navy, Royal Australian and Spanish Air Forces. The Super Hornet has a new larger airframe and has seen extensive avionics upgrades and has taken part in the Gulf and Middle East wars. The variant being offered to India, with Make-in-India provision, will be Advanced Super Hornet with a new AESA radar. Boeing and Tata Industries have a joint-venture company at Hyderabad for Apache fuselage and other aero-structures. The new entity would supply components for Boeing military aircraft world-wide, including for the Super Hornet. This is the first time the Super Hornet is being offered for production in a foreign country. The Indian Navy is looking for 57 twin-engine shipboard fighter jets for which F/A-18 and Rafale are the contenders, even though ex

perts are questioning such requirement because neither aircraft can land on existing Indian carriers.

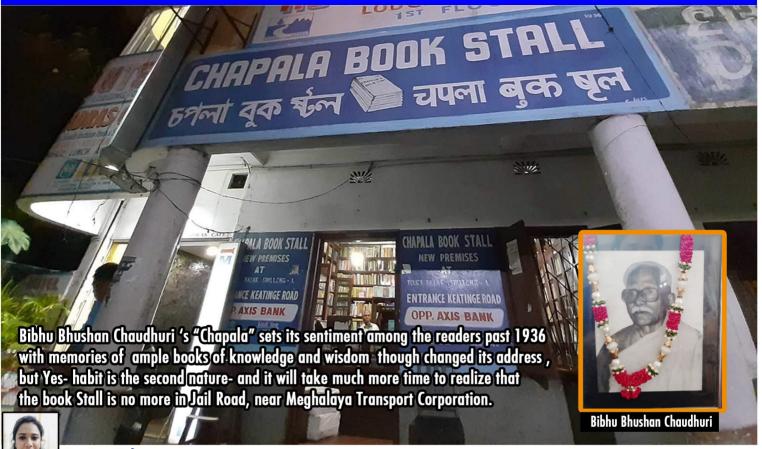
Nood to Haston

India is very good in adding to confusions and red tapes. Hope we do not tie ourselves in knots again. Past experience shows that RFP, which needs to be evolved between the various departments of the IAF and also with DRDO and HAL among others, may take nearly two years to issue. This figure needs to be reduced to six months. FTP (fast track procedures) is the need of the hour today. In a hurry to get gircraft, the IAF would prefer incremental testing of only the new systems on offer and quickly clear the aircraft that meet the technical parameters. The DPP allows for the trial process to be skipped where they have been carried out before. Ideally this exercise must finish in a year. If the final intent is to go through G2G, then maybe the IAF should just use the RFP responses and do no testing. One approach could be to ask only for single technical-commercial bid and not two separate ones. Thereafter, there could be a G2G deal to significantly save time. The IAF



must work for wrapping up the contract in two to three years. Winner of this contract will build a factory that will not only produce jets for the IAF, but hopefully making it a manufacturing base for exports. So a lot is at stake. Hope India succeeds this time, keeping in mind the budget, purse strings, requirement and the threat perception looming large. A potent air force is a measure to reckon with and requires no clarification.

"Chapala Book Stall" a Nostalgic Identity



Sumita Deb
Teacher, St. Peter's School Shillong

"Chapala Book Stall", legendary Book Store of Shillong, located in Jail Road, which successfully enriched thousands of minds with knowledge and wisdom has been demolished last week as the property was sold. Bibhu Bhushan Chaudhuri, the young and dynamic gentleman, established the Book Stall at the building of Banking Corporation in the year 1936 and named it as "Chapala" who was his younger sister and died at a very young age. He was born in 1912 at Sylhet district of Bangladesh, which was then a part of India, he completed his college education from there, as a young man he was involved with freedom movement as well. The stall could not have a better title as the name "Chapala" itself means "enlightenment". In 1936, along with the establishment of the book stall, Bibhu Bhushan Chaudhuri entailed himself in various other literary works pertaining to Asomiya Sahitya Mandir, Charu Sahitya Kutir, Jatiya Sahitya Parishad and Bimal Prakash Bhavan.

