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Thought for today
It is more dangerous to weep inside your mind than to weep in the open. The open tears can be easily wiped away, but secret tears create scars.

COVID-19
Vaccination drive continuing smoothly in isles

Port Blair, Oct 22: The vaccination drive is continuing smoothly in A&N Islands. As per data available, a total of 4,74,149 beneficiaries have been vaccinated so far in A&N Islands, out of the target beneficiaries of 2,81,603 (approx.). A total of 1,72,126 eligible people in the age group of 18 to 44 years have been vaccinated till dated 21-10-2021. A total of 3946 people were vaccinated yesterday in A&N Islands. 1560 beneficiaries were vaccinated in South Andaman District, out of which 105 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44 years. Similarly, 2160 beneficiaries were vaccinated in North & Middle Andaman District out of which 18 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44. 226 beneficiaries were vaccinated in Nicobar District out of which 1 beneficiary was in the age group of 18-44.

Apex Court issues notice for transfer of investigation of Deepika Kishen suicide case to CBI

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court today issued notice in a plea filed by Md. Khalil seeking the transfer of investigation of Deepika Kishen's suicide case to CBI as the petitioner claims that the case is not capable of being properly investigated in a fair and impartial manner by the Andaman & Nicobar Police.

The bench of Justice A.M. Khanwilkar and Justice C.T. Ravikumar heard the matter. Senior Advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan appeared on behalf of the petitioner and submitted that the tweets of the police officer involved are spitefully objectionable for the head of the police officers to pick up on one accused. Deepika Kishen, a resident of Port Blair, Andaman, committed suicide at her residence and an FIR was registered. According to the investigation, the deceased was in a relationship with a Sub-Inspector of A&N Police and the Sub-Inspector was simultaneously having a relationship with another woman.

Before committing suicide, the deceased recorded a video and the same was later published on the internet. In the video, the deceased narrated her entire ordeal and directly blamed police officials, reporters and connected people responsible.

The petitioner in the writ petition submitted that till date, no investigation has been undertaken against the said persons specifically named by the deceased in her dying declaration and they still continue to serve as police officers.

Earlier, an FIR was filed against the deceased person that she secured a job with the A&N Islands Institute of Medical Science (ANIIMS) through forged and fabricated documents. Pursuant to this, the deceased was arrested but later secured bail. Meanwhile, the main accused in the matter, the Sub-Inspector, published various scathing tweets against the deceased person and her family in order to destroy the reputation of the deceased. The deceased person then filed a petition in Calcutta High Court seeking a restraining order against the sub-inspector barring him from publishing any tweets.

The incident came to the light when one Protima Banerjee published the dying declaration video of the deceased and tagged Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other senior politicians. The petitioner submitted that as per the reports available with the media and on social media, the A&N Police have now been coercing SI Pankaj Kumar Rai to take the blame for the death of the deceased.



It was further alleged that the deceased person committed suicide because she was depressed about the fact that SI Pankaj was having an affair with another woman. The petitioner highlighted that the police officials have been trying to make him the scapegoat to save the senior police officials named by the deceased in her last video.

MP for duty rest to police personnel on special occasions

Port Blair, Oct 22: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma today requested the Director General of Police, Andaman and Nicobar Islands to grant duty rest to police personnel of Andaman and Nicobar Islands on their birthday, wedding anniversary, birthday of spouse as well as birthday of their children, so that the police personnel can spend quality time with their family members. In a letter addressed to the Director General of Police, the Member of Parliament today mentioned that police personnel of Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been working tremendously hard and since the beginning Corona Pandemic, they have been working day and night under tremendous pressure. He added that it can be seen in all corners of Andaman and Nicobar Islands that almost all police personnel have been working extra hours to make sure people of these islands are safe and COVID-19 infection is contained. Many police personnel are also walking extra miles to help needy people. The Member of Parliament mentioned that during VIP visits and also during festivals Javans of Andaman and Nicobar