Along with the business of books and literary works, he also associated himself with Anandabazaar Patrika and Hindustan Standard from 1942 to 1945 and reported about the undivided Assam. He penned down about 25 books and 2 poetry books in Bengali and edited more than 200 titles in Khasi and Assamese Languages. He also edited many journals, which were published in Shillong. Being highly knowledgeable and learned person, he was

associated with many academic institutions of Shillong like Lady Keane Girl ,Laban Girls' and Boys' School as a Managing Committees. He was also one of the founding members of Shillong College.

As he contributed a lot towards the literary and cultural activities of Shillong and the entire Northeast, Bibhu Bhushan Chaudhuri was bestowed with The Shillong Times golden Jubilee award in 1996.



He died at the age of 87 as a bachelor. Buddhadeb Chaudhuri, who is a nephew of Bibhu Bhushan Chaudhuri, joined the business as legal heirs in the year 1970 and has taken the legacy forward. Chapala Book Stall was not an ordinary book shop in the town but it was a house of treasure where many Professors, Teachers, Lawyers, Scholars etc relied upon for the source of knowledge. It was furnished with classy wooden racks were hundreds edition of Assamese, Bengali and other books were displayed for the readers.

The demolishing of the building not only agonised and disheartened the proprietor and his family, but also the residents of Shillong, especially who were closely related to the book stall, all the commuters and residents would at least have a sense of nostalgia ones when they pass through that lane. But as the saying goes on "every cloud has a silver lining", the demolishing of the building does not mark an end of an era, the Chapala Book Stall is all set to embark upon a new journey on the pretext to serve its reader with knowledge with its new outlet open in Keating Road, Shillong, the shifting of books are already done. Though the demolishing of the previous stall is unfathomable, since it was the oldest book store of Shillong, and emotionally attached to everyone, but it carries the same tale though venturing in a new place with the same old title "The Chapala Book Stall". Yes we look forward for many more decades to contribute the readers across......

Candid Communication

XLRI's two campuses all set to commence Small talk around the corner with the film editor Sumit Ghose new academic session from August 2020



July 22, 2020, New Delhi: XLRI — Xavier School of Manage ment, Jamshedpur, and the new extension campus - XLRI I Delhi-NCR are both set to commence the new academic session from August 2020.

The Jamshedpur and Delhi campuses are two entities of XLRI — One Institutional Brand that will be overseen by a common Board of Governors. The standard XAT admission process would integrate the students of both the campuses, besides having in place a common curriculum, syllabus, pedagogy, e-library facilities, and, most importantly, a joint Placement process for Summer Internship and Final Placements.

Commenting on the establishment of the new campus, Fr. P. Christie S.J., Director, XLRI- Xavier School of Management, Jamshedpur, said, "With the launch of the new XLRI campus in Delhi-NCR, the XLRI family just got extended. Our extension campus at Delhi-NCR is envisioned as 'an integral part' of the Jamshedpur campus and not as standalone campuses like other management institutes. These complementing satellite campuses and the student community therein would get the same opportunities and privileges as the Jamshedpur campus. Moreover, they would be bound together by a symbiotic culture and a synergized relationship. Though



physically apart, the satellite campuses are and will be one entity and an intrinsic part of the XLRI family striving for the greater common good of the society at large.

Fr. George Sebastian, S.J., Director of XLRI I Delhi-NCR Campus, added, "We are determined to provide all our students the same high-quality management education and the same set of training. Besides, we would put in place the same summer internship and final placement opportunities. We have full faith in our esteemed members of the faculty serving at the XLRI Jamshedpur campus to pass on the same XL culture and values to all the aspiring business leaders at the new campus at Delhi-NCR. Access, availability, and deployment of faculty from Jamshedpur and all the common resources available would essentially establish the pedagogy of XLRI in both the campuses".

Indus Net Technologies aims To **Grow 3X In Post COVID World.** Launches a new brand identity.

22.07.2020 , Kolkata: We all are witnessing on how world around us is seeking long term and reliable digital solutions. Understanding this disruption, a five year roadmap to boost growth let to the introduction of "INT", a refreshed version of Indus Net Technologies.Indus Net Technologies has been around for over two decades and they have grown over the period, due to constant adoption of the ever-changing mindscape and landscape of technology and work practises.

But during the lockdown they were able to draft a clear vision of INT and undertook branding exercise. The New Logo INT supported by its new tagline We Deliver #DigitalSuccess, is a testimony of its transparent approach and prominence as a leader in the segment.According to Abhishek Rungta, Founder & CEO of Indus Net Technologies, "The rebranding exercise reflects our global service, capabilities and presence, representing the strong legacy of over two decades in a hyper-dynamic industry with a bold ambition of its young and capable team to innovate & deliver". He emphasised that INT in the next 5 years is looking towards a 3x growth, File an IPO- Getting Listed on Stock Exchange, More importantly touching the lives of 1bn people though work.



INT is already on the path to major growth, with a current recruitment drive to fill up mid-level and senior level positions, a non-stop process to add well-known brands and organisations as clients, entering into a strategic partnership in an European start-up while looking to do capability acquisitions in analytics, cloud support and cyber security in the years to come. They have already embraced the new normal of remote working or work from home for its employees and don't look to go back this year.

Source: Agencies & PR

Nandana Dey Choudhury, **Bangalore**

In a candid -chat between Mr.Sumit Ghose a film editor and Nandana Dey Choudhury for News Mania he shares, "After completing my graduation I joined FTII, Pune in 1988. My specialization is film editing. All over the world, Indian films are appreciated and we have a flourishing market overseas."



Mr.Sumit Ghose is a film editor based from Kolkata, West Bengal India. He has been associated with the Indian Cinema Industry from past 25 years. He edited many films both Documentary and Non-fiction. Mr. Ghose completed his degree in FTII PUNE specialisation on film editing. FTII PUNE is one of the most popular Institutions for the creative department. Most of the Film Directors, Film Editors, Music Directors, and Sound Engineers are from FTII PUNE.He has won many awards in both documentary films and feature films. He won for AJIT — Awards at Leipzig, Bilbao, Festival of Festivals (Denmark — 1997), HA-NONKAAL (Digital) — 2010, NATOBAR NOT OUT (Digital & 35m.m.) — 2010 CHITROKAR — 2016, Selected in IFFI 2016.

Communication between Nandana Dey Choudhury & Mr.Sumit Ghose

How long you have been working as an editor?

I have been working from the last 25 years.

How is it necessary to have experience over the years to become a good editor?

Certainly! Experience makes an editor more efficient and knowledgeable.

Without experience, it is not possible to become master of any field. Though experience also teaches one to learn more to become perfect which has no end to it.

What is the difference between today's cinema and our golden era's cinema?

One can write books on the differences between today's cinema and yesterday's. I cannot go into details here. One or two points maybe, now it's technically more improved. Gloss and spectacle are the keywords now. Story and script fall in the back seat by and large.

Hard work and luck are the two sides of one coin, so behind your success what do you think what worked more?

am not a successful person yet. Whatever I have achieved, luck played a major role in that.Looking forward for more to actually get that position one



You have worked in both Bollywood and regional film industry, so what is the difference between the two?

Bollywood is more professional while Tollygunge is not though I enjoy working with both of them.

We heard many times about censor board so what do you think it is justified to have censor board in Indian film Industry?

According to my view censor board is not required at all , let the film be judged by the people. Why some other or board decide for ones work. This days Viewer are smart enough to justify the same.

What should a student do to become a good editor or filmmaker?

Students have to watch movies of a different sort to be a good editor. Patience is the keyword for a successful editor. They have to read a lot, watch movies randomly, should be aware of what's happening around, should have experience about society to be a filmmaker.



What kind of movies do you like to watch? I love to watch good documentary films. If it's fiction my choice is a realistic kind of movies.

What do you think are the plus points and drawbacks of Indian Cinemas?

We Indians have taken this medium only for entertainment which should not be the case. Cinema has enormous possibilities but we do not intend to explore that. That's the wrong side of it. Technically we are very good and India is the largest film producing country. All over the world, Indian films are appreciated and we have a flourishing market overseas. That's the bright side of it. We have been and will always be one of the best

Edited by News Mania Desk

Around the world

New COVID-19 Law Lab to provide vital legal information and support for the global COVID-19 response

The COVID-19 Law Lab initiative gathers and shares legal documents from over 190 countries across the world to help states establish and implement strong legal frameworks to manage the pandemic. The goal is to ensure that laws protect the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities and those they adhere to international human rights standards. The new Lab (at www.COVIDLaw-Lab.org) is a joint project of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University.