Police are working dedicatedly to maintain the law and order situation. Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma pointed out that recently, the Dy. Commissioner of Police of Delhi has issued a circular granting duty rest to police personnel of Delhi on their birthday, wedding anniversary, birthday of spouse as well as birthday of their children, so that the police personnel can spend quality time with their family members. The circular number was issued on 7th October 2021 Dy. Commissioner of Police, IT, Delhi after it was observed that on several occasions police personnel are unable to spend time with their family members on important landmark occasions. The MP pointed out that on crucial occasions like birthday, wedding anniversary, birthday of spouse as well as birthday of their children, police personnel are unable to spend time with their family members. Hence he requested the Director General of Police to grant duty rest to police personnel of Andaman and Nicobar Islands on their birthday, wedding anniversary, birthday of spouse as well as birthday of their children, so that the police personnel can spend quality time with their family members.

Beneficiaries in South Andaman piqued over connectivity issues, technical snags at AADHAR Facilitation Centres



Port Blair, Oct 22: While the local administration leaves no opportunity to make full claims of its achievements in implementing government schemes through the official mouthpiece of the administration, the recent camps organized by the Department of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs are designated as the State Registrar for Aadhaar Enrolment by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) for the UT stands testimony to one of such failures. Though the camps were organized to provide services in a hassle-free and time bound manner and to improve the delivery of services, beneficiaries from various parts of South Andaman particularly in Ferrargunj Tehsil were left harried owing to poor internet connectivity, recurring

snags in equipments etc and were compelled to travel to the Civil Supplies Department headquarters in the city to get their work done. As per reports, the Department of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs has been designated as the State Registrar for Aadhaar Enrolment by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) for the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and has set up permanent Centres to facilitate Aadhaar related works for beneficiaries in various parts of these islands. In South Andaman, the Centres are located at Directorate of CS & CA, Port Blair, Department of Social Welfare (ICDS, Altam Pahar, Dollygunj), ICDS, Ferrargunj, Department of Education (Block Resource Centre (BRC)), South Andaman, Wimberlygunj, Little Andaman, Head Post Office, Port Blair and Sub-Post office, Haddo, BSNL A & N Telephonic Bhawan, BSNL CSC, Port Blair and the Department of Health (Registrar of Birth and Death), Atlanta Point. Through an release in the official mouthpiece, general public were informed that they can avail all the Aadhaar related services from any of the Aadhaar Centers as per their convenience. But to the dismay of beneficiaries, many in South Andaman region had to return rejected due to connectivity issues and snags in the equipments installed for the biometric verification. "The process for the updation of Unique Identification Number (AADHAAR) at the designated centres in South Andaman was not without hiccups. After spending long time spent waiting in the serpentine queues, beneficiaries were asked to come the next day as the machines didn't work. There were connectivity issues and officials deputised at the Centres had no option but to ask the applicants to approach the Civil Supplies Department. What is even worse is when after

See... Page 02

A&N Police observes Commemoration Day, various events being conducted

Port Blair, Oct 22: The A&N Police held commemoration parade at Parade ground, Police Lines, Port Blair to pay homage to valiant Policemen who laid their lives at the altar of duties on Thursday. Senior Police officers led by Shri Satyendra Garg, DGP, A&N Island laid wreath at Martyrs Column, Police Lines. Name of Police personnel of Andaman & Nicobar Police, namely Y.Rama Krishna, ex-HC and Kawaladhar Yadav, ex-PC who lost their lives during the year were read out by DGP, A&N Islands, during the mention of Police personnel who sacrificed their lives during the year in the country. Police Commemoration Day is observed across the nation in memory of all



High-Speed Expendable Aerial Target ABHYAS successfully flight

ABHYAS - the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) was successfully flight-tested today by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur. Abhyas is designed and developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru. The current flight test is carried out as a part of developmental flight trials. The vehicle can be used as an aerial target for evaluation of various missile systems. Defence minister Rajnath Singh congratulated DRDO for the successful flight trial of Abhyas.

State BJP delegation meets MoS Cooperation

Port Blair, Oct 22: A delegation led by Mr. Vishal Jolly, National Executive Committee member, BJP, Member of Home Ministry Advisory Committee, Govt of India & Former State President BJP A&N Islands along with Mr. Nand Kishore Singh, Secretary, CCWS Ltd. and Shri. K. Ramdas, State General Secretary, BJP A&N Islands met Minister of State for Cooperation, Govt of India, Shri. B. L. Verma in New Delhi on Thursday. The delegation discussed various issues related to the betterment of Cooperative Societies in Andaman Nicobar Islands.