Well-designed laws can help build strong health systems; evaluate and approve safe and effective drugs and vaccines; and enforce actions to create healthier and safer public spaces and workplaces. Critically, they are key to effective implementation of the WHO International Health Regulations: surveillance; infection prevention and control; management of travel and trade; and implementation of measures to maintain essential health services. The COVID-19 pandemic has seen a vast increase in urgent legislative action to control and reduce the pandemic. "Strong legal frameworks are critical for national emera-

"Strong legal frameworks are critical for national emerging public health risks. A strong foundation of law for



is global, legal frameworks should be aligned with international commitments to respond to current and health is more important now than ever before." However, laws that are poorly designed, implemented, or enforced can harm marginalized populations, entrench stigma and discrimination, and hinder efforts to end the pandemic. "We need to track and evaluate how laws and policies are being used during the Pandemic to understand what works," said Dr. Matthew M. Kavanagh, faculty in Georgetown University's Department of International Health, Katie Gottschalk, Executive Director of the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University Law Center added, "We must learn lessons from the early stage of pandemic policies to implement the most effective laws going forward — the COVID-19 Law Lab allows us to do just that."

U.S. virus surge in June preceded by May surge in Yelp entries for bars, restaurants

The surge of U.S. coronavirus cases that began in June was preceded in May by a large jump in consumer interest in social activities like dining out and going to bars and gyms, as reported on Wednesday in an analysis of searches and reviews conducted on its platform. Justin Norman, Yelp's VP of Data Science, said in states like Florida and South Carolina, which experienced high growth in coronavirus infections in June, consumer views of Web pages or posts of photos and reviews for bars, restaurants and gyms jumped more than 50% from the previous month. In New York and other north-eastern states where the virus remained contained, consumer interest in those activities "remained more flat," Yelp said in the latest tabulation of activity on its Web site, where users discuss and rate local businesses, particularly restaurants. The analysis was not a rigorous study of the issue. But it suggested



the raw correlation was potentially noteworthy — another bit of evidence to suggest that the effort to return to normal life in late May and early June, after two months of national lockdown, may have fuelled infections.

China Buying J&K-based Websites Amid Tensions With India; Experts Sound Alert

Facing strong retaliation from Indian Side after its misadventure on the Line of Actual Control, China has now started buying Jammu and Kashmir based websites. This started in mid-April, following the Indo-China Standoff in Ladakh. In one such attempt by China, a Jammu based daily newspaper's website https://jammuexpress.com/taken by a Chinese user. The website is owned by a user named "tao tao peng" of "peng tao tao" Company. The details further read that user is from Zhejiang, the eastern coastal province of China. The mobile number of the user registered is also a china based number +86.57164***099. The user from China has purchased this website domain from an email id qq.com which is banned by Government of India. While accessing qq.com from India, it .



reads, "Your requested URL has been blocked as per the directions received from Department of Telecommunications, Government of India. Please contact the administrator for more information"

Putin extends condolences to PM Modi over loss of lives in floods in various parts of India

"Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed his deepest condolences to President of India Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi over the tragic consequences of the floods in several states of the country," the Russian President's office said in a statement."Russia shares the grief of those who lost their loved ones to the rampant elements, and hopes for a speedy recovery of all those injured," Putin said in the message. As per the India Meteorological Department (IMD) reports, north-eastern states will continue to experience heavy downpour while parts of north India will experience heavy to moderate showers in isolated locations. The flood situation in Assam again deteriorated on 22 July as two more persons died in Barpeta and districts, taking the death toll to 89. Around 26.32 lakh people in 26 of the state's 33 districts have been affected by the floods, as per the state's disaster management authority. Several parts of .



Bihar have been submerged in floodwaters with Director-General of NDRF Satya Pradhan had said that a total of 19 teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) are being deployed in the state to deal with the floods situation. Several people have been forced to set up camps along the national highway (NH-27) after their homes got partially submerged in floodwaters in Muzaffarpur's Kanti area of the state

Bill Gates on theory claiming he is planning to implant chips via Covid-19 vaccine

Microsoft co-founder and billionaire Bill Gates finally spoke out against the conspiracy theories doing the rounds on social media that he is planning to implant microchips in people through Covid-19 vaccine. Gates told media that he wants the truth to reach people and hoped the fake news "dies down". The reports accusing Gates of planning something so outlandish was fuelled by an outburst from the head of Russian Communist Party in May. Gennady Zyuganov, in a column, attacked "capital globalism" and claimed that the mandatory vaccination plan is a "ploy by so-called globalists to implant chip in every human being so that their movements could be monitored".Gates said he wants to bring the coronavirus pandemic to an end and hoped that the theory dies down as people get the facts. Gates and a foundation led by him and his wife Melinda are working to find a vaccine for Covid-19. In February, the foundation had announced that it is donating US \$100 million to vaccine research and treatment efforts. Meanwhile, GSK and CureVac, backed by Gates, are work on developing up to five so-called mRNA-based vaccines and monoclonal antibodies for infectious diseases. mRNA vaccines use ribonucleic acid (RNA), a chemical messenger that evokes an immune response



when injected by instructing cells to make proteins that mimic pathogens. The approach, also being deployed in experimental Covid-19 vaccines by BioN-Tech and partner Pfizer and Moderna, is yet to be approved in any therapy. Tech giant Google had recently said that it will prohibit websites and apps that use its advertising technology from running ads on "dangerous content" that goes against scientific consensus during the coronavirus pandemic. Examples of content that will not be allowed to make money from ads include debunked conspiracy theories, such as the notion that the novel coronavirus was created in a Chinese lab as a bioweapon, that it was created by Microsoft founder Bill Gates or that the virus is a hoax, Google said.

In Georgia, cinema is the latest flashpoint in the struggle for LGBTQ+ rights

A 2019 film about the story of an LGBT dancer continues to strongly polarise Georgian society. "And then we danced," filmed in this South Caucasus nation of 3.5 million people, offers a snapshot of contemporary Georgian society — including its intolerance towards members of the LGBTQ+ community. It tells the story of Merab, a professional dancer who specialises in traditional Georgian dance. While training for a role in the prestigious Georgian National Ensemble, he develops a romantic and erotic

relationship with another male dancer, Irakli. Social pressure tears the lovers apart; when Merab is outed. he considers leaving his country behind.



Source :Reuters and other Agency Inputs /edited by News Mania Desk

Glitz Mania

Elon Musk Shares New Photo Of Newborn Son X AE A-12



Tesla founder Elon Musk on 20th July shared a new picture of his two-month-old son with singer Grimes on social media. The child, who made it to headlines soon after its birth for his unique name - X AE A-12 -, was seen deeply gazing at his father who was holding him and staring right back in his eyes. In the picture, Musk is seen wearing a black-coloured shirt with a grey T-shirt underneath it. He capped off the look with a blue bandana which he tied around his neck. The name of the newborn is pronounced as "Ex-Eye." On May 4, Musk along with Grimes, whose birth name is Claire Boucher, welcomed their son. X AE A-12 is Grimes' first child while the 48-year-old tech entrepreneur reportedly has five sons from a previous mar-

Vidya Balan Decks Up For E-Promotions Of 'Shakuntala Devi' In Comfy Wrap Maxi

Actor Vidya Balan who is on a promotion spree for her upcoming film 'Shakuntala Devi' picked out a hand-block printed 'wrap maxi' for the e-promotions of the film. Vidya took to Instagram to flaunt her comfy promotion attire and posted three pictures of herself donning the dress made from handloom cotton. She completed the look with minimal make-up and circular gold earrings and matching finger ring along with it. "E-Promotions for #ShakuntalaDevi premiering on @primevideoin on 31st July 2020," she wrote in the caption and further gave a brief description of her ensemble.