Youth congress leaders welcome National General Secretary

Port Blair, Oct 22: Leaders of Pradesh Youth Congress Bindiya Banerjee State Vice President, Zahid Hussain State Secretary, Sadab Riaz State Secretary, Nambi KT District President South Andaman, Rahul Singh District President Nicobar, Ravinder Pal Singh Member Pradesh Youth Congress welcomed the National General Secretary Mr. Santosh Kumar Kolkunda, Indian Youth Congress. They discussed various issues relating to these islands and the challenges which the youth of islands are facing. Activities carried out by the Youth Congress Unit and formation of ground level organisational structure in different locations of Nicobar and South Andaman district was highlighted during the meeting.



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Ombudsman Vacancy at Andaman & Nicobar

Applications are invited for the post of Ombudsman under MGNREGA in the Directorate of RD, PRIs, & ULBs. Name of the Post: Ombudsman : No. of Posts: 03 (Three)

Essential Qualification and Experience: The candidate should have twenty years of experience in public administration, law, academics, social work or management.

How to Apply? Interested candidates should send the application form in the prescribed format to the Office of Directorate of RD, PRIs, & ULBs, Marine Hill, Port Blair. The last date for receipt of application is 5th November 2021.

Income Tax Department Recruitment 2021

Income Tax Department Recruitment 2021: Income Tax Department Delhi to conclude the recruitment process next month for 21 Tax Assistants, Stenographer Grade-II and Multi-Tasking Staff posts for its meritorious Sports Person. The last date to apply is November 15, 2021. Candidates domiciled in the North Eastern States, Andaman Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Jammu and Kashmir and Kerala can apply till November 30, 2021. Interested candidates can apply through the official website, incometaxdelhi.org

CRPF Recruitment 2021, Walk-In for 60 Medical Vacancies @ crpf.gov.in

CRPF Recruitment 2021 | GDMOs & Specialist MOs post | 60 Vacancies | Walk-In Interview Date: 22.11.2021, 24.11.2021 & 29.11.2021 | Download CRPF Notification @ crpf.gov.in

CRPF Recruitment 2021: Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) invites willing and eligible applicant (Male & Female) for the post of Specialist Medical Officers & GDMOs. Totally there are 60 vacancies are reserved for the given posts. CRPF conducts walk-in interview to choose eligible candidates for these medical vacancies. The interview will be held on 22.11.2021, 24.11.2021 & 29.11.2021 at various centres in CRPF. At the time of interview candidates should bring original certificates & all relevant documents. Applicant who are looking for Central Government jobs may use this chance and attend interview in a prescribed date as given in the notification.

CRPF recruitment notification link is available on the official website (crpf.gov.in). Before attending interview, candidates should ensure that he/she should fulfill all the eligibility condition as given in the CRPF job notification. After the interview selected candidates will be appointed at their required post for the initial period of three years, with the scale pay of Rs. 75,000 to Rs. 85,000. More details of CRPF job vacancy, selection list, merit list, upcoming notification, answer key, merit list etc. will be available on the official website. The interview date, time & venue are briefly given below.

Here you will get the details of educational qualification, age limit, salary details, selection process, walk-in interview and how to attend interview in CRPF recruitment process. Stay tuned with daily recruitment to get more latest updates.

Pig's kidney successfully transplanted to human body

US surgeons have successfully transferred a pig's kidney to a human body and it worked satisfactorily without triggering immediate rejection by the recipient's body.

Surgeons, led by Dr. Robert Montgomery at New York University Langone Health, attached the pig's kidney to a pair of large blood vessels outside the body of a patient on September 25 and tested that it filtered waste and produced urine for two days.

The kidney, taken from a genetically engineered pig, was tied on a brain dead woman on a ventilator, whose family agreed to the tests. The family felt there was a possibility that some good could come from this gift, Montgomery said.