Sushmita Sen's brother Rajeev Sen to make Bollywood debutwith 'Iti'

Sushmita Sen's brother Rajeev Sen is all set to make his debut in Vivek Oberoi produced film titled Iti. The film is directed by Vishal Mishra and the tagline is 'Can You Solve Your Own Murder'. The film is a who



dunnit thriller and stars Vivek in the lead role. Iti is co-produced by Mandiraa Entertainment and Vivek Anand Oberoi's Oberoi Mega Entertainment. While Rajesh Roshan has been roped in to be the composer

Makers Drop First Look Poster Of Zarina Wahab's Short Film 'Kashmiriyat'

Makers of the upcoming short film 'Kashmirvat' on July 22nd issued the first look poster of the film starring senior actor Zarina Wahab. The first look poster features Wahab with her head partially covered with a white-coloured cloth and a black shawl can be seen wrapped around her shoulders. A map of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh is also seen in the background of the poster. The short film, based on the age-old values of 'Kashmiriyat,' has been directed by Divvansh Pandit and has been produced by Wild Buffaloes Entertainment and Ashutosh Pandit.

Film critic and trade analyst Taran Adarsh shared the first look poster of the film on Twitter.

"FIRST LOOK... Divyansh Pandit's next short film #Kashmirivat - starring #ZaringWahab - to release on 12 Aug 2020 on #YouTube... Produced by Ashutosh Pandit... Wild Buffaloes Entertainment presentation... Poster," he tweeted. The upcoming short film will release on YouTube on August 12



Skydance Animation's 'Luck'. 'Spellbound' Will Release In 2022



Skydance Animation's upcoming features 'Luck' and 'Spellbound' are scheduled for release in 2022. Directed by Peggy Holmes, the animated flick 'Luck' will open for viewing on February 18, 2022, as the first feature from Skydance Animation. It revolves around the story of a girl who stumbles upon a world of good and bad luck. She further joins with magical creatures to uncover a force more powerful than luck itself. While 'Spellbound' has been scheduled for a release on November 11, 2022. The story is set in a world of magic where a young girl must break the spell that has split her kingdom in two. Alan Menken, the composer behind Disney classics such as 'The Little Mermaid', 'Beauty and the Beast', is set to compose original songs and the score for the animat-

Kiccha Sudeep begins shooting for 'Phantom' post lockdown



Kiccha Sudeep is back on the sets of his upcoming movie 'Phantom'. He had started filming, but the actor went on to share his first look from the movie, which took Twitter by storm. Fans started trending #PhantomBegins on the micro-blogging site for the same reason.

Sudeep shared a video of the first look. He specified that the clip was not the teaser of the film, but it looked no less than a teaser of his character. In the video, Sudeep was in a boat with a little girl in the middle of a forest, with just a tiki torch helping fans understand the situa-

Sonakshi Sinha unveils first look from 'Bhuj: The Pride Of India'

Sonakshi Sinha has unveiled her first look from the movie 'Bhui: The Pride Of India', Meanwhile, her close friend Zaheer Igbal penned a new name for her, collaborating the title of the film along with it.

Sonakshi plays the role of Sunderben Jetha Madharparya who led 299 women to support the Indian Army during the 1971 Indo-Pak war. Seeing the first look, Sonakshi received compliments from Saqib Saleem, Diana Penty and others. Meanwhile, Zaheer Igbal called it 'Sona: The Pride Of India.'



izen's Colum

Tale of the Week

THE FORTE TEMPLES AND ARCHITECTURE OF ANCIENT INDIA



Shraddha Gupta, Grade -VII, Indus valley world school

Indian architecture is as old as the history of the 'Indus valley civilization'. The earliest remains of building activity in India dates back to the Indus Valley cities. Among ancient India's architectural wonders, one of the most prominent is the startling temples. For the people in those times, architectonic creations were more functional rather than decorative. The first few creations were made of wood. Indian rock-cut architecture became prominent from around the beginning of 250 BC. There are many buildings where the floor-plan has been excavated, but the upper structures have vanished.

The people in the old times had advanced technology and were well informed of the architectonic basics and were thus successful in making wonders which are enough to raise the bars of thrill in the people of the present era. However it is important to observe them closely. We have to consider about technologies available during those times in order to acknowledge their glory.