This research is a significant step, said Dr. Andrew Adams of the University of Minnesota Medical School, who was not part of the work. It will reassess patients, researchers and regulators that we're moving in the right direction.

The method proved to be a major step in the quest to use animal organs for life-saving transplants since here is a dire shortage of human organs for transplant.

Pigs have been the most recent research focus to address the organ shortage, but among the hurdles: A sugar in pig cells, foreign to the human body, causes immediate organ rejection. The kidney for this experiment came from a gene-edited animal, engineered to eliminate that sugar and avoid an immune system attack.

Though pig heart valves have been used successfully for decades in humans, this is the first time that pig kidney is transplanted to human.

There are other uses for pig body in medicine. The blood thinner heparin is derived from pig intestines. Thinner skin grafts are used on burns and Chinese surgeons have used pig corneas to restore sight.

Pigs have advantages over monkeys and apes. They are produced for food, so using them for organs raises fewer ethical concerns. Pigs have large livers, short gestation periods and organs comparable to humans.

The dream of animal-to-human transplants or xenotransplantation goes back to the 17th century with stumbling attempts to use animal blood for transfusions. By the 20th century, surgeons were attempting transplants of organs from baboons into humans, notably Baby Fae, a dying infant, who lived 21 days with a baboon heart.

With no lasting success and much public uproar, scientists turned from primates to pigs, tinkering with their genes to bridge the species gap. Montgomery himself had received a transplant three years ago, a human heart from a donor with hepatitis C because he was willing to take any organ. I was one of those people lying in an ICU waiting and not knowing whether an organ was going to come in time, he said. Several biotech companies are in the running to develop suitable pig organs for transplant to help ease the human organ shortage. More than 90,000 people in the US are in line for a kidney transplant. Every day, 12 die while waiting.

The advance is a win for Revivicor, a subsidiary of United Therapeutics, the company that engineered the pig and its cousins, a herd of 100 raised in tightly controlled conditions at a facility in Iowa. The pigs lack a gene that

produces alpha-gal, the sugar that provokes an immediate attack from the human immune system. In December, the Food and Drug Administration approved the gene alteration in the Revivicor pigs as safe for human food consumption and medicine. This is an important step forward in realizing the promise of xenotransplantation, which will save thousands of lives each year in the not-too-distant future, said United Therapeutics CEO Marlene Rohlfelt in a statement.

Experts say tests on nonhuman primates and last month's experiment with a human body paved the way for the first experimental pig kidney or heart transplants in living people in the next several years.

Raising pigs to be organ donors feels wrong to some people, but many grow more acceptable if concerns about animal welfare can be addressed, said Karen Maschke, a research scholar at the Hastings Center, who will help develop ethics and policy recommendations for the first clinical trials under a grant from the National Institutes of Health.

Prasar Bharati Recruitment 2021, Apply For Correspondent Vacancies @ www.prasarbharti.gov.in

Prasar Bharati Recruitment 2021 | Correspondent Post | 13 vacancies | Last date: 20.11.2021 | Download Application Form @ prasarbharti.gov.in

Prasar Bharati Recruitment 2021: Prasar Bharati has advertised new job notification for the post of Part Time Correspondent. For this Prasar Bharati job notification, recruiting 13 candidates are assigned for Correspondent post. Eligible candidates are searching for the central government jobs may use this chance. Aspirants may download the application form from the official website. Candidates are requested to read the notification carefully before filing up the application form. Desirous and willing candidate may submit the filled application form on or before 20.11.2021.

Candidates should have completed Diploma/PG Degree are eligible to apply for this correspondent vacancy. Incomplete application and application without relevant document will not be considered. Applicant should upload the copies of all relevant documents along with the filled application form should be submitted to the prescribed address. Refer official notification to get the address details. Method of selection may be based on written test/interview. Selected candidate will get a pay scale of Rs. 8000. Prasar Bharati recruitment 2021 notification and Prasar Bharati application form link are given below.

Here you will get more information of Prasar Bharati recruitment details like educational qualification, age limit, selection process, & steps to apply etc. Applicants are advised to keep check daily recruitment site regularly to get latest job notification.

IOCL Recruitment 2021, Apply 2439 Apprentice & Other Vacancies @ iocl.com

IOCL Recruitment 2021 | Apprentice Posts | Total Vacancies 1900+ | Last Date 12.11.2021 | Indian Oil Refineries Recruitment Notification @ www.iocl.com

IOCL Recruitment 2021: Indian Oil Corporation Limited has issued new job notice on 22.10.2021 to fill up 1900+ vacancies in various Refineries. It invites application via online mode and apply link has been activated on 22.10.2021. There are 1900+ candidates will be recruited for Trade Apprentice & Technician Apprentice posts under the Apprenticeship Act 1961 and Refineries Division wise vacancy details are given below. Candidates who are looking for diploma jobs in central govt kindly make the online registration @ Indian Oil Careers. As per the IOCL recruitment notification, online mode applications will be received up to 12.11.2021.

Indian Oil Apprentice Recruitment Notification & IOCL Refineries Division Recruitment apply online link is available @ www.iocl.com. Candidates who are seeking 12th pass jobs must check their eligibility i.e. educational qualification, age limit, experience and etc. Indian Oil Corporation Apprentice selection will be based on Merit list and selected candidates will undergo apprenticeship training at following Refineries like Guwahati, Barauni, Gujarat, Haldia, Mathura, PRRP Panipat, Digboi, Bongaigaon & Paradip. More details of www.iocl.com recruitment, Indian Oil New vacancy, upcoming Indian Oil Corporation jobs notices, syllabus, answer key, merit list, selection list, admit card, result, upcoming Central Govt Jobs notifications and etc. will be uploaded on official website.

You may visit Career page to get more details about www.iocl.com recruitment. Here you will get information like educational qualification, age limit, application mode, fee and how to apply. Keep check www.iocl.com daily recruitment in regularly to get latest updates & upcoming govt exams.

ESIC Recruitment 2021, Walk-in for Tutor Vacancies @ esic.nic.in

ESIC Recruitment 2021 | Tutor | 21 Vacancies | Walk-In Interview Date: 21.10.2021 to 22.10.2021 | ESIC Job Notification @ esic.nic.in

ESIC Recruitment 2021: Employee State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) invites application for the post of Tutor posts. As per ESIC recruitment 2021 notification, totally 21 vacancies are announced as vacant. Candidates who are searching for Central Government jobs can use this opportunity to join in ESIC jobs. They will conduct the written test & walk-in interview to fill up these advertised vacancies. Candidates should read the notification to check the terms & conditions. Walk-in interview will be conducted on 21.10.2021 to 22.10.2021. ESIC recruitment 2021 notification & application form are active @ www.esic.nic.in.

ESIC is going to hire candidates on contract basis. Applicants should hold BDS degree from recognized university. ESIC recruitment 2021 notification has been released on 29.09.2021. Tenure is 1 year. Candidates are instructed to fill the application form carefully. Incomplete application will be rejected. Aspirants must pay a fee through prescribed mode. No TA/DA will be paid to attend the interview or joining. Candidates may appear for more than one post. More details of ESIC recruitment like selection list, merit list, results & upcoming job notices will be uploaded at official website.

ESIC Recruitment 2021 | Senior Resident, Assistant Professor & Other Posts | 82 Vacancies | Last Date: 26.09.2021 | ESIC Awar Recruitment Notification @ www.esic.nic.in
ESIC Recruitment 2021: Employees State Insurance Corporation has initiated the recruitment process for the following post such as Professor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor & Senior Resident. As per ESIC recruitment 2021 notification (Advertisement No. 09/2021), there are 82 vacancies will be filled on contract basis. Applicants who willing to work under Central Government may use this chance to join in ESIC vacancy 2021. Candidates need to submit the filled form via email (dean-awar.esic.in) on or before 26.09.2021. Interview will be conducted on 28.09.2021.