Temples are a place to go for purification of the soul; it represents silence and reconciliation and makes us feel closest to God. Benjamin Franklin said that "The doorstep to the temple of wisdom is knowledge of our ignorance,"

The kings of ancient India often helped financially in the building of magnificent temples of their Gods and Goddesses. It is believed by many, that the kings did this only to look prestigious and to glorify themselves, which is a completely wrong conception. Yes, the king might build temples for that, but it is only one reason. Then, the predominance given to any religion was high. People believed in the notion of God residing where they find their true devotees. The ancient Indian temples were classified into three broad types, depending upon architectural styles. They were — The Nagaras (northern style), Vesara (mixed style), and Dravida (south-

A very valid and relatable example can be of the Kailasa temple, Maharashtra. It is one of India's largest rock-cut temples. Following historical pieces of evidence, it was built around the eight century AD. It is a delight for history buffs and is located in the Ellora caves. It was commissioned by a Rashtrakuta ruler and the primary deity worshipped here is that of Kailas Nath(Lord Shiva). It is said to be carved out of one rock and shows features of Pallava architecture. This is also a prominent example to show how furnished the technology was then, that people were successful in making such a magnificent temple out of one rock!



The LingarajTemple, dedicated to Lord Shiva was constructed around the 6th century AD. It is one of the largest and oldest temples in Bhubaneshwar, Odisha. Its Kalinga style of architecture is renowned across the globe. It is believed to be made by the Somavamsi dynasty, with later additions by the Ganga rulers. The central tower is about 55 meters tall. The temple has fifty other shrines enclosed within a large com-

Brihadishvara temple, Thanjavur is a temple dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is one of the largest temples in South India and a fully realized example of Dravidian architecture. Built by Raja Chola I, it is a UNESCO world heritage site and is known as 'Great living Chola temples'. The original monuments

were built around a moat. There are many sculptures and inscriptions predominantly related to Lord Shiva. Built out of Granite, the Vimana tower is one of the tallest in South India. Like any other Dravidian masterpiece in Tamil Nadu, the Meenakshi temple is an impressive and import-



It covers about 15 acres, has 4,500 pillars and 12 towers. It is massive! Most astounding is the beautiful large no. of sculptures on it. This temple is dedicated to Lord Meenakshi, consort of Lord Shiva. It has been the focus of both Indian, and international tourist attractions over the years. It is one of the world heritage sights and is indeed

A temple, which is a feast for vision to its spectators is the Shore temple of Mahabalipuram. It is located at the very margin of the Bay of Bengal, such that the tidal waves sweep away its wall. With the rising sun spreading its golden rays and a white cloud moving across the cerulean sky, the tower looks magnificent! It is dated to the Pallava ruler Narasimhavarman — II's reign. It is one of the oldest structural stone temples of India. It is made of blocks of Granite and is a UNESCO world heritage site.



Chennakeshava temple, Belur can leave anyone wonderstruck. It was built by a Hoysala King Vishnuvardhana. It took about a hundred years to complete and is dedicated to Lord Vishnu in the form of Chennakesa. The temple is an architectural marvel that boasts of a large complex. The thirty-seven meters tall temple features the artwork of dancing women in different postures. There are a total of 48 pillars that are beautifully decorated with convoluted designs. The temple is truly an architectural glory.



Temple is a symbolic house, designed to bring humans and Gods together. The symbolism and structure of these magnificent temples are rooted in Vedic traditions. Temple architecture reflects the synthesis of arts, beliefs, values, and the ideals of dharma. If we retreat from our busy lives and look at the glory of the architectural wonders we have been hearing, it will be easy to understand the honor and arandeur of Indian culture and architecture.

Image and information gathered from Wikipedia and other internet inputs

Face of the week

Alisa Mandaka R Nikhla

"If I could eat a world of chocolates I would eat them. Just let me find a treasure of chocolates somewhere.

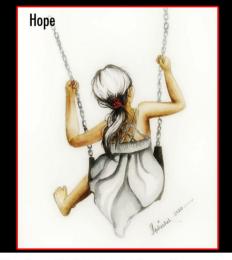


3rd eye

"When we crave simplicity we are not after an easier life, we are after life itself."



" ART EXHIBIT " Of The



Artist: Abhishek Dey-Guwahati

The medium of painting: Paper and Water colours.

Daughters paint the life with beautiful colours. They are the best gift to the world