Applicants who had completed MBBS/PG Degree/PG Diploma are eligible to apply for this ESIC Awar recruitment 2021. Candidates should submit the filled application form along with following supporting documents like age proof, educational qualification, experience certificates, etc. ESIC recruitment 2021 notification & application form are available from 21.09.2021 @ www.esic.nic.in. Applicants must have registered their qualification in MCII State Medical Council. More details of ESIC Hospital recruitment, selection list, results, merit list & upcoming ESIC notification will be uploaded at official website.

South Western Railway Recruitment 2021, 904 Apprentice Vacancies, Apply Online @ www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

South Western Railway Recruitment 2021 | Apprentice | 904 Vacancies | Last Date: 03.11.2021 | RRC Hubli Job Notification @ www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

South Western Railway Recruitment 2021: South Western Railway - Railway Recruitment Cell, Hubli has released the notification for engagement of Apprentices for the year 2021-2022. SWR invites application to fill up 904 vacancies under the Apprentices Act, 1961. Candidates who are searching for Railway job may apply for this SWR Apprenticeship vacancy. Applicants are instructed to apply via online from 04.10.2021 @ www.rrcbhubli.in. They will hire candidates on basis of merit list for apprenticeship training. Deadline to make a registration for this RRC SWR Apprentice recruitment 2021 is 03.11.2021.

Candidates who had passed Class 10th are eligible to apply for this South Western Railway Hubli recruitment. Diploma/Engineering degree holders are not capable to apply for this SWR Apprentice jobs. Aspirants must bring a valid email id, mobile number, Aadhar account & self bank account at time of online application process & keep it active throughout the recruitment process. Training will be provided at Divisions/Workshops/Units of South Western Railway. More details of South Western Railway jobs, admit card, merit list, upcoming RRC Hubli vacancies & results will be uploaded at official website.

Visit official website to get more career opportunity @ RRC SWR. Educational qualification, age limit, selection process, apply mode, fee details & steps to apply are provided above. For latest updates, visit www.dailyrecruitment.in.

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What Are The Symptoms?

What Are The Preventive Measures?

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IN CONVERSATION

IIT RESEARCHERS WORKING ON FIRST-OF-ITS KIND GEOGRAPHY BASED SMART SPEED WARNING SYSTEM

Researchers at different Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are working on development of a first-of-its kind "smart speed warning system" for vehicles which will alert the driver on the basis of road infrastructure and geographical location to avoid over-speeding related crashes.

According to statistics available with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, about 70 per cent of road fatalities in India occur due to over-speeding.

To minimise such fatalities, the government had mandated that all new cars sold from July 1, 2019, should include a speed governor device that will generate intermittent warning beeps for above 80 kmph and the constant beep for above 120 kmph for drivers. To further reduce damage to lives, the limit for speeding was increased by ten times under the new Motor Vehicles Act of 2019.

However, the researchers at IIT Guwahati and Bombay believe the current speed governing device is a "one size fits all" solution and does not have much intelligence and the same system cannot effectively work while driving in hilly terrains, plains or desert areas.

"Our studies revealed the safe speed for a vehicle can significantly vary with changes in road geometry like on sharp or blind curves or hairpin bends. Therefore, there is a need to develop a smart speed warning system incorporating a dynamic and adaptable speed threshold based on upcoming road infrastructure to avoid over-speeding-related crashes," Akhilesh Kumar Maurya, Civil Engineering Professor at IIT Guwahati, told PTI. "Traditional warning systems are based on the fixed speed threshold, however, the concept of a smart warning system is based on upcoming road infrastructure and vehicle location. On approaching curves along a roadway, including blind curves or hairpin bends, vehicles equipped with such a system will warn drivers in advance, which will allow drivers to adopt corrective actions and avoid

accidents," he added.

These researchers, who are in process of filing a patent for the system, claim that such a system is not available anywhere across the globe.

According to the team, algorithm for the smart speed warning system was

developed based on the field data collected from a 45 km stretch of four-lane highway (NH-40) between Jorabat in Assam and Nongpoh in Meghalaya, consisting of 285 horizontal curves. The study section covered a broader range of road geometry (curve radius ranges from 20-800m, curve length varies from 30-244 m and gradient varied from seven per cent to nine per cent.

"We are in the process of analysing data of two-lane undivided highway NH-61 between Mumbai and Malshesh Ghat in Maharashtra. We have now completed our pilot studies along four-lane divided highway, NH-160 between Thane and Nashik (Maharashtra) and now planning to collect detailed data very soon," Maurya said.

The team plans to conduct similar pilot studies at different highways across the country to get an idea of different geographical locations and present the model ultimately to the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI).

During the pilot studies of speed prediction model development, the researchers came up with car speed model and HCV and LCV speed model.

According to Avijit Maji, Associate Professor at IIT Bombay's Civil Engineering

department, researchers have used operating speed of vehicles as one of the surrogate measures for safety evaluation of horizontal curves.

"Now, the 85th percentile speed of vehicles in free-flow condition is widely considered as the operating speed. However, the geometric features of highways are designed on the basis of design speed. Some studies pointed out that the design speed might be represented by 95th to 98th percentile speed of vehicles in free-flow condition," he described in a paper published in the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) journal.

"Drivers in developing nations are not well disciplined and often drive solely based on their perception of the road geometry. Hence, the 98th percentile vehicle speed can be useful in evaluating safety of a highway section in such country. Now, the available vehicle speed prediction models vary widely. Differences in driver behaviour and highway geometry might be the reasons for these variations," he added.

Another research scholar from the team asserted that studies show that the decision-making process and driver performance greatly depend on situational awareness.

"Drivers intend to operate vehicles at safe speed based on the roadway geometric features. These features are characterised by gradient, horizontal curvature, length of curves and tangent sections, super-elevation, etc. Perceptive and consistent geometric characteristics of the roadway can ease the decision making burden and thus minimise driver error. So far, majority of the studies on geometric design consistency are conducted on isolated curve sections in plain terrain for traffic with strong lane discipline. The effect of gradient is not significant in these terrains. Further, the driving behaviour of traffic with weak lane discipline is not represented in these studies," he described.

India can become world's edtech capital: Kant

Niti Aayog CEO Amilesh Kant on Friday said India can become the edtech capital of the world, with the private sector playing a key role and the public sector acting as a

facilitator.

Speaking at a virtual conference of Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI), Kant also said India needs to significantly improve its

learning outcomes, and technology can help the country leapfrog in a big way.

"I am confident that India can become the edtech capital of the world with the private sector playing a key role and the public sector acting as a facilitator," he said.

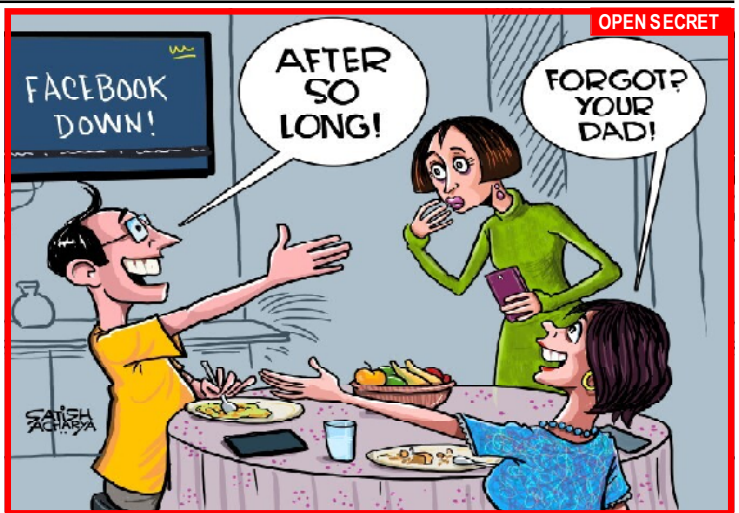
Kant said affordable internet connectivity and technology-based infrastructure are the only ways to enhance the education sector in the country. "Relying only on physical infrastructure will not be sufficient," he noted. According to the Niti Aayog CEO, the Indian edtech ecosystem has great growth potential.

"But more importantly, the

country will progress, students will learn, and learning outcomes will improve," he said, adding that comprehensive edtech architecture will help with better access to education, especially to disadvantaged groups.

Also speaking at the event, Byju's founder and CEO Byju Raveendran said through edtech, there is an opportunity for students to learn, but India can also become a global talent pool for teachers.

"We talk about the democratic dividend on the one hand, but if they don't have access to education, it's not of much use. On the other hand, if we do provide it, it's a huge opportunity for India," he said.



T20 World Cup: Virat Kohli bids to sign off on T20 leadership with global title

MUMBAI: Virat Kohli will step down as India's 20-over skipper after the Twenty20 World Cup in the United Arab Emirates and Oman and the talisman could not have hoped for a better setting as he takes another stab at leading the side to a global title.

Kohli, also India's batting mainstay, has captained the team across formats for about five years but recently announced his decision to relinquish Twenty20 leadership to better manage his workload.

Never shy at showing his emotions on the field, the 32-year-old has led India to numerous successes in bilateral cricket at home and abroad but has never won an ICC trophy as captain - be it the 2017 Champions Trophy, the 2019 50-over World Cup or the ICC Test Championship.

"For India, the message ... is simple - do it for Virat Kohli," former India batsman Suresh Raina wrote in an ICC column for the T20 World Cup.

While an ICC trophy has eluded Kohli as a leader, he will have plenty of experience to tap into with the addition of team mentor Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who led India to the inaugural World T20 trophy in 2007 and the 50-over title four years later.

Kohli's men will also benefit from the exposure of playing the Indian Premier League for three weeks in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Sharjah.

Like the ICC event, the



popular IPL was also shifted to the UAE due to the surge of COVID-19 cases in India and it allowed the full Indian squad to get acclimatised against the sluggish wickets in the region.

The batting will heavily depend on the top three of Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul and Kohli while the bowling has a dazzling mix of talent in both the spin and pace departments.

The only worry for India would be the fitness of all-rounder Hardik Pandya. His inability to bowl during the recently concluded IPL forced the selectors to replace spin-

bowling all-rounder Axar Patel with seamer Shardul Thakur in the squad.

India will begin their T20 World Cup campaign against bitter neighbours Pakistan on Sunday with New Zealand, Afghanistan and two as-yet-unidentified qualifiers making up the rest of the Group 2 of the Super 12 stage.

The tournament will also mark the end of Ravi Shastri's tenure as India's head coach and victory in the Nov. 14 final in Dubai could double up as a farewell gift to the former all-rounder.

Kohli was confident that future cricketers will reap the benefits of the work culture that he and Shastri had put in place and their success was beyond "titles and tournaments".

"But, yes winning an ICC tournament will definitely be a wonderful moment for all of us, for him as coach and as captain," Kohli, who also quit as the captain of his IPL franchise Royal Challengers Bangalore, told reporters.

"It'll be an amazing achievement and something that we're absolutely motivated to do so and we'll give everything that we have."

Fact box on the India team participating in the Twenty20 World Cup:

Coach: Ravi Shastri
Highest ranked batter: Virat Kohli (4)
Highest ranked bowler: Bhuvneshwar Kumar (11)
Best finish: Winners (2007)
Squad: Virat Kohli (captain), Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul, Suryakumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant, Ishan Kishan, Hardik Pandya, Ravindra Jadeja, Rahul Chahar, Ravichandran Ashwin, Shashank Thakur, Varun Chakravarty, Jasprit Bumrah, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Mohammed Shami



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6 feet

AVOID

Handshakes, Hugs and Large Crowds!

Reduce the spread of the Coronavirus.

10 TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

DO NOT RISK YOUR LIFE

1. Stay at home as much as possible. Only go out if you have to. Avoid crowded places and public transport.
2. Wear your face mask and gloves. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water.
3. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Avoid touching your face, especially your eyes, nose, and mouth.
4. The COVID-19 virus is a respiratory virus. It spreads through droplets that are released when a person coughs or sneezes. It can also spread through contact with surfaces that have been touched by an infected person.
5. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. Use a tissue or your elbow.
6. Avoid sharing food, drinks, or other items with someone who is sick.
7. Avoid touching surfaces that have been touched by someone who is sick.
8. Avoid going to crowded places, especially indoors.
9. Avoid going to public places, especially indoors.
10. Avoid going to public places, especially indoors.